

DECEMBER 25, 2018

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

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; 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

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

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

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

ADORATION

Thurs: 3:30-5:00pm



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St. Basil's Parish, Toronto

PONDERING IN AMAZEMENT

By Fr. Morgan Rice

“The shepherds made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed. . . . But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart” **(Luke 2.17-19)**.

In the mid-1980s, I enjoyed watching a television series entitled *Amazing Stories* created by Steven Spielberg. Though I cannot remember much about individual episodes, I do remember looking forward to each new episode with the hope of being amazed and delighted by some unexpected twist or turn of the story. Today, as we celebrate Christmas, we remember one particular amazing story that still has the ability to astound us even 2,000 years later. Babies are miracles in themselves, but how incredible that our God would choose to become a baby born in a manger in Bethlehem! That the King of the Universe would come to us with such humility and lowliness is probably not how we would have expected the story to have been written, but it was.

Amazement can affect us in different ways. Most likely, it will lead us to tell others about what we have experienced, probably like the shepherds would most likely have done after they left glorifying and praising God for what they had heard and seen **(Luke 2.20)**. We could also take on the attitude of Jesus’ mother Mary, who pondered in her heart what the angel Gabriel and the shepherds had told her about Jesus. She was just beginning to realize the amazing story that was unfolding as a result of her “yes” to God at the Annunciation. She had an important role to play in the story and so do we as we participate in the story of God’s salvation, each in our own ways.

As we listen once again to the amazing story of Jesus’ birth, along with the knowledge of what will come later in his life, we have the chance to ponder with our entire being how God’s birth into the world continues to affect our lives.

Pondering might not provide us the answers we want, but it helps us to live with, and maybe even be delighted by, the surprises, the twists, and the turns that come our way and invite us to cooperate with God who always seeks to bring about life. While the Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, and Prince of Peace was born unto Mary, we have the opportunity to bring Jesus to life anew today as our relationship with him becomes manifest in our loving relationships with others.

Be assured of my prayers for this family of St. Basil’s as we celebrate, ponder, tell about, and live out the truly amazing story of which Jesus has invited us to be part. Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS EVE READINGS:

ISAIAH 9.2-4, 6-7

PSALM 96

TITUS 2.11-14

LUKE 2.1-16

CHRISTMAS DAY READINGS:

ISAIAH 62.11-12

PSALM 97

TITUS 3.2-7

LUKE 2.15-20



INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

As tax season draws near, our Parish Office is looking to ensure that information is properly recorded in our system. If you have moved in 2018, please confirm your new address with the Parish Office so that you will receive the donation receipt at the correct address.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Please note in addition to the office closures on December 26, and January 1st, the Parish Offices will only be open from 10:00AM to 1:00PM until our regular weekday schedule resumes on January 7, 2019. The weekend office hours remain unchanged.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Please note the following Mass schedule for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Jan 1)

- Monday 5:00pm (Vigil)
- Tuesday 9:00am, 12:00pm;
NO 4:30pm; **Parish office Closed**

FAMILY COFFEE HOUR

Families with young children are invited to join us at our monthly gathering following the 9AM Mass on **January 6**. An opportunity to meet other families in our community and for the children to celebrate the arrival of the Wise Men in Bethlehem.

To mark Epiphany, we will be serving a traditional French "Galette des Rois" – we hope to mark this feast day with all our young families!

COLLECTING: RELIGIOUS THEMED CHRISTMAS CARDS

Our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd team is collecting religious themed Christmas cards for use in our children's program. Rather than recycling the Christmas greetings you received this year, please consider donating the used cards to our program. Since we simply need the religious drawing at the front of the card, feel free to cut away the back cover.

Cards can be left at the back of the church in the basket designated for this purpose. Used religious themed Christmas cards will be accepted until Sunday January 13.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Total Unavailable



MASS INTENTIONS

DEC 23RD – DEC 29TH

SUNDAY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00am Antonio, Amparo, Jose, and Paula Lagdameo (+,+,+,+)
- 10:30am *Pro Populo*
- 12:00pm Myriam Scoppio (+)
- 4:30pm Manuel and Julieta Lim (+,+)

MONDAY

- 7:30am
- 7:00pm *Pro Populo*
- 12:00Midnight *Pro Populo*

TUESDAY

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

- 9:00am *Pro Populo*
- 10:30am *Pro Populo*
- 12:00pm *Pro Populo*

WEDNESDAY

ST. STEPHEN

- 9:00am *Pro Populo*

THURSDAY

ST. JOHN

- 7:30am Frank and Yolly Aceneta (liv.)
- 12:10pm Juana and Bill Rydberg (liv.), Michelle Minoughan (+), Eugenijus Cuplinskas (+), Sonal Castelino (liv.)

FRIDAY

THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

- 7:30am Patrick Page (+)
- 12:10pm Luigi Ciavarella (+)

SATURDAY

- 5:00pm John McGloin (+)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Lucy Rietveld Bowers, Mary O'Brien, Clare DeMello, Erika Farncomb, Roberto Martello, Gemma Ciavarella, Filomena Larocca, Joseph Troncone, Rebecca Beaton, Gemma Ciavarella, Rita Moran, Marie Ange, Paul O'Brien, Barbara Boyle, Carry Eillen, Maria Teresa Blackwell, Donna Wood, Romulus DeMello, Neil McCormack, Alexander Wu, Desmond Brownlee, Emilia Perejmybida, Young-Mi Sim, Marywynne Parke, and Jasper David-Fuchs.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.

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