

# ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

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## PARISH STAFF

Fr. Thomas Moore, Pastor

Deacon Daniel McPhee

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

Please call for appointment.

## 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

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00am – noon  
(Voicemail and email checked regularly)

## St. Anselm's School

182 Bessborough Drive

Toronto, Ontario M4G 4H5

416-393-5243

## Mass for Intentions Week

**Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**

Debbie Dolan

Requested by M.G. McCollam

**Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**

Tom Kenny

Requested by Dermot and Breda O'Carroll

**Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**

Joan Sullivan

Requested by the Meditation Group

**Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

Joan Sullivan

Requested by Dermot and Breda O'Carroll

***Weekday Mass intentions will be celebrated by our pastor Fr. Moore each day as scheduled during the closure.***

Our churches and parish offices across the Archdiocese are currently closed to comply with lockdown restrictions from the provincial government. Voicemail and email are being monitored on a regular basis.

### **2021 BOXED ENVELOPES**

If you had a set of boxed envelopes in 2020, your donor number will remain the same for 2021. Boxed sets will be available for pick up from the office mailbox (please call or email ahead to arrange) or when the church re-opens to the public.

Should you wish to submit cheques before you are able to up your 2021 envelopes, please be assured that you will receive full credit for your contributions as long as you place them in an envelope with your name and full mailing address (if not displayed on your cheque).

***Please ensure that we have up-to-date contact information for you by letting us know if you have moved or changed phone numbers. We will be communicating updates through the bulletin and by email – if you haven't received emails from us but would like to, send us a message with your name at [office@stanselmschurch.com](mailto:office@stanselmschurch.com) with the subject "Add My Email".***

### **GOOD SHEPHERD CASSEROLE PROGRAM**

Thank you to all our casserole chefs! The Good Shepherd Refuge was grateful to receive meal contributions from our parish. Despite pandemic restrictions, we were able to safely collect and submit frozen casseroles to feed the hungry. During the cold winter months where the need for a warm meal increases, this was especially good news. We will continue to collect with the next casserole collection taking place **NEXT WEEKEND on *Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>***. GROUP A participants (surnames A-L) please bring your frozen casserole to the church parking lot between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. on that day. Please email Yvonne at [yvonne.gray@bell.net](mailto:yvonne.gray@bell.net) in advance if you require a pan and lid.

### **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES**

Thank you to all parishioners for supporting the St. Vincent de Paul collection for their Christmas initiatives. Despite the lockdown and lack of regular, in-person collecting, your generosity made it possible for our Vincentians to purchase and provide gift cards to all the families on their list as well as earmark funds to make a donation to St. John XXIII School.

### **CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER PLEASE RESERVE BY PHONE OR EMAIL**

The church will be open for private prayer on ***Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00.***

At this time ***only 10 people are permitted in the church at one time.*** That means nine parishioners and our custodian Jun makes it an even ten.

***You must reserve either by phone or email and Barrig will confirm with you.*** We cannot allow walk-ins as we may end up exceeding limits. Jun will check you in and show you where you may sit. You are to wear a mask and follow all the protocols that were in place when the church first reopened. Thank you for cooperating and keeping others safe.

### **St. Anselm's Parish – New YouTube Channel**

We invite parishioners to visit and subscribe to our new parish **YouTube Channel**. You can search us on YouTube with key words "St Anselm Church Leaside".

**Baptism of the Lord**

**Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7**

**Psalms 29**

**Acts 10:34-38**

**Mark 1: 7-11**

***And just as he was coming up out of the water...***

***"You are my Son, the Beloved"...***



As we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord recorded by Mark, let us take a brief look at the Gospel of Mark, who begins his Gospel in this way: "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." The first

verse of this gospel is like the author's table of contents. He advises that he intends to convince the reader that the life of Jesus will provide welcome answers to life's questions (good news), that Jesus is the fulfillment of Jewish hopes (Messiah), and that Jesus is the living presence of God on earth (Son of God). This is the good news of Jesus Christ the Son of God. The Gospel of Mark was likely written some 40 years after the resurrection in the Christian community of Rome. Mark's Gospel works quickly, briefly reporting one event after another. We are told very clearly who John the Baptist is and what his role is meant to be and we are invited to understand that Jesus' baptism is the beginning of his public ministry.

In the decades after Jesus' death and resurrection, as the evangelists, beginning with Mark, began to set forth their Gospels, the baptism of Jesus by John posed somewhat of a problem and for some, an embarrassment. This event seemed to imply that Jesus was subordinate to John. Also, if Jesus was sinless, why would he consent to a baptism intended for sinners? Mark did not gloss over the event but instead opened his Gospel with a text from Isaiah that explained John's mission as herald and preparer and utilized the moment of Jesus' baptism to explain the special role of Jesus as God's Son and Servant.

Rather than belabor the fact of Jesus' baptism, Mark chose to emphasize the event as the inauguration of Jesus' earthly mission. By summoning three witnesses — John, the dove and the voice — Mark leaves no doubt in the minds of his readers as to the person, the purpose and the significance of the event. However, in keeping with

the Marcan technique of the messianic secret, the divine witnesses (dove, voice) were perceived only by Jesus (v. 10, "he saw"). Throughout Jesus' ministry, there would be a series of epiphanies known to Jesus and the believing reader but not to Jesus' contemporaries. Full disclosure of Jesus' identity would be made known only on the cross by the centurion who exclaims "Truly this man was God's Son!" Only then would the series of epiphanies become clear to Jesus' own.

Mark's mention of the "heavens being torn apart" recalls the prayer of Isaiah "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down." The prophet was asking God for a salvific intervention; Mark was attesting that the long-hoped-for divine intervention was going to be realized in Jesus. With his description of the Spirit descending like a dove, Mark probably intended for his readers to recall that the outpouring of the Spirit was a promised signal of the messianic era, again by Isaiah. Through the remainder of his Gospel, Mark portrayed Jesus endowed by the Spirit, doing battle with evil, and in each encounter, emerging victorious. It is this same Spirit with whom Jesus' followers would be baptized in order to continue his mission to bring the Good News to all people in all times.

Lest there be any lingering doubt as to the significance of this epiphany, a voice affirmed Jesus as "my Son, the Beloved." Linguists tell us that the Greek words "my Son" can be understood as equivalent to the Hebrew "my Servant." God's favour was upon Jesus, the Son, as he began to accomplish the divine will as Servant. Empowered by the Spirit, the Son and Servant Jesus began at his baptism the work that we, his baptized sisters and brothers, are privileged to continue, making known the loving and salvific plan of God for all of humankind. As Christians, we are not called simply to worship and believe in Jesus Christ, but to share in his intimate relationship with God. We too are invited to seek to do God's will and to hear the response "You are my beloved and in you I am well pleased". This is what we celebrate in remembering Jesus' baptism and our own.

*For each one of us...for God's own grace that we might continue to live out our baptismal promises and grow to be the holy men and women God intends us to be...*

**We pray ... *Glory to God in the Highest...***



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