

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.



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St. Basil's Parish, Toronto

St. Basil's Parish is home to people of all ages and needs. For those who need hearing assistance, devices are available at the front desk. Simply leave a photo ID to borrow one during your visit.

Mothers are welcome to nurse their children in church or provide them snacks as needed. As Pope Francis has said, Children's voices, even when crying, make "the most beautiful choir of all." 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!

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Fr. Chris Valka, CSB
Office Manager:	Margaret D'Elia
Sacramental Coordinator:	Emily VanBerkum
Community Coordinator:	Leanna Cappiello
Director of Music:	J.P. Farahat
Assistant Organist:	Michael Pirri
Family Coordinator:	Marilena Berardinelli
Evening Office Assistant:	Stela Tudor

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

ADORATION

Thurs: 3:30-5:00pm

THE COMING OF THE JUDGE

By M.J. Santa Ana

A common thread in this week's readings is the anticipation and preparation of the coming of the Lord as judge. Isaiah calls the people of Israel to "strengthen the weak hearts, and make firm the feeble knees" for the impending arrival of God's deliverance, when miraculous things such as the blind seeing and the lame walking will take place. James exhorts his fellow believers to "not grumble against one another" so they may avoid judgment from the coming Judge who is "standing at the doors".

When we hear of judgment, particularly in a Biblical context, our first instinct is to think of punishment, destruction and the end times. However, this week's readings remind us that for those who heard the word of God first, God's coming in judgment was not something to be feared but something to look forward to. As Isaiah says, it is when "He will come and save you."

Things will be set right by God in ways that seem counter-intuitive to the ordinary existence of this world. In our Gospel, when the disciples of John the Baptist ask Jesus if He is the one foretold of, Jesus instructs them to report back to their master the miraculous things they have seen and heard – the blind seeing, the lame walking, the dead living again – affirming the prophetic message of Isaiah. These are the signs God has come to reconcile the world to Himself. We are called to identify with those who God saves and heals, precisely because we are the ones He came to deliver. Therefore, for us, God’s judgment is not a sword He uses to cut us down, but a shield in which He is keeping us safe for our salvation.

Sunday’s Readings:

Isaiah 35.1-6a, 10

James 5.7-10

Matthew 11.2-11

Q+A WITH FR. CHRIS

All are invited this **Wednesday, December 14** for a Q+A night with Fr. Chris, CSB, and our parish’s Catechumens and Candidates! Do you have burning questions about the Mass, the season of Advent, or the Catholic Church in general? Now is your time to ask! During our Q+A session, all are welcome to enjoy refreshments and our Advent social. **We begin with evening prayer at 7:00pm in the church** (followed by the Q+A at 7:15pm in Charbonnel Lounge on the USMC campus). No pre-registration is required.

ADVENT CHALLENGE: WEEK 3

1. Write a question and leave it in the basket as you leave Mass *or* take some time before you come on Wednesday evening (our Q+A night on December 14; see note above) to think about your questions and have them ready on a piece of paper (short and easy to read) for Fr. Chris.

JOHN FORD FIRST SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

The **first collection of 2017** will take place on **January 7/8**.

CELEBRATING OUR JEWISH HERITAGE

As part of our ongoing Advent focus, the Parashat Hashavuah known as the “Torah portion” of the week is given a Hebrew name that reflects a significant word or short phrase in the selected verses. This week’s Parashat Hashavuah is entitled “Va’yeitzi,” meaning “And he went out” and it is **Genesis 28:10-32:3**.

In this week’s Torah portion, Jacob (Abraham’s grandson) has just fled Beersheba amidst great family turmoil and embarks on the long journey to visit his uncle, Laban, in Haran.

Along the way, Jacob finds a place to rest his head. As he sleeps soundly, Jacob has a dream about a staircase to heaven in which God reveals important details about the unfolding Abrahamic covenant.

“And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it” (28:12).

Once Jacob finally reaches Haran and meets Laban, the two make an arrangement that Jacob will work for seven years and eventually marry one of Laban’s daughters. The Torah portion ends with Jacob meeting Rachel at a well in a striking parallel to the way Jacob’s mother, Rebekah, was chosen to marry Isaac.

Re-read the above passage about Jacob’s dream. “Angels of God” are present all over the world “ascending and descending” between earth and heaven.

Discussion Questions:

Do you have a relationship with a Guardian Angel? Do you celebrate the Feast of the Guardian Angels?

Share a time when you experienced the love and protection of the “Angels of God.”

(Take some time to discuss with your family.)

THANK YOU for your continued support and generosity of our parish's community outreach programs! You helped our volunteers create over 50 bags of baked goods, toiletries, new clothing items, and canned foods for our patrons and St. Vincent de Paul clients. Our Christmas luncheon and gift bag giveaway on St. Nicholas' feast day was a tremendous success!

COOKIES & CAROLING

We are bringing back the nostalgic tradition of caroling and the modern joy of gourmet cookies this Advent season! Warm up your voice, learn a few Christmas songs, and hit the snowy streets with Leanna Cappiello & Michael Pirri as your guides.

7:00pm - Cookie Swap in the vestibule. Bring your favourite cookies to share with others. Home baked preferred, but not necessary.

7:30pm - Rehearsal in the church proper. Michael will lead us in a sing-along so we can be a stellar traveling ensemble.

8:00pm - Caroling on campus. Get ready to take it to the streets!

No need to RSVP, just show up. For more info, email leanna.cappiello@utoronto.ca.

SOCKS 4 SOULS

St. Joseph's College School is collecting socks for people living on the streets of Toronto. Through the charity Socks 4 Souls Canada, new, clean socks are delivered to members of our homeless communities and those living in transitional housing. Such a gift has been shown to be vital in the health of those living in vulnerable situations in the winter months especially.

A former student of St. Joseph's College founded this organization. We welcome the contributions of St. Basil's Parish and are grateful for magnifying our efforts to bring comfort to those in need. Beginning this weekend until the end of the month, you can find a box at the entrance of the church to donate your new socks to the cause.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, December 4, 2016 \$8,780.00



MASS INTENTIONS

DECEMBER 11th - 17th

Sunday

9:00am-
10:30am-
12:00pm-
4:30pm-

Third Sunday of Advent

Juan Carlos Casas (+)
Pro Populo
Stephanie Grezbinoga (+)
Aline Thibodeau (+)

Monday

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Stefan & Anna Papez, and Jame Robert Crilly (+)
Mai O'Connor (+)

Tuesday

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Saint Lucy

Daniel Teh (+)
Lina Ciavarella (+) and Paulette Kraft (+)

Wednesday Saint John of the Cross

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Helen Maria Eustachiwna (+)
The Fernandes Family (liv.)

Thursday

7:30am-
12:10pm-

John Patrick King (+)
Patrick Quane (+) and Vera Darragh (+)

Friday

7:30am-
12:10pm-

Luigi & Lina Ciavarella (+,+)

Saturday

5:00pm-

Frank, Monica, and Mary Gannon
(+,+,+)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Mary O'Brien, Claire Fidler, Helen Lau, Gloria Lau, Kam Fung Tem, Angel Martinez, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, Joe Torres, Hilary McCormack, Leslie Beck, Lucille Mirvish, Celerina Agpoon, Bernice Casey, Concha Gaeitereiro, Clare DeMello, Erika Farncomb, Filomena La Rocca, and Joseph Tronccone.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.

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