

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

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 2:00 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – noon;

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

St. Anselm's School

182 Bessborough Drive

Toronto, Ontario M4G 4H5

416-393-5243

Mass  for Intentions  Week

Tuesday, March 18th, 8:15 a.m.

Richard Ryan

Requested by Theresa Ryan

Wednesday, March 19th, 8:15 a.m.

Nuala O'Sullivan

Requested by the Spizzirri Family

Thursday, March 20th 8:15 a.m.

Joseph Kostovcik

Requested by Mel Kostovcik

Friday, March 21st, 8:15 a.m.

For Peace and Care of Creation

Requested by EcoAnselm

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

PAUSES FOR MARCH BREAK

Our drop-in program during the 11am Sunday Mass will welcome children currently in JK, SK or Grade 1 to join our leaders in the parish hall once again next Sunday, March 23rd.

BUNDLE UP WEEKEND COMING MAY 10 & 11

St. Vincent de Paul's Bundle Up truck will be in the church parking lot on **May 10 & 11** to accept your gently used clothing, shoes and textiles such as towels and bedding. Please keep the collection in mind if you are organizing your home in preparation for spring.



This Wednesday, MARCH 19th is the **FEAST DAY OF SAINT JOSEPH**, husband of Mary Mother of God and beloved adoptive father of Jesus. "(7) A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child. Whenever a man accepts responsibility for the life of another, in some way he becomes a father to that person." https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html

As **PATRON SAINT OF FATHERS**, we pray to Saint Joseph that he may protect our Holy Father Pope Francis, Father Tom, Father Dave, Deacon Dan and **ALL FATHERS** of our parish. As patron saint of **CANADA**, we pray to Saint Joseph for the protection of our country, our natural resources, our leaders, homes and families. May his loyalty, courage & faith guide us. Father Joseph of Saint Jude parish shares his reflection (9/15/2023), that intentionality is the "first key to growth". We start by making it "a goal". Father Joseph discusses five specific areas of goal-setting. The goals we strive to achieve during **LENT** can lead us to lasting, impactful, spiritual and practical changes. Watch for suggestions from EcoAnselm as we progress together through Lent – a time of **RENEWAL** and **HOPE**. <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/New-Beginnings---9-15-2023.html?soid=1133232330998&aid=rfrq26xQhYo>



Support St. Anselm's Parish

Please consider supporting the parish by making a one-time or monthly donation. Simply scan this QR code with your phone to contribute.

Tax receipts for one-time or monthly donations will be issued.



Thank you for supporting our parish!



SCAN ME

SHARELIFE 2025 PARISH CAMPAIGN

You extend the hands of Christ to those in need

ShareLife Sunday is March 30. Our parish goal for this year's campaign is \$86,500.

Through your support of ShareLife, you extend the hands of Christ to those in need: the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalized in our community. Because you care, more than 40 agencies provide strength to people of all ages in their weakest moments. You've been there for young parents as they worried about their next meal, isolated seniors yearning for companionship, teenagers seeking guidance in a confusing world, refugees longing to

rebuild their lives, and people with special needs striving for dignity and acceptance. Thank you for living the Gospel through your compassion.

Our parish goal this year is \$86,500. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

SCRUTINIES

The parish of St. Anselm will welcome several new members to the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil this year. In preparation for Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist, these elect will celebrate the 3 Scrutinies during the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent. The readings for these 3 weekend celebrations will be taken from the A cycle readings provided in your missalettes. The Scrutinies are rites for self-searching and repentance and have above all a spiritual purpose. They are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life. Let us continue to pray with the elect as they take these final steps in their preparation to join us at the table of the Word and the table of the Eucharist.

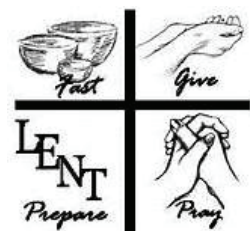
Gen 15:5-12, 17-18

Psalm 27

Phil 3:17-4:1

Luke 9:28-36

I am your God and you are my people...



The readings this Sunday talk about God's "covenant" with human beings, offered not once but many times. It is an agreement that we have sometimes kept. The great covenant offer fits into just eleven words. "I will be your God and

you will be my people." God promises to love us greatly and in return we pledge to love God above all things. Originally, our first parents had such a relationship with God in the Garden of Eden. But God had given free will to them and he watched with anguish as this same free will rejected his love. God toiled to re-establish the covenant agreement. After many such refusals, he singled out a paltry old nomadic man named Abram and said to him, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." What is Abram's reaction? Abram put his faith in the Lord. God credited it to him as an act of "righteousness." God credits Abram with desiring to receive the offered love ("I will be your God") and in return putting his faith in the Lord ("you will be my people"). Abram was ratifying the agreement. An ancient sacrificial cult then took place. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him. Fire appeared among the animals that Abram had slain.

God spoke, promising a homeland—the "promised land"—to Abram and his descendants. This offer symbolized God's half of the covenant. The other half was up to Abram and his wife Sara, because covenants are two-way relationships. The two had a son at last in their extreme old age. Good! But the son's descendants sometimes kept the covenant and sometimes did not. As time went by, the famous covenant was forgotten and ignored.

When the time was right, God came up with a brilliant solution. Instead of offering love just from on high, he would himself take shape on earth as Jesus—the Messiah, the Christ. Jesus was to actually become the very love that God had offered for so many centuries. And since he was completely a human being, he was also at the same time the people's loving response. As God and man he was able to fulfill both halves of the covenant! The Transfiguration in Sunday's Gospel seems modeled on a covenant ceremony! Jesus is transformed, his clothes dazzling as fire—a counterpart to the fire in the First Reading. Just as with Abram, terrifying darkness closes in. Within the darkness, God's voice repeats the premise of the new covenant. "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him." In the cross and resurrection the covenant is finally fulfilled on both sides, the Godly one and the human one. We no longer have to offer sacrifices to make good on a covenant. We have only to let ourselves be joined to Jesus who has accomplished our covenantal response to the Father. How do we do this? In Baptism we began it. We continue in each Mass, each communion we receive. We say "Amen" to the covenant so many times broken but now established in Jesus forever as the "new and everlasting covenant." Today's liturgy is about restoring our sight so that we can "see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living." The disciples saw "the bounty of the Lord" on the mountaintop. They witnessed the dazzling glory of Jesus shining in the company of Moses and Elijah, the glory of the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. Abraham had also stood in the presence of the Lord, and he had been overwhelmed by a terrifying darkness pierced by the bright light of a smoking brazier and a flaming torch. The road from Abraham's encounter with God to the disciples' encounter with God was a long one. Lent is an acting-out of the long road from the covenant to its fulfillment. It is our public proclamation that we are a people who "eagerly await the coming of our saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ." We recognize that "we have our citizenship in heaven," but in the meantime we exercise our citizenship on earth for the coming of the kingdom of God. We purge ourselves of our self-reliance, our thirst for power, and our preoccupation with self-interest, sacrificing and praying that God might "deliver Israel from all her distress."

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