

APRIL 13, 2025

PALM SUNDAY

ST. BASIL'S



CATHOLIC PARISH

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

50 St. Joseph Street, Toronto M5S 1J4
www.stbasiltoronto.org | (416) 926-7110
office@stbasiltoronto.org

ADMINISTERED BY THE BASILIAN FATHERS

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9:00am - 1:00pm
Sunday: 8:15am - 1:15pm

SUNDAY MASSES

5:00pm (sat)
9:00am; 10:30am; 12:00pm; 4:30pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday: 7:30am; 12:10pm

VESPERS (EVENING PRAYER)

Monday - Friday: 5:10pm

ADORATION

Tuesday: 3:00pm-6:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Monday - Friday: 11:30am - 12:00pm
Saturday: 4:30pm - 5:00pm

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, AND FUNERALS

Please see the parish website or call the main office for details. Weddings require a one year notice.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Fr. Morgan V. Rice, CSB
Office Manager:	Margaret D'Elia
Lay Pastoral Associate	JoAnn M. Lopez
Director of Music & Principal Organist:	Dr. John Paul Farahat
Assistant Organist	Adrian Ross
Musician-in-Residence:	Dr. Lindsay McIntyre
Coordinator of Outreach & Hospitality:	Hilda O'Connor
Director of Community Engagement:	Michael Pirri

TRANSFORMED BY TRUTH AND LOVE

Have you ever gotten the wrong impression of someone? After a while, you learn that the person you took to be aloof or judgemental was really just uncomfortable around new people. Maybe you have encountered a hyperconfident person, only to learn later that they, too, have experienced great self-doubt, insecurity.

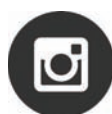
It is said that we draw lasting conclusions about others from first impressions. How easy it is, then, to "get it wrong," for none of us can fully understand another, with their own vast experiences, feelings, and traits, and be able to judge them in an instant, or maybe ever.

Since 1856, St. Basil's Parish has been home to people of all ages and needs. We are blessed because you are all here!

Mothers are welcome to nurse their children in church or provide them snacks as needed. If you need to, feel free to walk with your child in the back of the church or in the hallway off the side aisle.



ST. BASIL'S PARISH, TORONTO



BASILSTORONTO



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Palm Sunday feels to me like *the* story, of “getting it wrong.” After Jesus enters Jerusalem to great praise, some of the Pharisees, chief priests, and scribes immediately judge him to be a threat. He is later condemned and put to death. Rather than recognising what Jesus is truly about, they reach the quick conclusion that he is somehow maleficent, perhaps a power monger. They overlook that Jesus’s only power resides in the fact that he “comes in the name of the Lord,” and that he brings peace.

The greatest insult and injury are then inflicted on Jesus. To many of the witnesses, especially those who had not gotten to know Jesus well, it must have come as a surprise when he asked his Father to forgive his persecutors. How confusing this must have been for those watching. Jesus’s humble acceptance of the situation and his plea for mercy on his persecutors reveal to those present, and to us, the deeper truth of his identity.

Given the ferocity of Jesus’s tormentors, it is then surprising how immediately the centurion reacts to Our Lord’s death: “Certainly, this man was innocent.” The crowds also react with shame, returning home beating their breasts. The Truth is so powerful, it knocks them completely off their preconceptions. How swiftly, suddenly, even shockingly, God has revealed the Truth, and how instantaneously the people are transformed.

How many times in my life have I had an impression, a prejudice, only to have something happen that opens my eyes and transforms my understanding? How many times has God surprised me with forgiveness, mercy, and the strength to change weaknesses I thought permanent? How many times have others surprised me by their words or actions, and changed my understanding of them or of the reality around me?

There are times in our lives when God surprises

us. Yes, change, growth, transformation can be a gradual, gentle process, but sometimes God’s Truth and Love can also jump out of the events of our everyday lives, showing us where we may have been mistaken, and how, by Providence, we can be forever transformed.

May this Lenten and Easter Season transform each one of us and bring us some measure of new and deeper understandings of Our Lord’s role in our lives and in the lives of those around us.

~ Bruce Ferguson

SERRA CLUB

Wednesday, April 16, after 12:10pm Mass

The next meeting of the Downtown Toronto Serra Club will take place on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 in the St. Basil’s Parish Hall following the 12:10 p.m. Mass. Our guest speaker will be Gabriel Marania, Program Co-ordinator at the Archdiocese of Toronto’s Office of Vocations. Gabriel will speak about the Totus Tuus (“Totally Yours”) summer camp program offered in parishes throughout the archdiocese. Guests and those interested in learning more about Serra International are most welcome.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

The annual Good Friday Collection is the only yearly request asked by the Holy See of dioceses and parishioners throughout the world. This collection helps the Church of the Holy Land to maintain Christian sites, so important to Christians everywhere, and to provide pastoral, educational, and social works among the small christian population.

The Church and our Christian brothers and sisters count on your help to retain a faith filled Christian presence in the land of our Lord. Please give generously during the Good Friday service on April 18th, 2025.

TENEBRAE

Wednesday, April 16, 8:00pm

All are invited to join us on Wednesday, April 16, at 8:00pm in the church for our annual Tenebrae service. Latin for shadows, Tenebrae was originally celebrated in the early morning hours of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. This contemplative evening service will feature a condensed version of the three day service, with prayers, readings, and choral music to usher in the beginning of the Triduum.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Saturdays 1-3pm, starting April 26

Are you a Catholic youth between the ages of 12 to 18? Join a community of exploration, prayer, reflection and conversation that prepares you for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday, June 21, at the 5pm Mass.

Our program for those in grade 7 and up includes seven required sessions, held weekly on Saturday afternoons from 1-3pm at St. Basil's Catholic Parish, starting April 26 (no session on May 17, Victoria Day Weekend).

Register by April 20 here: <https://forms.office.com/r/bj2Zy9RvQx> Questions? Contact: joann.lopez@utoronto.ca

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Join us for an hour of reflection and faith sharing on Zoom every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. We pray with the Sunday scriptures as we grow in relationship with the Word and community. Come to one, some, or all sessions: no preparation required other than a willingness to reflect and share. All are welcome!

Questions? Contact JoAnn Lopez: joann.lopez@utoronto.ca To receive the Zoom link, please register: <https://tinyurl.com/StBasilFaithSharing>

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

April 12/13: Building Fund
May 3/4: ShareLife

MASS INTENTIONS APRIL 13-19



SUNDAY PALM SUNDAY

9:00am
10:30am *Pro Populo*
12:00pm Julieta Villalobos (✱)
4:30pm Emmanuel Guiyab (✱)

MONDAY

7:30am
12:10pm Dr. Osmond Rejakarier (✱)

TUESDAY

7:30am
12:10pm Justin (✱), Vincenzo Mirandola (✱)

WEDNESDAY

7:30am
12:10pm *Vocations*

THURSDAY HOLY THURSDAY

7:00pm *Pro Populo*

FRIDAY GOOD FRIDAY

3:00pm *Pro Populo*

SATURDAY HOLY SATURDAY

8:30pm *Pro Populo*

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Sue Banfield, Rebecca Beaton, Annabelle Brossard, Desmond Brownlee, Lori Celik, Steve Chandeller, Yvonne Clarke, Josephine D'amico, Jasper David-Fuchs, Clare DeMello, Maisie Henry, Maryanne Hodges, Bohdanka Kovalska, Elaine Landrie, Anne McFadden, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, David Martin, Rosy Menezes, Dr. Peter Moran, Paul O'Brien, Robert Rodbourne, Delaila Salvador, Todd Snow, Federico Sorianosos Jr., John Sytsma, Betty Veit, Eileen Vyphius, Rosalie Wimbs, and Alexander Wu.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.

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