

# 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

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. The parish office remains closed for the time being unless by appointment.



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 while our capacity is limited.



## MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> – Leonore Moore  
 Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> – Jo Kostovcik  
 Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Anne Kostovcik  
 Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup> – Faithful Departed

### 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19 2020

*Wis 12:13, 16-19*      *Rom 8: 26-27*  
*Psalm 86*              *Matt 13:24-43*  
 “Lord, you are good and forgiving.”  
 Parables Again...God the Merciful.



This is the second of three weeks in which we hear from Matthew’s “Parable Discourse” (Matt 13:1-52). As we approach these readings, it is important to remember that parables are stories designed to entice the hearer into thinking twice — or more than twice. It is their very

nature to cause consternation, and when Jesus tells them, to draw our attention to God’s ever-fresh and disconcerting ways of acting in our midst. When Jesus told the stories, he expected his listeners to figure out the point and that point could turn the lives of his listeners upside down. That effect should also be felt today. Remember, we’re dealing with parables: The one sure thing is that the message is not going to be what we would expect. In the first parable, God is depicted as a farmer who looks out at a field of wheat and rejoices, saying, ‘What great soil I’ve got here!

Look, the weeds are growing as well as the crop I planted!’ Well, actually, the planter didn’t go quite that far. In fact, he sensibly deduced that some enemy had collected weed seeds and then sneakily planted them under cover of darkness. Perhaps his logic for not weeding was that if the unnamed enemy had gone to that much trouble, nothing would stop him from repeated attacks or even something worse. Whatever his reasoning, he forbade his enthusiastic servants from fixing the field according to their specifications. Second, we hear of God the gardener planting a mustard seed. What we may not realize is that for a first-century audience, Jesus might as well have been talking about planting dandelions or poison ivy. Likewise, the mustard plant was invasive and deadly to its garden-mates. Its prodigious growth was rarely considered a blessing. Finally, we hear of God the baker-woman who starts with three measures of flour ... a mere 50 pounds! She might have been worried, but the leaven did its trick, fermenting it all. Not one of these parables is dealing with the “ordinary.” Our reading from the Book of Wisdom is an extraordinary prayer of praise. It extols God, the powerful judge of humanity. So far, so good! But, to disabuse us of our well-measured sense of justice, read the First Reading again. The God praised here wields power through lenience and judges with mildness. This God sounds a bit like that crazy landowner who left the weeds with room to grow. Room to grow may be the very divine gift these readings talk about. Just look at the last line of the Wisdom reading: “You have filled your children with good hope because you give repentance for sins.” Idolatry was one of Israel’s persistent problems, and, although we may not think it tempts us, Wisdom is here to challenge that belief. One of the great temptations to idolatry is the assumption that God agrees with us: **the temptation to make God in our image and likeness.** Today’s Gospel and the reading from Wisdom call us to recognize that God is different from what we might expect or want. While we’d like to police the world and eliminate the wrong, if not all the wrongdoers, these readings say that’s not our job. The Gospel tells us that God can tolerate weeds far better than we can, and comes close to forbidding us from taking punishment into our own hands. Does this mean that we are to sit back and pick daisies

while the innocent suffer? No! We are called to trust that the kingdom grows like a weed, that it leavens the dough, not because we understand the chemistry, but because we are willing to do the work to put them together. Today's readings call us to believe in God the all-merciful revealed in Jesus, then to trust in God's creative goodness, not usurping God's role as judge. That may seem beyond us — especially when evil seems both obvious and overwhelming. That is when we need to pray as Paul taught us to in the Letter to the Romans. Paul challenges us to believe that the Spirit can bear the burden of our weakness and can pray in and for us, leading us in the kind of prayer that opens us to God's will.

Parables are designed to disconcert us. Today, they promise that God's kingdom is coming, and not in the way we would have expected, maybe not even in the way we want. God, the lenient farmer, the gardener who goes against logic, the woman who prepares a village-nourishing banquet of bread, has promised that the Holy Spirit will work like that in us as well, if we allow it. The more we open ourselves to that Spirit, the more we will appreciate and learn to be more like God, the merciful.

**God created us to live in harmony with one another, to care for each other and to pray for each other. Confident that God hears our prayers...let us pray**

***We pray for the church: for what we need in order to do as Jesus would do, to serve those Jesus would serve, to love those Jesus loves...we pray...***

***For each of us, that we may seek the better portion and spend time with God in silence, listening to and being nourished by the Word of Life...we pray...***

***For the sick and dying, especially those suffering from Covid 19, that God may surround them with his healing love and mercy...We pray...***

***For all those who are providing guidance and care for us through this transition period, that they may be filled with courage and strength to continue this work...We pray...***

### **Being Safe - Coming to Church please**

- 1. Take your temperature**
- 2. Check for cold symptoms**
- 3. Check for exposure to Covid 19**
- 4. Wear a mask**
- 5. Respect physical distancing**

## **6. Follow Instructions**

**Note: Until further notice, please refrain from singing at all times.** There will be one cantor who will be singing one verse for hymns at the Opening (entrance), Offertory, Communion and Recessional. Singing of the assembly increases the risk of spreading droplets further than quiet speaking voices, particularly in an indoor setting. These measures are being taken to protect all of us who have gathered to offer praise and glory to the Lord and are in accordance with all health recommendations for safe gathering.

### **Staying Home**

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.

### **Parish Volunteer Screening**



The parish community of St. Anselm has been blessed with volunteers who have given of their time and talents to strengthen this community of faith through their care, compassion and ongoing support. The many faces of ministry work undertaken by our volunteers assist the pastor and the parish staff to make this parish home. In the year 2000, the Archdiocese of Toronto introduced a screening program for all of its parishes and mandated each parish to begin following its guidelines and its request to keep records for every minister who operates either on or off parish property.

The main responsibility of this screening policy is to provide a safe and caring community that ensures the protection and safety of everyone. All information is confidentially treated, so that privacy concerns are respected. Each screened participant is asked to read the policies and procedures manual. Screening is a mandatory requirement, even for those who have served for many years, and is not limited to those working with children or seniors. The protection and safety of volunteers and of all those that they serve are the driving forces behind this initiative.

Due to the time available right now, our parish coordinator is busy contacting people to begin updating old information and adding those who were never screened at all. Please cooperate with requests and know that this is one more way that we are protecting you. Thank you for all that you do for your parish family.

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