

# ADVENT



## 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)

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DEC. 21, 2024



**Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>**

Tues. 8:30 a.m. – Flory Chan †

Wed. 8:30 a.m. – Vincent Cheung †

Thurs. Noon – Christmas Day

Fri. 8:30 am – In Thanksgiving (John Cheung)

Sat. 4:30 pm – Mary D'Souza †

**READINGS FOR – Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Colossians 3.12-21

Gospel – Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23



**Christmas Mass Schedule**

**DECEMBER 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE**

**07:00 P.M.**

**10:00 P.M.**

**DECEMBER 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY**

**09:00 A.M.**

**11:00 A.M.**

**DECEMBER 31ST NEW YEAR'S EVE**

**04:30 P.M.**

**JANUARY 1ST NEW YEAR'S DAY**

**09:00 A.M.**

**11:00 A.M.**

**WEDNESDAY**

**DECEMBER 24**

**THURSDAY**

**DECEMBER 25**

**FRIDAY**

**DECEMBER 26**



*Dear Parish Family,  
Christ came on earth to  
reveal a powerful  
message, the message of  
love, joy and peace.  
Christ asks us to have*



*love for one another, to be reconciled to one  
another, to accept one another. Each of us  
has been entrusted with a special gift, a  
sacred responsibility: to show others how the  
mystery of God is among us. The message of  
Christmas keeps hope alive in our hearts  
because it is a message that tells us God-is-  
with-us, Emmanuel. As we celebrate the birth  
of our Savior at Christmas, I pray that the  
light of Christ will shine in the hearts and  
homes of all.*

*Thank you for your loyalty to our parish,  
especially those who volunteer as catechists,  
ushers, readers, as well as the countless  
others who volunteer their time for us.*

*On behalf of Deacon's Michael and  
James, Ornella and Maria, I wish each of you  
a Blessed and Joyous Christmas and New  
Year! Please be assured of my prayers for  
your intentions and a remembrance at Holy  
Mass. Have a great Christmas with all your  
family and friends! God Bless You!*

**Father Anthony**

*Merry  
Christmas*

The ladies of the CWL are most thankful to all who baked or donated the delicious goodies to our bake sale and for all those who came by and purchased them. All proceeds will go to charities the CWL is actively involved with. We extend our blessings for a peaceful and joyous Christmas.



## PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

Pre-Authorized is a way to give to our parish even if you cannot make it to church regularly.

Especially during the winter months, you are still able to keep up your contributions when you cannot attend in person. Information and Authorization forms are available in the foyer of the church.

## 2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES



Please remember to pick up your box of envelopes. For the first month of using your new envelopes we ask that you **CLEARLY PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE NEW ENVELOPES**. This helps us to make sure that your information is correct in the system. If you continue to use old envelopes, we cannot guarantee the donation will be properly processed as envelope numbers have changed over the year. If you have not been assigned envelopes and wish to do so, please complete a request form.



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1. Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org)
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## Why do we really celebrate Christmas? Why do we give gifts at Christmas? Who was the first person to give a gift at Christmas?

The most famous line in the Bible came to heart: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life". (John 3:16)* This indeed is the reason why we gather for Christmas Mass; this is the meaning of Christmas.

**'God gave.' God initiated this 'gift giving. And He gave us not something but someone - His Son, Jesus. And He did this because He loves you, He loves me. This is the true meaning of Christmas.**

St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians writes:

"May you be able to feel and understand how long, how wide, how deep and how high God's love really is and experience this love for yourself."

Jesus is the Light which is the hope and joy of men and women all over the world, the radiant light of God's glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. May this inspire our contemplation in the days that remain before Christmas.

**"Jesus is the Reason for the Season"**

## Day of Reflection - Eucharist - Church Where We Learn A Spirituality of Encounter & Service

Monday, January 26, 2026

09:00 AM - 03:00 PM

**Manresa Jesuit Spiritual Renewal Centre**

Day of Reflection for Men/Women. We will reflect and pray on the different movements and parts of the Eucharistic celebration. Gathering of God's People. Listening to God's Word. Thanksgiving for God's deeds in history. Sharing the Meal Jesus left us. Sent forth into the world on mission. Facilitated by Fr. Charles Pottie, SJ. The suggested offering is \$70 per person which includes lunch, coffee/tea break, program and Mass.

REGISTER: Email: [manresaregistration@outlook.com](mailto:manresaregistration@outlook.com) visit <https://manresa-canada.ca> or call 905-839-2864.






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**God is love,  
and he who abides in love  
abides in God,  
and God abides in him.**



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