

# ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

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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

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 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

Allen Thornley

Requested by Ken and Lorraine Ware

Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

Hu Gue Foy

Requested by Michelle Chue and Family

Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 8:15 a.m.

For the Deceased Members of the Aust Family

Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.

For the Faithful Departed

Requested by a Parishioner

**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.

Thank you for heeding the Lord's call to feed the hungry. For many children, the snacks and meals they receive in school may be the only nutritious food they eat all day. Studies show that children can't learn and thrive when they are hungry. Thanks to you, \$750,000 in Food Security Grants are making a difference across our community. Students receive the nourishment they deserve, and parents are supported in the process. The FoodShare program at ShareLife-funded agency Rosalie Hall "is a lifeline for families," says their Executive Director, Jane Kenny. "It helps parents provide food for their children, reduces their stress, and allows them to focus on being the best parents they can be."

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate)

Please visit <https://sharelife.org/impact/> to learn more about how your faithful generosity has served as a guiding light to our brothers and sisters in need.

**LENTEN DAY OF CONFESSIONS**

This Lenten season, parishes in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be holding a Day of Confessions between March 30 and April 5.

At St. Anselm, our Day of Confessions will be **Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**. The times are as follows:

**9:30 - 10:30am**

**2:00 - 3:00pm**

**5:00 - 6:00pm**

For dates and times of neighbouring churches, please visit [www.archtoronto.org/confession](http://www.archtoronto.org/confession)



**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**



**Tipping Points in Social Convention**

We know from social scientists that the "tipping point" at which a new way of thinking or behaving starts to become a "social norm" occurs when **ONLY 25% of a given population supports the change. THINK ABOUT IT.** It would take only 25% of Saint Anselm parishioners to increase their mindfulness and intentionality on behalf of eco-care, to trigger an impactful change in established behaviours of neglect. **If ONE in every four parishioners chooses to respond to the call of Pope Francis to care for "our common home", we will have reached the critical mass required to establish new social behaviours.** EcoAnselm believes that our parish **CAN reach, even exceed, 25% of parishioners proactively caring about creation.** Each parishioner is invited to make **ONE commitment to Caring for Creation.** Cards are supplied near the EcoWall in the Millwood lobby. We invite you to discern **ONE commitment** that you and/or your family can make to greater eco-care. **Print your commitment on one of the cards and post it on the designated board. (Entirely optional to include a first name)** **Be among the FIRST 25% of positive difference-makers! Together, let's plant**

seeds of hope on this Lenten pilgrimage of reconciliation, renewal and grace. For ideas, check out “Eco Lent: 16 ways to help the environment during Lent.” <https://www.pawprint.eco/eco-blog/ways-help-environment-during-lent>

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### 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Exodus 17:3-7**

**Psalm 95**

**Rom 5:1-2, 5-8**

**John 4:5-42**

### **Do Not Harden Your Hearts**



When the student is ready, the teacher will come. Our student, a Samaritan woman of ill repute, is ready. Life has hollowed her out and broken her open. She draws water from Jacob's Well at midday to avoid judgmental stares and wagging tongues. Ironically, her great yearning for love has alienated her from herself and others. She is a woman ashamed, unclean, an outcast, a failure; she is a woman ready to learn. When Jesus sees her, he knows her but chooses not to dwell on past mistakes, instead focusing on the very yearning that has brought her to this place. She is hungry for a life-giving relationship; Jesus offers just that. Remarkably, she recognizes this sacred gift. Almost despite herself, this Samaritan woman, until now a poster child for dysfunctional relationship, has become our teacher and guide.

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This weekend we celebrate the first scrutiny. Candidates come before us praying for the spirit of repentance, an understanding of sin and the experience of the true freedom of the children of God. What better teacher than our sinner-turned-saint? Driven by a seemingly unquenchable loneliness, she is intimately acquainted with sin — the sin that promises

relief from unbearable pain only to cast the unsuspecting soul into an even deeper abyss. Repentant, she experiences the true freedom of the children of God. What steps must we take to reach freedom? Humility is key. God is Creator and we are creatures. Before we engage in conversation with the Divine, it is important to acknowledge and accept our rightful place. The Samaritan woman begins by acknowledging her relationship with the man before her. “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” Once engaged in conversation, she acknowledges her ancestor Jacob, proclaims her belief in a Messiah and questions how to worship in spirit and in truth. She confesses her many transgressions and recognizes that she is in relationship with the Divine. Filled with awe, she runs to spread this very good news.

Knowing our spiritual past and trusting in salvation are both essential aspects of a vibrant spiritual life. Our elect, thirsting for the waters of Baptism, know this. Like the Samaritan woman, they are learning to worship in spirit and in truth. We all must do the same. Perhaps it is in her confession of sins that the Samaritan woman teaches us the most. Jesus embraces her simple, honest statement of truth: “I have no husband.” A laundry list of her many transgressions is not required. This is an important realization. Confession, so often experienced as an onerous burden, is intended to be an intimate, healing exchange. Once the woman has spoken her truth, the scales are removed from her eyes and she sees Jesus as the Messiah — *her* Messiah. Dare we believe that the same could happen to us? “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.” Do we have the courage to hear these words? And once in relationship with Jesus, do we have the wisdom to go and tell others the good news? It is both our right and our responsibility. It took the woman at the well a lifetime to come to this moment of revelation. We are no different. Sometimes we are in true relationship with the Divine; other times we are not and this is part of the human condition. When we need help getting back on track, she is there to teach us. Each Lent, when the community is fortunate to be welcoming candidates who are thirsty for God and for Jesus' living water in Baptism, the woman at the well offers her experience as a teachable moment. She invites us to remember our thirst for God and our need for renewal and cleansing. She, who tasted what Jesus had to offer and was forever changed by him, challenges each of us to be similarly willing to drink deep from the wellspring of the word and let it lead us where it may. **For the church, that we may be a source of living water for all who thirst for meaning and purpose in their lives...Lord, in your mercy...**



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