

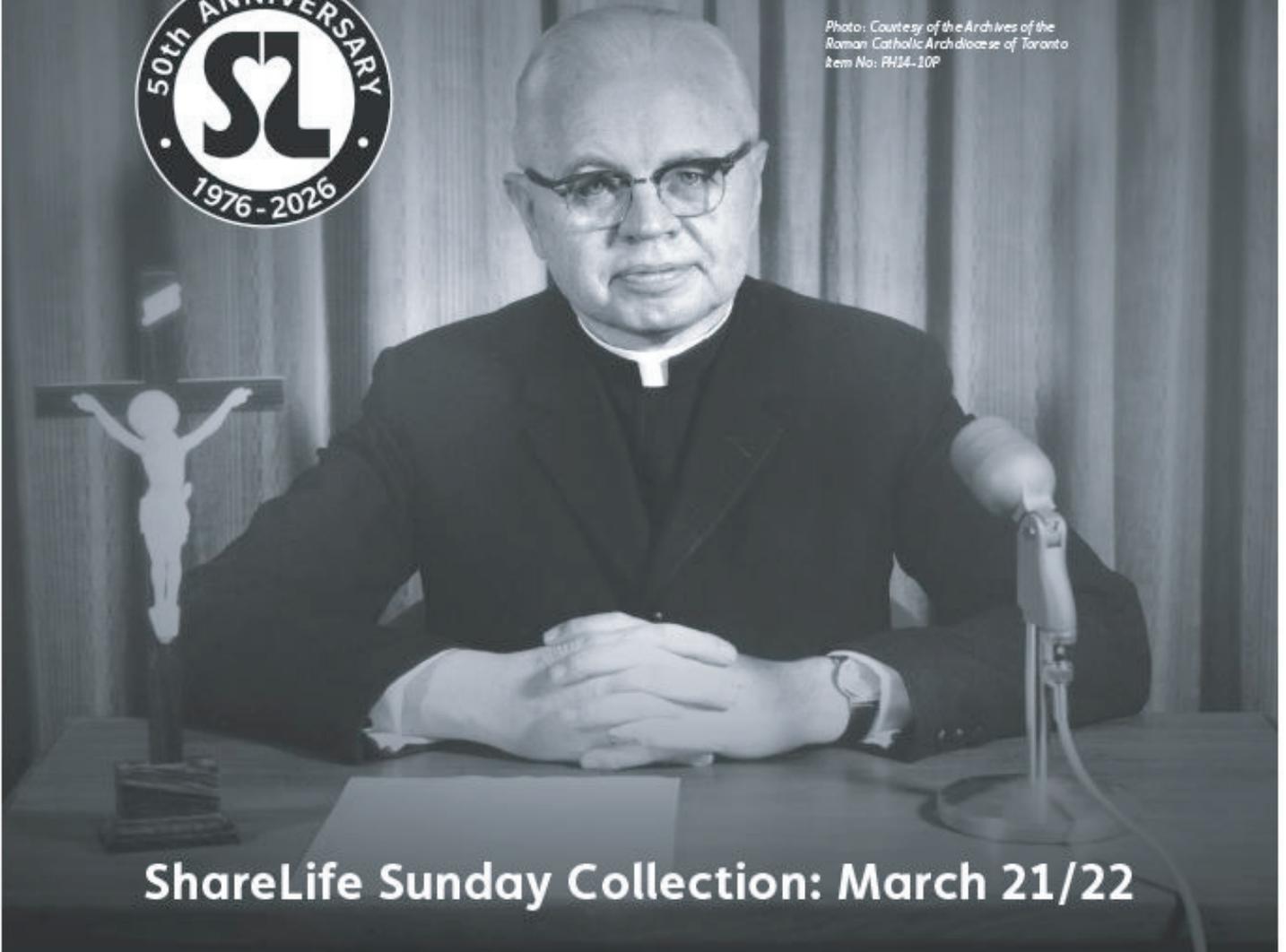
Living the Gospel



"We believe that every human being is unique and priceless. We hold that human life must be respected at every stage of its development from the first mysterious moment of conception to the declining days of advanced age."

– Archbishop Philip Francis Pocock,
A Declaration on Behalf of Life, March 19, 1976

Photo: Courtesy of the Archives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto
Item No: PH34-10P



ShareLife Sunday Collection: March 21/22

Your gift brings hope to those served by 40
Catholic agencies in our community and beyond!
Please give at our parish or sharelife.org/donate

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The Church of the Good Shepherd

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

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 22, 2026



March 24th – March 28th

Tues. 8:30 a.m. – †

Wed. 8:30 a.m. - Paul Wigglesworth †

Thurs. Noon - Phyllis Osborne †

Fri. 8:30 a.m. - Fr. Walter Saldhana SJ †

Sat. 4:30 p.m. – †

READINGS FOR – March 29th

1st Reading: Isaiah 50.4-7

2nd Reading: Philippians 2.6-11

Gospel: Matthew 26.14-27.66



The Stations of the Cross

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

CONFESSION TIMES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Father Anthony will be hearing confessions on:

Tuesday March 24

9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Fr. Anthony & Fr. Dave on

Wednesday March 25

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Please note that confessions are also heard every Saturday from 3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. (Except Holy Saturday)



Forgiveness is the great divine gift offered to us by Jesus. It is not a human possibility to forgive sins. "Who can forgive sins but God alone?" Wherever Jesus goes he offers this divine forgiveness. He even offers it to those who kill him. It is for the forgiveness of sins that he pours out his blood on the cross and that he sends forth his disciples into the world.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

"The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound."

The Gospel of the Fifth Sunday is perhaps the deepest meditation on the mystery of Baptism and membership of the Church. It is a prelude to the events of Easter Sunday, when we celebrate the triumph of life over death. To be plunged into the waters of baptism is to be buried with Christ, only to rise with him from the waters. This paradox of life and death is the content of today's readings. There is no more important part of our faith than the resurrection: that Christ rose from the dead is the very center and heart of all that we believe - without it, our faith is useless. In the same way our belief in our own resurrection is vital: it is the most deeply needed gift that Christ gives us. This is why the climax of the instructions given to candidates for Baptism was this teaching: that Christ would give them life after death. Look ahead to the 3rd Sunday of Easter, where Saint Peter preaches to the crowds – what he teaches them is that life comes after death, as it did for Lazarus, and for Christ himself.

Sadness, loss, death are realities in all lives. We grieve; but we do not despair. We hope and trust in new life. Each Lent, we face the reality of suffering and death. But we do this with Easter faith, looking forward to the resurrection, for death is not the end of the story.

NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IN THE HOLY LAND GOOD FRIDAY

April 3rd COLLECTION

The annual Good Friday Collection is a yearly request to assist the Church in the Holy Land. The monies collected support its pastoral, educational and social works and help to maintain the Holy Places so important for the faith of Christians everywhere. For the sake of our brothers and sisters enduring hardships, please give generously during Good Friday celebration. If you are unable to donate at the church, you may do so online at www.Commissariat.ca. Receipts will be issued.



Ministry with Maturing Adults

Inviting Men and Women (50+)

Thursday, March 26 at 10:00 a.m.

Zoom Presentation

“LIVING LIFE TO THE FULLEST”

Presented by Lino DeFacendis

Founder “Life Care Network Inc.”

Topics include: Living Fully – Living with Purpose – Exercise/Brain Health - Relationships – Living your Catholic Faith – Gratitude & Giving Back

To register and get the Zoom link, email Viola at vathaide@rogers.com

SL ShareLife

*Helping the whole community
through Catholic agencies*

ShareLife Celebrates 50 Years

Today is ShareLife Sunday. Special collections will be taking place this weekend. It was fifty years ago that Archbishop Philip Pocock made a bold and compassionate decision that would shape our community for generations: the founding of ShareLife. Building on a legacy of charitable giving in the Archdiocese of Toronto that stretches back to 1927, Archbishop Pocock launched ShareLife in 1976—an appeal rooted in the belief that every life matters, at every stage. Today, his vision lives on through more than 40 ShareLife-funded agencies providing unconditional care to people in need—regardless of religion, background, or circumstance and through people like you who make their work happen.

This weekend is ShareLife Sunday. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.



BOOK BARROW

The Legion of Mary's Book Barrow will run after all Masses March 28/29. This is your opportunity to borrow faith-filled and inspiring books.



St. Edward's Parish Passion Play

Our parish community is blessed to once again present the Passion Play, a prayerful and moving

retelling of the suffering, death, and love of Our Lord. After last year's debut, this year's production has grown even more — with many dedicated volunteers working tirelessly to bring this retelling to life. We warmly invite our parish and community to come experience it!

Performance Dates

March 29 at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

April 3 at 7:00 PM

There will also be opportunities for donations to support the Passion Play and future parish productions. All are welcome, no tickets required. Please bring your friends and family!

Thank you for your support!

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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you will likely get there."*

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



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