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)

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.

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!

ARCHITECT MICHAEL HAYS' ORIGINAL DRAWING OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE & ST. BASIL'S CHURC

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

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Office Manager: Sacramental Coordinator: Director of Music: Assistant Organist: Family Coordinator: Evening Office Assistant:

Fr. Chris Valka, CSB Margaret D'Elia **Emily VanBerkum** J.P. Farahat Michael Pirri Marilena Berardinelli Stela Tudor

LETTING YOUR LIGHT SHINE

By M.J. Santa Ana

Jesus says to "let your light shine before human beings, so that they may give glory to your Father in heaven." Our light shines when we do a good thing out of a sincere concern for the needs of others. Good works are not limited to what we might call charitable acts. An employee lets their light shine when they do their job in such a way that it betters the organization and creates valuable for the something people the organization serves. A leader does the same when they inspire, encourage and motivate those in their charge to be their best. A well-prepared student who participates meaningfully in class is letting their light shine by providing insights that can help their fellow learners understand a subject better or see it in a whole new perspective. What may seem to us as normal activities are in fact opportunities to model God's love to others, that they may discover and glorify Him for themselves through our example.

Good works are an integral part of living out faith. This might seem intuitive, but the people who heard the prophet Isaiah thought that by merely performing occasional religious practices – fasting, humbling themselves by wearing sackcloth and ashes – they were entitled to God's providence. They seemed to think it did not matter how they treated each other when they were not in the temple. The Lord points out through Isaiah that He prefers the practice of mercy over rituals completed for the sake of appearances, and also promises those who practice mercy that their calls for help will be answered.

Acts of mercy, therefore, are the best offerings we can give to God as it shows our love for those closest to His heart, and provide a proclamation of the truth of our faith in a way that lofty words of wisdom cannot.

Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 58.6-10 1 Corinthians 2.1-5 Matthew 5.13-16

USMC PUBLIC LECTURE ON CREATION

On Wednesday, February 8 from 7:00-9:00pm in Fr. Madden Hall, the University of St. Michael's College Faculty of Theology is hosting a free guest lecture by Dr. Brian Robinette entitled "The Difference Nothing Makes: The Doctrine of Creation as Contemplative Insight."

Dr. Robinette is an Associate Professor of Theology at Boston College. He explores *creatio ex nihilo* as affirming God's unconditioned transcendence offering a basic "grammar" for speaking of God and creation. To RSVP, kindly register at: events.usmctheology@utoronto.ca.

VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE: NEXT SUNDAY!

Next **Sunday, February 12** is our annual Valentine's Day bake sale. After all Masses on Sunday, please visit the vestibule to indulge in some freshly baked goodies. All proceeds of the sale go directly to our kitchen renovations. Enjoy!

MARRIAGE SUNDAY

On **Sunday**, **February 12**, the Archdiocese of Toronto celebrates Marriage Sunday. We congratulate our newly married couples and those celebrating milestone anniversaries! Please pray for our parish's engaged couples currently participating in marriage preparation.

"Marriage is a precious sign, for when a man and a woman celebrate the sacrament of marriage, God is, as it were, 'mirrored' in them; he impresses in them his own features and the indelible character of his love. Marriage is the icon of God's love for us."

From Pope Francis' Amoris Laetitia

TAX RECEIPTS

Tax receipts for donations made in 2016 were mailed last weekend. If you do not receive a tax receipt by February 15, please notify the office.

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As we observe the World Day of the Sick and participate in the Sacrament of Anointing this weekend, let us be mindful of those in our community who suffer in mind and body and those who care for them.

BLESSING FOR THE SICK

Lord Jesus, our saviour and brother, listen to our prayer.

Look with love on _____,

and help him/her in this time of sickness. Bless + him/her with the gifts of your Spirit. Give him/her the courage to carry your cross and bring him/her back to full health and strength. Lord Jesus,

we ask this grace in your holy name. Amen.

As referenced in Fr. Chris' homily, the following is an excerpt from Peter Block and John McKnight's *Abundant Community: Awakening the Power of Families and Neighborhoods (Berrett-Koehler Publishers , 2010).*

An abundant community is not organized in systems. That is to say, a community is not designed to create scale – nor does it need consistency, control, or predictability.

Our abundance is about the variety of gifts and what is most personal and idiosyncratic to families and neighborhoods. Variety, uniqueness, and appreciation for the one-of-a-kind are its essence.

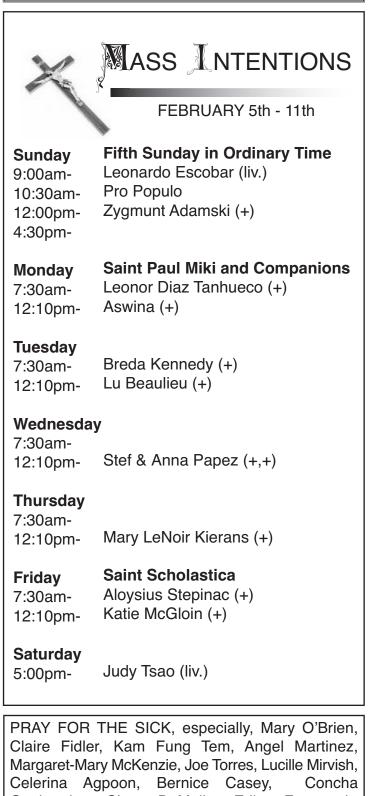
The consequence of our consumerism is not simply that we no longer look after the hungry and the oppressed, but rather, that we privatize it. We outsource and give our power away. But this loss of "neighboring", as Block and McKnight call it, is not only that; or that I have someone else clean my house, or counsel my son, or bring food to my housebound parents when I am on the road. It is that I have organized a life of consumer purchasing as a substitute for my capacity to grieve, relate, welcome and share wealth and resources with others.

The tenants of abundance:

- 1. What we have is enough.
- 2. We have the capacity to provide what we need in the face of the human condition.
- 3. We organize our world in a context of cooperation and satisfaction.
- 4. We are responsible for each other.
- 5. We live with the reality of the human condition.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, January 29, 2017 \$5,934.10



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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