

DECEMBER 25, 2023

ST. BASIL'S



NATIVITY OF THE LORD 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

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.

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.

We respect your decision to remain masked or unmasked.

PARISH STAFF

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



ST. BASIL'S PARISH, TORONTO



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CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

On the first Sunday of Advent, we heard Jesus tell his disciples, "Keep alert" (Mark 13:33). Being alert draws us out of ourselves to notice God's presence and action in our midst. With greater awareness, we can offer thanks, including gratitude for the people God has placed in our lives, those who bring us blessings. It can be too easy to take for granted the gifts that our fellow parishioners, family members, friends, and even the stranger are for us.

One of those persons whom I would like to thank in a special way is Stefani Bedin, our Associate Organist. She has shared her gift of music at St. Basil's for six and a half years, enhancing our liturgies and helping us to lift up our voices to God in song. She soon will be moving on from St. Basil's. While her departure is a loss for us, I am pleased that she has found the wonderful opportunity to be the Director of Music of Christ Church Deer Park. I encourage you to join me in offering Stefani our heartfelt gratitude and praying for her as she enters an exciting new chapter in her life. Her last Sunday at St. Basil's will be on January 14, 2024. However, please consider attending her concert and reception on January 15 (more details below).

Even though Advent has come to an end, may we continue to stay awake to God's blessings in our midst. It is a way to remember that God is truly with us to give us hope and life. This can be especially important when we encounter change. Together, let us encourage and love each other in whatever we are experiencing and do so with all that we have been given. Thank you for the gift that the St. Basil's community is to me and to so many!

May you and your loved ones experience the love and peace of the Prince of Peace. Merry Christmas! Joyeux Noël!

OFFICE HOURS & HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Please note that **only one Mass will take place on Tuesday, December 26th at 9:00am**, after which the church will close. Regularly scheduled confessions will not take place. The parish office will also be closed on weekdays from December 26th to January 1st.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Please note that Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God will be celebrated as follows:

4:30pm Sunday, December 31st

9:00am Monday, January 1st

12:00pm Monday, January 1st

Regularly scheduled confessions will not take place on Monday, January 1st, and the parish office will be closed. Our regular schedule resumes on Tuesday, January 2nd, the Feast of St. Basil.

BEGINNINGS AND ENDINGS

Monday, January 15, at 7:00pm

Join us at St. Basil's for an organ concert by Stefani Bedin, the second of three recitals towards the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Performance. The concert will feature Charles-Marie Widor's monumental "Symphonie Romane" as well as music of J.S Bach, Nadia Boulanger and Maurice Duruflé. Admission is free; donations to St. Basil's music ministry will be gratefully accepted. The concert will be followed by a reception in Macrina Hall.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Tuesdays at 7:00pm

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/StBasilFaithSharing>

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

GET INVOLVED!

Explore the many opportunities for connection, prayer, growth, leadership, and service here at St. Basil's by visiting our ministry portal at <https://www.stbasiltoronto.org/ministries>

TAX RECEIPTS & DONATION ENVELOPES

2024 Collection envelopes are available the back of the church. If you cannot find your name on the list, or would like to sign up for a new collection envelope box, please contact Margaret at (416) 926-7110 or margaret.delia@utoronto.ca. Thank you for your ongoing contributions! Did you know? You can sign up for Pre-Authorized Giving (P.A.G.) and not have to worry about bringing the envelope every week! Contact Margaret, our office manager, for more information.

If you have moved this year and need to have your address updated in our records, please contact the parish office. For more information about tax receipts, or about updating your parishioner profile, please contact Margaret.

CATECHESIS AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

St. Basil's Parish will be starting Reconciliation and First Communion Preparation at the end of January on Sunday mornings for all children who are grade 2 and above, to prepare for the celebration of First Communion this May. We are also running Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) for children age 3-6 on Sunday mornings restarting in February. If you are interested in enrolling your child in either of these programs, please contact Director of Faith Formation, JoAnn Lopez at: joann.lopez@utoronto.ca

We are unfortunately not able to offer a program for preparation for teen Confirmation this year, but will do so in the following year. If you would like to express interest in Confirmation in the future for a child grade 7 and above, please contact JoAnn Lopez or the parish office. We ask the parish community to keep our young people in your prayers as they journey this year.

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

January 13/14: Building Fund

MASS INTENTIONS DECEMBER 24-30



SUNDAY ADVENT IV

9:00am Annunziata Morelli (✱)

10:30am Pro Populo

CHRISTMAS EVE

7:00pm Pro Populo

Midnight Pro Populo

MONDAY CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00am, 10:30am Pro Populo

12:00pm Pro Populo

TUESDAY ST. STEPHEN

9:00am Dr. Peter Moran (liv)

WEDNESDAY ST. JOHN

7:30am Sabina Myosil Park (✱)

12:10pm Charlie DiStefano (✱)

THURSDAY THE HOLY INNOCENTS

7:30am

12:10pm Luigi Ciavarella (✱)

FRIDAY

7:30am

12:10pm Marjorie Chan (✱)

SATURDAY

5:00pm Helen Jerolene Hunt (✱)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Sue Banfield, Rebecca Beaton, Desmond Brownlee, Dora Carbone, Lori Celik, Steve Chandeller, Mary Jane Cowan, Josephine D'amico, Jasper David-Fuchs, Clare DeMello, Maisie Henry, Maryanne Hodges, Elaine Landrie, Margaret LaRose, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, David Martin, Rosy Menezes, Dr. Peter Moran, Januz Niemczyk, Paul O'Brien, Robert Rodbourne, Delaila Salvador, Girolamo Scoppio, Todd Snow, Berney Sytsma, Betty Veit, Eileen Vyphius, and Alexander Wu.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.

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