

MARCH 17, 2024

LENT V

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.

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.

PARISH STAFF

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

The fifth Sunday in Lent, the Church enters what some call 'Deep Lent.' This period serves shifts our focus to an ever-nearer sense of mourning and suffering as Good Friday is now under two weeks away. We can see this shift clearly by examining the texts of the Introit for both Sundays:

Fourth Sunday in Lent

"Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast." (from Isaiah 66.10-11)

Fifth Sunday in Lent

"Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength." (from Psalm 42.1-2)

About 45% of the Psalms are about lament, whether it be communal or individual. Psalm 42, from which today's introit text is taken, is a personal call of lament. It is difficult to ignore this text's pleading nature, which we can practically



ST. BASIL'S PARISH, TORONTO



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hear Christ speaking. This lament carries straight through into Holy Week, particularly in Tenebrae where the Lamentations of the prophet Jeremiah are recited; this deep sense of loss is also at the centre of the Triduum on Good Friday.

The themes of lament and mercy are at the centre of all readings today: Our first reading from Jeremiah speaks about the new covenant God is to forge with those who write his law into their hearts. Responsorial psalm 51 is another psalm of lament: for God to have mercy on us and give us a clean heart; this is so that we might receive God's new law with sincerity. In Paul's letter to the Hebrews, he speaks about how Christ offered up his own prayers and supplications to God, and that God heard Him because of His willingness to submit and let go of earthly desires! In the Gospel Jesus preaches that one must first die to their old self in order to again be born into eternal life.

A similar connecting thread is present within all of the readings and prayers from now to Easter. I invite you to ponder how to deepen your Lenten journey by further entering into all of the prayers, readings, and hymns. Psalm 42 concludes:

³ O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;

let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.

⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

Perhaps it is not so difficult to see how this sense of lament brings greater joy to the sense of wonder present in the resurrection. How can we possibly understand the light without the darkness, truth without deceit, nor praise without lament?

-Michael Pirri

USMC SCHOLA CONCERT

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

The St. Michael's Schola Cantorum and Consort, directed by Christina Labriola, will perform a program of meditative and inspiring music by Neapolitan Baroque composer Francesco Durante (1684-1755). The concert features Durante's dramatic setting of the Lamentations of Jeremiah, his emotive and heartfelt Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and ends with his well-loved and exuberant Magnificat. The concert takes place at St. Basil's Church on Monday, March 18 at 7:30pm.

Admission is free, with donations gratefully accepted towards St. Mike's Campus Ministry's outreach to St. Basil's Out of the Cold program.

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

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.

SERRA CLUB MEETING

March 20, 2024

The next meeting of the Downtown Toronto Serra Club, drawing members from numerous Toronto parishes, will take place on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 in the St. Basil's Parish Hall following the 12:10 p.m. Mass. Our guest speaker will be Alvin Joys, a seminarian from St. Augustine's Seminary, who will share more about his personal vocation story including a surprise meeting with Pope Francis at World Youth Day 2023 in Portugal. Guests and those interested in learning more about Serra International are most welcome.

WAY OF THE CROSS

March 29, 2024

10:30am - 12:30pm

All are invited to join Communion & Liberation Toronto for the annual Way of the Cross walk. On Good Friday, March 29, from 10:30am to 12:30pm, follow the Cross, beginning from the Newman Centre (89 St. George Street) and ending here at St. Basil's.

SHARELIFE

Inspired by God's love:
Support ShareLife's mission
This weekend is ShareLife Sunday

ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection for our parish's annual campaign.

Every day, young people in our community need a helping hand due to homelessness, trafficking, or violence. ShareLife agencies ensure the safety of youth fleeing violent homes and provide them a supportive place to stay. This is all made possible thanks to amazing people like you who choose to support ShareLife. We thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

March 16/17: ShareLife

MASS INTENTIONS

MARCH 17-23



SUNDAY LENT V

9:00am Garry Lambright (✠)
10:30am *Pro Populo*
12:00pm Francis, Monica, Mary Gannon (✠,✠,✠)
4:30pm Dr. Peter Moran (liv)

MONDAY

7:30am Kevin Goddard (✠)
12:10pm Marichu Ras (✠)

TUESDAY ST. JOSEPH

7:30am Kevin Goddard (✠)
12:10pm Stefan and Anna Papez (✠,✠), Joseph Opaczewski (✠), Mary Jane Cowan (✠)

WEDNESDAY

7:30am
12:10pm *Vocations*

THURSDAY

7:30am
12:10pm Stephanie Condie (liv)

FRIDAY

7:30am Sean Gyu Lee (liv)
12:10pm Luigi, Lina, Michael, and Len Ciavarella (✠,✠,✠,✠)

SATURDAY

5:00pm Jane and Sam Bickford (liv)

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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