

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 - 8:30 pm) Sat-Sun (9:00 am - 6:30 pm)

ADMINISTERED BY THE BASILIAN FATHERS

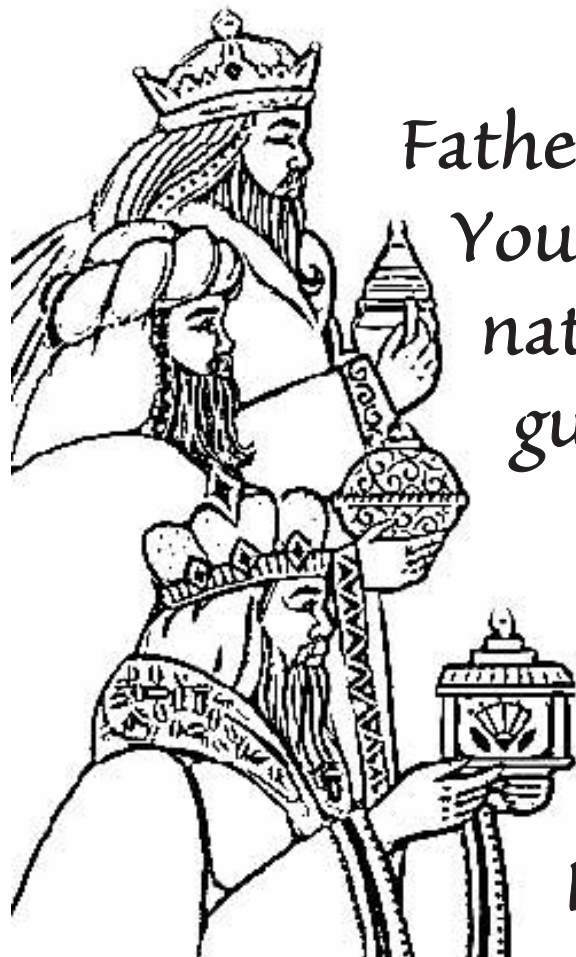
PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Chris Valka, CSB

Director of Music: John Paul (J.P.) Farahat Assistant Organist: Rashaan Allwood

Office Manager: Mary Hopper Social & Community Coordinator: Leanna Cappiello

Sacramental Coordinator: Emily VanBerkum



*Father, You revealed
Your Son to the
nations by the
guidance of a star.*

*Lead us to Your
Glory in Heaven
by the
Light of Faith.*

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

HOW WE SHOW UP

By Fr. Chris Valka, CSB

It is a word we use all the time. . . epiphany. Though it is the name we give to the arrival of the Magi at the crib of Christ, it is also the name we give to an “ah-ha” moment in our lives. Translated, epiphany means to “show forth” and so we must ask what is being shown?

The arrival of the Magi recognizes Christ as a King and Prince of Peace, but I also believe this feast tells us something about ourselves.

I once read that the whole of the spiritual life can be summed up into how we show up, and I think this is often very true. We must challenge ourselves to remove the obstacles that prevent us from being surprised by God.

I believe the Magi offer us an example about how to do this. Just like them, we must go on a journey. We leave our places of comfort in order to follow an inner longing.

But we do need a guide – a star to follow. I think most of us probably have one, though we should ask ourselves if it is the right one? What occupies your free time? What do you read and listen to? What do you talk about?

Perhaps the New Year can offer you an opportunity to find a new star to follow if you need to make a change in your life?

Once they arrived, we don't know how long the Magi stayed with Jesus, Mary and Joseph, but we do not believe it was for a long time. The encounter with Christ does not have to be long, for it does not take long to change us; and it is because they are changed that the wise men from the East go back home a different way. Their path is different now because of the encounter.

How we show up – how we present ourselves to God is determined by our journey and by the “stars” we follow. You can see the difference in

the characters of Herod and the Magi – and you can see the difference between those who believe they have God figured out and those who realize how little they really know about God.

May this year, be a year when you consider how you present yourself – how you show up and the stars that guide the longings deep within.

Readings: Isaiah 60.1-6; Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2.1-12

From T.S. Eliot, "Journey of the Magi"

All this was a long time ago, I remember, And I would do it again, but set down This set down This: were we led all that way for Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death, But had thought they were different; this Birth was Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death. We returned to our places, these Kingdoms, But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation, With an alien people clutching their gods. I should be glad of another death.

Thank you!

As we bring the Christmas Season to a close, I would like to thank all of those volunteers, ministers and employees that made the season such a wonderful celebration. Most especially to J.P. Farahat and the choirs of St. Basil's as well as the many Servers, Ushers, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers who worked so tirelessly at the many Masses! May the rest of the year be as blessed as the Christmas season!

RCIA AND MARRIAGE PREPARATION

RCIA will resume January 14th at 7 PM. Please continue to pray for all our catechumens and candidates on their journey. Our next round of Marriage Preparation will also begin on January 14th for couples getting married at St. Basil's this year. Please keep these couples, also, in your prayers

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The 2015 offertory envelopes are available for pickup at the back of the church. Please provide your name and address on at least the first 2 donations you make. Please do not use old envelopes.



CHANGE IN WEEKEND PARKING ON ST. JOSEPH STREET.

While parishioners are still able to park on St. Joseph Street weekends as they have been previously; there is a slight change. There are now signs in the area immediately east and west of the entrance to St. Basil's on the North side of the street and east of the entrance on the South side of the street; the signs are marked "NO STOPPING". Please avoid parking in this small area or you will be fined.

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

If you have a child in grade 2, it is time to consider enrolling them in St. Basil's First Communion program! This program begins on Sunday, February 1, 2015 and runs every week until the date of the First Communions on Sunday, April 26, 2015 at the 12:00pm mass. Classes run from 1:15-2:15pm. There will not be a class on February 15 or March 15 to accommodate Family Day and the March Break. When students meet with myself, parents will be meeting with Fr. Chris for an enriched program based on the children's catechesis also from 1:15-2:15pm on Sundays. Special participation in the 12:00pm mass is encouraged! Please contact Emily should you have any questions or would like to enrol (liturgy@stbasiltoronto.org).

FOLLOW US

Please follow St. Basil's on our website at stbasiltoronto.org, on twitter @StBasil_TO and on facebook – St. Basil's Church, Toronto

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING ST. BASIL'S? Please visit our website stbasiltoronto.org to find out various ways to give before year-end.

QUOTABLE POPE FRANCIS Let us contemplate the humility of the Son of God born into poverty. Let us imitate him by sharing with those who are weak.

January 4th – 10th

Sunday – Epiphany of the Lord

- 9:00 – In Thanksgiving
- 10:30 – Pro Populo
- 12:00 – Antonel Tatum +
- 4:30 – Antonio Seibezzi +

Monday

- 7:30 – Lee Castrucci +
- 12:10 – Virginia Sullivan +
- 5:10 – Claire Lamont +

Tuesday

- 7:30 – T. & L. Prassas ++
- 12:10 – Francesco and Maria Rosa Vetro ++
- 5:10 – Bridget Keane +

Wednesday – St. André Bessette

- 7:30 – Thalheimer family
- 12:10 – In Thanksgiving
- 4:00 – Televised Daily Mass
- 5:10 – Televised Daily Mass

Thursday

- 7:30 – Edith, Carmino, Dave and Drake Cueto & family (liv.)
- 12:10 – Noli Navarro and Ramon Navarro ++
- 4:00 – Televised Daily Mass
- 5:10 – Televised Daily Mass

Friday


- 7:30 – Dec. members of the Miller family and Guest Family
- 12:10 – Mr. Stefan and Mrs. Anna Papez ++
- 4:00 – Televised Daily Mass
- 5:10 – Televised Daily Mass

Saturday

- 5:00 – Lorena Vicente (liv.)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially Ancoretta Amigle, Don Alvaro, Rita Moran, Rev. Kenneth Decker CSB, Clare DeMello, Edna Fernandez, Kenneth Heath, Marina Kazakis, Eric Christensen, Hilary McCormack and Rev. Dan Chui CSB.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.



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