

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

ORDINARY TIME VII

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
Lay Pastoral Associate	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

EXPERIENCING AND LIVING MERCY

“Be Merciful, just as your father is merciful.” When I read this line in this Sunday’s Gospel, I immediately thought of the parallel line in Matthew’s Gospel: “Be perfect, just as your heavenly father is perfect.” Jesus is setting a tall order for us, which of us could even dream to be as merciful and perfect as God? In fact, if we claimed such a thing, we might be closing in on blasphemy! Jesus knows that we cannot be perfect in our human frailty, so why does he ask us? Though it is impossible on our own, we are never asked to do anything alone. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be with us to the end of the age. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can love beyond our natural capacities.

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



STBASIL_TO

We can love even our enemies. We can do good to those who hate us, bless those who curse us, pray for those who abuse us, and do so with the love and mercy of the Father.

The second reading points us to our call as Christians to bear the image of Christ to the world, another task that can often feel more idealistic than realistic. When I feel bogged down by my own frustrations or challenges, I find it hard to be a light to the world and to love others, to move out of the narrow view of my world and to be attentive to the hurts, challenges and needs of others. How can I be merciful like the Father and a light to the nations like Jesus if I can't even get past my own problems? I think the responsorial psalm gives a pretty good little recipe for moving from the narrow view of my world to a "Kingdom" view.

"It is the Lord who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy" (Psalm 103:3-4)

First, we need to come to the Lord to receive His mercy. Let Him forgive all our sins, heal all our hurts, and redeem us from all our shame. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a beautiful opportunity to receive God's mercy tangibly. Once we've let God clean our hearts and clear our vision, we can recognize the gifts He has bestowed on us. God has indeed crowned us with his steadfast love and his unconditional mercy. God never asks us to give what He will not provide. If we find it hard to love or forgive others, perhaps we first need to seek the love and forgiveness of our heavenly Father.

– Amanda Ho

ADORATION ON FEBRUARY 25

Please note that regularly scheduled Adoration will **not** take place this Tuesday, February 25.

THIERRY ESCAICH IN CONCERT

February 28, 2025 at 7:30pm

On Friday, February 28, at 7:30pm, St. Basil's welcomes the Faculty of Music and France-Canada Distinguished Visitor in Music, Thierry Escaich, organist, composer and improviser. A renowned contemporary composer and performer and professor of organ at the Conservatoire National Supérieure de Musique et de Danse de Paris, M. Escaich was recently named titular organist of the organ at Notre-Dame Cathedral, Paris. This concert is free admission.

FRIARS YOUTH VIDEO CONTEST

Theme: Faith as a Pathway from Division to Unity

High school students (aged 13 to 19 years) in the Catholic School Boards within the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to participate in this annual celebration of the United Nations International Human Fraternity Day on February 4 each year.

Students are encouraged to create a three-minute video that captures this year's theme.

Please adhere to the guidelines provided and submit your entries via the submission form at <https://bit.ly/DFVCSUBMISSION>.

For further information, please contact interreligious@archtoronto.org

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

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 To receive the Zoom link, please register: <https://tinyurl.com/StBasilFaithSharing>

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Please note Mass will be celebrated at the following times on Ash Wednesday: 7:30am, 12:10pm, 1:30pm, 5:10pm, and 7:00pm.

Ash Wednesday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 60. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

FIRST SPIRITUAL EXERCISES LENT RETREAT

Retreat Dates: Mondays, March 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7
Time: 7 pm - 8:30 pm
Location: Mary Ward Centre (70 St. Mary Street)

Over five (5) weeks during Lent, join us for an Ignatian retreat in daily life that brings us into deeper intimacy with God. Although there are times in our life we may experience periods of inner darkness we are called, like Jesus, to be the light of the world. This retreat will lead us on a journey through love and sin to mercy and wonder. Prayer is made four (4) days a week according to your own schedule, preferably Monday to Thursday, with optional exercises on Saturday and Sunday. We gather weekly for spiritual conversation and sharing in small groups. No experience with Ignatian spirituality is required.

Facilitator:

Sr. Sarah Rudolph, ibvm

Fees:

Registration \$40, materials \$27

Questions & Registration:

Email sarah.rudolph@marywardcentre.ca by
March 5th.

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

February 22/23: Society of St. Vincent dePaul

MASS INTENTIONS

FEB 23 - MAR 1



SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME VII

9:00am

10:30am *Pro Populo*

12:00pm Alice and Jessica (liv)

4:30pm

MONDAY

7:30am

12:10pm Juan Amestoy (✱)

TUESDAY

7:30am

12:10pm David George Diston (✱), Silvio and
Eraldo Fallico (✱,✱)

WEDNESDAY

7:30am

12:10pm Vivian Kwok and Winnia Man (liv),
Maurice Robot (✱)

THURSDAY

7:30am

12:10pm Robert Timothy Montserin (✱)

FRIDAY

7:30pm *Souls in Purgatory*

12:10pm Len Ciavarella (✱)

SATURDAY

5:00pm Christina Koh (✱)


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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