

ST. BASIL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

www.stbasiltoronto.org | 50 St. Joseph Street, Toronto, ON | 416-926-7110

SUNDAY MASSES

5:00pm (Saturday)
 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 4:30pm
Coffee Hour follows the 10:30am Mass

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

CONFESSIONS

Monday - Friday: 11:30am - 12:00pm
 Saturday: 4:30pm - 5:00pm

EVENING PRAYER (VESPERS)

Monday - Friday: 5:10pm

ADORATION

Tuesday: 3:00pm - 6:00pm
 First Friday: After 12:10pm Mass until 1:30pm

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Monday: 12:45pm *Ardeche Hall (basement)*
 Saturday: 11:00am *Decker Room (basement)*

FAITH SHARING (ONLINE)

Tuesday: 7:30pm (<https://tinyurl.com/StBasilFaithSharing>)

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Monday & Tuesday Lunch: 11:30am - 12:30pm
 Society of St. Vincent de Paul can be reached
 for assistance at 416-926-2292

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9:00am - 1:00pm
 Sunday: 8:15am - 1:15pm

*For information about baptisms, weddings, and funerals,
 please see the parish website or call the main office for
 details. Weddings require one year's notice.*



PARISH STAFF

Pastor:
Lay Pastoral Associate:
Office Manager (on leave):
Office Administrator:
Director of Outreach & Hospitality:
Director of Music & Principal Organist:
Assistant Organist:
Musician-in-Residence:
Coordinator of Community Engagement:

Fr. Morgan V. Rice, CSB
 JoAnn M. Lopez
 Margaret D'Elia
 John DiCecco
 Hilda O'Connor
 Dr. John Paul Farahat
 Adrian Ross
 Dr. Lindsay McIntyre
 Rosemary Boissonneau

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

In our children's ministry on Sundays we often sing "This Little Light of Mine". While we sing, each child (and grownup) holds up their index finger by their heart and then raises it up – a symbol of a candle wick, and the Light of Christ entrusted to each of us at our baptism.

Our scriptures today are suffused by this image of light, and particularly, our call to bear the light. We know that there are so many forces in this world that work to obscure the Light of Christ. Our first reading makes it clear that injustice, oppression, hunger, homelessness, division, and the burdens upon the shoulders of our brothers and sisters get in the way of our collective flourishing and right relationship with God. The whole of Isaiah 58 highlights that we can only know God's closeness when the last and least among us have experienced the good news of God's life-giving love. In the meantime, when we are complicit or numb to the suffering of others, our prayer will not be heard. However - there is hope! God declares that if we let our prayer involve working to en flesh God's merciful love in our midst, if we transform ourselves and our community to reflect God's vision of justice, then our light will shine forth, we will know God close to us through every trial. These challenging words invite me to truly consider whether my life of faith is oriented concretely towards liberation and justice.

... continued on page 2

*Since 1856, St. Basil's Parish has been home to people of all ages and needs.
 We are blessed because you are here!*

*Parents are welcome to feed their children in church. Feel free to move about
 with your child in the back of the church or in the hallway off the side aisle.*



When Jesus calls his disciples to be the “salt of the earth” and the “light of the world”, he is continuing the Sermon on the Mount which began with the Beatitudes. It is in embracing the vulnerability and humility of beatitude living that we can claim our true identity as the salt and light of the world. Salt and light are meant to be used – to season, to guide. We too have a purpose and mission and Jesus’ disciples, called to partner in God’s work of bringing all creation into right relationship. The good works we do are not meant to point to ourselves, but rather, are meant to illuminate the goodness of God. Can our lives be windows to God’s love?

As we celebrate World Marriage Sunday and the World Day of the Sick this week, I am reminded that our call to be salt and light is a communal call. Married couples are salt and light in our world as they bear witness to the faithfulness of covenant relationship. I am blessed to know many couples who are witnesses of Christian hospitality and compassion to the world, and who encourage each other in their lives of discipleship. When we remember and reach out to the sick in our community, we heed God’s call to care for the most vulnerable and burdened, and we reflect God’s light. Here at St. Basil’s, our ministries of prayer and accompaniment like the Ministry of Prayer for Marriage and Family Life and our Ministry to the Sick and Homebound are some ways we live as the light of the world. As a parish community, may our light shine and bring others to know God’s love.

~ JoAnn Melina Lopez

LENTEN MEDITATION RETREAT

Saturday, February 21

10am - 4pm

The World Community for Christian Meditation - Toronto (WCCM-Toronto) invites you to a Lenten retreat day at St. Basil’s parish on Saturday, February 21. This retreat will also be live-streamed.

Repent and Believe: Entering into the Mystery of Spiritual Transformation.

The first words of Christ Jesus recorded in Mark’s gospel proclaim the essence of his call to the world: “The time has come. The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news.” These words set the stage perfectly for the season of Lent in which his followers are summoned to a deeper repentance or transformation in the Spirit.

What is the meaning and purpose of this process of repentance? How is it accomplished in us and how are we invited to respond actively to Christ’s call and the Spirit’s work? What are the inner and outer barriers that we face as we seek to engage in this mysterious process of purification and transformation?

We will take time during this Lenten retreat day to explore these questions as a spiritual community through meditation, silent reflection, and group sharing. The retreat will be led by Michael Hryniuk, PhD, a theologian, educator, psychotherapist and a spiritual director. He served as the Executive Director of the Henri Nouwen Society and the Associate Director of the John Main Centre for Meditation & Inter-religious Dialogue at Georgetown University, and more recently the Supervisor of Spiritual Care at the Catholic Children’s Aid Society of Hamilton. To attend in-person or online: www.bit.ly/2026-Lenten.

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

February 18

7:30am, 12:10pm, 1:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:00pm

The season of Lent will begin with Ash Wednesday on February 18. Mass, including the Imposition of Ashes, will be celebrated at 7:30am, 12:10pm, 1:30pm, 5:10pm and 7:00pm. Join us to begin the season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as a faith community.

Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence and fasting (required for those aged 18 to 60). All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence from meat, and invite us to penance, prayer, and charity. Check out our website for more Lent resources and upcoming events.

LENTEN RETREAT IN DAILY LIFE

Mondays, February 16 & 23, March 2, 9 & 16

7 - 8:30pm

Join a 5-week Lenten retreat made in daily life hosted by St. Basil’s parishioners. This retreat helps you notice the desires God has placed in your heart, discern how those desires can become acts of loving service, and discover the joy that comes from working with Christ.

Based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), this retreat uses Michael Hansen’s *The First Spiritual Exercises* and offers an accessible introduction to Ignatian spirituality. No prior retreat experience is needed. Participants commit to 40 minutes of personal prayer at home (4–5 times per week) and gather weekly for small-group conversation. Register by Wednesday, February 11. For more information and to register, please see our website or the QR code on the flyer.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS

Sunday, February 8, 2:30pm

St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond St.)

This weekend is Marriage Sunday, an annual celebration which highlights the importance of the sacrament of marriage and affirms couples who strengthen our faith community through their witness.

Bishop John Boissonneau will preside at a Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2026. All married couples will have the opportunity to renew their marriage commitment. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. The Mass will be livestreamed. For details and the link, visit: www.archtoronto.org/marriage.

WALKING WITH THE POOR

Tuesday, February 17, 6:30pm

Our Lady of Lourdes (520 Sherbourne St.)

Join Pax Christi Toronto and Development and Peace (Caritas Canada) for a synodal experience with Sr. Susan Wood, professor of systematic theology and Regis College. Discover the treasures of the church buried in Pope Leo XIV's apostolic exhortation *Dilexi Te*.

WINDOWS ON THEOLOGY

Wednesdays, 11:00am - 12:45pm, starts February 25

Love was His Meaning: A Lenten Journey into Divine Love with Julian of Norwich, by Dr. Christina Labriola, Director of Music in the Office of Campus Ministry at the University of St. Michael's College

This Lent, explore Julian of Norwich's theology of divine love through reflection on its key themes: Christ's Passion and the mystical dimension of suffering, the redemptive work of the Trinity, the problem of sin and God's promise of true comfort, and Jesus as Mother. This is offered as a hybrid course. Participants may attend in-person at Regis College or via Zoom. Cost \$160. Register online at: <https://regiscollege.ca/academics/windows-on-theology/>.

COME & SEE

February 27 - March 1

St. Augustine's Seminary (2661 Kingston Rd.)

The Office of Vocations is offering a weekend Discernment Retreat at St. Augustine's Seminary for single men who feel the Lord may be calling them to discern the priesthood. Visit: www.vocationstoronto.ca/comeandsee

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

February 8 - 9: Building Fund

This fund is set aside to be used for future building repairs and renovation projects. It ensures our parish's long-term financial stability.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

On Monday, February 16, the parish office will be closed in observance of Family Day. Mass will be celebrated at 9am only, after which the church will close. Regularly scheduled Confessions, Christian Meditation, and Evening Prayer are also cancelled.

MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 09-15



MONDAY

7:30am | Glynda Kou (liv.)
12:10pm | Lindsay & Julie Nelson (+)

TUESDAY

12:10pm | Fr. Joaquim Ciuro (+), Maria Gracia Manzanilla (+)
Dawn Marie Munday (+) Marilyn Scott Bugyra (+)
Thelma Reyes Villanueva (+), Souls in Purgatory (+)

WEDNESDAY

12:10pm | Corazon Guiao(+)

THURSDAY

12:10pm | Toufic, Nadia, Grace & Paul Seenawe (+,+,+,+),
Pierre Godsi (+), Renita & Joel (liv., liv.)

FRIDAY

7:30am | Corazon Salagna(+)
12:10pm | Lina, Luigi, Len, & Michael Ciavarella (+,+,+,+)

SATURDAY

5:00pm | Irma Saturno (+)

SUNDAY

9:00am | Paul Darragh (+)
10:30am | *Pro Populo*
12:00pm | Maria Teresa Man Wei Tin & Joannes Leung Kwong (+,+)
4:30pm | Amy Laurino (+)

Pray for the Sick, especially, Sue Banfield, Marion Bayfield, Rebecca Beaton, Annabelle Brossard, Desmond Brownlee, Steve Chandeller, Lynden Beiyang Chen, Yvonne Clarke, Josephine D'amico, Jasper David-Fuchs, Clare DeMello, Maryanne Hodges, Helen Keeley, Bohdanka Kovalska, Elaine Landrie, Anne McFadden, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, David Martin, Rosy Menezes, Paul O'Brien, Robert Rodbourne, Delaila Salvador, Todd Snow, Federico Sorianosos Jr., John Sytsma, Betty Veit, Eileen Vyphius, and Alexander Wu.

Pray for the Deceased.

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