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)

ADMINISTERED BY THE BASILIAN FATHERS

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: Office Manager: Sacramental Coordinator: Community Coordinator: Director of Music: Assistant Organist: Fr. Chris Valka, CSB Margaret D'Elia Emily VanBerkum Leanna Cappiello 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

ANOINTED WITH MERCY

By Fr. Chris Valka, CSB

Our Gospel this Sunday picks up from last Sunday's reading. After Jesus reads the Scroll of the Prophet Isaiah about the one who God has anointed to bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and proclaim a year of the Lord's favour; Jesus announces that this scripture has been fulfilled in their hearing!

However, people did not get angry simply because Jesus claimed he was the one anointed – to this they just questioned how he could be so if he was the Son of Joseph? How could the anointed be someone known so well to them? Rather, what really set them off in a fury was the idea that the Lord's favour could extend to those outside Israel!

In his recent book, *Mercy*, Walter Kasper writes, "Mercy is the revelation of God's transcendence over everything mortal and over everything humanly calculable. That the most important expression in the Bible for understanding mercy is Hesed, which means unmerited loving kindness, friendliness, favor, and also divine grace and mercy. It means God's free and gracious turning toward the human person with care. It concerns the concept of relationship. It is not just a single action, but an ongoing attitude and posture."

Herein lies the problem (at least part of it): many of the Hebrews were so busy trying to keep the law, that they forgot why the law was established in first place - they had forgotten about the importance of relationship with God. We have a similar problem today, for so many of us have great respect for the person/humanity Jesus without of fully comprehending his divinity. When this happens, the qualities of Jesus are limited by his humanity. His mercy and love lose their transcendence and become just outside of our own imaginations. However, we are called to something so much greater. As we hear in Jeremiah: we have been known and appointed while we were in the womb! What we are capable of is not as simple as what we can achieve; rather it is about how we see ourselves in relationship to the Divine - in God and in one another. The result is a profound humility that will allow us to see God in all people and in all circumstances.

Sunday's Readings: Jeremiah 1.4-5, 17-19 1 Corinthians 12.31-13.13 Luke 4.18-19

ASH WEDNESDAY

Begin the season of Lent with your St. Basil's Parish community by attending Mass on **Wednesday, February 10** at any of the following times: 7:30am, 10:30am, 12:10pm, 5:10pm, or 7:00pm.

RCIA/CREED: SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Join or R.C.I.A program as we experience a communal examination of conscience followed by a talk on the Sacrament of Reconciliation by Fr. John Reddy, CSB. We will begin with prayer in the church on **Wednesday, February 3 at 7:00pm** followed by the talk in the parish hall.

LENTEN BOOK CLUB

As mentioned in last week's homily, the next book club will discuss Fr. Ron Rolheiser's **Sacred Fire**: A Vision for a Deeper Human and Christian Maturity. Purchase your copy of Sacred Fire for \$30 in the vestibule of the church after all Masses **next weekend (February 6/7)**. Stay tuned for details on the meeting time and date.

THANK YOU FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL!

We are humbled by the generosity of the parishioners at St. Basil's. As a result of the Christmas appeal we were able to make Christmas a whole lot brighter for the 132 households that we visited in December. In addition to providing extra food vouchers for those in need, we were also able to provide a bed for a 9 year old that had no bed, medication, rental assistance, much needed winter clothing, toys, and a few sweets. But, most of all it gave recipients renewed confidence in themselves and their future knowing that someone cares. We also want to thank the students of St. Michael's College for collecting and delivering Christmas gifts to the children of some of our neighbours in need; they went above and beyond! We cannot express how much we appreciate the generous support of this community. Charitable receipts for donations of \$20 or more are in the mail.

BUNDLE UP SUNDAY IS BACK!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is collecting clothing (all seasons, men, women, children) to be given to those in need or to be sold to help support our special works in the community. Bring your donations to the Society's truck for the upcoming **Bundle Up weekend** on **February 27 and 28**. Volunteers will be on hand to offer assistance with your items before and after each Mass on February 27 and 28. *Please do not bring items until the last weekend in February. Only then will we have a truck on site. We do not have space to store items beforehand.*

JOHN FORD FIRST SUNDAY

Next weekend, **February 6/7** marks our next John Ford First Sunday Food Drive. Your contributions of non-perishable food items or monetary donations will be gratefully accepted by our friendly volunteers in the vestibule of the church after all Masses that weekend. Although any contribution is most welcome, our parish's community outreach ministries are in most need of the following items:

-Cookies

- -Granola bars
- -Pudding cups
- -Jam
- -Nutella
- -Large juice
- -Canned fruit
- -Mayonnaise
- -Parmesan cheese
- -Canned olives
- -Salsa
- -Cups
- -Napkins
- -Coffee

Thank you for your continued support!

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in the Church on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 and in parishes on the weekend of January 30/31, 2016. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

All are welcome to come to a special Mass presided by Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick this **Sunday, January 31 at 3:00 pm at St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto** to close the Jubilee Year for Consecrated Life and to celebrate with and pray for these men and women religious who are such a vital and important part of the life and ministry of the Church in our Archdiocese.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, January 24, 2016 \$6,193.41

MASS INTENTIONS JANUARY 31st- FEBRUARY 6th Sunday Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9:00am-James Meldrum (+) Pro Populo 10:30am-Vito (+) & Vittoria Lozupone 12:00pm-Mervyn De Guzman (+) 4:30pm-Monday 7:30am-Thalheimer Family (liv.) 12:10pm-Thomas & Margaret Cox (+,+)The Presentation of the Lord Tuesday 7:30am-In Thanksgiving 12:10pm-Mr. Stefan & Mrs. Anna Papez (+) Wednesday Saint Blaise 7:30am-Antonietta Ciavarella (+) 12:10pm-Vocations Thursday 7:30am-Luisa & Orlande Sivacoe (liv.) 12:10pm-Family of Josephine Stelee/Moore (liv, +), Frank Gregoire (+), Mike Gregoire (+), Michael Galusza (+) Fridav 7:30am-Leonardo Escobar (+) 12:10pm-Annabelle Anita DeSilva (+) Saturday Saint Paul Miki and Companions 5:00pm-Daniel "Don" J. Haggerty (+) PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Bohdanna

Kovals'kyj, Mary O'Brien, Sharon Han, Ancoreta Amigleo, Don Alvaro, Rita Moran, Clare deMello, Edna Fernandez, Kenneth Heath, Marina Kazakis, Luz Manalo, Betty Hill, Hsien Tang Pan Wong, Robert Benn, Claire Fider, Helen Lau, Gloria Lau, Sr. Mary Sibbald, and Kam Fung Tem.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.

