



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 or the York Catholic District School Board 905-713-1211 or www.ycdsb.ca

email: GoodShepherdTH@archtoronto.org website: goodshepherdth.archtoronto.org

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – FEB. 22, 2026



Feb. 24th – Feb. 28th

- Tues. 8:30 a.m. – Larry Peters †
- Wed. 8:30 a.m. - Yam Family †
- Thurs. Noon - Phyllis Osborne †
- Fri. 8:30 a.m. - Protection of the Unborn
- Sat. 4:30 p.m. – Gloria Suazo †

READINGS FOR – March 1st

- 1st Reading: Genesis 12.1-4
- 2nd Reading: 2Timothy 1.8b-10
- Gospel: Matthew 17.1-9



**World Day of
Prayer 2026
March 6
“I Will Give**

**You Rest: Come”
Matthew 11:28-30**

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. The 2026 World Day of Prayer materials from Nigeria bring us a powerful invitation drawn from Matthew 11:28-30. At a time when people worldwide are carrying heavy burdens, our Nigerian sisters offer profound insights into finding rest in God.

The Stations of the Cross

Join us as we follow the path of Christ commencing this Friday at 7:00 pm.



*The
Season
of
Lent*



Check out the bookshelf to find Lenten Prayer/ Devotional booklets to prepare for Easter. They offer a daily dose of joy and hope.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

“Away with you, Satan! For it is written, “Worship the Lord you God.””

This incident in our Lord's life, his forty days and nights of fasting followed by temptations, has been chosen as a reading for this first Sunday of Lent for our edification and encouragement. Lent is a period of preparation for the central Christian events of Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Christ, the Son of God in human nature, died the excruciating death of crucifixion on Good Friday, because of the sins of the human race. By this supreme act of obedience to his heavenly Father he made atonement for all our disobediences, and set us free from the slavery of Satan and of sin. In his resurrection his human nature was glorified by God the Father, and in that glorification, we are all offered a share and given the right to an eternal life of glory, by following Christ faithfully in this life. In us, as all around us, it is Christ's temptation, Christ's struggle, Christ's victory which is prolonged; our effort is His and so is our strength; His will be our victory at Easter. This Lent, let us grow in the virtue of obedience. May we draw closer to Christ, recognizing him as our Saviour in resisting Satan's call to sin. Lent is a golden opportunity to review our past and make sensible resolutions for our future.

Lenten Message 2026

**His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto**

“As we begin this Lenten season, we pray for the grace not only of conversion, but for the healing of our relationships; not only to examine our consciences, but to rebuild communion; not only to walk toward Easter individually, but to arrive there together. For it is together—as one Body in Christ—that we are led from the desert to the joy of the Resurrection. May the Blessed Mother be our inspiration, guide, model and companion on this journey of spiritual and social renewal.”

(Find full message on the bulletin board.)



Gentle reminder to parishioners, the parish has a subscription to FORMED, a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, e-books and even cartoons for children. You have easy access to all of the material on FORMED to support your own faith journey and that of your family members.

To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps:

- Go to <https://signup.formed.org/>
- Enter our parish's postal code (L3T 4R6)
- Enter your name and your email address

That's it! You're in.



2026 LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY

Saturday March 14

8:00 am to 5:30 pm

Metro Toronto Convention Centre

255 Front St. W., Toronto

The theme of this year's rally is

"NO GREATER LOVE"

Be renewed through the Word, worship, and sacraments at the Lift Jesus Higher Rally on Saturday, March 14, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Ralph Martin, Pete Burak, and Sr. Mary Gabriel Devlin, SV, will give inspiring talks and Chris Bray will lead powerful worship! The day includes Eucharistic Adoration, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, opportunities for confession, fellowship with hundreds of other Catholics from across Ontario, and Holy Mass celebrated by Most Reverend Christian Riesbeck, CC, Bishop of St. John's, New Brunswick.

CONTACT: Catholic Renewal Ministries Canada

PHONE: 647-559-8384

EMAIL: ljhr@renewalministries.net

MEN'S LENTEN RETREAT SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



The Knights of Columbus are pleased to invite all men (18+) of the parish to a Men's Lenten Retreat to take place here at Good Shepherd Parish. The retreat will be led by Father Eric Rodrigues of the Archdiocese of Toronto. In addition to being the pastor of Holy Name Parish, Father Eric teaches Systematic Theology at St. Augustine's seminary. 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 to confirm so that the organizers can ensure that there will be enough food.

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, 37, 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.



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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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