

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, November 29th, 8:15 a.m.

Barry Brown

Requested by the Sherlock Family

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

Fausto Turino

Requested by the Paglialunga Family

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

Jerry Webster

Requested by Marilyn Alston

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

Deceased Members of the Loconte Family

21st Annual Friars' Student Writing Contest

2023 – October 4 to January 16, 2023

Theme: "Do good; seek justice" (Isaiah 1:17)

High school students (ages 13-19 years) in the Catholic School Boards located in the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to participate in this annual event that commemorates the global Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Write a five-hundred-word essay that explores the 2023 theme. Great prizes await the top three submissions.

Students are encouraged to consult the resources at <https://bit.ly/3AgBy5J> to understand the meaning and purpose of the theme and address the focus question found on the poster at <https://bit.ly/3KXgu8m>.

Contact ecumenism@archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3400 (Ext. 527) for more information or questions.

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH THROUGH 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, 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.

To switch from envelope or loose cash support to pre-authorized giving once a month in the amount of your choosing, please contact the parish office.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

The Angel Tree is now up in the Millwood Lobby. Those who wish to give a gift to a less fortunate child in our community are asked to take an angel, [*blue for a boy, white for a girl*] and purchase a gift with a suggested value \$40-\$45.

Please return the angel secured to the unwrapped gift to the Angel Tree no later than **December 11th**.

*If possible, please include a gift bag. *Stuffed toys and candies cannot be given to children. More details available on the poster beside the Angel Tree.*

The Family-to-Family program is also underway. Last year we were able to assist 41 families with extra food cards for Christmas. Our families in need average 6 persons per household. A cheque made payable to St. Vincent de Paul – St. Anselm's in the amount of \$50 per family member (i.e. for a family of six, \$300, for a family of four, \$200)

Your donation in any amount to support this program is always welcome and can be placed in the collection basket or returned to the church office.

**Tax receipts will be issued for family donations by St. Vincent de Paul so please remember to include your full name and address if not displayed on your cheque.*

Please contact the church office should you have any questions regarding these initiatives.

DAY OF CONFESSIONS

It is always recommended that we go to confession before celebrating the important Feast days of the Church. The Archdiocese of Toronto has designated the week of December 11 – 17 and each Catholic Church in the area has a special day for Confessions. At St. Anselm's, our Day of Confessions is **Friday, December 16th**. The times are as follows:

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

For neighbouring churches and alternate times, visit <https://www.archtoronto.org/confession>

*We are grateful for your ongoing support of your parish. **Our offertory and building funds are crucial to daily operations.** You can 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) 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!*

Isa 2:1-5

Psalm 122

Rom 13:11-14

Matt 24:37-44



The Hope of Advent

Through the centuries, Christians have regarded Advent as the season of the liturgical year when we remember and celebrate the first coming of Jesus while preparing to welcome his second

appearance in glory. Advent has its own vocabulary. Words like waiting, anticipation and hope punctuate both prayers and preaching. Light and darkness are juxtaposed as the symbols of Advent. Believers celebrate the light of the world whose presence dispels every darkness. We light candles to remember that he who is light has charged us with the responsibility of being light for others. Advent has its own special songs that implore the Messiah to come and encourage those who await him to wake from sleep and remain alert, ready to welcome him at a moment's notice.

Although we continue to celebrate Advent as a season, it is considerably more than that. Advent is a way of life, lived in watchfulness for the God who comes — not just at Christmas, but every day, in countless ways and in many wonderful and sometimes distressing disguises. Therefore, we wait — not passively, twiddling our thumbs, but *actively*.

Since we await the Prince of Peace, we are advised by Isaiah (first reading) to work toward peace by turning implements of war into tools with which to till the soil. If we were to take Isaiah at his word, how the lot of humankind could be improved! Many think that wars will cease when the Messiah appears, but Isaiah tells us that the cessation of all wars and violence is the *means by which* we prepare for his Advent.

Paul, in today's second reading from his letter to the Romans, also invites us to wait and prepare actively to welcome the Lord. Throw off the darkness of lust, rivalry and jealousy, urges Paul. His words and his witness encourage all who will hear him to leave behind selfishness, greed and indifference toward the needs of others and work toward bringing light into lives so much in need of our caring and service.

In the Gospel, Matthew sharpens our awareness that if we live our daily lives actively waiting for the Lord, we will not be caught off-guard when Jesus does make an appearance. Matthew also affirms that the final judgment that will take place when the Son of Man appears will be decisive and will bring to light distinctions among people that had been hidden until then. Two men in the field, one will be taken, one will be left. Two women grinding, one will be taken, one will be left. Such a stark image is not meant to frighten us, but to remind us yet again that we need to be prepared for the Lord.

Henri Nouwen has suggested that the secret of actively waiting is believing that what we await is already on its way ("The Spirituality of Waiting," *The Weavings Reader*, ed. John S. Mogabgab, Upper Room Books, 1993). Those who wait actively have faith that the seed of the future has been planted and that growth is already begun. Active waiting means to be fully present to the moment, fully convinced that the present moment is *the* moment. Nouwen also suggested that in our waiting for God's countless comings into our lives, we should let go of our wishes: "I wish I had a better job"; "I wish the pain would go away"; "I wish the weather was better." Because we are full of wishes, our waiting may become entangled in those wishes. Perhaps it is better to let go of our wishes and start hoping. It was only when I was willing to let go of my wishes, said Nouwen, that something really new, something beyond my own expectations could happen to me.

While wishes are limited to specific moments, hope is trust that is open-minded. Hope is willing to give up control over our future so that God is free to define our life. Mary had such hope, as did Jesus. Both were willing to wait actively and hope that what God had begun in them would be fully realized. This Advent, Mary, Jesus and so many who have gone before us encourage our active hope in the God who constantly arrives. Are you ready?

For the grace of attentiveness, that we may be aware of the signs of the times and recognize God's action and presences in our lives....

We pray...Our God will come to save us.

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