

DECEMBER 15, 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# 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 Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 1:00 pm; 3:00 pm - 8:00pm  
Sat 9:00 am - 6:30 pm Sun 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

ADMINISTERED BY THE BASILIAN FATHERS

## SUNDAY MASSES

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

## CONFESSIONS

Mon-Fri: 11:30 am - 12:00 pm  
Sat: 4:15 pm - 4:45 pm

## BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

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

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon-Fri: 7:30 am; 12:10 pm

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

VESPERS Mon-Fri: 5:10 pm  
LAUDS Sat: 9:00 am

## ADORATION

Thurs: 3:30-5:00pm

## PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Fr. Morgan Rice, CSB
Associate Pastor:	Fr. Norm Tanck, CSB
Deacon:	Kevin Kelly, SJ
Office Manager:	Margaret D'Elia
Director of Music:	Dr. John Paul Farahat
Associate Organist:	Stefani Bedin
Director of Community Engagement:	Michael Pirri
Coordinator of Social Justice:	Veronica Courtois
Director of Family Ministries:	Marilena Berardinelli
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd:	Mariann Dunsmore

## EXCITEMENT

*By Nancy Nobrega*

The First and Second reading and the Gospel today all express anticipation and excitement. The First reading tells that "They shall obtain joy and gladness..." The Second reading tells them to be "patient" and not grumble while waiting for joy. There is a longing for this joy, and don't we all become impatient when waiting for something wonderful, a change from hard times to happy times?

The Gospel tells about John the Baptist, sitting in prison, sending word to the disciples that the one they have been awaiting is "the ONE" who is among them! He is pretty excited even in his hard time! The First reading and the Gospel come together so nicely here as we see those things hoped for have come to pass... *"the blind receive their sight, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them."*

**Since 1856, St. Basil's Parish has been home to people of all ages and needs.**

**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. We are blessed because you are all here!**

**For those who need hearing assistance, devices are available at the front desk. Simply leave a photo ID to borrow one during your visit.**



StBasil\_TO



basilstoronto



St. Basil's Parish, Toronto

Here we are thousands of years later in the middle of Advent, waiting. There is excitement all around. For some there is also grief and we should be mindful of that too. We have also created anxiety around this wonderful event of Christmas – Christ’s birth. We are kind of like the disciples who had to be told by John the Baptist that Jesus, “THE ONE” had arrived. We don’t realize that we already have what we need – that for which we have been waiting.

What are we waiting for? We are all in different stages of life...some stages very much harder than other stages. Some folks are awaiting a wonderful new year, others are grieving a loss or struggling in the midst of life’s sometimes seemingly endless challenges. “Artificial” Christmas Joy can make us feel left out especially if we compare our lives to others. We can no doubt find our lives lacking.

What is the gift which we anticipate with excitement? He is born! A new life for us! What did he leave for us? His most important commandment as our gift – to love Him and to love one another, and the Holy Spirit. God is with us. We have grace all around us, but just as the disciples did not see, it is also hard for us to see sometimes. We are still waiting for the perfect thing to happen. I know that I am guilty of saying “when I finally finish this thing then all will be better”, instead of looking for the lesson in the hard time that will give me some little joy in the challenge. Finding joy in little daily things even when life is tough can get me through if I remember to be grateful for little things. We don’t know what tough times folks are facing. Being present especially when things are very hard is really hard to do. We are like those disciples who did not see the miracles all around. No doubt those were hard times for them too.

This can be kind of overwhelming – thinking about all this. In this time leading up to Christmas, I hope to take a breath and focus on the love that is around and if I don’t see it then I am going to make it happen! So, if you see me smiling like the Cheshire Cat and hugging everyone, which I kind of do anyway, please join me....or maybe shake hands at least! Look folks in the eye when you say “peace be with you” and mean it....and let’s do that the rest of the time too. It can only be good – and isn’t that our job

anyway, to spread the love and mean it? That’s a gift to everyone - happy, sad, cranky, grieving, in good times or hard times. We might never know how that simple gesture could make such a difference. We will be working with our gift – The Holy Spirit.

### SUNDAY’S READINGS:

ISAIAH 35.1-6A, 10

PSALM 146

JAMES 5.7-10

MATTHEW 11.2-11

### THURSDAY VESPERS IN ADVENT

All are invited to join as we celebrate sung Vespers, led by two cantors and organ, on the final Thursday in Advent (**December 19**) at 5:10PM following Adoration. We hope that you will join us in the sanctuary for this prayerful experience.

### REGIS COLLEGE PUBLIC COURSES

Two new Windows on Theology continuous learning courses are now open for registration at Regis College.

**Understanding Sacred Space: Exploring Western Religious Architecture** (led by architect Roberto Chiotti; Wednesdays from Jan 15 – Feb 19, 6 PM – 8 PM)

**Ecological Wisdom: Righting Our Relationships With Each Other and the Earth** (led by Dr. Mark Hathaway of the Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice; Wednesdays from Feb 26 – April 1, 11 AM to 1 PM)

Courses are six sessions each, and open to all interested members of the public. Registration is \$175 per course, and all sessions are held in the Regis College chapel (100 Wellesley Street West).

To learn more or to register, visit  
[regiscollege.ca/WOT](http://regiscollege.ca/WOT)  
 Alternatively, call 416.922.5474 or e-mail  
[regis.communications@utoronto.ca](mailto:regis.communications@utoronto.ca)

## CHRISTMAS DECORATING

On Thursday, December 19th at 6:00PM following Sung Vespers(which begins at 5:10PM), join our cleaning and decorating party. Many hands help to make for light work.

We will spend a few hours sprucing up the church, preparing for the Christmas. RSVP encouraged. Please contact Michael for more information at [michael.pirri@utoronto.ca](mailto:michael.pirri@utoronto.ca)

## COFFEE HOUR

Please note that this weekend, **December 15, 2019** will be the last 10:30 Coffee Hour until the new year as our volunteers take a well deserved break for the Christmas season.

Regular coffee hour resumes on Sunday, January 12, 2020.

## SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Please note the following Mass schedule for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1, 2020)

- Tuesday 5:00pm (Vigil)
- Wednesday 9:00am, 12:00pm;  
NO 10:30am or 4:30pm; **Parish office is Closed**

## CANDLES

You may have noticed over the last week or two that we are using a new type of candle! We have moved to a newer, more environmentally friendly candle.

Instead of pulling out the spent plastic sleeves and throwing them in the garbage (since they're not recyclable), we will now pull the glass, which is sent to be cleaned and refilled.

## SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, December 8, 2019 \$6,131.00



## MASS INTENTIONS

DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> – 21<sup>ST</sup>

### SUNDAY

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00am Joseph and Thomas Boyle (+,+)
- 10:30am *Pro Populo*
- 12:00pm Pat Duane (+)
- 4:30pm Janet Barradas and John Bourie (liv.)

### MONDAY

- 7:30am Holy Souls in Purgatory
- 12:10pm Valerie Crilly (+)

### TUESDAY

- 7:30am Mar Hernandez (+)
- 12:10pm Frances, Mary, and Monica Gannon  
(+,+,+)

### WEDNESDAY

- 7:30am David Weiner (+)
- 12:10pm Antonio Freitas (+)

### THURSDAY

- 7:30am Marie Bernice Casey (+)
- 12:10pm Edna Echavez (liv.)

### FRIDAY

- 7:30am Holy Souls in Purgatory
- 12:10pm Luigi and Lina Ciavarella (+,+)

### SATURDAY

- 5:00pm Valerie Crilly (+)

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**, especially, Sue Banfield, Rebecca Beaton, Barbara Boyle, Desmond Brownlee, Anne C., Gemma Ciavarella, Josephine D'amico, Jasper David-Fuchs, Clare DeMello, Romulus DeMello, Erika Farncomb, Jose Gaitero, Maryanne Hodges, Roberto Martello, Margaret Mary McKenzie, Neil McCormack, Hilary McCormack, Rosy Menezes, Mary O'Brien, Paul O'Brien, Delaila Salvador, Erin Sullivan, Kham Tang, Betty Veit, and Alexander Wu.

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED**, especially, Rita Moran.


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