

# ST. BASIL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

[www.stbasiltoronto.org](http://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.*

## WONDROUS LOVE AT THE CROSS

Today we enter Holy Week. Our Lenten journey leads us here, to encounter the Cross and Resurrection anew.

For those in the RCIA program, this week is the culmination of a faith journey that began long ago, as they finally will receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. Their sponsors have been their companions, and you have been praying for them. Some months ago, they stood in front of the parish and each shared what they were seeking from God and the Church. They were then marked with the sign of the cross to strengthen them in their journey with Christ. This Friday, they will stand before the community again, holding the Cross out to our parishioners to venerate.

Holy Week calls us to draw near and touch the Cross, the central symbol of our faith. This instrument of torture and death, for us, is a symbol of God's great love. On the Cross, the heart of God is revealed so fully in the self-emptying love of Jesus. From the Cross, Jesus' arms are stretched out in welcome, and rivers of mercy and grace flow into our world.

As I contemplate today's readings, I am struck by the humility of Jesus. The Messiah is not at all what people expect. He is the king who arrives on a humble donkey. His crown is one woven of thorns and given to him in mockery. His throne is the cross. He does not come with power and might, but with meekness, tenderness, silence, and prayer, to be crucified. He empties himself so fully, that he can absorb all the hatred of the world. He does not allow the cycle of perpetually transmitted violence to continue, but instead transforms violence in the Cross through God's love and grace.

*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.*



## 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



Every Holy Week we kneel at the moment Jesus' death on the Cross is proclaimed. There is silence, reverence, and wonder in that place. We embody in the liturgy what Paul declared: *"that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend."* At the foot of the Cross, with hearts broken open, we can sing with awe: *"What wondrous love is this?"*

In my prayer with today's readings, I see Jesus face obstacles, ridicule, abandonment, betrayal, hatred, humiliation, and indescribable pain. Yet he remains true to his mission. I think this is because Jesus knows who he is: God's beloved child. Standing condemned before the people he loved and the powers-that-be, he continues to reveal God's love with his life and death. Even at the moment of his death, he has a *"well-trained tongue,"* and the words of scripture are on his lips. With his last breath he utters Psalm 22, crying out from the depths of suffering while proclaiming trust in God's transforming power. We, like Jesus, know that death and suffering are not the end of the story. From the foot of the Cross, we look towards the hope of resurrection life at Easter.

I pray that as we come into this Holy Week, we will be renewed in our understanding of God's great love and our identity as God's beloved children, called to follow in Jesus' ways of humility, mercy, peace, and love. When we face suffering, may we know the presence of the Crucified Christ close to us, revealing to us the very heart of God. May we too, strengthened by Word and Sacrament, trust in God's power to bring life, joy, and hope into our world.

~ JoAnn Melina Lopez

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Week begins this weekend with our regular liturgy schedule on Palm Sunday. Please note our schedule this week, and join us to celebrate the Paschal Mystery.

**Wednesday, April 1, Tenebræ Prayer: 8pm**

**Holy Thursday, April 2, Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7pm**

- No 12:10pm Mass. Confessions 11:15am to 1pm. Adoration at the Altar of Repose ends at 11pm.

**Good Friday, April 3, Celebration of the Passion: 3pm**

- No Masses. No confessions. Office closed. Church open from 10am to 6pm.

**Holy Saturday, April 4, Easter Vigil: 8:15pm**

- No 5pm Mass. No confessions. Church opens at 4pm.

**Easter Sunday, April 5, Mass: 9am, 10:30am & Noon**

- No 4:30pm Mass. Church closes at 2pm.

**Easter Monday, April 6, Mass: 7:30am & Noon**

- No confessions. Office closed.

## SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Our parish is blessed to have over 40 people who will celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation this year at the Easter Vigil. More than half are the Elect, who will receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, and the rest are baptized Christians and Catholics seeking Confirmation. They have spent the last year preparing, praying, learning, and being supported by parishioners. Please pray for them and for our parish this week in a special way. May we be renewed by the celebration of this Easter!

## TENEBRÆ PRAYER

**Wednesday, April 1, 8pm**

All are invited to join us on Wednesday, April 1, at 8pm in the church for our annual Tenebræ service. Latin for "shadows", this contemplative service of readings, choral music, and congregational chants uses light and darkness to draw us into the sense of grief and loss of Holy Week, as we await the hope of Resurrection.

## HOLY THURSDAY YOUNG ADULT TRAVELLING ADORATION

**Holy Thursday, April 2, 5:30pm onwards**

St. Mike's Campus Ministry and Ignite Young Adult Ministry warmly invite all young adults to come join us on Holy Thursday for a night of Travelling Adoration, starting with dinner at 5:30pm (Loretto College), followed by 7pm Mass at St. Basil's and a pilgrimage to 5 churches. Please note that we will be travelling by foot, and via public transit to get from one church to the next. Should you wish to arrange other transportation, you are welcome to. Registration required at: [ignite-canada.ca](http://ignite-canada.ca)

## GOOD FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS

**Good Friday, April 3, 10am to 12:30pm**

Communion and Liberation Toronto invites you join their annual Way of the Cross on Good Friday, April 3, beginning at the Newman Centre (89 St. George St.) and ending at St. Basil's. For more information, contact them at: [info@clonline.ca](mailto:info@clonline.ca) or [ca-en.clonline.ca](http://ca-en.clonline.ca).

## JOHN FORD FOOD DRIVE

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April 11-12 weekend, before and after all Masses

Since the first Sunday of April is Easter Sunday, the John Ford Food Drive will take place the weekend of April 11-12. Outreach volunteers will be here to collect donated unopened pantry items, which will be used for our meal service or distributed directly to our patrons. Meal-replacement drinks, canned stews, and canned meat and fish are particularly helpful to our patrons. Cash donations are also gratefully accepted, and you can donate online.

## RESURRECTION HOPE: EASTER TAIZÉ PRAYER

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Wednesday, April 29, 7pm

Join us on Wednesday, April 29, at 7pm at St. Basil's for a Taizé prayer service, where we will rejoice in resurrection hope and reflect on our call as disciples to bear the light of Christ in our world. This ecumenical and meditative prayer form includes music, scripture, prayers, candlelight, and silence, to draw us out to live our baptismal call. All are welcome! Questions? Contact JoAnn Lopez: [joann.lopez@utoronto.ca](mailto:joann.lopez@utoronto.ca)

## EVERY LIFE IS PRECIOUS: PROTECT MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORT BILL C-218

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The Archdiocese of Toronto invites you to visit [HelpNotHarmCanada.ca](http://HelpNotHarmCanada.ca) to quickly and respectfully contact your federal Member of Parliament, urging them to support Bill C-218 (The Right to Recover Act). This legislation would amend the Criminal Code to ensure that Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) is not extended to individuals whose sole underlying condition is mental illness. Without this amendment, MAiD will be available for mental illness alone beginning in March 2027. A vote is expected to take place mid-April 2026.

Our Catholic faith teaches that every human life is a sacred gift from God. We are called to accompany those who suffer, to uphold their dignity, and to ensure they receive authentic care, compassion, and hope. Mental illness requires treatment, support and love — never abandonment or the offer of death. Many of us know someone living with mental illness — a family member, friend, neighbour, or colleague. At this critical moment, let us raise our voices in faithful witness to the Gospel of life. Visit [HelpNotHarmCanada.ca](http://HelpNotHarmCanada.ca) today and ask your MP to support Bill C-21. More information about this campaign has been posted on our bulletin boards.

## UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

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**April 3 (Good Friday): Needs of the Holy Land**

*This annual collection on Good Friday is a Pontifical request for the Holy Land. Funds are used for the upkeep of the sanctuaries and to help with Pastoral work, Catholic schools and social assistance in the Holy Land. Thank you for your generous support of the needs of the Church in the land of Jesus. For more information please visit: [www.commissariat.ca](http://www.commissariat.ca).*

**April 11-12: 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.*

## GIVING TO ST. BASIL'S

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There are three tax-deductible ways to give to St. Basil's:

- Weekly Sunday Envelopes
- Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) – *automatic monthly debits from your bank account*
- Credit Card (*using the kiosk or online via CanadaHelps*).

Our parish now is able to accept **offertory donations by credit and debit card** using the newly-installed TipTap Pay kiosk, located near the baptismal font.

## MASS INTENTIONS

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MARCH 30 - APRIL 5



### MONDAY

7:30am | Holy Souls (+)  
12:10pm | John Papez (+)

### TUESDAY

12:10pm | Stephanie Condie (liv), Mauro Cea (+),  
Jamil & Laure Boulos Aria Raymond (+,+)  
John Fernandes (+), Emilia Kusiak (+)

### WEDNESDAY

12:10pm | Toufic, Nadia, Grace and Paul Seenawe, and  
Pierre Codsí (+,+,+,+)

## TRIDUUM LITURGIES & EASTER SUNDAY

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All Masses | *Pro Populo*

**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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