

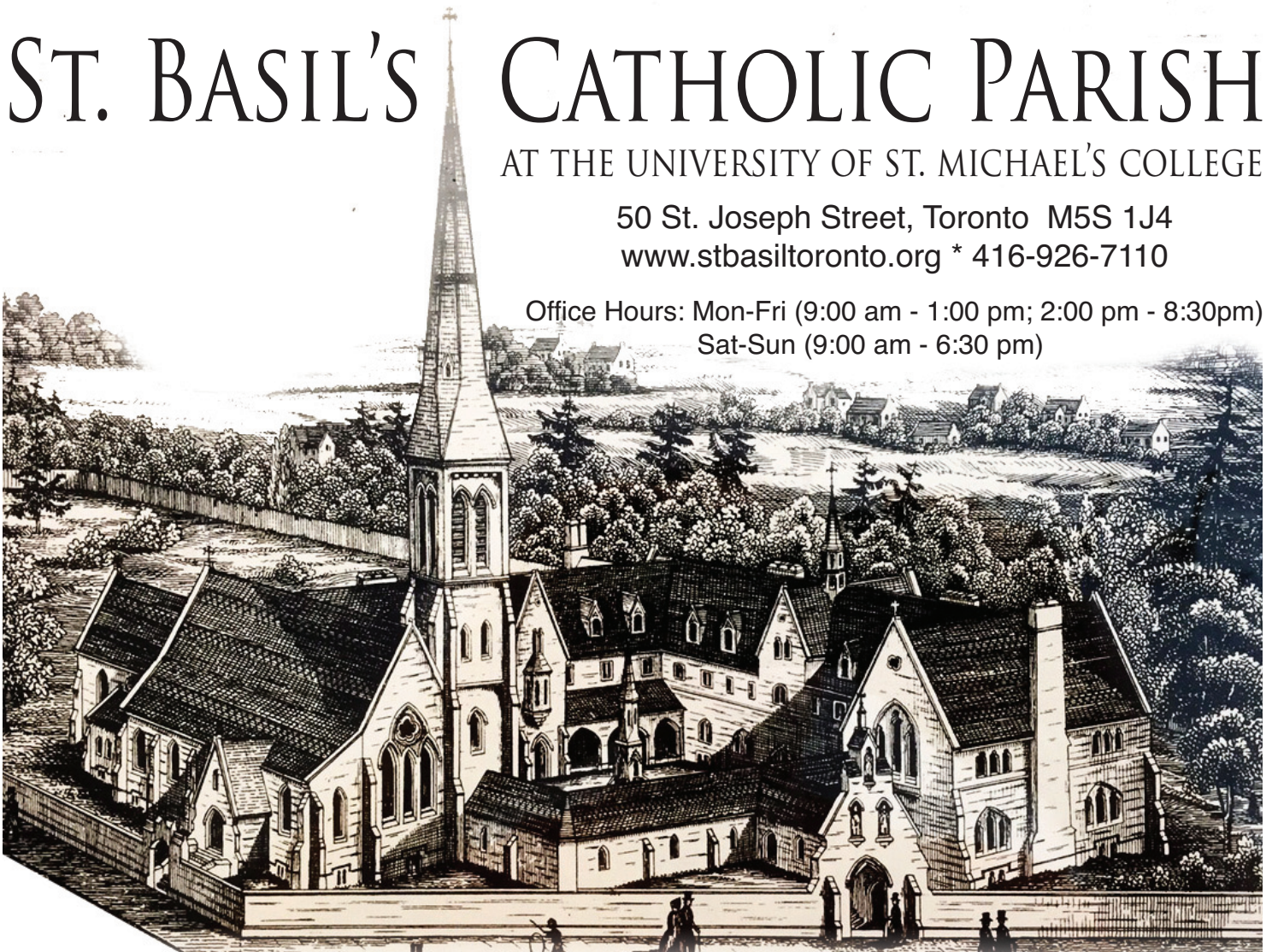
# ST. BASIL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

50 St. Joseph Street, Toronto M5S 1J4

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Office Hours: Mon-Fri (9:00 am - 1:00 pm; 2:00 pm - 8:30pm)  
Sat-Sun (9:00 am - 6:30 pm)



ARCHITECT MICHAEL HAYS' ORIGINAL DRAWING OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE & ST. BASIL'S CHURCH (1855)

## 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

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

## ADORATION

Thurs: 3:30-5:00pm



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St. Basil's Parish, Toronto

## PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Fr. Chris Valka, CSB
Office Manager:	Margaret D'Elia
Director of Pastoral Ministries:	Emily VanBerkum
Director of Music:	J.P. Farahat
Assistant Organist:	Michael Pirri
Director of Family Ministries:	Mailena Berardinelli
Evening Office Assistant:	Stela Tudor

For 160 years (1856-2016), St. Basil's Parish has been 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!

## STEWARDS OF GOD'S MYSTERIES

By Lucinda M. Vardey

Today's readings are full of predominantly feminine expressions and understandings. Isaiah refers to God's care and compassion for us as being like a mother's. The psalm reflects a similar maternal theme of the soul waiting patiently in silence, a sort of gestating, to be birthed in time into the full confidence and trust of being a child of God. The mysteries of God and God's ways are unfathomable in scope, yet, as Paul writes, what is hidden in darkness will, when the Lord comes, "disclose the purposes of the heart."

Many mystics of our Church have searched for how to purify their hearts for Jesus' coming through the prism of flowers. Saint Teresa of Avila wrote that looking at a field of flowers reminded her of God, and helped her to recollect herself and enter into a contemplative way of being.

Taking seriously Jesus' invitation to consider "the lilies of the field" many women mystics throughout the ages, were able to live more simply, discovering the benefits of stillness, rooted in God and in harmony with whatever was going on in the moment. They learned what Jesus perhaps was inferring when he emphasized that we do not have to "toil and spin" to become wise. The greatest challenge - and invariably the hardest - in a maturing spiritually is to be able to prayerfully receive everything we need from God without worrying about tomorrow.

The mystery of living a Christian life is that as we grow older, we are called to become childlike. Trusting in God's nourishing love and protection, a child learns to rely solely on that love and the provision of its parent. Life becomes beautiful when "all things will be given to you." How much space can we make for the wisdom of God's ways to unfold in us like the petals of a flower in the morning sun?

*Sunday's Readings:*

*Isaiah 49.14-15; 1 Corinthians 4.1-5; Matthew 6.24-34*

## ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

The beginning of Lent is quickly upon us. On **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1** (Ash Wednesday), our Mass schedule is as follows: **7:30am; 12:10pm; 5:10pm; & 7:00pm.**

### THINKING OF LENT. . .

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the three disciplines of Lent, but we should begin with remembering their purpose: holiness. Lent is about growing in Holiness.

In his book, *Mercy*, Walter Kasper writes, "The Hebrew word "holy" (qados) originally meant to cut off or set apart. Because of God's holiness, God can only offer resistance to evil. Interestingly, The Bible calls this the wrath of God. God's holiness conforms to God's justice.

In *Mercy*, God holds back God's justified wrath; indeed God holds Godself back. God does this in order to provide people with the opportunity for conversion. Divine mercy grants sinners a period of grace and desires their conversion.

Mercy is ultimately the grace for conversion.

Without God, we are completely and hopelessly handed over to wordly fate, chance and the impulses of history. Without God there is no longer an authority to which one can appeal. Without God there is no longer any hope for ultimate meaning and final justice.

So it is Mercy that is the perfect realization of justice – rather than our ideas of law or morality. Divine mercy leads human beings to "a return to the truth about themselves."

In the *Spiritual Exercises*, St. Ignatius writes of a "fundamental openness to God's will such that we don't desire health more than sickness, wealth more than poverty, honor more than dishonor, a long life more than a short one, and in all things that we long for and choose that which in each case, helps us advance toward the goal for which we have been created."

## JOHN FORD FIRST SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

Next weekend (**March 4/5**) is our monthly John Ford Food Drive collection. By now, the time has arrived for our Out of the Cold volunteers to restock the kitchen before we welcome patrons back on April 18. Our menu will include freshly made soup and deli sandwiches, salad, fruit, and dessert.

The following non-perishable food items will help get us on track to welcome back our many patrons every Tuesday:

- Mayo, mustard
- Coffee, tea, sugar
- Cookies, granola bars
- Canned beans (red kidney, black, chick peas, fava)
- Canned Tuna, chicken
- Canned fruit cocktail, peaches, pears, pineapple

Additionally, our volunteers will be collecting a different hygiene product each month in preparation for our annual christmas baskets. This month's request is: **BODY WASH** (any shape, size, or brand is most welcome).

Please bring your food items or monetary donations to the vestibule of the church after all Masses next weekend. Thank you for your continued generosity!

## USMC ANNUAL LENTEN TWILIGHT RETREAT

You are invited to attend the University of St. Michael's College annual Lenten Twilight Retreat, entitled "On Earth as it is in Heaven..." led by Fr. Norm Tanck, C.S.B. on **Tuesday, March 7**.

Registration opens at **5:00pm in Charbonnel Lounge** (on the USMC campus) followed by dinner then Mass and the retreat in the Mary Ward Chapel in Loretto College at 7:00pm. The cost is \$30.00. For more information or to register, please call (416) 926-7260 or email [smc.alumniaffairs@utoronto.ca](mailto:smc.alumniaffairs@utoronto.ca).

## LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, February 19, 2017 \$5,417.70



## MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 26th - March 4th

<b>Sunday</b> 9:00am- 10:30am- 12:00pm- 4:30pm-	<b>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Valesky Elfiede (+) Pro Populo Mr & Mrs Pat Kerwin (+,+) Paul DeGuzman (+)
<b>Monday</b> 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Peggy Dolan (+) John Fernandes (+)
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Liam Dolan (+) Anne, Frank, and Mike Gregoire (+,+,+), Megan McLellan (+), and Aniceto Laqui (+)
<b>Wednesday Ash Wednesday</b> 7:30am- 12:10pm- 5:10pm- 7:00pm-	The Thalheimer Family Stefan & Anna Papez (+,+) Charlie Snow, Manuel & Amancia Repaso
<b>Thursday</b> 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Alice Omelko (+) and Elizabeth Herzig (+)
<b>Friday</b> 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Frank and Mike Gregoire (+) Antonietta Ciavarella (+)
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00pm-	Kevin Dowling (+)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Mary O'Brien, Claire Fidler, Kam Fung Tem, Angel Martinez, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, Joe Torres, Lucille Mirvish, Celerina Agpoon, Bernice Casey, Concha Gaeitereiro, Clare DeMello, Erika Farncomb, Filomena La Rocca, Joseph Troncone, Hai Luen Liu, Neil McCormack, Jack Gervais, and Sue Lockwood.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED, especially Gina Connor.

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