

ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

1 MacNaughton Road, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3H3

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Email: office@stanselmschurch.com Website: stanselmsto.archtoronto.org



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, January 25th, 8:15 a.m.

Jean Stovell

Requested by the Family

Wednesday, January 26th, 8:15 a.m.

Richard Ryan

Requested by Theresa Ryan

Thursday, January 27th, 8:15 a.m.

John and Rosa Paglialunga

Requested by the Family

Friday, January 28th, 8:15 a.m.

For the Faithful Departed

Requested by a Parishioner

2022 PAG ENVELOPE BUNDLES

PAG envelope bundles arrived in the office much later than originally scheduled. The majority were mailed out over the Christmas holidays. We apologize for the delay. Please contact the office if you have yet to receive your bundle.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

The parish office remains closed to the public at this time. Voicemail and email are being checked on a regular basis, as is the mailbox just outside the office door. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us by phone or by email. We are limiting in-person appointments at this time.

As you have heard, the province has moved back to a modified "Step 2" in the roadmap to re-opening for the coming weeks. This does not change our current capacity restrictions and we will still be able to welcome parishioners on a first-come basis until we reach our capacity. Masks and distancing will still be in place. Congregational singing is not permitted and in-person group meetings will not take place until further notice.

If you are feeling unwell, we ask that you please stay home and take good care.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Pope Francis has launched the Synod on Synodality: a two-year global process of listening to the faithful that will help the Church reflect on how we can do God's will in the world today. The comments of the faithful will ultimately be discussed at a meeting of the bishops in the Vatican in 2023. To learn more about the Synod on Synodality and to share your thoughts, please visit: www.archtoronto.org/synodality

VOCATIONS

You are the body of Christ; every one of you is a member of it. As a member of the body, we serve different roles. Are you willing to do your part?

If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

vocations@archtoronto.org
www.vocationstoronto.ca

*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 \(archtoronto.org\)](http://ADoT Parish - Toronto East Donation Form - Archdiocese of Toronto (archtoronto.org)) 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!*

Pre-Authorized Giving

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving Plan (PAG) to assist you in your support of the work of the parish through your regular parish offerings. To accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ, the parishes depend entirely on the generosity of their parishioners. Pre-authorized giving allows you to give to your parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account or credit card. These funds are then deposited directly to the parish account.

There are various benefits of participating in pre-authorized giving, both for you and for your parish.

Advantages for you:

The convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the parish.

Knowing you continue to support the parish even when you are away.

Continual support of ministries and programs funded through the parish.

Advantages for the Parish:

Regular, dependable contributions to the parish.

Reduction of cash on hand.

Reduction of paperwork.

For information on how to enrol, please contact your parish office or email development@archtoronto.org

Nehemiah 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10

Psalms 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Alleluia. *The Lord sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives.*
Alleluia.

Rebuilding Hearts...



Two men unroll parchment scrolls. Each reads his to his people. In each case, their proclamations signal the beginning of a vast new era. One man is Ezra the scribe, and the other is Jesus of Nazareth. Four centuries separate their readings. Let's look. We find Ezra in the First Reading. He is in Jerusalem after

the return of the Jewish exiles from captivity in Babylon. What is the "captivity in Babylon," you ask? Perhaps it will help to have more of the story. Ancient Israel was captured by the Babylonian empire 586 years before Christ. The Babylonians took Jerusalem itself. They demolished the great temple built by Solomon himself many centuries before and they deported all productive citizens to Babylon, leaving peasants to run the holy city—if they could. After fifty years or so of their captivity, Persia (now Iran) came into possession of Babylon. Cyrus the Great was then king and he let the captives in Babylon go! Many had switched their faith by this time, in favour of foreign gods and customs, but the remainder, perhaps 5000 or so, made ready to return home. By this time a lot of them had never even seen Jerusalem. Great caravans took place. Ezra—priest, scribe and teacher—led one of them on the four-month journey across the desert. They arrived to find Jerusalem a ruined city with widespread moral decay. Reconstruction of an urban centre is immensely difficult, as we know from our own day. Ezra worked long and hard to bring back the ecclesiastical and civil fiber of Jerusalem and the nation. At last a new temple was finished in 516

BC, and the ruined city walls had been rebuilt. At this point Ezra stood up on a high wooden platform built for the occasion—so he could be heard and seen—and he "read plainly" from the scroll that held "the book of the law." He started reading at daybreak and continued until midday! Not only did they have their city again, but also they had heard the Word of God again, and finally there was again a temple where they could worship. Their new era had begun! Four centuries later we find Jesus of Nazareth making a similar return. He is going back to Galilee, the region where he grew up. He has been baptized and has spent time in the desert. His trip is now "in the power of the Spirit," Luke says, and it takes him to his home town of Nazareth. Like Ezra, he takes up a scroll, this one containing the book of Isaiah—much of which, coincidentally, had been written during the "Jewish exile." He reads the passage, which says that the Spirit of the Lord has sent him to "bring glad tidings to the poor, to let the oppressed go free," to proclaim a time of favour from the Lord (Isa 61:1-2). This is what Ezra had done in the First Reading, but Jesus' mission is much, much more. A far greater new era has begun. He sits down now, at the same level as the people. He says almost casually, "Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." His mission is to rebuild their hearts, not just their city, to return them to God, their real home. Would they accept this startling new epoch? Will we? Stay tuned for more next Sunday.

Something to think about...

Jesus stood up in his home town and announced his program: to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, recovery of sight to the blind and release to prisoners. It may not sound particularly religious to some, but it was a program established by one who had returned to Galilee "in the power of the Spirit." Today's liturgy juxtaposes the story of Jesus reading in the synagogue with the story of Ezra reading the law to people upon their return from exile. The suggestion is that Jesus' program is a kind of law, a rule that should govern our lives. Bringing good news to the poor, liberating people from all their oppressions, this is not some optional activity that one can engage in only if one is inclined. It is "the law of the Lord," it is the program for which we have all been anointed.

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