

# THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

21 Simonston Blvd.  
Thornhill, ON L3T 4R6  
905-881-1534

## **Pastor**

Rev. Anthony Iacobelli

**Deacons:** Michael Gennaro  
James Shaughnessy

## **Celebration of The Eucharist**

Saturday: 4:30 pm  
Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 am  
Thursday: 12:00 noon

**Eucharistic Adoration** (First Friday - following the 8:30 am Mass and closing with Solemn Benediction at 12:00 noon)

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday: 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.  
Or by appointment.

## **Sacrament of Baptism**

Second Sunday of the Month  
By appointment only.

## **Sacrament of Marriage**

By appointment only - Contact the pastor at least one year in advance.  
An approved preparation course is mandatory.

## **Parish School**

St. Michael Catholic Academy 905-889-4816

For more information on Catholic education in our community, or to reach your local school board trustee, contact the Toronto Catholic District School Board at 416-222-8282 or [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org) or the York Catholic District School Board 905-713-1211 or [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca)

email: [GoodShepherdTH@archtoronto.org](mailto:GoodShepherdTH@archtoronto.org) website: [goodshepherdth.archtoronto.org](http://goodshepherdth.archtoronto.org)

# FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT – MAR. 9, 2025



March 11<sup>th</sup> – March 15<sup>th</sup>

Tues. 8:30 a.m. – Helen D’Souza †  
Wed. 8:30 a.m. – Connie Leung †  
Thurs. Noon - Maria D’Angelo †  
Fri. 8:30 a.m. - †  
Sat. 4:30 p.m. – Dr. Andrew Frieri †

## READINGS FOR – March 16<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Genesis 15.5-12, 17-18  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 3.17-4.1  
Gospel: Luke 9.28b-36



**The Stations of the Cross**  
Every Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. during Lent, join us as we follow the path of Christ.

*There is no better time to reconnect with or deepen one’s faith than Lent. During this time, we can draw closer to God through prayer as we prepare for the joyous celebration of Christ’s resurrection at Easter. As much as we consider something to abstain from during Lent, we ought to consider what we can commit to as well. What outside actions can we take to better ignite the flame of our faith within us?*



**CWL General Meeting**  
**March 17, 2025**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Beginning with Mass at 7:00 p.m., our meeting this month will be a Mini Retreat with a Lenten theme: “The Stations of the Cross”. All ladies of the Parish are welcome.

## THE WORD THIS WEEK

**“Jesus answered ... “Do not put the Lord God to the test.”**

As with each First Sunday of Lent the Gospel tells of Jesus’ temptation in the wilderness; as we begin the journey of Lent, during which we will consider our lives as members of the Church, we look to the example of Jesus when it comes to dealing with temptation. Choosing to follow God's path is the first characteristic of the Christian: this is underlined in the two other readings, which outline the two "creeds" or statements of belief - one of Israel and one of the Christian. Both of them emphasize "believing in the heart and confessing with the lips": both creeds underline the Salvation that God has achieved - for Israel it was freedom from Egypt, for the Christian freedom from death in Jesus.

With this example given us by Christ no Christian can or should expect to travel the road to heaven without meeting obstacles and temptations. Our weak human nature is of itself, even without any external tempter, a source of many temptations to us, especially of those three illustrated in the case of Christ. Our body desires all the pleasures and comforts that can be got out of life and resents any curtailment of these desires even on the part of our Creator and Benefactor. Our gifts of intelligence and free-will often tempt most of us to look for power, political or economic, over our fellowmen. We want to be better off than others in this world, when our purpose in life is to help ourselves and our fellowmen to the better life. We are occupied in the mad rush after pleasure and power that we have no time to devote to the one thing that matters, the attainment of eternal life.

As we continue our Lenten journey, may we be strengthened to follow in the footsteps of the One who unflinchingly stood up to evil and ultimately triumphed over it. Let us thank God for the chance to do a reset, to realize that all is gift and the God’s gifts are to be used in the service of God and others.

**March 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**Clocks are moved forward**  
**one hour.**





## MEN'S LENTEN RETREAT

The Knights of Columbus are pleased to invite all the men of the parish to a Men's Lenten Retreat to take place at St. Luke's parish hall on Saturday, March 15, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm. The retreat will be led by Father Martin Hilbert from the Toronto Oratory. There is no charge to attend and a light lunch will be served at the end of the retreat. If you are interested in attending, please send an email to [council8340.info@gmail.com](mailto:council8340.info@gmail.com) to confirm so the organizers can ensure that there will be enough food.

### ABOUT FATHER MARTIN HILBERT

Father Martin Hilbert comes from the Toronto Oratory. The Oratorians are a teaching order within the Church who are faithful to the teachings of the Church. Father Martin regularly leads pilgrimages including numerous World Youth Days. In addition to being a priest, Father Martin is an engineer and a historian who is knowledgeable on a wide variety of topics. He is friendly and approachable and is enthusiastic about leading us in the retreat. We are very fortunate to have him!



The CWL are proud to announce the winners of the Mary Matthews Public Speaking Contest. The First Place Winner was Ethan Ho. The Second Place Winner was Isabel Walles Morales and the Third Place Winner was Yanna-Luisa Palaganas. Both Ethan and Isabel went on to compete at the CWL Regional Level where Isabel placed Second. Congratulations to our winners! We would like to thank all the students from the Confirmation class who competed in this contest.

### TAX RECEIPTS

2024 Tax receipts have been processed. Please check your mailboxes. If you have not received your tax receipt, please contact the Parish Office and we can assist you.



## Lenten Prayers and Devotions

- Begin each morning with the prayer: "Lord, I offer you this day, and all that I think, and do and say."
- Attend daily Mass often as possible.
- Pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.
- Make the Stations of the Cross at home or in parish celebration.
- Read Scripture for 10 minutes every day.
- Pray the Seven Penitential Psalms (Psalms 6, 31, 50, 101, 129 and 142)
- Spend some time in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.
- Abstain from meat for an extra day or two each week. Listen to spiritual music or a spiritual speaker. Keep a Lenten journal with your spiritual insights, special intentions, people you want to pray for, hurts and disappointments that you want to offer up and progress reports on your Lenten resolutions.



Try to follow these actions, if you do, the rest will fall into place.

## Ministry with Maturing Adults

Inviting Men and Women (50+)

Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

Via Zoom

Topic: Finding God in SILENCE

Please email [vathaide@rogers.com](mailto:vathaide@rogers.com) ASAP to register and get the Zoom link.

## MARCH 15 & 16



The CWL invite all to join them after each Mass for some light refreshments in the parish hall. A wonderful time to be in community, unite and welcome new parishioners.

## COLLECTION

March 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>


Your donations will help brighten up the church!



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*"A house is made with walls & beams; a home is built with love & dreams" Ralph Waldo Emerson*




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