

JUNE 1, 2025

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

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@stbasiltoronto.org

ADMINISTERED BY THE BASILIAN FATHERS

OFFICE HOURS

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

SUNDAY MASSES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

VESPERS (EVENING PRAYER)

Monday - Friday: 5:10pm

ADORATION

Tuesday: 3:00pm-6:00pm

CONFESSIONS

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

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, AND FUNERALS

Please see the parish website or call the main office for details. Weddings require a one year notice.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:	Fr. Morgan V. Rice, CSB
Office Manager:	Margaret D'Elia
Lay Pastoral Associate	JoAnn M. Lopez
Director of Music & Principal Organist:	Dr. John Paul Farahat
Assistant Organist	Adrian Ross
Musician-in-Residence:	Dr. Lindsay McIntyre
Coordinator of Outreach & Hospitality:	Hilda O'Connor
Director of Community Engagement:	Michael Pirri

HOPE IN AND THROUGH CHRIST

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth."

As a college student I participated in World Youth Day, and these words were the central theme. It was a profound time of encounter for me: with Christ and with faithful Catholics from around the world who gathered together in our diversity as the Body of Christ. I experienced prayer, hospitality, and profound friendship that increased my sense of faith, hope, love, and joy.

While I had been Catholic my whole life, this experience of prayer and community brought me

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

Mothers are welcome to nurse their children in church or provide them snacks as needed. 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.



ST. BASIL'S PARISH, TORONTO



BASILSTORONTO



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close to Jesus and set me on a path that would lead to my discerning a vocation to serve the Church as a minister. Our readings today remind me of this part of my faith story, and of the call to proclaim Christ to all nations.

We might sometimes think that proclaiming Christ is an intellectual activity which requires us to know a lot about God and have all the right answers memorized. It's certainly true that we should commit to learning and studying our faith. However, more importantly, this proclamation is about being rooted and grounded in a **relationship with a person: Jesus** – who loves us and comes to dwell with us, who frees us from sin and the power of death through his life, death, and resurrection, and who reconciles us to God. So, the starting point of any proclamation ultimately is: **Do we know Christ? Have we been transformed by our encounter with him?** The proclamation then is simply this: sharing with others the love and transformation of life that comes from our deepest and most profound friendship.

As we end the Easter season, we might consider taking some time to reflect on our relationship with Jesus, and our own faith story: who or what has helped us to encounter Christ? It might not be easy to see our own faith story, but we can ask the Holy Spirit to guide our reflection and deepen our relationship with Jesus.

The Catechism tells us that “Christ’s ascension marks the definitive entrance of Jesus’ humanity into God’s heavenly domain” and “signifies his participation, in his humanity, in God’s power and authority.” (§665, 668). What this means is our human-ness is no longer cut off from God, but is essential to God’s saving work. We are promised that “we too shall go where he, our Head and our Source, has preceded us”. (§661) Thanks to the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus, nothing will ever separate us from the love of God. This is the Good News and our hope. We do not need to escape our humanness to be united with God. Instead, Jesus will show us the way to the Father. He is never far away, but always drawing us closer in friendship. Let us open our hearts and ask the Spirit to help us respond.

– JoAnn Melina Lopez

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL BUNDLE UP

June 7 & 8

A truck will be on site next weekend and volunteers will be available to help collect donations for the Society of St. Vincent dePaul Bundle-Up Weekend. For a full listing of items permitted, visit <https://ssvptoronto.ca/community-stores-bundle-up-program/>

18TH ANNUAL HOLY SPIRIT NOVENA

May 30 to June 7

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

All are invited to join the 18th Annual Holy Spirit Novena Friday, May 30 to Saturday, June 7, 2025. Nine Holy Spirit themes, nine days of waiting in prayer, nine days of commitment and renewal, daily Holy Mass, Rosary, Confessions, Praise and Worship, Visiting Choirs, Anointing, Prayers for Healing.

Reflections by: Bishop Robert Kasun CSB, Fr. Darren Diaz OP, Fr. Prakash Lohale OP, Fr. Dominic Borg OCD, Fr. Roger Pascall, Ms. JoAnn Lopez MDiv, and Fr. Dexter Brereton CSSp.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

June 27 - 29

Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre (Mississauga)

Discover the Secrets to a Lasting, Supportive, and Transformational Marriage

Reconnect – Renew - Rekindle

The Marriage Encounter experience is a heart haven that helps you listen, share and connect more deeply. There's no group discussion. It's just about the two of you learning to be the best, most loving and thriving couple you can be.

Visit <https://eng.wwmregion4canada.com> for more information or to register.

CHORAL CONCERT: O SACRUM

Saturday, June 14, 7:30 p.m.
Ensemble *ex nihilo*

Join ensemble *Ex nihilo* for a concert of Eucharistic choral music including Byrd, Josquin, Tallis, Bairstow, Messiaen, and 19th century Canadian plainchant. Admission is free, with donations gratefully accepted (suggested amount, \$20).

ST. BASIL'S PARISH NATURE WALK

Monday, June 9, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Explore the beauty of creation through a Toronto Ravine Hike, as we walk together in community, enjoying summer fun and friendship! Our starting point will be the Davisville TTC station, and we will walk through Mt Pleasant Cemetery and parts of the Central Ravines together. Registration required by Friday, June 6. After our walk concludes near Rosedale Station there will be an opportunity for those who are interested in a short social to purchase refreshments. Find out more and sign up at stbasiltoronto.org or contact JoAnn Lopez (joann.lopez@utoronto.ca) - 416-926-7122.

SHARELIFE

You're creating an accessible future for all

Through your support of ShareLife, Silent Voice breaks barriers for families in a welcoming American Sign Language (ASL) environment. Despite the stigma that people with disabilities face, Silent Voice offers a haven of acceptance for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community and their families. Here, their dignity and worth are affirmed, providing them with the confidence to thrive. And it's all possible because of understanding supporters like you.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

May 30/June 1: Building Fund
June 7/8: ShareLife

MASS INTENTIONS

JUNE 1 – 7



SUNDAY ASCENSION OF THE LORD

9:00am Joan Rabot (✱)
10:30am *Pro Populo*
12:00pm Michael and Samantha Scaffidi (liv)
4:30pm Fr. Morgan V. Rice, CSB (liv)

MONDAY

7:30am
12:10pm Benjamin Artificio (✱)

TUESDAY ST. CHARLES LWANGA & COMPANIONS

7:30am
12:10pm Domenico Fakaone (✱), Martin Biber (✱)

WEDNESDAY

7:30am Terance Coates (✱)
12:10pm John Papez (✱)

THURSDAY

7:30am
12:10pm Francis Gannon (✱), Maria Sakalinis (✱)

FRIDAY

7:30am
12:10pm *Vocations*

SATURDAY


5:00pm Karla Redlich (liv)

PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially, Sue Banfield, Rebecca Beaton, Annabelle Brossard, Desmond Brownlee, Steve Chandeller, Yvonne Clarke, Josephine D'amico, Jasper David-Fuchs, Clare DeMello, Maryanne Hodges, Bohdanka Kovalska, Elaine Landrie, Anne McFadden, Margaret-Mary McKenzie, David Martin, Rosy Menezes, Dr. Peter Moran, Paul O'Brien, Robert Rodbourne, Delaila Salvador, Todd Snow, Federico Sorianosos Jr., John Sytsma, Betty Veit, Eileen Vyphius, Rosalie Wimbs, and Alexander Wu.

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED.

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