

ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

1 MacNaughton Road, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3H3

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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.

FALL OFFICE HOURS

By appointment.

St. Anselm's School

182 Bessborough Drive

Toronto, Ontario M4G 4H5

416-393-5243

Mass for Intentions Week

Tuesday, November 30th, 8:15 a.m.

Josie McCaffrey

Requested by Lise Anglin

Wednesday, December 1st, 8:15 a.m.

Marie Sicotte

Requested by Paul & Patricia Kennedy

Thursday, December 2nd, 8:15 a.m.

Richard Fish

Requested by Marilyn Fish

Friday, December 3rd, 8:15 a.m.

Richard Fish

Requested by Marilyn Fish

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

As the calendar year continues to progress, it is time for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to look at Christmas initiatives to assist our neighbours in need. The Covid pandemic has changed our operational mode over the past twenty months. In light of the current mode of interaction, the Society has decided on the families that are served to be the primary focus. The Angel Tree program will not operate this year as the logistics would be too difficult to address.

The Society will attempt to provide for 40 families with an average size of 5 members per family. If you are able to support this community initiative, there is a suggested financial commitment of \$250 per family to provide a happy Christmas for our needy families. Contributions of any amount can be returned in an envelope marked SSVP Family-to-Family and returned to the parish office or placed in the collection basket at the end of Mass. Cheques should be made payable to "St. Vincent de Paul – St. Anselm". Please provide your name, address and parish envelope number if you have one this year.

2022 DONATION ENVELOPE BOXES

As you can imagine, since the start of the pandemic, we have seen many envelope boxes go to waste. Many parishioners have yet to return to Mass and often, their envelopes have stayed home with them. Many parishioners know the convenience and benefits of our parish pre-authorized giving or credit card donation programs.

We have been left with a number of unclaimed boxes. We will be distributing envelope boxes to parishioners with assigned donor numbers in the Millwood lobby as of **December 11th**.

If you currently have a box of envelopes but wish to switch to PAG or credit card giving, please let the parish office know by December 8th so that your box is not automatically renewed. We will not be renewing assigned boxes that have not been used in 2021. These steps will reduce costs and paper waste. New parishioners or those who do not currently have a box but would like one may request a box of envelopes from the parish office at any time. Thank you for your support.

Help!

We have families in need of warm winter clothes for their children – if you have any girls' winter clothing to donate (sizes 4 years, 3 years and 6 months), or boys' sizes 3 years and 6 months, please contact the parish office.

We are also still in search of a small table (to fit a laptop) and a chair.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Please take a moment to ensure your contact information with the parish office is up-to-date including mailing address, phone number and current email address. This is especially important as we approach tax receipt time.

We are grateful for your ongoing support of your parish as we continue to operate under capacity limits at this time. **Our offertory and building funds are crucial to daily operations.** You can request a box of donation envelopes, enrol in our parish pre-authorized giving (PAG) program or make a secure one-time or recurring donation online by visiting [ADoT Parish - Toronto East Donation Form - Archdiocese of Toronto \(archtoronto.org\)](https://www.archdioceseoftoronto.org/donations) and choosing "St. Anselm" from the drop-down menu of parishes. Cheques may be mailed or dropped off in the parish office mailbox at any time. Thank you for your support!

Indigenous Peoples and the Church: Walking Together Toward Healing and Reconciliation

Each week, beginning on Sunday, 21 November 2021, the Solemnity of Christ the King, the CCCB will release a video recording of a Bishop in Canada reflecting on the Gospel Reading for each Sunday of Advent. This year's reflections were developed in view of the Indigenous Delegation which will be travelling to Rome to meet with Pope Francis from December 17 to 20, 2021. Each reflection is based one of the five essential stages of reconciliation: examen, confession, repentance, reparation (making amends), and reconciliation. Likewise, it is hoped these reflections will assist the faithful, Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike, in preparing for Pope Francis' eventual apostolic journey to Canada.

Jer 33:14-16

1 Thess 3:12--4:2

Ps 25

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

To You, O Lord, I lift my soul; to You, I lift my soul.

FINDING HOPE



In a cold and bare season of waiting, watching and wondering, it is not surprising to find ourselves reflecting on the past and looking toward to the future, taking stock and hoping for something better to come. Advent is the season of promise *par excellence*. We

willingly wait. We anticipate the birth of Jesus and all that symbolizes for us, and we do so in the light of promises extending back to the Hebrew Scriptures and beyond.

The Hebrew Testament is a reservoir for the promises of God — from the very beginning when all things created were called “very good” to the promise of the continuation of the earth after the flood, to the promise of a future to Abram and the rest of the patriarchs and matriarchs of Israel, right down to the promise that the struggling exiled remnant of the nation would still be “a light to the nations”. From beginning to end, the Hebrew Scriptures make promises for all creation. On the First Sunday of Advent, we listen again to Jeremiah, who was called to speak and act on the Lord’s difficult words of “plucking up, pulling down, destroying and overthrowing, building and planting”. Jeremiah knew well the ways of Yahweh, who, prior to today’s reading, had sent him to a potter’s house to

observe him working with clay. Jeremiah saw the clay being shaped, destroyed and reshaped again. So it is with Yahweh, he says (Jer 18:1-8). We are reshaped again and again, even after being broken into shards. And in that patient reshaping is a promise filled with hope. During the final siege of Jerusalem, when the Babylonian armies were poised to enter the city, Jeremiah purchased, of all things, a field for future use, a sign that Yahweh was not through with the city yet

The promise of new life is echoed in Psalm 25. What begins as a lament moves to confidence that God will restore the author to wholeness. Paradoxically, that hope in restoration tends to be situated in the exact opposite: We have been “sharded,” or in some other way undone, and our expectations of the world being righted again are dashed. It is the human condition to live in the tension between failure and fulfillment, sin and salvation, trouble and hope. Yet here, precisely, is where and when we must hope in order to encounter the ways of God. We are called to trust.

This same message appears in our Gospel reading from Luke. Its tone and message are as jarring as the first two readings; it’s a real downer. The First Sunday of Advent seems an odd time to reflect on the cosmological end times, even if Christmas is linked to the Second Coming. The joining of these messages of the crisis of birth and rebirth shows how hope flourishes in difficult times. Apocalyptic style expresses the idea that rebirth occurs in crisis. Luke wrote his Gospel during a time of particular turbulence for Israel and the early church. These passages reassure us that though we are also living in times of crisis, we can interpret events with hope. Luke affirms that a promise is a promise. Trust God to give you strength to persevere despite temptation or persecution. Whether for the first or 21st century, the message is the same: Be watchful and alert, prayerful and humble, trusting in God and awaiting redemption from the world’s crises that only God can bring, and will bring. “The promise might not be fully in hand,” Barbara Brown Taylor reminds us. “It may still be on the way, but to live reverently, deliberately and fully awake — that is what it means to live in the promise, where the wait itself is as rich as its end. All it takes are some regular reminders, because as long as the promise is renewed, the promise is alive, as vivid as a rainbow, as real as the million stars overhead” (*Gospel Medicine*, Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield, 1995).

For the grace of attentiveness: that we may be aware of the signs of the times and recognize God’s action and presence in our lives...We pray to the Lord....

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