

ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

1 MacNaughton Road, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3H3

Phone: 416-485-1792 Fax: 416-485-4920

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

Saturdays 4:00-4:30 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.

FALL OFFICE HOURS

By appointment.

St. Anselm's School

182 Bessborough Drive
Toronto, Ontario M4G 4H5
416-393-5243

Mass Intentions for Week



Tuesday, January 31st, 8:15 a.m.

Joseph Maxheleau
Requested by Mel Kostovcik

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

Jeannette Valerioté
Requested by the Family

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

For the Deceased Members of the Murphy Family
Requested by Theresa Ryan

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

Jeannette Valerioté
Requested by Theresa Ryan

GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE CASSEROLES

Thank you to all who participate in our parish ministry to provide nutritious casseroles for the hungry at the Good Shepherd Refuge. Despite the ongoing difficulties of the last year, 63 families participated, delivering 345 casseroles to the parish. As each casserole feeds 10 people, St. Anselm's Church fed 3,450 people in need in 2022! Your commitment is a true reflection of the Gospel.

If you are interested in joining the casserole program for the new year, we provide the pan, lid and recipe. You deliver a frozen casserole to us on the third weekend of every other month. It's as simple as that! Please email yvonne.gray@bell.net or office@stanselmchurch.com for details.

To the youth in our parish who are looking for meaningful opportunities to complete their volunteer hours AND learn valuable life skills at the same time – please discuss this option with your parents to see if it's right for you.

Group B casseroles will be collected on Saturday, February 18th from 4:00 – 5:00pm in the church parking lot.

Help!

The St. Vincent de Paul has received a request for a small office chair. If you have a chair in relatively good condition and are no longer using it, please contact the parish office at 416-485-1792.

WANTED: Choir Members

The members of St. Anselm's Church choir would like to extend an invitation to the singers and instrumentalists in our congregation. We are actively seeking new members leading up to Lent and Easter. We would also be happy to have you as permanent members if that is something you think you can embrace. We look forward to meeting new members. Please speak to our director, Goody Cabral after Mass on Saturday or Sunday. You can also email Goody at goodycabral@gmail.com



In 2019, Fr. Prakash Lohale of the Archdiocese of Toronto announced the Catholic Church's recognition of the ecological threats facing our world today and confirmed that "responding to this major crisis forms an integral part of the Church's mission". In our daily lives, let's be mindful and intentional about our efforts to reduce our eco-footprint.

"Don't wait for leaders to do it for you" (Mother Teresa).

Reflect. Repent. Reduce. Repair. Reuse. Recycle. Rethink. Repurpose.

REJOICE in the splendour of creation.

May the Spirit protect us from apathy and discouragement and empower us with determination and hope that we may wisely and steadfastly work to protect others and our common home.

"All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents." ('LS' 14)

*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 \(archtoronto.org\)](#). Thank you for your support.*

Accompanying the Lonely and Vulnerable

Saturday, Feb 4th - 10 AM to 4 PM

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (Parish Hall)
78 Clifton Road (Mt. Pleasant & St. Clair)
Guest Presenter, Kathy Matusiak Costa, Director of
Compassionate Community Care

In June 2016, Euthanasia was legalized in Canada; at the time, many thought it would impact only a few. From then until June 2022, there have already been 11 620 reported assisted deaths in Ontario and the trend keeps going up. Among those who choose this are those who experience immense loneliness and hopelessness. How do we as Christians assist those who feel their life lacks value or purpose? A culture that values others can emerge when we accompany people through the difficult times of their life.

OLPH Parish will be hosting a day of reflection on accompanying the lonely and vulnerable. Gain confidence to journey with those who are suffering, socially isolated, sick, or dying, to renew their hope and purpose in life. Explore how to empower others to do the same. Discover ways our Catholic faith can guide our vision and gain practical tools for how we each, in our own little way and state in life, can help others find hope.

Free Event | Register by Wednesday Feb. 1, 2023 | Potluck lunch will be served

Contact: Alison at aendrizz@archtoronto.org

Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13
Psalms 146

1 Cor 1:26-31
Matt 5:1-12

**Blessed are the poor in spirit;
The kingdom of heaven is theirs!**



Today's Matthean Gospel introduces us to the Beatitudes, Jesus' beginning to what we call the Sermon on the Mount. Through the centuries, those who have voiced serious doubts about the feasibility of living in response to these radical

statements have been as numerous, and perhaps even louder and more convincing in their logic, than those who surrender to the paradox of Christ's challenges and attempt to live according to them. Tolstoy, Francis of Assisi, Gandhi and Bonhoeffer were among the many who understood Matt 5:1-12 to contain the central

tenets of the Christian faith. Others are in favour of modifying these verses, claiming that they are hyperbole that can only be taken seriously if they are toned down. Augustine and Thomas Aquinas believed that these verses represented a pathway to perfection that might be carefully followed by clergy, monks and nuns, but were unattainable for most of us regular folks. Albert Schweitzer called the beatitudes and the Great Sermon an "interim ethic" that one might observe, but only for a short while; he attributed their radical teaching to the fact that Jesus expected the world to end very soon.

Still others continue to teach that Jesus' words as proclaimed in this Gospel represent an invitation for believers to live according to an ethic that is the standard for the kingdom of God. That kingdom has come near in Jesus, and so believers are to think, speak and do as Jesus did, thus making his mind and heart their own. Nowhere does Jesus more clearly set forth his mind and heart than in the blessings he has pronounced in this Matthean Gospel. Matthew placed the radical challenges we call the beatitudes at the very beginning of all of Jesus' public teaching. Obviously, he regarded them as essential. He also underscored their unique importance in the way that he introduced them. By placing this event on a mountain, the evangelist referenced those many times throughout their history when God's people received special revelation, such as on Sinai, on Carmel, on Hermon. Like Moses, who communed with God on Sinai and then shared the law with his fellow travellers, so Jesus, from a mountain height, shared the challenges of discipleship with those who would follow him.

To emphasize the significance of his teaching, Matthew has told his readers that Jesus "sat down." When rabbis wanted to impart a lesson of great import, they sat down. Today we speak of a professor's chair and of the pope speaking *ex cathedra*, "from the chair." Similarly, judges render verdicts seated at the courtroom bench. Matthew has continued this affirmation of Jesus' teaching by saying, "He opened his mouth and began to teach them." This literal translation of verse 1 has been somewhat dulled by the rendering, "He began to speak and taught them." To open one's mouth (to teach) has a double significance in Greek. This phrase underscores a solemn utterance as well as a special revelation where a person pours out their heart and mind. This is precisely what Jesus has done in the beatitudes. He has revealed his own spirit, his attitude toward God and others. These statements of blessedness are at once a revelation of Jesus and an invitation to become like him, foregoing all the advantages of this world in order to embrace the eternal ethic and experience of God's reign. When will I take him at his word? When will you? **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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