

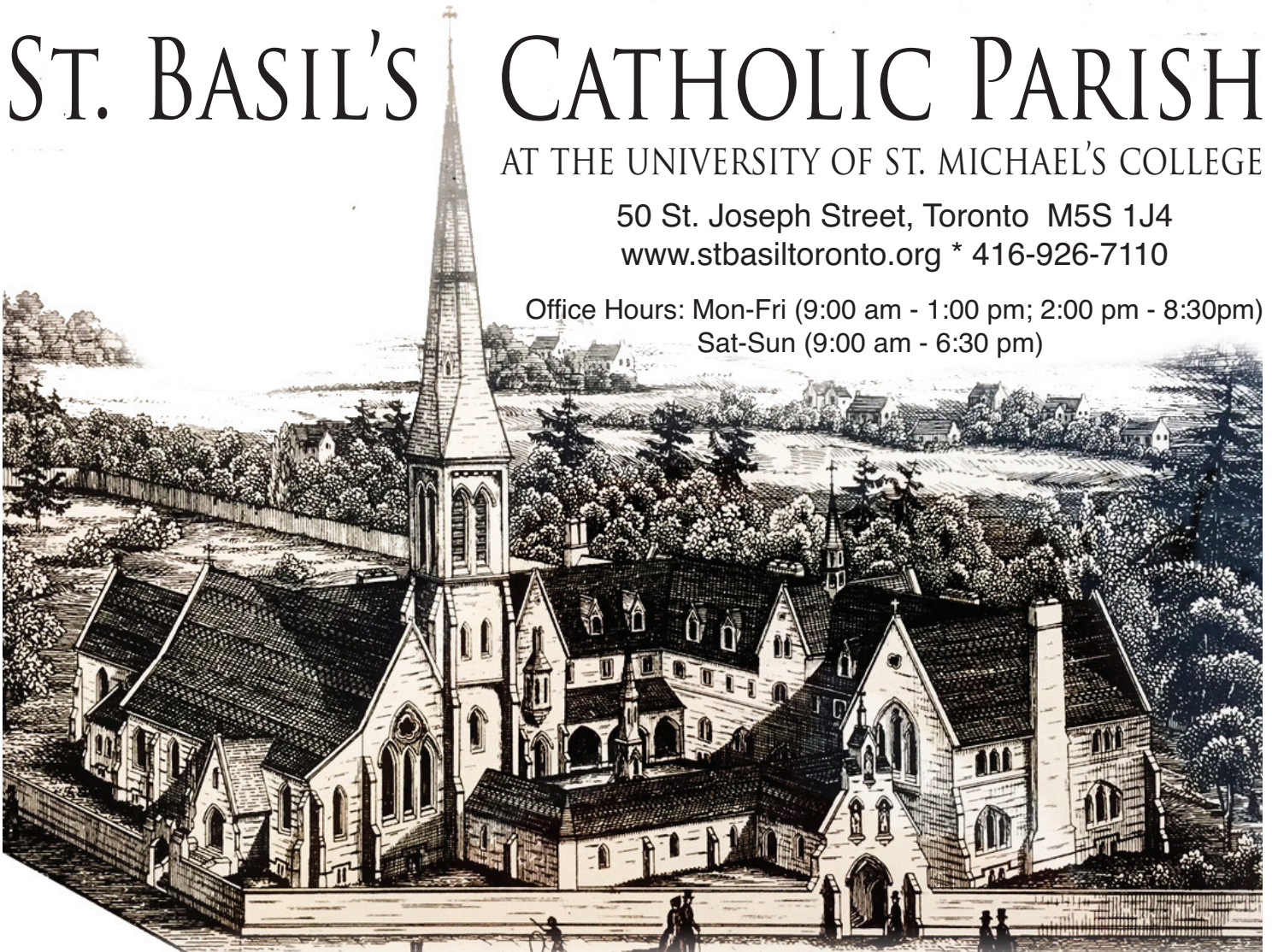
ST. BASIL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

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; 2:00 pm - 8:30pm)
Sat-Sun (9:00 am - 6:30 pm)



ARCHITECT MICHAEL HAYS' ORIGINAL DRAWING OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE & ST. BASIL'S CHURCH (1855)

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

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

ADORATION

Thurs: 3:30-5:00pm



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St. Basil's Parish, Toronto

For 160 years (1856-2016), St. Basil's Parish has been home to people of all ages and needs. For those who need hearing assistance, devices are available at the front desk. Simply leave a photo ID to borrow one during your visit.

Mothers are welcome to nurse their children in church or provide them snacks as needed. As Pope Francis has said, children's voices, even when crying, make "the most beautiful choir of all." 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!

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Fr. Chris Valka, CSB
Office Manager:	Margaret D'Elia
Director of Pastoral Ministries:	Emily VanBerkum
Director of Music:	J.P. Farahat
Assistant Organist:	Michael Pirri
Director of Family Ministries:	Mailena Berardinelli
Evening Office Assistant:	Stela Tudor

A HARD GOSPEL FOR HARD TIMES

By John Dalla Costa

Jesus' most challenging teaching is also his most essential: to love our enemies. With the vitriol in today's politics, and so much hate in our culture, we are forced to confront both the implausibility of such love, and the impossibility of healing our world without loving on these extravagant terms. As Jesus explains, there is no spiritual credit for loving the lovable because nothing really changes.

Transformation requires that excruciating effort beyond reciprocity, which alone changes hearts by opening them.

Still, it's hard. How do we love those who hate or harm others? How do we give to those who are conditioned by greed to only take? What is the line between "turning the other cheek" and self-abnegation?

We usually approach such questions by trying to change our view of the enemy. We recall that they too are children of God, with wounds and gifts that warrant our respect. Important though it be to penetrate the veils of vilification that divide our society, community, church and even families, what Jesus teaches is much more for us than for any "them."

To hate is always to disconnect from the flow of God's love, so that, in despising others, we are actually depriving ourselves of the very relationship our souls need to thrive. To hate is also to give up our own freedom, choosing a prison of resentments or vengefulness that only hardens our isolation. To hate ultimately denies the truth in that any knowledge we may have gained - even if spiritually valid - only gets suffocated when subjected to the prerogatives of anger.

Jesus understood that power and violence can never break the fiercely reinforcing reciprocities of hatred or suspicion. The truth can only persuade when it is engifted as an act of love.

For me, this most hard gospel only confirms the mystery of the Incarnation. Only a divine heart in a human body could fathom a love so extremely inclusive. And only a human heart pierced by an

executioner's lance has the credibility to demand from us the extreme forgiveness to love even those who hurt us.

Today's Readings:

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23;

Matthew 5:38-48

CONCERT AT WESTMINSTER

Our Director of Music and Principal Organist, John Paul Farahat, is away this weekend performing an organ recital at Westminster Abbey, London, England. We wish him all the best as he represents our parish well!

DISCUSSION ON PSALMODY

Please join the Toronto Chapter of the Royal School of Church Music Canada on **Saturday February 25** for a discussion on Psalmody in the Christian tradition. Discussion to include historical and modern approaches to singing the psalms. **10:00am-12:00pm** at St. Margaret's New Toronto Anglican Church (156 Sixth St, Toronto).

For more information, please visit www.rscmcanada.org.

PRESENTATION ON THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Basilian Father Norman Tanck will present on the Sacrament of Reconciliation this **Wednesday, February 22**.

Following a 'prayer workshop' in which evening compline is prayed and the design of the confessional is explained (accompanied by a step-by-step guide on how to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation), Fr. Norm will explore who is to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and why. He will also illustrate features of a contrite heart and steps to make amends in one's life. The talk will begin with evening prayer at **7:00pm** in the St. Basil's church proper before heading over to Charbonnel Lounge. All are welcome! No pre-registration is required.

JOIN THE "CALL FOR CONSCIENCE"

Now that Canada has legalized assisted suicide/euthanasia, did you know that doctors in Ontario are forced to provide direct referrals for patients seeking to end their lives? Many doctors object to this, feeling that a direct referral makes them morally complicit in the act. No foreign jurisdiction in the world that has legalized euthanasia has forced health care workers to refer, acting against their conscience.

Visit www.CanadiansforConscience.ca to learn more, join the "Call for Conscience," and to write directly to your Member of Provincial Parliament asking them to protect conscience rights.

DEALING WITH END-OF-LIFE ISSUES: A PUBLIC LECTURE

You are invited to a free, public lecture held at the **Newman Centre (89 St. George Street)** entitled "Dealing with end-of-life issues: Ethical and Legal Considerations", on **Thursday, March 2 from 5:30-7:30pm**. Guest speakers include Fr. Kevin Belgrave (Assistant Professor of Moral Theology at St. Augustine's Seminary) to speak on end-of-life issues from a Catholic Perspective and Mr. Philip H. Horgan, JD, who will speak on what happens when the requirements of law conflict with elements of faith (specifically since the coming into effect of Bill C-14). Although admission is free, donations will be gratefully accepted.

Tax receipts for donations made in 2016 were mailed last weekend. If you did not receive a tax receipt please notify the office. Additionally, please note that receipts for donations made to the Family of Faith campaign or to St. Vincent de Paul are mailed separately.

Reminder that **St. Vincent de Paul's Bundle Up Sunday** will take place next weekend (**February 25/26**). A truck will be parked outside the main entrance after all Masses next weekend.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, February 12, 2017 \$4,621.30



MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 19th - 25th

Sunday **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00am-
10:30am- Pro Populo
12:00pm- Vito & Enrico Lozupone (+)
4:30pm- John, Robert & Alan Wimbs (+,+,+)

Monday **Family Day**

9:00am- Wendy Dolan (+)
**There will be no confession today
and the Parish Office is closed.*

Tuesday

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Wednesday

7:30am-
12:10pm- Mrs. Elizabeth Theiszova (+)

Thursday **Saint Polycarp**

7:30am-
12:10pm- Newill & Dorothy Shillingford (+,+)
and Fred Fox (+)

Friday

7:30am-
12:10pm- Ralph Pope (+)

Saturday

5:00pm- Jadwiga & Branislaw Chucziak (+)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Mary O'Brien, Claire Fidler, Kam Fung Tem, Angel Martinez, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, Joe Torres, Lucille Mirvish, Celerina Agpoon, Bernice Casey, Concha Gaeitereiro, Clare DeMello, Erika Farncomb, Filomena La Rocca, Joseph Troncone, Hai Luen Liu, Neil McCormack, Jack Gervais, and Sue Lockwood.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.

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