

DECEMBER 8, 2024

SECOND 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@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
Director of Faith Formation	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

UPLIFTED WITH HOPE

Advent is a season of hope. Imagine that one is suffering from some serious affliction that causes sorrow of a holistic nature: physical, psychological and spiritual. The prophet Baruch tells us that God calls us to take off that garment and put on a new robe of splendour. Can we imagine it?

We are bid to arise, to stand tall and look towards the light, the eastern sunrise, and to see our legacy, perhaps see our children or our good works ransomed from captivity —brought to fulfilment beyond our dreams. We hear that God is steadfast in His promises to redeem all suffering. Not only that, God has ordered that the ground be made level for us so that we may

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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face the journey forward in safety and the cool shade.

Our Psalm grounds us by recalling the restoration God has already brought about, and looks forward to the promise of future restoration after the current suffering. Noticing and experiencing God's work fills us with joy! Paul's joy comes from the faith of the Philippian community. His prayer for them (and for us!) resides in his hope that through God's grace, what began in faith will flourish as our love grows to overflowing. And then there is John the Baptist, who declares that NOW is the prophesied time – when the way will be smooth, and the afflicted will make the journey safely. Do we see God's restorative work now, in our time, even or especially in moments of difficulty? Are we uplifted in the midst of our own suffering?

Today as we witness or experience the challenges of illness and aging, we are called to be people of Hope. We are invited to put off the garment of suffering and to stand tall to see what is still possible; to see what is still "gift"; to live fully in each moment. We should be filled with joy for the great things that have filled our lives to date and with hope for the possibilities ahead. Like the seed sown, the good works we have begun will be harvested. We can experience the transformation of our suffering with the grace that is still present in our days, and we can transcend that suffering to pour out the love that we have received. In my many years as a palliative care physician, I have seen the fruits of this kind of hope as I have accompanied those who are dying.

In the upcoming Jubilee Year, we are called to be pilgrims of hope. I invite you to engage with these issues in our upcoming January series: **Horizons of Hope** when we can learn together how it may be possible to address suffering with faith, hope and love.

-Donna Marie Ward

HORIZONS OF HOPE

Starts January 23

St. Basil's invites you to join the four-part program, entitled "Horizons of Hope". Over the course of four Thursday evenings starting January 23 we will host parishioners to share and discuss the importance of palliative care. Learn more about how we can respond to our Christian call to provide compassionate care for our loved ones at the end of life. Registration details coming soon!

PREPARE OUR HEARTS: AN EVENING OF TAIZÉ PRAYER

December 11, 7:00pm

Join us on Wednesday, December 11, at 7:00pm at St. Basil's for an Advent Taizé prayer service, where we will reflect together on preparing to encounter Christ. This ecumenical and meditative prayer form includes music, scripture, prayers, candlelight, and silence, to draw us into the mystery of the Incarnation. All are welcome! Questions? Contact JoAnn Lopez: joann.lopez@utoronto.ca

ADVENT RETREAT: ENTERING THE SACRED STORY

Saturday, December 14, 2024

9:30am to 3:00pm

Registration: www.stbasiltoronto.org

Join the Mary Ward Center and St. Basil's Parish for an Advent day of reflection on Saturday, December 14 from 9:30am to 3:00pm Meditating on the Incarnation, we will reflect on God's love active in Jesus and in our own story. Our time together will include Mass, prayer, presentations, spacious silence, art, and small group conversation.

Join us to prepare for the joy of Christmas, when we will celebrate the once and future Coming of Christ. **Registration required by Tuesday, December 10.** Contact JoAnn Lopez with questions (joann.lopez@utoronto.ca)

USMC SCHOLA CANTORUM

December 9, 7:30pm

All are warmly invited to the University of St. Michael's College Schola Cantorum's Advent Concert on Monday, December 9 at 7:30pm at St. Basil's Church. The concert features the Oratorio de Noël by Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921), a lush and lyrical meditation on Christ's birth, in a setting for organ, soloists, and chorus. The St. Michael's Schola will be joined by singers from Professor Mia Bach's Third Year Oratorio Class at the Faculty of Music, and St. Basil's Director of Music, Dr. John Paul Farahat, on organ. The program is rounded out by a romantic choral anthem, Peace on Earth, by American female composer Amy Beach (1867-1944). Admission is free, with donations gratefully accepted.

SUPPORTING OUR NEIGHBOURS IN NEED

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is offering you an opportunity to clean out your desk drawer of any boxes of Christmas cards that you are no longer using. Each year, we have a tradition of hand delivering cards at Christmas to our Neighbours in Need. Please bring extra cards to the main office or to the SVdP volunteers after Mass.

There are several ways to donate this Christmas season. You can mail cheques to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, St. Basil's Church, 50 St. Joseph Street, Toronto, M5S 1J4. You can go online to the Society's website www.ssvptoronto.ca; please specify that the donation is for St. Basil's conference. You can phone the Society's Toronto office at (416) 364-5577 and donate by credit card, again specifying St. Basil's.

As always, there are Christmas envelopes for the Society available which you can put into the church collection box or mail to the church office. All gifts are tax deductible. 98.6% of donations go directly to our neighbors in need.

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

Dec 7/8: Building Fund

MASS INTENTIONS

DECEMBER 8 - 14



SUNDAY SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00am David Strobel (✱)
10:30am *Pro Populo*
12:00pm Vivian Kwok and Winnie Man (liv)
4:30pm Isabelita Solitario (✱)

MONDAY THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

- 7:30am
12:10pm Michael Ciavarella (✱)

TUESDAY

- 7:30am
12:10pm Ana Librada Ramos (✱)

WEDNESDAY

- 7:30am Angelo Reyes Alviar (✱)
12:10pm Lina Ciavarella (✱)

THURSDAY

- 7:30am
12:10pm Stefan and Anna Papez (✱,✱)

FRIDAY ST. LUCY

- 7:30pm Crispina C. Custodio (✱)
12:10pm Sally Lianko (liv)

SATURDAY (ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS)

- 5:00pm Patricia Nunes-D'Souza (liv)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Sue Banfield, Rebecca Beaton, Desmond Brownlee, Lori Celik, Steve Chandeller, Yvonne Clarke, Josephine D'amico, Jasper David-Fuchs, Clare DeMello, Maisie Henry, Maryanne Hodges, Bohdanka Kovalska, Elaine Landrie, Margaret LaRose, Cheekon Leong, Luba Leong, Anne McFadden, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, David Martin, Rosy Menezes, Dr. Peter Moran, Paul O'Brien, Robert Rodbourne, Carmelita Salazar, 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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