

# ST. BASIL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE



50 St. Joseph Street, Toronto M5S 1J4

[www.stbasiltoronto.org](http://www.stbasiltoronto.org) \* 416-926-7110

Office Hours: Mon-Fri (9:00 am - 1:00 pm; 2:00 pm - 8:30 pm)

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

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon-Fri: 7:30 am; 12:10 pm; 5:10 pm

## BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

Please see the parish website or call the main office for details. Weddings require a one year notice.

St. Basil's Parish was founded in 1856 and is the third oldest parish in the city of Toronto after St. Paul's Basilica (1822) and St. Michael's Cathedral (1845).

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.

Since October 2007, we have been the home of the National Televised Daily Mass, reaching people in their homes all over Canada. The Daily Mass is broadcast six days a week on Vision TV, the Crossroads, Television Network and Salt and Light TV.

## PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Fr. Chris Valka, CSB
Director of Music:	John Paul (J.P.) Farahat
Assistant Organist:	Rashaan Allwood
Office Manager:	Mary Hopper
Community Coordinator:	Leanna Cappiello
Sacramental Coordinator:	Emily VanBerkum

## CONFESSIONS

Mon-Fri: 11:30 am - 12:00 pm

Sat: 4:15 pm - 4:45 pm

## SIGHT IN THE DIMNESS

Rev. Chris Valka, CSB

Our Gospel for the Scrutinies this week reintroduces us to the blind man whose sight is restored by Jesus. Most certainly, it is a chance for us to consider what we are blind to: the injustices of our society; the abuses to creation; the social and individual sinfulness of our own lives; or perhaps the goodness of others that may be harder to see.

However, I also think it is a chance for us to consider how we often live in dimness thinking it is the light. Our own building has made this abundantly clear with the recent lighting changes. Most of us thought that the light was adequate enough, but now that we have tripled the light, it is hard to imagine how we ever saw anything in the building before!

It is not that our lives are in darkness, but nor are we basking in the full radiance of Christ's light. Thus, we have to learn how to move and see in the dimness.

A few years ago, I met a fellow who helped me understand what this means. He had recently lost most of his sight as a result of a car accident.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

At first, he hurt himself frequently because he kept trying to move and perceive the world as he did before. And he was angry because all he could see was darkness.

In time, he began to perceive the world differently and move a little slower. He found that he *could see*, though not as he did before.

What I learned from him is that, until the day comes when we bask fully in the radiant light of Christ, we too should learn to move a little slower and see the world differently, lest we hurt ourselves in the dimness. We can learn to see the light in the shadows as so long as we focus on that, then the darkness will not seem so dark.

READINGS: 1 Samuel 16.1b, 6-7, 10-13; Ephesians 5.8-14; John 9.1-41

### **ST. JOSEPH'S DAY, MARCH 19TH:**

We will have a special Mass for St. Joseph, our nation's patron saint, at the 12:10 p.m. and 5:10 p.m. Masses (note the 5:10 p.m. Mass that day will not be a TV Mass). On Mar.19 after the 5:10 mass the Marriage & Family Prayer Ministry at St. Basil's will be hosting light refreshments followed by a presentation on "Prayer" by Connie Price of the Archdiocesan office for Discipleship. All are welcome.

### **ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOLA CANTORUM CONCERT**

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2015, 7:30pm: A choir and orchestra concert including Monteverdi's Mass in F and other baroque works in honour of St. Patrick. The choir and soloists of St. Michael's Schola Cantorum, directed by Michael O'Connor; the Musicians in Ordinary led by Christopher Verrette. With Hallie Fishel, soprano. Admission is free, donations are welcome to the University of Saint Michael's College.

### **THE SERRA CLUB**

The Serra Club of Toronto Downtown will meet on Wednesday March 18 following the 12:10 parish mass offered for vocations. The luncheon speaker will be Sebastian Gomes, producer at Salt & Light TV. His topic will be "Inside the Synod on Marriage and the Family." Guests are welcome. Contact Anne MacCarthy at 416-964-8694 for further information

### **LENT AT ST. BASIL'S PARISH**

#### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Every Friday after the 5:10 p.m. Mass

Each week will feature a different meditation from our Tradition.

#### **ADORATION**

Every Thursday after the 12:10 p.m. Mass.

#### **ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOLA CANTORUM CONCERT**

March 16 at 7:30 p.m.

A choir and orchestra concert in honour of St. Patrick. Music will include works by Monteverdi. Admission is free; donations are welcome to the USMC.

#### **EARTH HOUR PRAYER SERVICE**

March 28 at 8:30 p.m.

Join us for a special evening dedicated to the care of God's creation.

#### **TENEBRAE & RECONCILIATION**

April 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Latin for shadows or darkness, the ancient service of Tenebrae anticipates the resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. This evening features a condensed version of the service, with prayers, readings, and choral music responses to usher in the beginning of the Triduum.

#### **QUOTABLE POPE FRANCIS**

The heart grows hard when it does not love.  
Lord, give us a heart that knows how to love.

#### **MUSIC CORNER: MUSIC IN LENT**

Why do we have a prelude and postlude this weekend but not in any other weekend in Lent? The Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as Laetare Sunday; it takes its name from the *incipit* (the first few words of an opening line of a text) for this Sunday's *Introit*: "*Laetare Jerusalem*", or "Rejoice, O Jerusalem". This Sunday, which is just past the halfway mark in Lent, allows us to observe a slightly less austere point in the season. This practice of having a prelude and postlude in Lent only for the fourth Sunday comes from the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*.

MARCH 15, 2015

### **PAST ECO-THEOLOGY PRESENTATION**

This past Wednesday, we heard a wonderful presentation from Dennis O'Heara on Eco-Theology and prayed the Stations of the Cross with a focus on Ecology and Social Justice, as it was written by parishioners of St. Basil's. During the presentation, we were challenged to calculate our ecological footprint. You can do this here:

<http://footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/calculators/> (it takes about 10 minutes).

### **THE WORLD COMMUNITY FOR CHRISTIAN MEDIATION PRESENTS A LENTEN RETREAT "THROUGH THE EYE OF THE HEART" WITH ANGLICAN PRIEST REV. GLENDA MEAKIN**

No previous experience of Christian meditation is necessary. All are welcome to come and learn this simple way of prayer, which deepens and transforms our daily life. The title refers to a way of seeing the Presence of Divine Love that underlies all of life, as we sort out our temptations, carry our crosses, and learn what we must die to.

WHEN: Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 a.m. (registration begins at 9:30 a.m.) – 3:00 p.m. No advanced registration required – suggested donation \$25.00. Refreshments provided but not lunch. For the noon hour please bring a bag lunch or you may wish to eat at nearby restaurant.

### **PRA YING THROUGH LENT . . .**

#### **The Liturgy of the Hours: An Introduction**

The Liturgy of the Hours or the "Divine Office" is an ancient prayer of the church, said in person, or more conventionally by a community. Compiled in the Breviary, the prayers are recited at regular intervals throughout the 24 hours of the day.

Since 2013, a group has been praying Lauds - the dawn prayer - every Saturday at 9:00am at St. Basil. With the prayers of the prayer basket in the centre, and with a special prayer for vocations, we gather in the sanctuary and join our voices with those of priests, nuns, other religious, and lay people all over the world reciting this liturgy.

In keeping with tradition, we alternate reciting stanzas between the left and right choir. This is to embody prayer as both speaking and listening - as an outpouring of our longing for God, and a willingness to receive God in our hearts. Each half-hour prayer includes a reading from the Breviary, and concludes with a few minutes of silent reflection.

### **SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY**

Sunday, March 8, 2015

\$6,372.81

THE IRISH COMMUNITY OF ST. BASIL'S PARISH WILL BE SPONSORING THIS WEEKEND'S COFFEE HOUR.



March 15 – 21, 2015

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

9:00 – Carol +  
10:30 – Pro Populo  
12:00 – His Grace Charles Makindipe +  
4:30 – Ricardo Gutierrez +

**Monday**

7:30 – Leo Fitzgerald +  
12:10 – John Quane +  
5:10 – Olga Barna +

**Tuesday**

7:30 – Kathleen Godkin (liv.)  
12:10 – Frank, Monica and Mary Gannon +,+ +  
5:10 – Kevin Goddard +

**Wednesday**

7:30 – Elena Kerr +  
12:10 – Vocations Mass  
4:00 – Televised Daily Mass  
5:10 – Televised Daily Mass

**Thursday – St. Joseph**

7:30 – Cherilyn Brown +  
12:10 – Allan Hammond +  
4:00 – Televised Daily Mass  
5:10 – Televised Daily Mass

**Friday**

7:30 – Eustace Pereira +  
12:10 – Luigi and Lina Ciavarella +,+  
4:00 – Televised Daily Mass  
5:10 – Televised Daily Mass

**Saturday**

5:00 – Andrew Sambatan +

**PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Mary O'Brien, Sharon Han, Doris Marcon, Ancoretta Amigleo, Don Alvaro, Rita Moran, Rev. Kenneth Decker CSB, Clare DeMello, Edna Fernandez, Kenneth Heath and Marina Kazakis.**

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED, especially Cassie Bradbury**





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