

ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

1 MacNaughton Road, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3H3

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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, January 23rd, 8:15 a.m.
For the Deceased Members of the Aust Family

Wednesday, January 24th, 8:15 a.m.
Richard Ryan
Requested by Theresa Ryan

Thursday, January 25th, 8:15 a.m.
Jean Stovell
Requested by the Family

Friday, January 26th, 8:15 a.m.
Peace and Care of Creation
Requested by EcoAnselm

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The Spirit is Alive

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year will soon be underway!

Kindergarten registration will begin on **Wednesday, January 24th** at 10:00am. Should you have any questions on eligibility for registration, please contact your local Catholic school or visit www.tcdsb.org for detailed information. You may also contact the TCDSB with any questions:

BY Email: admissions.registration@tcdsb.org
BY Phone: 416-222-8282 ext. 5320

CASSEROLES GROUP "B"

Casseroles for the Good Shepherd Refuge (Group B) will be collected on Saturday, February 17th from 4:00-5:00pm in the church parking lot.

Celebration of Marriage Mass with Archbishop Francis Leo – February 11, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

As part of Marriage Sunday 2024 celebrations, Archbishop Francis Leo 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 2024. The Mass will take place at **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 11, 2024** at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass.

All are welcome to attend. Couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversary in 2024 may register for reserved seating. 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. For questions, please email formation@archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3400 ext. 523.



New Year - New Attitude

"206. Purchasing is always a moral – and not simply economic – act". Laudate Si [146]

EVERY shopping choice is a declaration of the products we want, the production practices we accept, and the levels of protection we demand for vital resources.

"206. A change in lifestyle could bring healthy pressure to bear on those who wield political, economic, and social power. This is what consumer movements accomplish by boycotting certain products. They prove successful in changing the way businesses operate, forcing them to consider their environmental footprint and their patterns of production. When social pressure affects their earnings, businesses clearly must find ways to produce differently. This shows us the great need for a sense of social responsibility on the part of consumers."

"... Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home. Here I want to recognize, encourage, and thank all those striving in countless ways to guarantee the protection of the home which we share." (Pope Francis, LS 13)

REQUEST FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

St. Vincent de Paul welcomes gently used winter apparel for newcomers to Canada. In particular, size 9 ½ or 10 men's winter boots would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any winter coats/accessories/boots, please contact the parish office to arrange drop-off, or you may bring them to Mass on the weekend. Thank you!

Jon 3:1-5, 10
1 Cor 7:29-31

Ps 25
Mark 1:14-20

Reflection on the Book of Jonah



According to Webster, “Satire is the use of humour, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and criticize people’s stupidity and vices.” Were it written in my lifetime, the book of Jonah probably would

have first appeared in *MAD* magazine, or as a Monty Python skit. As with all satire, no one would have taken it literally. Everyone knows people can’t run away from God and that fish don’t swallow people or thinks that all Assyrians once accepted Yahweh as their God. The theological question doesn’t revolve around the story’s humour, irony, exaggeration or ridicule; it’s centred in the stupidity and vices present in the ancient Jews for whom this book was originally composed. Like many followers of God, our ancestors in the faith fell into the trap of creating mental images of the divine being with whom they related. They might not have known what Yahweh looked like, but they were fairly certain of God’s behaviour patterns. They were convinced their God should and would act in predictable ways. Yahweh’s personality was predetermined, leaving little or no room for change; no differences to discover. This is the vice the author of Jonah satirically attacked.

The fictional character Jonah represents those Jews who have squeezed Yahweh into their mental box yet are forced constantly to deal with Yahweh’s successful escape attempts. How do you relate to a God who refuses to stay imprisoned in our ideas of God? The confused prophet employs this “uncontrollable God” defense for trying to flee to Tarshish after Yahweh originally sent him to Nineveh. “I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love” (4:2). In other words, “I was certain that after I proclaimed the destruction of the city, you’d change your mind and I’d be left holding the bag.”

That’s exactly what happened. Contrary to popular opinion, Yahweh didn’t send Jonah to Nineveh with a message of repentance; he sent

him with a message of destruction: “Forty days more and Nineveh shall be overthrown.” The city’s citizens are advised not to invest in any long-term life insurance. Only when the Assyrians unexpectedly repent does Yahweh also “change his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them and he did not do it.” Nothing is more devastating for a prophet than to have God change the word the prophet had originally been commanded to deliver. It’s also devastating to us non-prophets to have God change God’s word. We can easily identify with Jonah. If we followers of God can’t depend on God’s word, on what can we depend? Professor of Old Testament Hans Walter Wolff dealt with this dilemma in just one profound statement: “God doesn’t have to be faithful to God’s word as long as God is faithful to God’s people.” In our dealings with God, relationships always trump words.

I imagine that all of us, at times, have had to change our words to others, forced to do so for the sake of maintaining a meaningful, life-giving relationship. Yahweh is no different. If we’re really serious about relating to God, we’re forced to provide God with room to change and evolve as our relationship changes and evolves. Our sacred authors believed that God is not some static force in the universe, always restricted to do the same things in the same ways, someone we once learned about by reading a catechism and whose personality has always stayed the same — a personality created in our youth. They were committed to helping their communities fall in love with the person of Yahweh, not with a predetermined image of Yahweh, no matter the problems such a relationship entailed. The Jonahs among us might have to encounter a few more big fish before we’re forced to admit that God never fits into the box our minds have tried to create. Then again, if Yahweh can repent, there’s always hope for us.

Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre Invites Cancer Patients and Caregivers to a Day of Retreat To Experience God’s Healing Love

Saturday, February 17, 2024
Registration 8:30 am Cost: \$45.00
Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre, 1617 Blythe Road, Mississauga
For more information, please contact: Jean at 905-278-5229 or office@qoa.c

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