

MARCH 10, 2024

LENT IV

# ST. BASIL'S

# CATHOLIC PARISH

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE



50 St. Joseph Street, Toronto M5S 1J4  
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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

## 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

<b>Pastor:</b>	Fr. Morgan V. Rice, CSB
<b>Associate Pastor:</b>	Fr. Norm Tanck, CSB
<b>Office Manager:</b>	Margaret D'Elia
<b>Director of Faith Formation</b>	JoAnn M. Lopez
<b>Director of Music &amp; Principal Organist:</b>	Dr. John Paul Farahat
<b>Musician-in-Residence:</b>	Dr. Lindsay McIntyre
<b>Coordinator of Outreach &amp; Hospitality:</b>	Hilda O'Connor
<b>Director of Community Engagement:</b>	Michael Pirri

This Sunday you might notice something special. Rose liturgical vestments instead of the Lenten purple. Prelude and postlude music at Mass, different from the other weeks of Lent when they are muted and we depart in silence. You might also notice the days having more light, especially as we mark daylight savings time. This Fourth Sunday of Lent, also known as Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday, is the mid-point of our Lenten journey. We pause in the midst of our Lenten desert experience to look ahead to the promise of God that comes with Easter. The entire liturgy encourages us to be grounded in the truth of God's love as we approach the last weeks of Lent and Holy Week. Our readings speak of God's great reconciling love which brings restoration and light to the world in Christ. It's a good time to take stock of our image of God and ourselves at this mile-marker, to help us to hasten toward Easter.

How many of us feel like we are in exile, flung far from God's grace? How many of us feel

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.

We respect your decision to remain masked or unmasked.



ST. BASIL'S PARISH, TORONTO



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ashamed and afraid of how God looks at us – imagining judgement, anger, disappointment or disdain from God? How many of us feel deeply alone and isolated, cut off from community? Our readings today ask us to emerge from the shadows of shame into the light of God’s love that calls us into relationship. To remember that God is not an angry and avenging deity, but rather a beloved parent reaching out to us with arms extended in embrace, binding us together into community. Fear might keep us trapped in the shadows, preferring the darkness, but God’s light is not a harsh spotlight of accusation, but the warm, guiding, and life-giving light that allows us to grow in faith and be restored to fullness of relationship.

With hearts open to the light we can tell the truth about our lives and experience being drenched by God’s mercy. When we remember that faith and conversion is not about how bad we are but how good and loving God is, we can receive grace and be transformed towards right relationship with God, neighbour, and all creation. As we continue our journey of preparation for Easter, consider approaching the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You’ll find a guide on our Lent webpage. In this Sacrament we trust we will meet a forgiving and loving God who wants to free us from sin, and always strengthens us through grace to live our faith more fully in our life.

Sometimes the words of a hymn I sang as a child return to me as I walk to work and hear the birds sing, or when I meet people at this parish: *“the message is God still loves the world, God still, still loves the world [...] God is passionately busy loving you and me.”* If only we believed this. If only we lived this. How different would our lives and our world be? Rejoice!

-JoAnn Melina Lopez

## EXCURSION: ROM EXHIBIT

Saturday, March 16, 2:00pm

Lent is a time of preparation for the joy and hope of Easter. We reflect on the truth that we shall die, and that our Saviour, Jesus Christ, died and rose again, opening for us the way to resurrection life. Join parishioners on the afternoon of Saturday, March 16 to visit the current exhibit *Death: Life’s Greatest Mystery* at the Royal Ontario Museum, which explores our understanding of and relationship to death across cultures. Refreshments in the parish hall will follow the visit to the ROM. Participants purchase museum tickets on their own, but explore the exhibit together. Registration required, more information on the St. Basil’s website at [www.stbasiltoronto.org/lent](http://www.stbasiltoronto.org/lent)

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Tuesdays at 7:00pm

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/StBasilFaithSharing>

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](mailto:joann.lopez@utoronto.ca)

## LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Lent includes many opportunities for deepening of prayer, giving alms, and fasting. Consider taking part in some of our Lenten Offerings, listed below.

**Vespers (Evening Prayer):** Celebrated Monday-Friday at 5:10pm.

**\*Eucharistic Adoration:** Takes place on Tuesdays from 3:00pm to 6:00pm.

**\*Stations of the Cross:** Takes place on Fridays at 5:30pm, immediately following Vespers.

## BUNDLE UP WEEKEND

Thank you for bringing your items this bundle-up weekend. God bless you for your generosity! If you missed this bundle up weekend, please hold your items as we do not have space to store the items here at the parish.

### PRAYER INTENTION OF MARCH

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month.

#### For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

### USMC SCHOLA CONCERT

Monday, March 18 at 7:30pm  
St. Basil's Church

The University of St. Michael's College Schola Cantorum presents a Lenten selection of choral music of Francesco Durante: Lamentations, Litany, and Magnificat. All are welcome!

### SHARELIFE

Inspired by God's love:  
Support ShareLife's mission

Today, as we contemplate God's boundless generosity, may we, too, be moved by this same spirit of generosity. May this inspire all of us to be kind, compassionate, and move us to share our blessings with our brothers and sisters in need.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate).

In 2024 there are three designated ShareLife collections: March 16/17 (next weekend), April 27/28, and June 1/2.

### UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

March 9/10: Easter Flowers

March 16/17: Sharelife

## MASS INTENTIONS

### MARCH 10-16



#### SUNDAY LENT IV

9:00am Soong Hua Lau (✝)  
10:30am *Pro Populo*  
12:00pm Rosalia Sgro (✝)  
4:30pm Cesar Starfrace (✝)

#### MONDAY

7:30am *Souls in purgatory*  
12:10pm Frankie Leung (✝)

#### TUESDAY

7:30am  
12:10pm Julie Khayatt (✝), Eduardo Manacap (✝)

#### WEDNESDAY

7:30am Merlinda C. Borja (✝)  
12:10pm Julia Nelson (✝)

#### THURSDAY

7:30am  
12:10pm Titus Ambrose Owolabi (✝)

#### FRIDAY

7:30am  
12:10pm Len Ciavarella (✝)

#### SATURDAY

5:00pm Adele O'Connell

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**, especially, Sue Banfield, Rebecca Beaton, Desmond Brownlee, Dora Carbone, Lori Celik, Steve Chandeller, Josephine D'amico, Jasper David-Fuchs, Clare DeMello, Maisie Henry, Maryanne Hodges, Elaine Landrie, Margaret LaRose, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, David Martin, Rosy Menezes, Dr. Peter Moran, Januz Niemczyk, Paul O'Brien, Robert Rodbourne, Delaila Salvador, Girolamo Scoppio, Todd Snow, John Sytsma, Betty Veit, Eileen Vyphius, and Alexander Wu.

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.**

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