

# ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

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## PARISH STAFF

Fr. Thomas Moore, Pastor  
Deacon Daniel McPhee  
Barrig Hayward, Administrative Assistant  
Goody Cabral, Music Director & Cantor  
Aloysius Chan, Organist

## SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday - Friday: 8:15 a.m.

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – noon;  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

By appointment – Course Required

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements 12 months in advance  
Marriage Course is required

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 4:00-4:30 p.m.

## MEDITATION GROUP

Meets in the Parish Hall Tuesday at 8:45 a.m.

## SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Helping neighbours in need

## St. Anselm's School

182 Bessborough Drive  
Toronto, Ontario M4G 4H5  
416-393-5243

# Mass for Intentions Week

**Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.**

Mary Flaherty

Requested by the Thomé Family

**Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.**

For the Deceased members of the Pelletier Family

Requested by René Pelletier

**Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.**

For the Deceased Members of the Aust Family

**Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 8:15 a.m.**

Merrill Steele

Requested by the Bernardo-Richardson Family

**Estate Planning Presentation  
from a Catholic Perspective  
on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m.  
at St. Anselm's Parish**

Attend to find out:

- How to avoid problems in your Will, with the Powers of Attorney & through proper Estate Trustee selection
- How to create your personal Catholic legacy

Please register by using the QR code on the poster in the lobby, emailing or calling the office, or sign up with Barrig after Mass this weekend.

**ShareLife Sunday is this weekend,  
celebrating 50 years**

Today is ShareLife Sunday, the second weekend of special collections. Since 1976, ShareLife has been rooted in our Catholic values of charity and in living the Gospel by caring for those in need. Over the decades, thousands of people across our archdiocese have come together through parish campaigns, school drives, workplace giving, and personal acts of kindness to make a difference in the lives of countless individuals and families. ShareLife recognizes that all humans are created in the image of God, with a commitment to the dignity of the individual and the right to life, working on behalf of the poor and vulnerable. With your support, ShareLife-funded agencies can continue to provide vital services—like counselling for families, support for isolated seniors, and care for those facing mental health challenges—for years to come. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate)



As Springs blossoms around us, “so much is conspiring to awaken us to a new relationship with the earth and a new relationship with each other. May this love lead us to be persistent and practical and to offer prophetic hope in our world.” Sr. Margo Ritchie, Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada (2025) On **SUNDAY MAY 03<sup>rd</sup>** EcoAnselm is presenting our first-ever parish-wide **SEEDLING & GARDEN EVENT**. Please drop in for an opportunity to view or purchase garden-items - from hand-created packages of seedlings to mature plants. Learn how to start seedlings for later planting AND how to divide and share grown plants. Experienced gardeners, including a \*master gardener, will be on hand to answer your garden-related questions. Please join EcoAnselm in this fun and interactive opportunity to meet other parishioners, nurture a love of nature, learn a bit more about gardening and to share a few light refreshments. All proceeds go directly to EcoAnselm. Thank you in advance for kindly supporting our efforts to offer parish-wide events related to **CARE OF CREATION and to PEACE.**

**Help Not Harm: Take Action to Support Bill C-218  
Write your Member of Parliament Today! Visit  
[HelpNotHarmCanada.ca](http://HelpNotHarmCanada.ca)**

You're invited to visit [HelpNotHarmCanada.ca](http://HelpNotHarmCanada.ca) where you can e-mail your Member of Parliament (MP), asking for their support of **Bill C-218 (The Right to Recover Act)**, which would amend the Criminal Code to prevent Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) from being provided when mental illness is the sole underlying condition. Without this change, MAiD will be available for those suffering from mental illness alone beginning in March 2027.

Chances are you know someone struggling with mental illness — a family member, friend, or colleague. As Catholics and Canadians, we are called to offer care, hope, and protection — not death — to those who are suffering and most vulnerable. Visit [HelpNotHarmCanada.ca](http://HelpNotHarmCanada.ca) today and ask your MP to support Bill C-218.

***Congratulations to the children in our parish who will be celebrating the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation this weekend and next. Your parish community has you in their prayers!***

**Acts 2:14a, 36b-41 Psalm 23**  
**1 Peter 2:20-25 John 10:1-10**  
**“I AM THE GATE”...John 10:7**



Goatherders and shepherds could relate very closely to the role of Jesus as the Good Shepherd in today's Gospel. It may be that a little history will enlighten urbanites to understand how intimate and loving our connection to Jesus becomes when we call him the Good Shepherd. Unlike cattle, which are herded from behind — either by cowboys on horseback, trained herding dogs or even ranchers in pickup trucks — goats, like sheep, prefer to be led. Familiar with their goatherder or shepherd, they will follow wherever she leads. Trusting his care and protection, they will listen to his voice and to no other. When the relationship between the goatherder or shepherd is longstanding, the slightest whistle or click of the tongue prompts both goats and sheep to recognize and respond to the one who cares for and protects them. It has been said that sheep tend to grow fond of their shepherds and consider them part of the family.. A shepherd can walk through a sleeping flock without disturbing a single one of them, while a stranger couldn't set foot in the fold without causing a great disturbance. Because of their closeness, shepherds can distinguish a bleat of pain from a bleat of pleasure and can quickly attend to whatever the sheep needs at the time. Even today, throughout the Middle East, it is possible to witness goats and sheep being herded and tended much in the same way as they were during Jesus' time. During the day, all the shepherds and goatherders of the village allow their flocks to mingle, to graze together and drink at the same stream or watering hole. But when night draws near, the flocks separate, with each sheep or goat falling into line behind their respective caretakers. If the village has a common sheepfold, all are gathered into it, and one of the shepherds takes her turn at guarding the gate lest any two-legged or four-legged creatures try to endanger the herd. If the shepherds have their own sheepfolds, then the animals will be counted one by one and safely enclosed for the night. In some instances, the shepherd or goatherder will lie down in the opening of the enclosure, thereby assuring the flock's safety with his very life. This custom makes Jesus' statement "I am the gate for the sheep" (Gospel)

all the more poignant. Jesus is the means by which believers enter into the "sheepfold" of salvation. As the gate, Jesus has laid down his life for his sheep. Unlike other leaders of his day and throughout human history, Jesus' primary concern was not for himself but for those God gave him to heal, forgive and save. He was, and is, the ideal leader and shepherd of God's own. No longer are we gone astray like sheep, because Jesus has become the shepherd and guardian of our souls, as St. Peter has so eloquently recorded in today's second reading. According to Gail Ramshaw, when the nomadic people of the ancient Near East evolved into agrarian civilizations with monarchies, the image of the shepherd was appropriated as a model for a good and worthy ruler (*Treasures Old and New: Images in the Lectionary*, Fortress Press, Minneapolis: 2002). In the ancient texts, Gilmagesh, Hammurabi and Ramses II were all likened to shepherds. In Israel's history, Abel, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Rachel, Moses and David were all shepherds. All of Israel and Judah's kings were supposed to be worthy shepherds but most were not. This fact prompted the prophets to promise that God would intervene on behalf of the shepherd-less. This promise took on flesh and blood in the person of Jesus, who knows each person intimately, who calls us by name, who heals and protects us and seeks us out when we have strayed or become lost. It is in Jesus and through baptism into his dying and rising that believers find the way to God. Jesus' example challenges all who lead and care for others to model themselves after him, the Shepherd who defines what it means to be good.

**DID YOU KNOW...*The Sign of Peace...living in peaceful relationships with our brothers and sisters by...being positive in our thoughts and comments...striving to strengthen relationships in our homes, schools and workplaces...embracing people for who they are instead of trying to change them...silently praying that Christ's peace fills each person we meet and greet throughout our days...working for justice, which is the foundation for peace...letting go of our own anxieties and helping to dispel the anxieties of others. This greeting to one another just prior to the Communion Rite says once and for all that all differences have been put aside. Our common belief in Jesus and the very presence of Jesus in our hearts bring us together and hold us together. When we are charged to go in peace to love and serve the Lord at the end of Mass, we carry with us the peace of Christ. We go with a commitment to live in peace with one another and to work for peace. We go knowing that communion with God is possible only when peace reigns in our hearts. Next Week: **The Communion Rite*****

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