

# 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.

## 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, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.**

Jean Stovell

Requested by the Family

**Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.**

Nicola Pierni

Requested by the Family

**Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.**

For the Deceased Members of the Aust Family

**Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m.**

For the Intentions of the Lavoie Family

Requested by Paul and Patricia Kennedy

***St. Vincent de Paul is looking for gently used winter coats/gloves for a girl, size 12-14; and boy size 14. If you can help with this, please call the parish office at 416-485-1792.***

## LENTEN BOOK CLUB WITH FR. TOM

All are welcome to join our next book club. Meeting dates are Tuesday mornings, **February 24<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup>, from 10-11am.** This time around, we will be discussing the novel "Wicked" by Gregory Maguire (not the same as the musical!)

***If you are interested in participating, please let the parish office know by phone (416-485-1792) or email [stanstelmsto@archtoronto.org](mailto:stanstelmsto@archtoronto.org)***

Location will depend on the number of participants and will be announced closer to the start date.

*you're*  
**INVITED**

**"Cake, Coffee and an Abundance of Gratitude"**

**On SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8<sup>th</sup>,**  
following the 11:00 Mass, we will be celebrating the "Inauguration of the Elevator and Re-Opening of the Parish Hall". Please join and share in celebrating our community gathering space.

## Celebration of Marriage Mass with Bishop John Boissonneau – February 8, 2:30pm

As part of Marriage Sunday 2026 celebrations, Bishop John Boissonneau will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2026. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on **Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica** (65 Bond St., Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass.

All are welcome to attend. Reserved seating is available for couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversary in 2026. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass.

**Registration** and other important information can be found at [www.archtoronto.org/marriage](http://www.archtoronto.org/marriage).

## GOOD SHEPHERD CASSEROLES – GROUP "B"

Group B casseroles for the Good Shepherd Refuge "Provide a Meal" program will be collected **Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> from 4-5pm** in the church parking lot.



**EcoAnselm**

## UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL YEARS 2026

"Through dedicated International Years, the United Nations invites governments, communities, and individuals to **LEARN, ENGAGE and ACT** for people and the planet." For 2026, the United Nations has selected "three vital themes that shape lives, livelihoods and ecosystems around the world".

The selected three-fold 2026 focus includes:

- Rangelands & Pastoralists
- Volunteers for Sustainable Development
- The Woman Farmer

"Each observance highlights an essential yet often overlooked contributor to sustainable development" (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 2026) Learn more about each 'International Year 2026' by viewing the Board displayed on the EcoWall in the Millwood Lobby. Please also refer to this insightful website:

<https://unric.org/en/un-international-years-2026-rangelands-and-pastoralists-volunteers-and-the-woman-farmer/>

**Isa 9:1-4**  
**Psalm 27**

**1Cor 1:10-13, 17-18**  
**Matt 4:12-23**

**ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS**



At first glance, our reading from Isaiah seems to come about a month late. Hearing that prophecy during today's liturgy reminds us that the light, as John says, shone in the darkness that vainly tried to overcome it. Today we remember both the light and the cost and joys of sharing it. Isaiah addressed people who were forced from their

homeland, people whose shared suffering created shared hopelessness, who were figuratively or literally blinded to the possibility of a better future. Matthew's description of Jesus' first foray into public ministry makes important points in just a few verses. First of all, citing Isaiah reminds the readers that Jesus' work of salvation is as deeply rooted as God's involvement with humanity. But the fulfillment of prophecy may not be the main message these readings offer us today. We have an unexpected key to understanding today's scriptures in Paul's letter to the Corinthians. Throughout the letter, Paul expresses his exasperation with this community that he himself founded. Today we hear about conflicts among them based not on activities but on their adherence to different ideologies. Proving that the tendency to argue over ideas rather than put Christianity into action is as old as the Gospel itself, the Corinthians were divided into competing camps that Paul characterized as being with Apollos, Peter (Cephas) or himself, with only some claiming that their primary allegiance was to Christ. His priority was on living: how the people treated one another and how their community gave witness to the world of a new way of living — a way of life that clearly proclaimed the message of the cross.

When we come to the Gospel, Matthew recounts the call of the first disciples. Instead of acting like a rabbi who would allow followers to choose him, Jesus used the practice of people who wanted to settle a dispute or promote their own cause: He went out and called others to join with him in making his case. His invitation to become fishers of people called for a total transformation. His followers would no longer be merchants gaining something for themselves; they would offer their services for the life of all others who might get caught up in Jesus' cause, the reign of God that was being fulfilled in the proclamation he put into action through his healing activity. When we hear

these readings during the first month of 2026, we are invited to remember our baptismal call and ask ourselves what tendencies promote or hinder our living it out. We begin by remembering that the faith we profess is not our own work. We are the recipients of ancient traditions that have brought us into contact with God's great love for humanity. This is not our doing, but God's. As we recall that our faith has its origin in God's own life and love for creation, we also remember that we have faith, not for our honour and glory or even our own salvation, but to spread it as a light - a light offered especially to those who are undergoing experiences of darkness. Hearing Isaiah moves us to ask who, like the exiles of his time, is currently displaced, overburdened or blind with despair. When we have identified our brothers and sisters most in need of the light of God's love, when we listen to their cry, we have begun to hear Jesus' call. That, of course, is not yet the beginning of real discipleship. Discipleship, the spreading of Christ's light, only happens when we are willing to follow Paul's admonitions and leave behind every political or ecclesial position that hinders or prevents us from acting with others on behalf of people in need. We may not be able to leave behind our occupations, the nets and boats necessary to sustain daily life, but we can accept the grace of being freed from the encumbrance of our viewpoints, the ideologies and prejudices that prevent us from joining together with everyone else called to proclaim the kingdom of God in deed, and then, if necessary, in word.

***Did You Know...putting what we do during the Introductory Rites into action for the rest of the week...*** These rites lead us into a transition from the me who walked into the Church doors to the we who gather together to offer praise and glory to God. How do we take what we are doing into the rest of the week? Perhaps we could begin by joyfully acknowledging those we meet with a warm smile, a friendly nod of the head or a spoken greeting? What would happen if we extended hospitality and respect to those who surround us at work, on the street or in our homes and communities? Could we find opportunities to partner or support others? Have we thought about reaching out to those who are lonely or advocate for those who are marginalized? What about looking for things we have in common with one another and not the differences that pull us apart or using social media to build up community rather than tear others down with our negativity? What actions resonate with you in the here and now? Next Week – The Penitential Act!



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