

# ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

1 MacNaughton Road, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3H3

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

Email: [stanselparish@bellnet.ca](mailto:stanselparish@bellnet.ca) Website: [stanselmsto.archtoronto.org](http://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

## TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

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

 Just a reminder – currently there are limits to the number of people we can have in the church at one time. We ask that, wherever possible, parishioners aged 65 and over attend the Saturday 5pm Mass, while those with surnames beginning with A-L attend Sunday 9am and those with surnames from M-Z attend Sunday 11am. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

### 12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*Jeremiah 20:10-13*

*Romans 5:12-15*

*Psalms 69*

*Matthew 10:26-33*

**Lord, in your steadfast love, answer me.**

### BE NOT AFRAID



Both the First reading and the Gospel today speak to us about fear in many forms and the fact that our fears may gain the upper hand in our lives. Who or what are you afraid of? What is it that makes you catch your breath and causes your heart to pound in your chest? For some it is the fear of flying and crashing. Others among us fear public speaking and the possibility of embarrassing ourselves before others. Some fear heights; others shudder at storms. Some fear the insecurity of losing a job. Some are fearful of snakes or spiders or rats or roaches. Still others fear growing old, sickness and the inevitable dying that eventually comes to us all. Some fears are reasonable while others are not. Surely those who fear the ravages of war, famine and ethnic cleansing have cause to do so. As crime rates increase, many have valid reasons to fear for their safety and the well-being of those they love. With mutations in viruses and bacteria becoming increasingly resistant to antibiotics, fear of pandemic disease and widespread death is one fear that our whole world is facing right here and right now. Global warming and the possibility of its devastating consequences can also stir fears for survival as well as fear for those future generations who will reap the consequences of our actions or inaction.

Obviously, there are various kinds and degrees of fear. Fully aware of all that can cause fear to rise up from within and strangle human strengths

and freedoms, the Matthean Jesus speaks to all those large and small, reasonable or unreasonable fears, and says simply, “Do not be afraid.” He knew that his own would have many reasons to fear the future. They would be made to suffer because of their belonging to him and their sharing in his ministry. Jesus did not sugar-coat or diminish the dangers that his followers would encounter. Because of the reality of sin in the world (Romans, second reading), there would certainly be those who would resist the truth and attempt to silence the ones sent to speak it. This Jesus knew; this he experienced. Like the prophets who preceded them, Jesus and his own would be made to suffer for their commitment. Jeremiah (first reading) freely shared his struggles with his readers, but, more importantly, he also shared his antidote to fear: “The Lord is with me, like a dread warrior.” This conviction enabled the prophet to survive the attempts on his life and to continue to preach God’s word. It enabled him to curse the day he was born in one breath and praise God in the next. Jeremiah knew fear, but fear did not conquer him. Jesus desired to allay the fears of his own in a similar way by reminding them of God’s careful, loving presence. With uncanny vigilance, God attends every human being at every moment. All is known to God. With these assurances, Jesus encouraged his followers not to nurse their fears. Rather, faith should make fear manageable and eventually squelch it altogether. Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), Baptist preacher and pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in New York, once said, “Fear imprisons, faith liberates; fear paralyzes, faith empowers; fear disheartens, faith encourages, fear sickens, faith heals; fear makes useless, faith makes serviceable — and, most of all — fear puts hopelessness at the heart of life while faith rejoices in its God.” It is faith in God alone that will, in the end, allay all fear.

And why is it so important for us to hear these words now? Why do we need to remember that it is God who loves us unconditionally and stands with us in solidarity as we continue to battle a pandemic that is not yet conquered but continues to wait for us to let down our defenses? Jesus sends his disciples forth in today’s Gospel fully aware of what they are facing. But, even more than that, he makes them fully aware of the content of their message. They are being sent to proclaim what they have heard and to do what they have seen. They are to share what has sparked their hopes and deepened their faith. By giving them his mission, Jesus pushes them into the necessary next step of discipleship. It’s one thing to stand by and admire what Jesus says and does, it’s quite another to say and do the same. But, the reality is that only by taking up the mission can they be disciples. Jesus is

not a one-man show. Anybody who wants to watch from the sidelines will never be more than a spectator. Being part of the dynamic of the coming of the reign of heaven requires active participation. The mission is meant for all of us together. When those same disciples are dismissed and persecuted, they will understand that as an experience of solidarity with God and of God with them. Like fledgling sparrows learning to fly, they will set off behind their master trusting that the Father of Jesus will care for them as he had for Jesus himself. They will not be afraid. Are you willing to follow? How do you respond?

Let us pray that the Spirit may continue to renew the face of the earth.

*For the gift of courage, that we may confidently bear witness to our values and principles even in times of opposition and resistance from the culture around us... We pray...*

*For all fathers and those who have shown us a father's love, that God may grant them good health, guide them in being good examples and help them to be a source of encouragement to their children...We pray...*

*For all who are afraid of death, that God may free their hearts from fear, help them to experience God's unconditional love for them and give them a deep confidence that God may wipe away every tear and give them fullness of life...We pray...*

*For all who are ill and those care for them, that God may send healing to the sick, strength and wisdom to those who care for them and inspiration to those researching treatments and vaccines for Covid 19...We pray...*

## From the Pastor's Desk

*Re-opening does not mean the pandemic is over. Incredible caution must be taken at all times. As disciples, we are charged with the responsibility of looking after each other. Everyone's well-being is important. The experience of going to church will be different until such time as a vaccine is made available. Your willingness to cooperate with health guidelines is paramount.*

We are in need of volunteers to assist with greeting and seating parishioners. If you are under 65 and in good health, please contact us and we will train you as to how to proceed safely in this time.

**Coming To Church:** *Please follow these steps to help us welcome you in a safe and healthy manner so that we may offer praise and glory to God in the celebration of Mass.*

- 1. Take your temperature: if you or anyone in your house has a fever, stay home.**
- 2. If you have cold symptoms - cough, runny nose or sore throat, stay home.**
- 3. If you have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for Covid 19, stay home.**
- 4. Wear a mask**
- 5. Respect physical distancing**
- 6. Follow Instructions**

If you have been staying at home and still feel that it is unsafe for you to come to church, it is perfectly acceptable and wise for you to stay home. The Archbishop has lifted Sunday obligation for those who do not feel well or for those who are vulnerable. You may continue to watch the Mass on TV or livestream on your computers. Go to [www.archtoronto.org/covid19](http://www.archtoronto.org/covid19) for further information.

### **Celebration of Sacraments**

#### **First Communion and Confirmation**

At the present time, we are unable to celebrate First Eucharist and Confirmation. When larger gatherings are permitted, communication will be shared with parishes regarding these sacraments.

#### **Weddings and Funerals**

As of Saturday June 13, indoor weddings and funerals may be celebrated with approximately 30 percent of venue seating (**86 is our number at St. Anselm's**) as long as physical distancing is practiced by everyone except those who are from the same household or from their established 10- person social circle. All other protocols are in effect –temperatures must be taken before coming to the church and if you or anyone in your house registers a fever, stay home; if you have cold symptoms, stay home; wear a mask when in the church; follow all instructions. These measures are meant to control the spread of Covid 19 and help us to protect each other. Please contact the parish for further information or clarification. .

**Note: For those looking to hold a reception, attendance remains at 10. The parish hall remains closed for both weddings and funerals until further notice.**

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