

ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

1 MacNaughton Road, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3H3

Phone: 416-485-1792 Fax: 416-485-4920

Email: stanselmparish@bellnet.ca Website: stanselmsto.archtoronto.org



PARISH STAFF

Fr. Thomas Moore, Pastor

Barrig Hayward, Administrative Assistant

Goody Cabral, Music Director & Cantor

Aloysius Chan, Organist

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

INDONESIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY (UKI)

Sunday Mass: 2:00 p.m.

(Second & Fourth Sundays of the Month)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday - Friday: 8:15 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

By appointment – Course Required

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements 12 months in advance

Marriage Course is required

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

MEDITATION GROUP

Meets in the Parish Hall Tuesday at 8:45 a.m.

PRAYER GROUP

Meets in the Griffin Room Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 1:00 p.m.– 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday – Friday: 9:00am – noon;

1:00 p.m.– 4:00 p.m.

St. Anselm's School

182 Bessborough Drive

Toronto, Ontario M4G 4H5

416-393-5243

Dear Parishioners – we are here for you. Email is being monitored regularly at stanselparish@bellnet.ca You may also leave us a voicemail message at 416-485-1792.

FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

June 7 2020

Exodus 34:4b-6,8-9

Psalm Daniel 3:52-56

2 Cor 13:11-13

John 3:16-18

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.”



The mystery of the Trinity is vast, rich, deep and wondrous. Saints, poets and artists have exhausted countless efforts to explain and illustrate this mystery. Each attempt to describe this fundamental tenet

within our faith both inches us closer to understanding the nature of God while at the same time pushes our understanding farther away. The Trinity is something to ponder more fully, in the same way we learn to deeply value a good movie, a good book or a good friendship. The more we explore it, the more we value it.

Monotheism, the belief in a single, absolute and supreme God, distinguished Israel from its polytheistic neighbors. Fidelity to this One God was the first and most important commandment. Jews said the Sh'ma three times daily: "Hear, O Israel, the Lord your God is one, there is no other ..." Idolatry was the key sin against the covenant. As the early Christian community reflected on and preached the mystery of Jesus, it struggled to grasp his relationship to God. His astonishing ministry, self-sacrificing death and reappearance from the grave forced his followers to reevaluate everything. Was Jesus a special messenger, the last prophet, an agent of God sent to reveal the purpose of history, or was he somehow something more? He had said that God was his Abba, his intimate Father; and that he and the

Father were one. The fourth Gospel, the last and most theological of the Gospels, claims that Jesus is in fact the divine logos, the Word of God made flesh in history. His life, death and resurrection redeemed humankind and restored our original destiny to share the divine life. In the Johannine vision, Jesus promises that he and his Father are sending their Holy Spirit to animate and guide the church. This insight overflowed into the new Christian understanding of God as a perfect unity of three divine Persons: Father, Son and Spirit. Needless to say, the Christian doctrine of the Trinity could not and did not resolve the question of how three divine Persons, each God, form one God. It is a dynamic mystery, ineffable and impenetrable to the human mind, but a gracious invitation to know God intimately in an encounter of gradual and mutual self-revelation. One glimpse into God is to know ourselves as created in the image and likeness of God. Therefore, we also exist only in relationship, as a community of persons in love. Because of our human limitations, we can only know God in human ways; but life is filled with glimpses into the divine. A couple plays a game with their young child, the husband whispering messages to the boy to take to his mother, she sending him back in delight to express her thoughts to his father. The game reveals the essence of love. The child who conveys each message is the message between his parents. He is the word made flesh, the expression of their love for one another. This, too, is more than biology or genetics. It is mystery. A dating couple reaches the moment when they want a potential mate to meet their parents. But they already have, for each of us contains and reveals our family. The father is in the son, the mother is in the daughter, the parents are in their children. Human life in all its aspects, joyful, sorrowful and glorious, is a continual encounter with grace revealed in nature, God present in everything. At table, we divide food but multiply friendship. In service and work, we spend our bodies but increase our spirits. Alone, we hear a voice whispering in our consciousness, moving us with inexpressible longing to find communion with

others. Every chance meeting is grounds for celebration, as glances and gestures remind us we are not alone, but always pointed toward love as our purpose and greatest joy. In friendship, we surrender ourselves to one another in trust, and in this imitation of God's inner life of mutual self-emptying, we participate in the Trinity. Life itself is preparing us for an eternity in the community of God.

As we continue to experience the effects of this pandemic and long for the day when we can once again celebrate the Eucharist in community, let us ponder the unchanging love of the Trinity – the deep mystery of God's love for humankind. Do you suffer? God invites you meld that pain into the Trinity's unending love. Do you lack hope? The Christ who rose from death is within you. Are you abandoned? Remember that the one God in three persons was abandoned too and embraces you with tender affection and asks you to melt into his arms. *Think about it, ponder it and pray.*

Let us pray now for loving relationships among all people.

For the Church, that the unconditional love of the Trinity may strengthen and inspire each of us, deepen our love for one another, and help us to witness God's love and mercy to others...We pray...

For all who are ill, particularly those with Covid-19, that God may inspire those working to find a vaccine and treatments for the virus, heal those who are afflicted, and protect others from the disease...We pray...

For those who have died, especially those who have been victims of Covid 19, that God may welcome them into the heavenly banquet in the company of all the saints...We pray...

Update from the Archdiocese of Toronto Dated May 24 2020

The Archdiocese continues to update all of us online at their website, www.archtoronto.org/covid19. Currently, task forces have been working to address the re-opening of churches and parish offices, the financial implications and best practices that can be implemented post pandemic. All work has been done in consultation with health and safety experts and will be shared with parishioners once their work has been completed and approved. As soon as we receive this information, we will let you know. There is ability to have your own copy of the next update by signing up in the May 27th update.

As previously reported, First Eucharist and Confirmation celebrations cannot take place right now; whether these are re-scheduled in the fall or moved to a date in 2021 is largely dependent on how soon we are able to return to church in greater numbers. Weddings and Baptisms can proceed at present but are limited by the guidelines from local health authorities to 5 people including the presider. Funerals continue with a limit of 10 people. As always, if you have questions, we will try to answer them insofar as we are able. All of us together must be patient with the process; be assured that I continue to pray for all of you and stand with you in anticipation of the day when we can celebrate together, however that may need to look.

GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE PROVIDE-A-MEAL PROGRAM

Thank you to all our faithful casserole chefs who have contacted us asking about casseroles for the Good Shepherd Refuge. Our building (office, church, basement) remains closed and we cannot collect or retrieve casseroles that are dropped off. Furthermore, the Good Shepherd Refuge has suspended serving the communal meals that come from these casseroles due to the current health situation. Instead, they have been serving "boxed lunch" type meals with single serve foods such as granola bars. The Good Shepherd may still be accepting donations delivered directly to them – should you wish, please call them directly at **416-869-3619** to inquire about what they are able to accept, and which items are most needed.

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