

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

ORDINARY TIME – VII

# ST. BASIL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

50 St. Joseph Street, Toronto M5S 1J4

[www.stbasiltoronto.org](http://www.stbasiltoronto.org) | 416-926-7110

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 9:00am - 1:00pm, 3:00pm - 7:30pm | Fri 9:00am - 1:00pm

Sat 2:30 pm - 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

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thurs: 3:30-5:00pm

## PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Fr. Morgan Rice, CSB
Associate Pastor:	Fr. Norm Tanck, CSB
Deacon:	Kevin Kelly, SJ
Office Manager:	Margaret D'Elia
Director of Music:	Dr. John Paul Farahat
Associate 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

## THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

*By Fr. Morgan Rice, CSB*

Some of you might recognize the title of this reflection as the original motto of Lexus, Toyota's luxury division. It accompanied the launch of its LS 400 sedan in 1989 after several years of research and development to build the world's best car. This required identifying the best features of their competition and improving them. The result was an extremely refined, reliable, luxury car that even cost much less than the competition. However, to be the best depended not only on the car but also on the service experience associated with ownership. In this area, too, Lexus excelled. It was a total package aimed at perfection.

Today's Gospel passage concludes with Jesus' exhorting his disciples, "Be perfect,

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**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.**



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St. Basil's Parish, Toronto

therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5.48). Our society presents various notions of perfection (for example, with respect to appearance), but they usually only fit a small portion of the population. For most, it is not something that can be achieved no matter how hard one tries. However, the perfection that Jesus speaks of does not exclude anyone, but it is something that God's grace allows anyone to obtain, no matter who they are or where they have come from.

St. Paul reminds us that we are God's holy temples, temples of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is our guide to the perfection that reflects the perfection of God in whose image we were created. Like those Lexus engineers and researchers who spent great deals of money and time to produce the LS 400 and the network of dealerships, we are to use what God makes available to us in our relentless pursuit of human perfection. While they studied Mercedes and BMW as ways to perfection, we look to Christ and the many holy women and men who have reflected his ways and qualities in their lives.

Christ is our model for perfection. Following his teachings, including his ways of non-violence, love and forgiveness of enemies, seeking others' good without expecting anything in return, and giving of what he had to those in need, will help us to get closer to perfection. The thing is, God's perfection does not require that all of us be exactly the same but instead to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us to be our unique, most authentic selves and fulfill our role in the diverse body of Christ.

### SUNDAY'S READINGS:

LEVITICUS 19.1-2, 17-18

PSALM 103

1 CORINTHIANS 3.16-23

MATTHEW 5.38-48

## JOHN FORD FOOD DRIVE

Please note that the next John Ford First Sunday Food Drive will take place on **March 7/8**. A list of items needed will be published in next weekend's bulletin.

## BUNDLE-UP WEEKEND

Next weekend, **February 29-March 1**, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will have a truck on site for Bundle Up Weekend.

Volunteers will be on hand before and after Masses to collect donations by the truck outside the doors of the church. For a list of items that are accepted, please visit [www.ssvptoronto.ca](http://www.ssvptoronto.ca)

## CWSA WELCOMES PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

The Contemplative Women of Saint Anne (CWSA) is a community of Catholic women who seek to deepen their faith through contemplative prayer, the study of women saints and mystics, and the practice of creative arts.

The CWSA invites Catholic women who are interested in learning more about CWSA to contact Michael Pirri at (416) 926-2075 or [michael.pirri@utoronto.ca](mailto:michael.pirri@utoronto.ca).

## FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence, but special acts of charity or piety may substitute for abstinence from meat. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday (Feb 26<sup>th</sup>) marks the beginning of Lent, a penitential season characterized by almsgiving, fasting, and prayer in preparation for Easter. Mass times include 7:30am, 12:10pm, 1:30pm, 5:10pm, and 7:00pm. We look forward to seeing you!

## 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.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Michael at (416) 926-2075 or [michael.pirri@utoronto.ca](mailto:michael.pirri@utoronto.ca)

## LITTLE BLACK BOOKS

Back by popular demand! The Lenten Little Black Books will be on sale beginning this weekend for \$3.00 in the narthex. These books offer a wonderful opportunity to spend 6 minutes of reflection throughout Lent.

*If you would like to purchase a copy after this weekend, please visit the Parish Office.*

## THURSDAY VESPERS

All are invited to join as we celebrate sung Vespers, led by two cantors and organ, on Thursdays in Lent from February 27 to April 2, at 5:10PM following Adoration. We hope that you will join us in the sanctuary for this prayerful experience.

The office of Vespers is part of the Liturgy of the Hours. The liturgy involves praying psalms, litanies, canticles and intercessions, it also includes a scriptural reading, inviting us to sanctify the day with prayer.

## SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, February 16, 2020 \$x.xxx



## MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> – 29<sup>TH</sup>

### SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00am Synora Gonsalves (+)  
10:30am *Pro Populo*  
12:00pm Myriam and Cosimo Scoppio (+,+)  
4:30pm Josephine Sobkowicz (+)

### MONDAY

7:30am Ernest Go (+)  
12:10pm James Robert and Valerie Crilly (+,+)

### TUESDAY

7:30am Glenn Darvin Livelio (+)  
12:10pm Winnie Cox (+)

### WEDNESDAY ASH WEDNESDAY

7:30am, 12:10pm, *Pro Populo (all)*  
1:30pm, 5:10pm,  
7:00pm

### THURSDAY

7:30am Ernest Go (+)  
12:10pm Fernandes Family (liv.), Margaret Dolan (+), Giuseppe Rubino (+)

### FRIDAY

7:30am  
12:10pm Liam Dolan (+)

### SATURDAY

5:00pm Katrina Teh (liv.)

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**, especially, Sue Banfield, Rebecca Beaton, Barbara Boyle, Desmond Brownlee, Anne C., Gemma Ciavarella, Mary Jane Cowan, Josephine D'amico, Jasper David-Fuchs, Clare DeMello, Romulus DeMello, Erika Farncomb, Jose Gaitero, Maryanne Hodges, Margaret Mary McKenzie, Neil McCormack, Hilary McCormack, Rosy Menezes, Mary O'Brien, Paul O'Brien, Delaila Salvador, Ralph Smialek, Betty Veit, Eileen Vyphius, Alexander Wu, and Emilio Zaic.

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.**

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