

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 (*paused until September*)

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 *Ardèche 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

REASONS FOR HOPE

"Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you." (1 Pet. 3.15)

It is so easy in our world to see no reason for hope. So many people are driven to despair as we encounter suffering in our own lives, or as we are confronted by the immeasurable suffering of our sisters and brothers. I don't need to outline all the terrors of our world for you – we all know there's enough in our world to discourage us. I'll admit that I am often guilty of focusing too heavily on the negative.

Yet, having just spent a full year immersed in the graces of the Jubilee Year of Hope, I am seeking and savouring hope these days. Perhaps it is easier for me to find hope in this season when every tree seems to be budding with new life or flourishing in full bloom. I can easily sing today's gathering song: *"love is come again, like wheat arising green,"* joining my voice with all creation giving praise to God in this Easter season.

Beyond just the natural world, I see so many signs of flourishing life in bloom in our parish. I start to make a list, and find that I could fill the whole bulletin with good news.

- More than 40 adults received the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter this year, and 27 parishioners stepped forward to sponsor them. Every week I hear from a new person interested in becoming Catholic. People are hungry for community, hope, joy, faith, peace, meaning, and love, and are finding these graces in the Catholic Church, where our parishioners are ready to commit to welcoming and accompanying them.
- Our parish is blessed with more than 220 active volunteers, who serve our parishioners and our neighbours in need with generous and joyful hearts. They live their faith through concrete action.

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.



- Parishioners have been starting new programs to deepen prayer and community at our parish, living out their baptismal call to use their gifts for the building up of the Body of Christ.

These little snapshots and statistics do not capture the tenderness of visits to the sick and homebound, the fellowship shared at coffee hour, the peace and meaning people find in prayer, and the joy of children who experience St. Basil's as their home. There is so much more I can name. If someone asked me about my reasons for hope, I would say (with tears in my eyes) that **I have hope because every day I see God working marvellous deeds in my parish home.**

I am reminded of Pope Francis' letter opening the Jubilee Year: "*We need to recognize the immense goodness present in our world, lest we be tempted to think ourselves overwhelmed by evil and violence. The signs of the times, which include the yearning of human hearts in need of God's saving presence, ought to become signs of hope.*" (*Spes Non Confundit*, 2024)

As Christians, we do not turn away from the suffering of our world, for that is where the Cross is present. And yet, as Easter people, we know that suffering and death do not have the last word. Instead, we are witnesses to the power of life over death, love over hate, peace over violence, and mercy over retribution. These are not abstract concepts, for in my interactions with parishioners I continually see the power of Christ's love to transform hearts, bring new life, and draw us into communion with God and one another. The Holy Spirit, whom Christ promised to his disciples, is at work in our midst, binding us together and calling us to live as bearers of hope in our world in need. We each have a story of how God's love has touched and transformed us (or at least a story of how we are yearning for this to happen). These stories illuminate the power of hope in our world.

So, how about you – my friend and fellow follower of Jesus – what are your reasons for hope?

~ JoAnn Melina Lopez

READING GROUP AT ST. BASIL'S

2nd and 4th Monday of each month, 7 – 8:30pm

We are a welcoming community of book lovers who read together, ponder what we've read, and share our thoughts and ideas. We aim to read a wide variety of literature through the year. Register through our website, or contact Kristina: kristina.glicksman@gmail.com

Upcoming offerings:

- May 25: "Revelation" and "Good Country People" by Flannery O'Connor
- June 8: "The Displaced Person" and "The River" by Flannery O'Connor
- June 22 onward: *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro

ACCESSIBLE DOORS TO CHURCH

We are excited to share that we have installed a system to improve accessibility into the church by automating the three doors between the elevator and the church. You will see "wave to open" panels on the wall near each of these doors, with directional signs that indicate which door each panel opens. The accessible doors will be operational during the hours the church is open to improve access to the church for all. During weekend Masses these doors will remain propped open to accommodate the heavy traffic between the church and the elevator. If you typically use the elevators to access St. Basil's, please check out the new automatic door panels, and ask our staff for assistance if you have questions about how they operate.

The church is open on weekends from 8:30am on Saturdays and 8am on Sundays until shortly after the final Mass of the day, and on weekdays from 7am to 7:30pm.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION FOR BEGINNERS

Monday, May 25, 12:45 to 1:30pm

In-person at St. Basil's Catholic Parish (Ardèche Hall)

Looking for prayer and stillness this summer? Join us for an introductory session on Christian Meditation on Monday, May 25, immediately following the 12:10pm Mass. This contemplative way of Christian prayer, practised by the 4th century Desert Fathers and Mothers. This easy-to-learn contemplative Christian prayer will bring stillness and peace to your life. All are welcome to join this free event, no previous experience needed, and no registration is required. Contact: Lorena at spatakav@yahoo.ca.

PARISH REGISTRATION & GIVING

Not yet registered at the parish? Registration is an official way of becoming a member of a parish community. It allows us to know who is present in our community and gives us the opportunity to communicate with you, especially at critical moments. To register, please visit our website: <https://www.stbasiltoronto.org/im-new> or pick up a paper registration form at the entrances.

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.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK: THANK YOU TO OUR STUDENTS!

As we conclude Catholic Education Week, we are grateful for the ways that students at Catholic schools serve our parish and our neighbours in need throughout the year. Thank you especially for our collaboration with the students at St. Joseph's College School, St. Michael's College School, the Hawthorne School, and the University of St. Michael's College. Their generous contributions to our Outreach Program through volunteer hours and donated goods throughout the academic year are a beacon of light. We are also grateful for the students who serve in our parish liturgical life throughout the year. We give thanks that Catholic schools foster supportive communities where children can experience the joy of God's love and understand the Christian mission in the world.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL BUNDLE UP CLOTHING DRIVE

May 23 - 24, before and after all Masses

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is collecting gently used clothing, bedding, and footwear during the weekend of May 23 to 24. A truck and volunteers will be present before and after the Saturday and Sunday Masses. Please consult the bulletin board or our website for the list of accepted items. Please bring your items only on the designated weekend, as there is no dedicated storage space in the church. Thank you for your generosity!

Interested in supporting our neighbours in need? Join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to visit and help those living near our parish who are struggling. We provide food assistance, compassion, and a listening ear, bringing Jesus' mercy to the poor. This role involves going out "two by two" in a serious weekly commitment to deliver food vouchers to our neighbours at their homes. Some volunteers serve during the daytime, others in the evenings after work. In addition, Vincentian volunteers will take turns after Mass to help collect donations. For more information about volunteering, please contact Ross Saturno: rgross4015@gmail.com.

A DAY WITH MARY

Saturday, May 30 (Register before May 15)

Celebrate a "Day With Mary" with the Archdiocese on Saturday, May 30 at Villanova College in King City. This family-friendly day will consist of Holy Mass with Cardinal Leo, Confessions, Rosary, a keynote address for adults and children's catechesis for the little ones. This is a free event open to all. Info: <https://archtoronto.org/Mary>. Register by May 15: <https://bit.ly/DWMRegistration>.

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

May 9 - 10: Building Fund

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

May 16 - 17: The Pope's Pastoral Works

These funds are passed on to the Holy Father for immediate response in countries stricken by war, famine and natural disasters. The Pope's Pastoral Works displays Christ's love and compassion for people in desperate need. Thank you for your generosity.

May 30 - 31: ShareLife

ShareLife supports agencies that carry out the mission work of the Church. This year is the 50th Anniversary of ShareLife. Our parish fundraising goal is \$109,000. To give, use a ShareLife envelope, give online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

MASS INTENTIONS

MAY 11 - 17



MONDAY

12:10pm | Feliciano Macalino (+)

TUESDAY

12:10pm | Angela Carbone (liv.), Michael Di Tomaso (liv.), Giuseppe Ruggeri (+), Souls in Purgatory (+)

WEDNESDAY

12:10pm | Robert & Valerie Crilly (+)

THURSDAY

12:10pm | Gerty D'Souza (+)

FRIDAY

12:10pm | Luigi, Lina, Len & Michael Ciavarella (+,+,+,+)

SATURDAY

5:00pm | Caterina Ciavarella (+)

SUNDAY

9:00am | Francis, Mary & Monica Gannon (+,+,+)
10:30am | Pro Populo
12:00pm | Elvira & Erika (+,+)
4:30pm | Zofia & Mariam Kupfer (+, +)

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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