

MARCH 24, 2019

# ST. BASIL'S

# THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 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; 3:00 pm - 8:00pm  
Sat 9:00 am - 6:30 pm Sun 8:30 am - 6:00 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.

## WEEKDAY MASSES

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

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

VESPERS Mon-Fri: 5:10 pm  
LAUDS Sat: 9:00 am

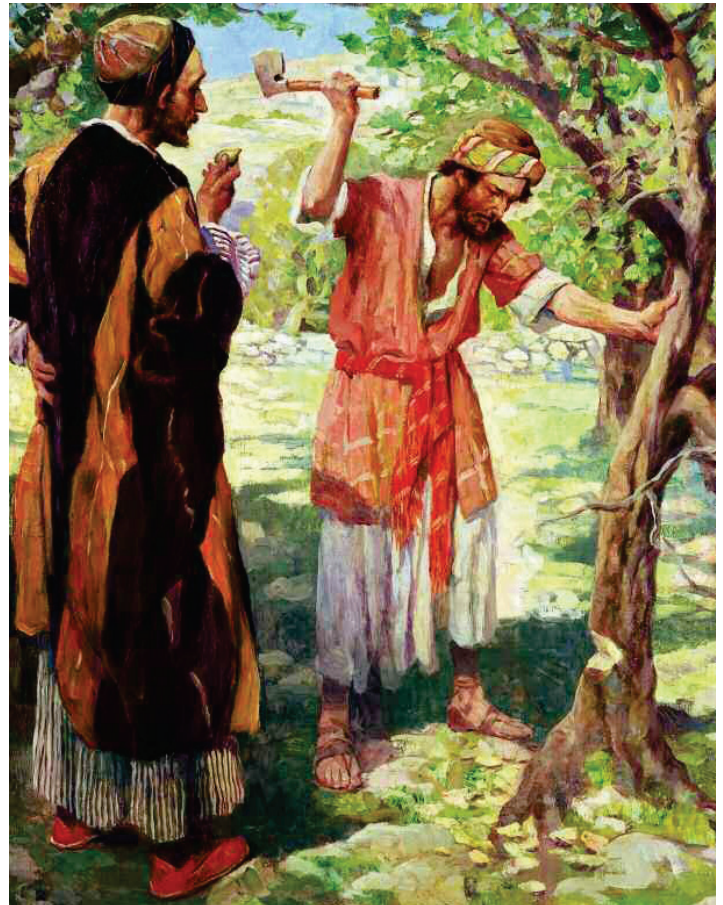
## ADORATION

Thurs: 3:30-5:00pm

Since 1856, St. Basil's Parish has been home to people of all ages and needs.

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 are blessed because you are all 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:	Fr. Morgan Rice, CSB
Associate Pastor:	Fr. Norm Tanck, CSB
Deacon:	James Sand, SJ
Office Manager:	Margaret D'Elia
Director of Music:	J.P. Farahat
Assistant Organist:	Stefani Bedin
Director of Community Engagement:	Michael Pirri
Coordinator of Social Justice:	Veronica Courtois
Director of Family Ministries:	Marilena Berardinelli
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd:	Mariann Dunsmore
R.C.I.A. Coordinator:	Trevor Rainwater, SJ



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St. Basil's Parish, Toronto

## RELATIONSHIPS AND SECOND CHANCES

*By Elizabeth Chesley-Jewell*

Lent is a struggle for many of us. We strive to develop better habits, but it is a challenge to stay on course. The readings for this week remind us to focus on the strong relationship we have with Jesus and how failure does not necessarily equal disownment by our God.

The man who comes upon the barren fig tree in our Gospel speaks of it the way we often speak about ourselves. *"Cut it down. Why should it be wasting soil?"* How often do we believe we are of no value because we have made a mistake or given in to temptation? Instead of saying to ourselves, *"I have done something wrong or bad"*, we believe we are bad and not worth the time of others. Each one of us has good fruit to bear but we cannot do it if we refuse to acknowledge that we are inherently good and have much to contribute to the world.

It is the gardener who speaks on behalf of the fig tree. He asks that he be given some time to prune and care for the tree so that it will be able to bear fruit. This is Jesus our Lord. If we place ourselves entirely in His care, He will take away the things that block us from bearing good fruit; our self-doubt, hesitations and fears. We are not able to bear fruit if we close ourselves off from the one who loves us unconditionally. Since we are humans, and not trees, this requires immense work on our part as we must let go of all ego and pride and open ourselves up to God. Because of this the Sacrament of Confession can feel like a daunting task. This is why we require preparation. We admit that we deserve God's love and let go of all the things that keep us from it. We do just as much work as the gardener.

God longs to have a relationship with us and we long to have a relationship with God. In our first reading Moses looks upon the burning bush and asks for God's name. God responds with, "I Am." A name is so important because it sets up the possibility of fostering a relationship. We know God's name, but it is so difficult to allow ourselves to feel the overwhelming love that comes with the knowledge that God knows our name. It is another way that we are hindered from bearing fruit. Yet, God is still here and loving us in all our humanity.

Today let us pray that each of us may look more kindly on ourselves so we may have the courage to bear the good fruit that God intended us to bear, and share it with the world.

### SUNDAY'S READINGS:

EXODUS 3.1-8A, 13-15

PSALM 103

1 CORINTHIANS 10.1-6, 10-12

LUKE 13.1-9

### AID TO WOMEN: BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Aid to Women is a Christian charity offering practical help to pregnant women in crisis, enabling them to choose life for their unborn children. In addition to providing counseling, they provide material, emotional, spiritual and financial support for these mothers in need. "Baby Bottles for Life" will be collected after all Masses on **April 13/14**.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us on **Fridays during Lent** for the Stations of the Cross. Each week we will join in prayer beginning with Vespers, at 5:10PM followed by the Stations of the Cross. Each week during Lent, we will use a different variation of the Stations of the Cross.

### SHARELIFE

*Living the Gospel by supporting ShareLife agencies*

*"As we begin our ShareLife campaign, we are encouraged to live the Gospel in all we do. How do we demonstrate that in our community? Living the Gospel may mean helping single mothers to care for their newborn children, or being available to families facing difficulties, or welcoming refugee families to our community. For 43 years, countless individuals have experienced the compassionate care offered by our agencies. Please support our annual archdiocesan appeal during this Lenten season!"*

— Cardinal Thomas Collins

**Next Sunday, March 31, is ShareLife Sunday.  
Please give generously.**

## USMC LENTEN RETREAT

Please join the University of St. Michael's College Community for their Twilight Retreat led by Sr. Linda Gregg, CSJ, as they explore the theme The Good News of Creation: Finding our Common Home.

On **March 26**, the evening will begin with supper and fellowship in Charbonnel Lounge at USMC, attendees will then cross the street to Loretto College for the retreat, quiet reflection and Eucharist in Loretto's lovely chapel. \$30 for dinner, free for USMC students.

For Information and registration contact USMC Alumni Affairs at (416) 926-2331, email: [smc.alumni affairs@utoronto.ca](mailto:smc.alumni affairs@utoronto.ca)

## ADVANCE CARE PLANNING AND END-OF-LIFE CARE

What does my doctor mean by "DNR"? Do Catholics have to 'try everything' when they get a terminal illness? What is palliative care? If you have ever had questions about these topics, come hear a presentation by St. Basil's Parishioner Dr. Lucas Vivas about the Catholic perspective on health in advancing age and towards the end of life.

Join us on **Sunday, April 7th at 1:30pm** in Ardèche Hall. The 40-minute presentation will be followed by an open Q & A session.

## READERS GROUP

All are welcome to join on Tuesday, April 9th, at 7:00PM for a potluck supper and discussion. Over Lent, the St. Basil's Readers Group is reading *Seven Last Words* by James Martin, SJ. The book is a meditation on the seven last phrases Jesus spoke from the cross. The book shows how each phrase reveals how much Jesus participated in our human condition, and how each saying can help you feel close to Jesus. Please contact Michael to RSVP and confirm your contribution to the Potluck Supper.

If you would like to join the Readers Group, please contact Michael at [michael.pirri@utoronto.ca](mailto:michael.pirri@utoronto.ca) or (416) 926-1300 x.3210

## LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, March 17, 2019 \$5,478.75



## MASS INTENTIONS

MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup> – 30<sup>TH</sup>

### SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

9:00am Joseph Vaz (+)  
10:30am *Pro Populo*  
12:00pm Vincenzo Valente (+)  
4:30pm Marc and Joanna Lau (liv.)

### MONDAY ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

7:30am John and Kathleen Angus (+,+)  
12:10pm Julie Gendreau (+)

### TUESDAY

7:30am Maria Doloes Ciuro (+)  
12:10pm Pat Flood (+), Minola Nistor (liv.)

### WEDNESDAY

7:30am Francesco Cutrona (+)  
12:10pm Michael A. Horgan (+)

### THURSDAY

7:30am Marie Bernice Casey (+)  
12:10pm Terry LeSage (+)

### FRIDAY

7:30am Rosa Desa (+)  
12:10pm *Holy Souls*

### SATURDAY

5:00pm Penny and Sarah Welch (+,+)

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**, especially, *Lucy Rietveld Bowers, Mary O'Brien, Clare DeMello, Erika Farncomb, Roberto Martello, Filomena Larocca, Joseph Troncone, Rebecca Beaton, Gemma Ciavarella, Gordon Walsh, Rita Moran, Paul O'Brien, Barbara Boyle, Carry Eillen, Maria Teresa Blackwell, Margaret Mary McKenzie, Jose Gaitero, Ed Brash, Shane Carroll, Romulus DeMello, Neil McCormack, Alexander Wu, Desmond Brownlee, Emilia Perejmybida, Helen Tilston, Marywynne Parke, and Jasper David-Fuchs.*

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED**, especially, *Jim Rothwell, and Donna Wood.*


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