ST. BASIL'S



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; 2:00 pm - 8:30pm)

Sat-Sun (9:00 am - 6:30 pm)



#### 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.



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St. Basil's Church, Toronto

St Basil's Parish was founded in 1856 by the Priests of the Congregation of St. Basil, also known as the Basilian Fathers. We are the collegiate church of the University of St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto, as well as being the parish church to our parishioners who come to worship here from all over the city. We strive to live the Gospel with the Basilian values of goodness, discipline and knowledge; and to live with their tradition of hospitality to all who visit 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.

#### PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Chris Valka, CSB
Office Manager: Margaret D'Elia
Sacramental Coordinator: Emily VanBerkum
Community Coordinator: Leanna Cappiello

Director of Music:

Assistant Organist:

Zearing Cappinio

J.P. Farahat

Rashaan Allwood

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

ADORATION

Thurs: 3:30-5:00pm

#### **TIMELESS FASHION**

By Tina Sibbald

For the first time in many years, I'm not dreading this season. But then, for the first time in years, my focus has changed. In reading the scriptures for the second Sunday of Advent, I found myself getting caught up in a completely different kind of anticipation — perhaps even a little excitement in this first Christmas since rededicating my life to God.

From the joy and laughter in the Psalms, to God's promise of mercy and righteousness in Baruch, I'm beginning to let go of the world's expectations around spending and consumption, and concentrating instead on the imminent incarnation of God in human form, or as Luke says: "and all flesh shall see the salvation of God".

But Paul's letter to the Philippians struck a particular chord. In verse 5, we find the Greek word koinonia. I remember attending church in

the 70's when this was the "in" word for Christians. Koinonia, roughly translated means "sharing something in common" and the more I study it, the more I think it's time for the fashionable use of this word to come full circle and be in our consciousness again. It speaks of sharing and generosity. It speaks of a community of purpose. It speaks of the Eucharist. We the Church, specifically the people who make up St. Basil's Parish, share a strong common interest in preparing the way for God's arrival by serving those who are ill, poor, lonely, in need, and feeling unloved — sharing with them hope, mercy, and salvation.

I'm no scholar - just a person who still has a lot to learn. But for me, Koinonia embraces a number of related concepts far beyond the capacity of our language, and this will captivate my imagination throughout the Christmas season. I challenge everyone to join me in allowing the calls to action from our social justice ministries to speak to your hearts and prompt you to respond as God leads. Unfortunately for me, this will not preclude a trip to the mall, but it sure will put the mall in its right place at the lower end of my priority list.

Sunday's Readings: Baruch 5.1-9 Philippians 1.3-6,8-11 Luke 3.1-6

#### **USMC HANDEL CONCERT**

On Monday, December 7 at 7:30pm, St. Michael's Schola Cantorum & The Musicians In Ordinary Orchestra present: Handel's Foundling Hospital Anthem ("Blessed are they that considereth the poor"), composed as a fundraiser for a London orphanage, is a fitting way to launch the Year of Mercy called for by Pope Francis. For this piece Handel drew on some of his earlier works—most notably Messiah, from which he borrowed the "Hallelujah Chorus." Performed by The Musicians In Ordinary Orchestra led by Christopher Verrette, with St. Michael's Schola Cantorum and soloists directed by Michael O'Connor. Admission is free, donations welcome.

# R.C.I.A/CREED: WHAT IS A SACRAMENT?

Join our Catechumens and Candidates as we explore the meaning of "Sacrament" and give a basic introduction to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Fr. Jim Carruthers, C.S.B will be the evening's presenter on **Wednesday**, **December 9**. We begin with evening prayer in the church at **7:00pm**. No pre-registration is required to attend this free event.

Also, on **Sunday, December 13**, you are encouraged to bring a friend to Mass, write down your questions and comments, then share them with our R.C.I.A participants, as well as Fr. Chris Valka, C.S.B. and Fr. Mike Lehman C.S.B. on **Wednesday, December 16 at 7:00pm** (our last R.C.I.A gathering of the year). This lively conversation will be followed by a pot-luck Advent social! All are welcome!

#### **DIVORCE & ANNULMENT PRESENTATION**

Join Fr. Chris Valka, C.S.B., and Associate Judicial Vicar at the Archdiocese of Toronto's Marriage Tribunal, Fr. Alex Laschuk, for an evening discussion on the Catholic Church's viewpoint on divorce and annulment. Our evening will begin with prayer in the main church at **7:00pm on Tuesday, December 8**. All are welcome to attend and ask questions or offer comments. No pre-registration is required.

#### NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: A MUSICAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Organist Rashaan Allwood presents an organ recital of Olivier Messiaen's monumental suite, La Nativité du Seigneur, a work of nine musical meditations on the birth of Christ. The concert on **Friday, December 11** at 7:30pm will begin with a short talk on the connections between the spirituality and the musicality of the 20th-century work. Admission is free, donations will be directed to the music program of Saint Basil's Catholic Parish.

#### **OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION**

In 1531, a Mexican farmer from Guadalupe, named Juan Diego, experienced an apparition. He saw a beautiful woman surrounded by a bright light. This beautiful figure identified herself as Mary, the Mother of God. This feast day commemorates Mary's first appearance to the now *St.* Juan Diego.

To celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we will be offering a 12:00pm Mass on Saturday, December 12 which will be followed by a reception in the parish hall.

#### KNIT HAT SPONSORSHIP

Next weekend, **December 12/13**, after all Masses, you will be encouraged to make a donation to our community outreach ministries by purchasing a knit hat that will be placed in gift bags for our 'Out of the Cold' and 'Miller Group' patrons. To offset the cost of each bag (to include such things as hand-warmers, toothpaste, socks, kleenex, soap, chocolates etc.), you can purchase a knit hat, handmade by a parishioner, for a suggested minimum donation of \$5.00. You will also be encouraged to write a personalized message of Christmas greetings on a label which will be given to the patron.

#### **COOKIES & CAROLING**

On **December 14 at 7:00pm** in the Parish Hall, we are bringing back the nostalgic tradition of caroling, and the modern joy of gourmet cookies, this Advent season! Warm up your voice, learn a few Christmas songs, and hit the snowy streets with fresh Toronto talent, and St Basil's Cantor, Kristin Fung!

7:00pm – Cookie Swap in the Parish Hall. Bring your favourite cookies to share with others. Home baked preferred, but not necessary.

7:30pm – Rehearsal. Kristin will lead us in a sing-along so we can be a stellar traveling ensemble.

8:00pm – Caroling on Campus. Get ready to take it to the streets!

No need to RSVP. For more info, contact leanna.cappiello@utoronto.ca.

#### LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, November 29, 2015 \$6,849.94



Sunday Second Sunday of Advent

9:00am- Katrina Teh (liv.) 10:30am- Pro Populo

12:00pm- In Honour of the Eternal Father 4:30pm- William Henry McLallen (+)

Monday Saint Ambrose

7:30am- Gregory Podgorski (+) 12:00pm- Anne Gregoire (+)

Tuesday Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30am- Souls in Purgatory 12:10pm- Matthew Bonneau (liv.)

Wednesday

7:30am- Janina Halatek (+) 12:10pm- Olga Beres Barna (+)

Thursday

7:30am- Kevin Hill & Robin Miller (+)

12:10pm- Ade Makindipe (liv.)

Friday

7:30am- Miller and Guest Family (+)

12:10pm- In Thanksgiving

Saturday Our Lady of Guadalupe

5:00pm- Mr. Stefan & Mrs. Anna Papez (+,+)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Bohdanna Kovals'kyj, Mary O'Brien, Sharon Han, Ancoreta Amigleo, Don Alvaro, Rita Moran, Rev. Kenneth Decker, C.S.B., Clare deMello, Edna Fernandez, Kenneth Heath, Marina Kazakis, Luz Manalo, Doug Slater, Betty Hill, Hsien Tang Pan Wong, and Dr. Gerald Guest.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.

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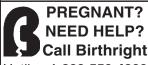
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