ST. BASIL'S 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; 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 day a week on Vision TV, the Crossroads, Television Network and Salt and Light TV.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:Fr. Chris Valka, CSBDirector of Music:John Paul (J.P.) FarahatAssistant Organist:Nancy SicsicOffice Manager:Mary HopperSocial & Community Coordinator: Leanna CappielloStudent Intern:Emily VanBerkum

CONFESSIONS

Mon-Fri: 11:30 am - 12:00 pm Sat: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

"Love is stronger than fear" Emily VanBerkum

We may be tempted to view the cross as an instrument of punishment, suffering, and death. However, for Catholics the cross is a transformative symbol. The pain of Christ's death was necessary in order for us to experience the glory of the resurrection. The cross on which hung the saviour of the world is a sign that life conquers death and that love is greater than fear. By reclaiming the cross as a sign of God's great love for us, we may realize the gift of eternal life at work in our lives today.

In the first reading, we learn that Moses prayed for God to erect a bronze snake pole so that the Israelites could look upon it and live. God created the snake pole for His people as a sign of hope. Despite their suffering, all they had to do was look to the pole and they would live.

In Paul's letter to the Philippians we learn that Christ underwent a 'kenosis,' or a selfemptying of his own will in order to become receptive to God's plan for his life. Ultimately, Christ was so consumed by this self-emptying love for his Father, that he "became obedient to the point of death- even death on a cross." Therefore, Christ's death was not in vain. After three days, Jesus resurrected from the dead and the cross transformed itself from a means to an end into a continual outpouring of God's love for us.

Just as Moses instructed the Israelites to look upon the snake pole and be saved from death, so too does Christ's cross make God's love known to all who gaze upon it with eyes of faith. I end with a quote from Henri Nouwen. One can easily apply his words to Christ's death by imagining the cross of Christ as the most transformative encounter of love. Despite the many risks, it is our responsibility to make this lovesymbolized by the cross and recalled today in a special way- known to others.

Nouwen wrote: "every time we make the decision to love someone, we open ourselves to great suffering, because those we most love cause us not only great joy but also great pain. The greatest pain comes from leaving...yet if we avoid the suffering of leaving, we will never experience the joy of loving. And love is stronger than fear, life is stronger than death, hope stronger than despair. We have to trust that the risk of love is always worth taking."

Readings: Numbers 21:4-9, Philippians 2:6-11, John 3:13-17

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

If you have a child in Grade 2 or 8 interested in receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion or Confirmation, then please contact Emily at <u>liturgy@stbasiltoronto.org</u> or call the parish office for more details.

Both programs begin in January (the exact date and time of both classes has yet to be determined). Each program meets for one hour - students with Emily and our team of catechists; and parents with Fr. Chris. The actual First Communions and Confirmations will occur in the weeks following Easter.

Basil's Book Club

We hope you are enjoying this month's reading of The Holy Longing!

The book discussion night will be held on Tuesday, September 30th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Snacks provided. Wine is welcome!

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Any family hoping to enrol in Baptism Preparation Classes should contact Emily at liturgy@stbasiltoronto to register or receive more information. Please note that there have been changes to the program.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A) is a program that welcomes new members into Roman Catholicism. This program is meant for all those who have been baptized in another Christian denomination and would like to be received into the Roman Catholic Church, or for those baptized in the Catholic tradition and would like to complete their initiation by receiving the Sacraments of Holy Communion and/or Confirmation.

R.C.I.A. begins with a period of Inquiry, which allows those in the program to encounter the Good News of the Gospels and be introduced to Roman Catholic theology. At the beginning of Lent, a Rite of Acceptance (for those who have not yet been baptized) and Welcome (for those who have been baptized in another faith tradition) marks the transition from the period of Inquiry into the Catechumenate.

The Period of Purification and Enlightenment begins with the Rite of Election celebrated on the first Sunday of Lent. At this point in the program, the entire Catholic community joins the catechumens in a period of reflection and repentance as we anticipate the Easter Triduum together. At the culmination of this period, after intense spiritual formation and prayer, our St. Basil's Parish community will joyfully welcome the catechumens into full membership with the Catholic Church when they receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion during the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4, 2015.

R.C.I.A will begin on Wednesday, October 8, 2014 and will meet every Wednesday evening from 7:00-9:00pm. Our RCIA schedule has been posted online under the heading "Sacraments- RCIA."

If you would like more information about this program, or would like to attend the meetings for personal interest *or* to be part of our planning team, contact Emily at the Parish Office or through <u>liturgy@stbasiltoronto.org</u>.

RCIA TEAM PLANNING MEETING

We will have an RCIA team planning meeting on Wednesday, September 24 at 7:30pm in the parish hall. All are welcome!

Mat/Pat-Leave Moms/Dads

Are you on Maternity or Paternity Leave? Want a chance to connect with other parents in a child-friendly environment? Join MAT/PAT LEAVE MOMS/DADS and gather on the Church steps **Thursdays at 9:30am**: prepare for a leisurely walk around the grounds and campus, so carriers and strollers are welcomed. Bring your own baby!

GENTLE FITNESS FOR SENIORS

By popular demand, our Gentle Fitness Class for seniors is continuing into the Fall. Classes began on Wednesday, September 10th at 10 am. No registration necessary. The cost is \$7.00 per class.

SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY

Sunday, September 7, 2014

\$5,471.71

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD @ ST. BASIL'S

The Children's Liturgy of the Word program will begin on **Sunday, October 5, 2014**, at the **10:30am mass** in the church hall. The program has three age groups (3-5, 6-8 and 9-12).

If you would like your child(ren) to attend these classes there is a \$5.00 administration fee/child and <u>one parent must volunteer with the program.</u> Registration forms are available from the church office and online under Children's Lit.

The administration fee is to be paid by cheque, payable to St. Basil's church, indicating in the memo area "CLOW program" and attached to the completed registration form(s) being returned to the church office.

There will be **2 orientation meetings** for the program offered during the month of **September.** If you would like more information about the program or are a member of the congregation interested in volunteering with the program, please contact Ann Schnurr by email at <u>ann_schnurr@yahoo.ca</u>

QUOTABLE POPE FRANCIS: The Christian who does not feel that the Virgin Mary is his or her mother is an orphan.



September 14 – 20, 2014	
Sunday – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	
9:00 -	Georgia Walsh +
10:30 -	Hyun Sook Lim +
12:00 -	Pro Populo
4:30 -	Vittoria & Enrico Lozupone +,+
Monday – Our Lady of Sorrows	
7:30 -	Special intention of Donor
12:10 -	Francesco & Maria Rosa Vetro +,+
5:10 -	Simone Minalabag (liv.)
Tuesday – S	t. Cornelius and St. Cyprian
7:30 -	John Angus +
12:10 -	In Thanksgiving
5:10 -	Mary Gyulay (liv.)
Wednesday	
7:30 -	Thalheimer family
12:10 -	Frank, Monica and Mary Gannon +,+,+
4:00 -	Televised Daily Mass
5:10 -	Televised Daily Mass
Thursday	
7:30 -	Souls in Purgatory
12:10 -	W. Quaneaux-Sipko +
4:00 -	Televised Daily Mass
5:10 -	Televised Daily Mass
Friday	
7:30 -	Julita and Nestor Lecudan (liv.)
12:10 -	John and Thomas Cox +,+
4:00 -	Televised Daily Mass
5:10 -	Televised Daily Mass
Saturday – S	St. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon and Paul
Chong Ha -Sang	
5 00	

5:00 – John Oldaker +

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially Mary Ricco, Rita Moran, Rev. Kenneth Decker CSB, Clare DeMello, Edna Fernandez, Kenneth Heath, Marina Kazakis, Lucille Lakan, Eric Christensen, Hilary McCormack, Nada Dancy, Rev. Dan Chui CSB, and Janet Ritch.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

