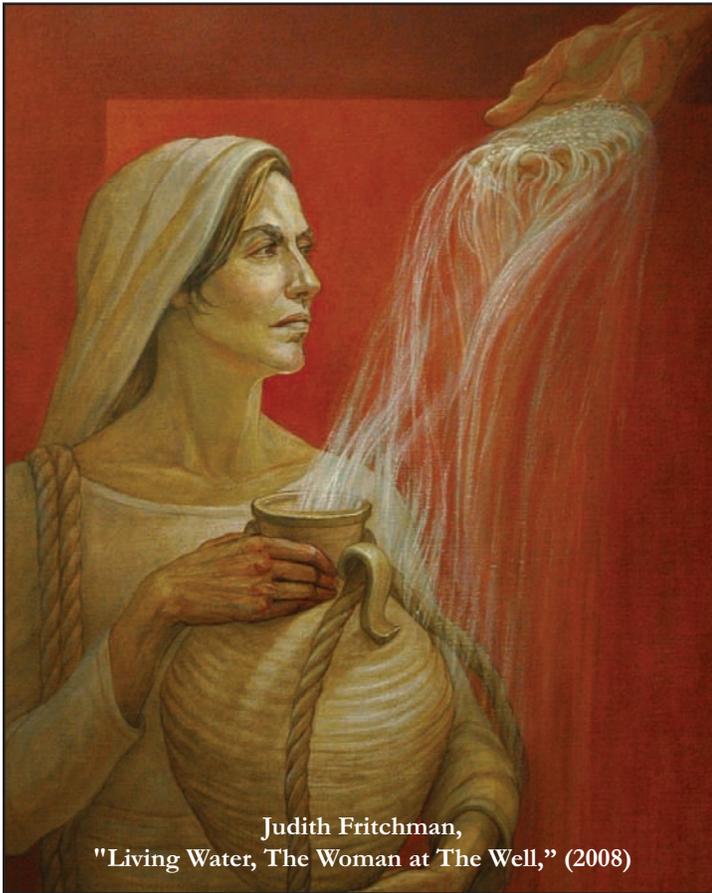


LENT

ST. BASIL'S CATHOLIC PARISH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE



Judith Fritchman,
"Living Water, The Woman at The Well," (2008)

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!

50 St. Joseph Street, Toronto M5S 1J4
www.stbasiltoronto.org * 416-926-7110

Office Hours: Monday - Friday:
(9:00 am - 1:00 pm; 2:00 pm - 8:30pm)
Saturday & Sunday: (9:00 am - 6:30 pm)

SUNDAY MASSES

5:00 pm (Sat); 9:00 am; 10:30 am;
12:00 pm; 4:30 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday-Friday: 7:30 am; 12:10 pm

CONFESSIONS

Monday-Friday: 11:30 am - 12:00 pm
Saturday: 4:15 pm - 4:45 pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 5:10 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

Please see the parish website or call the main office for details.

LESSONS FROM THE WELL

By Tina Sibbald

The imagery of water, and of thirst, as it relates to our relationship with God, is powerful. Of course, no one understood that better than Jesus, as he used it to invite the Samaritan woman to find her way to God through Him.

It is easy to miss Jesus' true lesson when we become too focused on the cold hard facts of this woman's life. We can let our piety enter in, and the lesson devolve into pronouncements on morality. It would be sad if we were that simplistic and narrow-minded. Put in perspective, it's not like the woman had control over her circumstances. Women did not have the right of divorce, so it is not likely she chose a life that some would call promiscuous. We have no idea about the circumstances, likely beyond her control, which caused her to lose five husbands. Independence would not have been an option when being female precluded owning land and being able to provide for one's self. Her dependence on an endless cycle of relationships must have been an uncertain and hopeless

existence. Jesus understood that when He offered her the living water that would forever end her thirst – His salvation.

It seems pretty simple. Yet somehow human nature causes us to need it to be more complex than that. Jesus is telling us that when we try to find fulfillment in anything other than Him, it will, in and of itself, always fail to be completely satisfying.

If you are an alcoholic, you can never get enough of the resulting feeling, so you drink more until you become physically dependent on it and it controls your life. The same applies to many dependencies on anything other than God: pornography, unhealthy relationships, and obsession with financial success, to name a few. Any well you drink from will never be enough to quench your thirst and bring peace. It certainly adds another perspective to “giving up” something for Lent to solidify this lesson in our minds and hearts.

Once we have had water from the well of salvation, it does not mean that life will always be perfect, but our quenched thirst will lend itself to a different perspective on the rest of what we do. To quote Emily Dickinson, *Water is taught by thirst...* Simple? Yes. Thanks be to God that it is.

Sunday's Readings:
Exodus 17.3-7
Romans 5.1-2, 5-8
John 4.5-42

THE EUTHANASIA DECEPTION

The University of St. Michael's College, along with the Euthanasia Coalition invite you to a screening of the documentary *The Euthanasia Deception* on **Tuesday, March 21 at 7:00pm in the Muzzo Family Alumni Hall** (Room 100, 121 St. Joseph Street).

The 54 minute screening will be followed by panel discussion moderated by David Mulrone. All are welcome; no pre-registration is required.

This weekend at the 10:30am Mass, our Elect participated in the ***First Scrutiny and the Presentation of the Creed***. In this special rite, all those preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation are invited to scrutinize their mind and heart in order to “uncover and heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful.” We will experience three scrutinies together in the weeks leading up to Easter.

The Scrutinies all include an exorcism and a blessing for the Elect that encourages self-searching and repentance. Ultimately, scrutinies are celebrated so that “a desire for purification and redemption by Christ” is inspired in the Elect, and to begin this process, a presentation and recitation of the Creed is performed, to help enkindle this desire.

PRESENTATION ON SCIENCE & CATHOLICISM

What is the relationship between the Catholic Church and the world of science and technology? In an increasingly modernized world, this relationship has not always been properly understood. How does our Tradition affirm scientific advances and how do people of faith reconcile lingering questions? You are invited to a presentation offered by University of Toronto's Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, PhD Candidate, Gregory Rupik, on **Wednesday, March 22**. Our gathering begins at **7:00pm in the church proper** for evening prayer before moving to Charbonnel Lounge for the talk and discussion. All are welcome! No pre-registration is required.

CREATE, SHARE, BELIEVE: STORYING FAITH IN A POST-CHURCH WORLD

On **Tuesday, March 28 at 7:00-9:00pm**, the Faculty of Theology invites you to attend a lecture by Dr. Mary Hess, the Patrick and Barbara Keenan Visiting Chair in Religious Education. The lecture will be held in **Charbonnel Lounge**. Please email inquiry.usmctheology@utoronto.ca for more information.

STORIES FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

During Lent, **St. Vincent de Paul volunteers will share with you some of the life experiences of our Neighbours-in-Need (NIN)**. We have obscured their identities to protect their dignity and to observe strict confidentiality. They are offered as insights into the people that we serve and support through your generosity.

Loxley is a recovering drug addict. His dependency led him to a life of petty crime and jail time with just enough time in between to father a now 4-year-old daughter. Now determined to get his life going in a better direction, he is trying to hold down three part-time and contract jobs, two of which he had to do for free to prove that he was trustworthy. He is barely scraping by, and trying his best to save up enough money to see his daughter who lives outside the city with her mother. He has hope and is determined to do better. The little that we are able to offer him helps him to believe that someone cares.

A \$ 50 food voucher goes a long way.

Last year, because of your generosity, the St. Basil's Conference of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society made 1301 individual visits to NIN homes, distributing \$ 69,292 in food, beds, furniture and clothing aid, and extraordinary help such as emergency dental work and prescription drug support. Conversations are free, engaging and often provide real reciprocal value. Within our parish boundaries, in a parish as wealthy as ours, the need is all around us. We have nearly no administrative costs, except postage to pay our suppliers and to issue tax receipts. 99.5% of every dollar donated is distributed. We are all volunteers and we can't thank you enough for your support. God bless you.



LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY

Sunday, March 12, 2017 \$6,845.90



MARCH 19th - 25th

Sunday 9:00am- 10:30am- 12:00pm- 4:30pm-	Third Sunday of Lent Pro Populo Nenita Zapanta (+) Augusto Pascasio (liv.)
Monday 7:30am- 12:10pm-	St. Joseph Myung Family (liv.) Fred fox (+)
Tuesday 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Manuel C. Buenafe Jr. (+) Dorothy Ann Quinn (+)
Wednesday 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Maria Margaretha Fatima (+)
Thursday 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Kyle Sheppard (+)
Friday 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Blessed Oscar Romero Louie Berdini (+)
Saturday 5:00pm-	The Annunciation of the Lord Hermina Sertic (+)

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, Sue Lockwood, and Barbara MacMahon-Firestone.

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