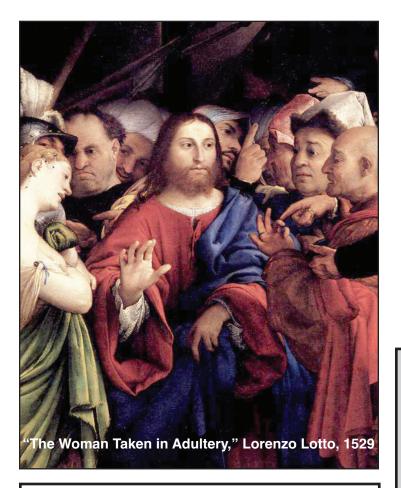
ST. BASIL'S CATHOLIC PARISH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE



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.

50 St. Joseph Street, Toronto M5S 1J4 www.stbasiltoronto.org * 416-926-7110

Office Hours: Monday - Friday: (9:00 am - 1:00 pm; 2:00 pm - 8:30pm) Saturday & Sunday: (9:00 am - 6:30 pm)







SUNDAY MASSES

5:00 pm (Sat); 9:00 am; 10:30 am;

12:00 pm; 4:30 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday-Friday: 7:30 am; 12:10 pm

CONFESSIONS

Monday-Friday: 11:30 am - 12:00 pm

Saturday: 4:15 pm - 4:45 pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS Monday-Friday: 5:10 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am

ADORATION

Thursday: 3:30-5:30 pm

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

Please see the parish website or call the

main office for details.

IN THE DEEP END OF THE POOL

By Tina Sibbald

Someone famous does something wrong, and suddenly everyone is throwing around the line "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone". I'm bemused when people cherry pick Bible verses to be used for their own purposes, completely distorting the intended meaning for followers of Christ. Often used to justify bad behavior - or let's call it what it is - sin, by everyone from the rich and powerful, to the most average among us, it demonstrates a flagrant misunderstanding of the concept of mercy.

From the adulterous woman, to the leper, to the Canaanite woman whose daughter was demon possessed; there are many examples of Christ showing mercy. Mercy, by definition is compassion or forgiveness shown towards someone whom it is in one's power to punish or harm. I would also add someone whom it is in one's power to ignore: the voiceless, the marginalized, the needy, and the poor.

Pope Francis has told us that if we strive to know God, then we must be compelled to be merciful as this is a quality of God that He requires of His people.

How do we do that?

There are all kinds of practical ways, too many to list. For starters, the social justice ministries right here at St. Basil's, always need more volunteers. Or, thinking about our own day-to-day relationships, who needs us to extend forgiveness or compassion? However, many of these things can be taken on in a 'going through the motions' way, out of some sense of duty. At the heart of the matter, if we are to encounter mercy, we need to have a radical encounter with God. That can only happen through prayer.

We're all involved weekly or daily with liturgical prayer, but what this is really about is our personal prayer time with God. It is impossible to be like someone we don't spend time getting to know in a deep and meaningful way.

In chapter six of "Sacred Fire", Ronald Rolheiser talks about how "prayer is lifting mind and heart to God". While there's too much excellent information to summarize here, one takeaway for me is about being like Jesus' disciples and saying, "Lord, teach ME how to pray". As someone observing Lent for the first time, it occurs to me while giving something up is a good and thoughtful practice, actively getting to know God is what He really wants from me, and not just a little. Beyond dipping my toe into the shallow end of the pool to test the waters, I need to dive into the deep end and get my hair wet! That's where God is waiting for me.

When we encounter God in a profound way, showing mercy will not merely become easier to do, but it will become natural. Lord, teach us to pray!

Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 43.16-21 Philippians 3.8-14 John 8.1-11

SERRA CLUB MEETING

You are invited to join Serra Club members for their monthly gathering on **Wednesday**, **March 16** in the parish hall immediately following the 12:10pm Mass. In case you missed his presentation on divorce and annulment in December, Father Alexander Laschuk of the Archdiocesan Marriage Tribunal, will be back to speak on Marriage and the Family. A complimentary lunch is provided. No preregistration is required.

HE THIRSTS FOR YOU

Set in Biblical Samaria, the story of the woman at the well comes alive in this one-woman, one-act play "He Thirsts For You." Who will you listen to, the well of empty promises, or the One who gives Living Water? Written and performed by Elisa Lollino, this one-act play will take place during our special extended Prayer Service for R.C.I.A on Wednesday, March 16 at 7:00pm in the church. RSVPs helpful but not required. Immediately following this play, all are invited to the parish hall for discussion and refreshments.

BYRD, MASS FOR FOUR VOICES

On Friday, March 18 at 7:30pm in St. Basil's Church, you are invited to a performance of William Byrd's hauntingly beautiful Mass for Four Voices and Ave verum corpus, monuments of English recusant Catholicism, paired with domestic sacred music for voices and violins by Dowland and others.

Hallie Fishel, soprano, and John Edwards, renaissance lute, joined by Violin Consort led by Christopher Verrette, with St. Michael's Schola Cantorum directed by Christina Labriola.

DATE CHANGE: CARDINAL TURKSON LECTURE

Due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict in Rome for Cardinal Turkson, we have had to postpone the USMC Kelly Lecture by a week. Cardinal Turkson has asked us to reschedule the lecture for Monday, March 21 at 7:00pm in St. Basil's Parish. Cardinal Peter Turkson, President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and Archbishop emeritus of Cape Coast (Ghana), will deliver this year's presentation, a talk entitled "Laudato Si': Let's Redefine Progress." If you wish to order a complimentary ticket, please call 416-926-7128.

While in Toronto, Cardinal Turkson will also celebrate the 4:30pm Sunday Mass at St. Basil's on March 20, and he will meet with USMC students prior to delivering the lecture.

TENEBRAE AND RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Join our parish community during Holy Week for Tenebrae and a Reconciliation Service on **Wednesday, March 23 at 7:00pm** in the church. Latin for shadows or darkness, the ancient service of Tenebrae was originally celebrated in the early morning hours of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. This evening will feature a condensed version of the three day service, with prayers, readings, and choral music responses, to usher in the beginning of the Triduum. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered during the service for those interested.

For more information, contact JP Farahat at: johnpaul.farahat@utoronto.ca

EUTHANASIA IN CANADA: DISCUSSION

You are invited to attend a discussion on 'Euthanasia in Canada' on **Wednesday, March 30** hosted by the University of St. Michael's College and the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute. The event will be held at **7:00pm in The Coop, Brennan Hall**. The event will feature the Most Rev. William McGrattan, Bishop of Peterborough, and Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition of Canada, as speakers. For more information, please contact bioethics.usmc@utoronto.ca or call 416-353-4224.

These Forty Days

These forty days we fast and we pray.

Jesus prepared

to answer the call

of his God and Father

by fasting and praying

in a desert monastery.

Likewise, let us set aside time

to sweep the cobwebs off

the edges of our lives,

to prepare to meet

God's risen Son,

so that when he reappears,

after a harsh and cruel death,

we may recognize Him.

~Carole Thomas

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY

Sunday, March 6, 2016 \$7,205.45



MARCH 13th-19th

Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00am- Louis Corte (+) 10:30am- Pro Populo

12:00pm- David DesLauriers (+) 4:30pm- Elizabeth Galusza (+)

Monday

7:30am- Helen Maria Eustachiwna (+)

12:10pm- John Quaine (+)

Tuesday

7:30am- Pro Populo

12:10pm- Maureen Sewell (+), Greg Vanwart (+),

Ray Lambert (+), Frank Gallippi (+)

Wednesday

7:30am- Gloria Dela Cruz (+)

12:10pm- Vocations

Thursday St. Patrick

7:30am- Kevin Goddard (+)

12:10pm- Frank, Monica, & Mary Gannon (+),

George William O'Brien (+), and Hoa

Nguyen (liv.)

Friday

7:30am- Pro Populo

12:10pm- Luigi & Lina Ciavarella (+,+)

Saturday Saint Joseph

5:00pm- Eustace Pereira (+)

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 Fidler, Helen Lau, Gloria Lau, Sr. Mary Sibbald, Kam Fung Tem, Angel Martinez, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, and Joe Torres.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED, especially Gregory Wilkinson.

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