

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 - 8:30pm)
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

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.

 StBasil_TO  basilstoronto  St. Basil's Church, Toronto

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.

PARISH STAFF

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

NOTE: No 5:10 pm Mass Weekdays
from June 1 - Labour Day

FORTIFIED BY THE BREAD OF LIFE

By: Emily VanBerkum

In today's Gospel we discover yet again that one cannot learn something about God without believing in the miraculous, life giving power of Jesus' words and deeds. Yet again, Jesus is pestered by a crowd for explanations and justifications that he is in fact the bread of life. Although I appreciate that it is very human to place empirical knowledge as a precursor to belief, Jesus contextualizes his offer of eternal life in exchange for belief in him. Jesus said to the crowd that their ancestors ate manna from the wilderness and died, however, those who will eat of the bread from heaven will live forever.

Still not convinced of Jesus' offer of bread from heaven? Let's turn to the first reading.

I find Elijah to be a very mysterious biblical figure. Exhausted from his pilgrimage to the mountain of Horeb, he sits under a broom tree and asks the Lord to die. After a sleep, he awakens to an angel nourishing him with cake and water sent by God. In the very next sentence we learn that because of the strength of this food, Elijah was fortified, able to continue his pilgrimage to Horeb wherein

he would receive a special revelation and commission from God.

If the difference between knowledge and belief is that belief contains our hope, then I see hope in how, like Elijah, we are fortified for our earthly pilgrimage through Jesus as the very bread of life! Unlike the bread that Elijah consumed, Jesus promises to sustain us eternally- long after the end of forty days and forty nights.

If we find ourselves wanting more, still hungering for that which does not truly satisfy, then can we claim that we really understand the kind of belief Jesus desires for us? We may find ourselves occasionally hungering for that which does not truly satisfy, but to me, that is all the more reason to reflect on the ways in which we *are* fortified by the Eucharist. For unlike manna in the wilderness, Jesus' bread of life is offered week after week. We do not need fortification for the year ahead, only for seven days until Jesus will nourish us again.

Today's Readings:
1 Kings 19.4-8
Ephesians 4.30-5.2
John 6.41-51

SHAKESPEARE IN HIGH PARK

Who doesn't love a little drama?

Gather with fellow young adults on Wednesday, August 19th as we attend an evening performance of the *Comedy of Errors*: one of Shakespeare's earliest works, and one of his most farcical comedies. This is a pay-what-you-can event, with a suggested donation of 20\$ to support the theatre.

Leanna will be waiting outside High Park Subway Station between 6:45-7:00pm to pick up attendees for the 8:00pm show. Reach her by texting 416-951-6389. Open invite to all. Bring a blanket!

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, August 2, 2015 \$6,309.37

THANK YOU!

St. Basil's Out of the Cold and Miller Group volunteers would like to thank you for your incredible generosity during our First Sunday Food Drive collection! Your thoughtfulness helps our ministries to thrive and we're able to feed close to 60 patrons a week.

Our pantry is now well stocked and we are excited to conclude the summer months with a menu that includes delicious chicken salad and salmon salad sandwiches, with a bean, pasta or lentil salad on the side!

In the future, when our supplies run low, we will print our grocery list in the bulletin calling out for specific items for the First Sunday Food Drive. Please note, however, that donations of food not specified on the list or cash donations are always welcome and greatly appreciated.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE EARTH

As part of our parish's response to Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment (*Laudato Si'*), we would like to include specific living things in our Mass intentions, just as we now pray for members of the human community.

We will begin to occasionally introduce a special intention into our intercessory prayers at Mass, related to the season of the year and directed toward a particular creature or form of life in need of prayer at that particular time. In the weeks to come, the intention will be printed in the weekly bulletin, so that you can pray it if you choose over the week. It will also include links to websites to explore for further updates and opportunities for involvement.

We hope that these inclusive prayers will inspire gratitude for nature's gifts and draw us closer to the needs of all living things as fellow creatures of God.

STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION

Over the past few weeks, I have heard a few questions and comments about the work being done on the building; and so I thought this might be the best way to address those. In short, all work on the building except the repointing and cleaning of the outer walls is being managed and paid for by the University. This includes the steam to gas climate control conversion as well as the re-roofing of Odette Hall. St. Michael's has been catching up on a great deal of deferred maintenance this summer; and while many have thought this to be at a cost to St. Basil's - it has not.

We have done very well to manage our capital expenses, utilizing volunteers to do many things around the building when we can. As far as the beautification of the church itself is concerned, it has really been a case of "many small (and inexpensive) things make a big difference".

Once the University finishes their portion of the work downstairs, we will begin our renovations to address the kitchen and washrooms as well as other spaces in the basement. What USMC demolished and built, we will clean up as part of our renovations; saving both institutions money. If things work as scheduled (and so far they are), then USMC will install the fan coils in the church itself and finish the pipe work by the end of August. At that time, St. Basil's will begin to clean up and renovate the entire space downstairs. As each space is finished, it will be made available again; with some spaces available in September and then all (hopefully) done by sometime in November.

As I have stated previously, once the fan coils are installed around the second week of August; all work affecting the church space itself will be complete. As for the University projects; most of them will be done by the beginning of September or end of August just before students arrive. As always, if you have questions, please do not hesitate to ask; and thank you for your patience during all these projects!

- Fr. Chris

SUMMER BULLETIN

During the summer months, the parish bulletin will be published every other week. The next bulletin will be released on Sunday, August 23.



MASS INTENTIONS

AUGUST 9th- AUGUST 15th

Sunday

9:00- Matos and Martins families
10:30- Pro Populo
12:00- Antonietta Ciavarella (+)
4:30- Eileen Sullivan (+)

Monday

7:30am- Filomina Curraming
12:10pm- Theresa Maher (liv.)

Tuesday

7:30am- Sacramento Family (liv.)
12:10pm- Mary Gannon (+)

Wednesday

7:30am- Florencio, Belinda Ramos and family
12:10pm- Mr. Stefan & Mrs. Anna Papez (+,+)

Thursday

7:30am- Katrina Teh
12:10pm- Frank Bums (+)

Friday

7:30am- Kevin Goddard (+)
12:10pm- Luigi & Lina Ciavarella (+, +)

Saturday

5:00pm- Bernie and Marivic Pablo & family

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Bohdanna Kovals'kyj, Mary O'Brien, Sharon Han, Doris Marcon, Ancoreta Amigleo, Don Alvaro, Rita Moran, Rev. Kenneth Decker, C.S.B., Clare deMello, Edna Fernandez, Kenneth Heath, and Marina Kazakis.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.



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