

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.

 StBasil_TO  basilstoronto  St. Basil's Church, Toronto

St Basil's Parish was founded in 1856 by the Priests of the Congregation of St. Basil, also known as the Basilian Fathers. We are the collegiate church of the University of St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto, as well as being the parish church to our parishioners who come to worship here from all over the city. We strive to live the Gospel with the Basilian values of goodness, discipline and knowledge; and to live with their tradition of hospitality to all who visit 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.

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:	Rashaan Allwood

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

PREPARE YOUR HEARTS

By: Elizabeth Chesley-Jewell

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. For the next four weeks we wait with great anticipation for the birth of Jesus Christ. Through the years the meaning of this season has deepened for me but ever since I was a little girl advent has always been a time of year I look forward to. The parish I grew up in use to ask children from the congregation to light the advent wreath at the start of mass. Each year I would wonder what candle I would be asked to light. When I was asked I took the job very seriously. My name would be called and I would walk up into the sanctuary and step up on the stool and wait for the priest to hand me the light. I knew that each time a candle was lit we were one week closer to Christmas.

The same is still true of course. Each time a candle is lit we are one step closer to Christmas. But the wonder of a new candle being lit each week diminishes as we get older. The hopeful anticipation is overshadowed by the realization we only have 26 more days till Christmas. In the

gospel today Jesus warns His disciples that they must be prepared for the coming of the Son of Man because they will not know the exact time that He will return. However, they must prepare their hearts so that when the moment does come they will be ready to stand before Him. The same is true for each of us. We must use this time of advent to prepare our hearts so that when Christmas morning arrives we can fully appreciate that moment of God being present with us. Jesus is coming regardless of whether we get every last present, have a perfectly prepared meal, or have every decoration perfectly hung. With this knowledge we are presented with the choice to look forward to this season with an open heart or get lost in the stress and anxiety. If we approach this advent season with joy and anticipation and wonder then the joy of Christmas day, the birth of Jesus Christ, will be doubled.

As we light the first advent candle today may we put aside all worry and stress and allow our hearts to be open. For the day when the Word became flesh is almost here.

*Sunday's Readings: Jeremiah 33.14-16,
1 Thessalonians 3.12-4.2, Luke 21.25-28, 34-36*

ORATORIO ENSEMBLE CONCERT: EXSULTATE!

Join the graduate students of the University of Toronto's Oratorio Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Darryl Edwards, in a concert celebrating the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Works by Bach, Mozart, among others. The concert will be held on **Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 7:30pm**. Admission is free, donations are welcome to the music program.

R.C.I.A./CREED: PRESENTATION ON THE TRINITY

Join our catechumens on **Wednesday, December 2** when we explore the most Holy Trinity with Fr. Gilles Mongeau, S.J. Our evening will begin with prayer in the church at 7:00pm. All are welcome!

THEATRE AT SERRA CLUB

On **Wednesday December 2, 2015** the Serra Club of Toronto Downtown is hosting Elisa Lollins to present her one woman dramatization of "The Prodigal Daughter" in preparation for the Year of Mercy. The presentation will be in St. Basil's Parish Hall following the 12:10 noon mass. Students welcome! Buffet lunch will be available. Call 416-964-8694 or parish office to register.

DIVORCE & ANNULMENT PRESENTATION

Join Fr. Chris Valka, C.S.B, and Associate Judicial Vicar at the Archdiocese of Toronto's Marriage Tribunal, Fr. Alex Laschuk, for an evening discussion on the Catholic Church's viewpoint on divorce and annulment. Our evening will begin with prayer in the main church at **7:00pm on Tuesday, December 8**. All are welcome to attend and ask questions or offer comments. No pre-registration is required. For more details, please contact Emily at liturgy@stbasiltoronto.org or call 416-926-7110 x3210.

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: A MUSICAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Organist Rashaan Allwood presents an organ recital of Olivier Messiaen's monumental suite, La Nativité du Seigneur, a work of nine musical meditations on the birth of Christ. The concert on **Friday, December 11 at 7:30pm** will begin with a short talk on the connections between the spirituality and the musicality of the 20th-century work. Admission is free, donations will be directed to the music program of Saint Basil's Catholic Parish.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION

To celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we will be offering a 12:10pm Mass on **Saturday, December 12** which will be followed by a reception in the parish hall.

CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

St. Basil's community outreach ministries are working together this Christmas season to provide for the less fortunate in our community both with material goods and warm meals. Here are our initiatives for December 2015:

December 5/6

JOHN FORD FIRST SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

Your donations of food or money will be welcomed by volunteers in the vestibule of the church after all weekend masses. We are especially in need of the following items:

- Canned beans, vegetables, fruit, tuna, chicken, salmon, and ham
- Rice, quinoa
- Cereal, oatmeal
- Mayo, mustard
- Cookies, crackers, granola bars, cake mix
- Coffee, tea, hot chocolate mix, juice boxes

December 12/13

KNIT HAT SPONSORSHIP

Out of the Cold and the Miller Group are creating Christmas gift bags for patrons in need. To offset the cost of each bag (to include such things as hand-warmers, toothpaste, socks, kleenex, soap, chocolates etc.), you can purchase a knit hat, handmade by a parishioner, which will also be included in the bag! With a minimum donation of \$5.00 per hat, you will also be encouraged to write a personalized message of Christmas greetings on a label to a neighbour in need.

December 19/20

GINGERBREAD DRAW

We are raffling off a Gingerbread house right in time for holiday gatherings. Tickets will be available in the vestibule of the church and proceeds will go towards the parish hall kitchen renovations.

Thank you for your continued support!

2016 ENVELOPES

2016 offertory envelopes will be available for pick-up in the vestibule **next week**.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY:

Sunday, November 22, 2015 \$6,820.76



MASS INTENTIONS

NOVEMBER 29th-DECEMBER 5TH

Sunday 9:00am- 10:30am- 12:00pm- 4:30pm-	First Sunday of Advent Arthur Bradley Henry (+) Pro Populo Ian, Shae-Lynn, & Ashton Rydberg (liv.) Mr. Stefan & Mrs. Anna Papez (+,+)
Monday 7:30am- 12:00pm-	Saint Andrew Lindsay & Jeanette MacNeil (+,+) Mike Gregoire (+)
Tuesday 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Julie, Nestor, Valerie & Vanessa Licudan (liv.) Go Tie Siem (+)
Wednesday 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Thalheimer Family Grace Keegan (+)
Thursday 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Saint Francis Xavier Maria Delia Teh (liv.) In Thanksgiving for Maria (liv.)
Friday 7:30am- 12:10pm-	Frank and Mike Gregoire (+,+) Vocations
Saturday 5:00pm-	Margarita Masietti (+)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Bohdanna Kovals'kyj, Mary O'Brien, Sharon Han, Ancoreta Amigleo, Don Alvaro, Rita Moran, Rev. Kenneth Decker, C.S.B., Clare deMello, Edna Fernandez, Kenneth Heath, Marina Kazakis, Luz Manalo, Doug Slater, Betty Hill, and Hsien Tang Pan Wong.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.

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