

ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

1 MacNaughton Road, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3H3

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Email: stanselmsto@archtoronto.org 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.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday - Friday: 8:15 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – noon;
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.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.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Helping neighbours in need

St. Anselm's School

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

Mass for Intentions Week

Tuesday, December 16th, 8:15 a.m.

Jo Kostovcik

Requested by Mel Kostovcik

Wednesday, December 17th, 8:15 a.m.

In Thanksgiving

Requested by a Parishioner

Thursday, December 18th, 8:15 a.m.

For the Deceased Members of the Aust Family

Friday, December 19th, 8:15 a.m.

For Peace and Care of Creation

Requested by EcoAnselm



EcoAnselm

"A Minute of Prayer, a Moment of PEACE"

On **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21st**, please join EcoAnselm and other parishioners to share "One Minute of Silent Prayer for Peace". EcoA hopes to offer this Moment of Peace at the beginning of each changing season as a way of signifying our connection to Creation. We will gather in front of Our Lady of Peace following the 11:00 mass. "Let there be peace on earth, and may it begin with me" (Global Peace Wave, UN Int. Day of Peace, 2025).

Our "Open your Eyes and Hearts to Advent" parish-wide campaign to collect eyeglasses for CLERC continues until Sunday, Dec 14th. EACH pair of eyeglasses that has been donated means that one person somewhere will be receiving the gift of improved vision along with the caring of others. Thank you!

IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION

Any donations received in the parish office by **noon** on December 31, 2025 will be credited toward your 2025 charitable donation tax receipt.

Donations received after that time (*including at the 5pm Vigil Mass* that evening) will be considered 2026 donations. In accordance with CRA regulations, donations submitted by mail must be postmarked by Canada Post by December 31, 2025 to be eligible for a 2025 tax receipt.

New to St. Anselm's Parish? We invite you to register with us by completing a green parish registration card from the glass table at the entrance to the church.

ADVENT DAY OF CONFESSIONS – DECEMBER 16

In the Archdiocese of Toronto, the Advent Week of Confessions will take place at various parishes from December 14-20.

At St. Anselm, our Day of Confessions will be **Tuesday, December 16th** at the following times:

9:30-10:30am; 2:00-3:00pm; 5:00-6:00pm

For a list of other locations offering different dates and times, visit <https://www.archtoronto.org/confession>

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Nativity of the Lord

Wednesday, December 24th

4:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

(6:30 p.m. Carols with the Choir)

Thursday, December 25th

9:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 27th

5:00pm

Sunday, December 28th

9:00am

11:00am

Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday, December 31st

5:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 1st

11:00 a.m.

**** There is no 8:15am morning Mass on December 24th, 25th, 26th, 31st & January 1st**

GOOD SHEPHERD CASSEROLES – GROUP "B"

Group B casseroles for the Good Shepherd Refuge "Provide a Meal" program will be collected next **Saturday, December 20th from 4-5pm** in the church parking lot. Please call the parish office or email Yvonne.gray@bell.net if you need to drop off your casserole during the week.

Transformation and Salvation



We tend to think that the trial of Jesus happened only at the end of his life before the rulers of the people, Pilate and Herod. In reality, Jesus was on trial for the entirety of his earthly mission. Every time he did or said something it raised

implicit questions from “Who does he think he is?” to “Is this the one to come?” One’s response to those questions depended on two basic sources for discernment: the religious tradition of Israel and the openness of each individual to accept or reject the challenge of Jesus’ person and message. Just as today, in the days of John the Baptist the scriptural tradition could be read in multiple ways. Then as now there was a strong temptation to choose texts to prove one’s own point of view. John had appeared on the scene as an apocalyptic preacher who predicted that the one to come would arrive with axe and torch in hand to cut down and burn the rotten wood of Israel. After John had been arrested for his prophetic activities, his disciples told him how Jesus was going around preaching: unarmed and disarming. It’s hard to imagine the faith crisis John was going through. He probably didn’t worry too much about his own life; after all, he had known what he was risking when he spoke out against Herod. But he was surely concerned about his mission and message. Was Jesus really the one he had been called to herald? If so, where was the action? Where was the fire? John sent his disciples to ask Jesus to testify: “Are you the one who is to come or should we look for another?” Jesus tended to avoid that sort of question; it was too tied up with each person’s definition of a messiah. Turning the question back on them, Jesus told John’s disciples to look at what they had seen and heard in his presence: “Judge for yourselves. What kind of activity demonstrates God’s presence?” John had been described as a paragon of austerity. Nobody questioned his integrity, but few wanted to live exactly as he did. His lifestyle of fast and abstinence was harsh, reflecting his concept of God. Jesus, on the other hand, was criticized for eating and drinking, for mixing with all manner of folk. That mirrored his experience of God. Little wonder that John’s primary sacrament was a baptism of repentance while Jesus’ was a communion feast. When John’s disciples came to Jesus, their ears were still ringing with John’s favorite selections from the prophets, phrases like the ones found in chapter one of Isaiah: “An ass knows its master’s manger; but Israel does not know her maker ... They have forsaken the Lord! ... Wash yourselves clean!” John preached from a perspective that recognized sin with great clarity. Jesus, steeped in the very same prophets, drew the good news from the prophets. Rather than focusing on sin and punishment he preached and demonstrated God’s offer of salvation. Responding to John’s disciples, Jesus gave evidence from his works rather than words. Wherever he encountered people, the result was transformation: the blind saw, the deaf heard, people were restored to the fullness of their humanity in a community of love.

The Third Sunday of Advent is called **Gaudete**

Sunday, a day of rejoicing. It is a time to rejoice in who God is. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew. That might be a modern rendition of the message Jesus gave to John’s disciples. What does the salvation we hope to see look like? Are we waiting for the decimation of our evil enemies or do we long for the transformation of sinners – including ourselves? The second option is much costlier. It requires real love to hope for the transformative salvation of those who have done us harm, and it requires humble courage to look for our own conversion. Gaudete Sunday invites us to rejoice in all that is good around us. It challenges us to recognize the presence of God in everything that promotes freedom and communion. The more we participate in Jesus’ work of transformation, the more we will understand that we have encountered God with us-Emmanuel.

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR...

As snow accumulates in the area, we once again bring to your attention the “**NO PARKING**” signs on the east (church) side of Macnaughton Rd. Not only is it illegal to park on this side of the road (without a disabled permit), it is also an inconvenience and danger for our neighbours on the west side of the street, who often cannot safely back out of their own driveway. The snow that piles up all winter can make it that much harder. Please leave enough time to arrive and park on the signed side of the streets surrounding the church or in the adjacent school yard.

NEW ONE-TIME DONATION OPTION - TIPTAP

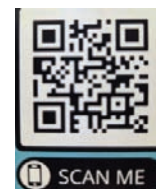
Register in the Millwood lobby after Mass this weekend to receive your **TAX RECEIPT**.

ST. ANSELM’S NEEDS YOU & WE NEED

ST. ANSELM’S!

Our Current Donations are not enough to keep the lights on!

Making Monthly Online donations gives St. Anselm’s stable income to maintain our place of Faith. **After Mass**, join our Volunteers at the tables at the back of the Church. They will show you how easy it is to sign up for **MONTHLY GIVING** by credit card or automatic bank withdrawals. This is the **BEST** way to help our Parish **NOW!**



HAVE YOU MOVED? LET US KNOW!

Accurate parish database records are important for record-keeping as well as for keeping in touch. If you have moved, changed email addresses or phone numbers, please take a moment before the end of the year and let us know so that we may update our records prior to printing tax receipts early in the new year.

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