

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, February 20th, 8:15 a.m.

Rosa Loconte

Requested by the Family

Wednesday, February 21st, 8:15 a.m.

Mary Kostovcik

Requested by Mel Kostovcik

Thursday, February 22nd, 8:15 a.m.

Alison Carter

Requested by the Benczkowski Family

Friday, February 23rd, 8:15 a.m.

Salvatore and Rosaria Buffa

Requested by the Family



LENT 2024 (Feb 14 to March 28)

In forming your LENTEN commitments, consider reading: 'Ten Rules for Ecological Discernment'. "It happens to us all too often: you know what the right thing to do is, but you still do not act on it, as if there is short circuit between head and hands. This is certainly true of ecological transition, the social and economic shift towards sustainability that is needed in our lives."

<https://www.theway.org.uk/back/584/Ceyssens.pdf>

Lent offers a faith-based opportunity for practising personal ecological discernment and for committing to necessary environmentally-friendly choices. Pope Francis promotes integral ecology which, "in essence, requires denouncing and converting from a "culture of waste" in which people and the planet are not treated according to God's plan. Integral ecology requires a cultural and spiritual conversion built on a "culture of encounter". It underlines how relationships should be based on an attitude of caring for one's common home; one's brothers and sisters; and one's relationship with God, the creator."

<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2019/09/20/pope-francis-promotes-integral-ecology-combat-culture-waste>

PANCAKE SUPPER – THANK YOU!

Thank you to our organizers, volunteers and all who attended our parish pancake supper last Tuesday! A wonderful time was had by all.

A special thanks to our friends at the neighbourhood **Valu-mart (1500 Bayview Ave.)** for their generous donation of sausages for our event.

THE SPIRITUALITY OF STEWARDSHIP

As we read the account of Jesus' temptation in the desert, we should realize that we too have to fight temptations. When temptations come our way we must intentionally distance ourselves from the source of temptation and pray for strength. This Lent, let us begin to run away from occasions of sin and fill ourselves with good things from God instead which will slowly help us grow in holiness.

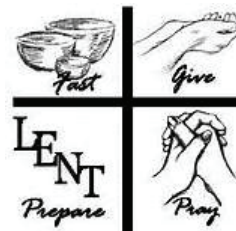
Gen 9:8-15

1 Pet 3:18-22

Psalm 25

Mark 1:12-15

REPENT AND BELIEVE



Matthew and Luke have provided the Christian community with more detailed and perhaps more memorable accounts of the temptation of Jesus. Nevertheless, Mark wrote first, and for reasons of his own, he told of this event with an astonishing brevity. Although brief, Mark's account presents three major themes that were rooted in the richest traditions of the Hebrew scriptures. From the outset, the first evangelist clarified that in all that Jesus experienced, he was accompanied by the very Spirit of God. Having come upon him in the form of a dove at his baptism, the Spirit literally drove Jesus into the wilderness. By using the same verb that described Jesus' casting or driving out demons, Mark underscored the importance of the Spirit's role in accompanying Jesus into the wilderness. Important for Israel, important for John the Baptizer, the wilderness would be the place of Jesus' testing as well as the place where, later, he would seek refuge with God apart from the crowds. In every instance, the Spirit would be with Jesus to inspire and to guide him.

Second of the three themes is the reference to the 40 days of testing. Throughout the scriptures, the number 40 figured significantly in several important biblical accounts — the 40-day flood, Israel's 40 years in the desert, Elijah's foray into the desert. In all these stories, God is featured as one who protects and

preserves life even in the midst of danger. To mention the 40 days in reference to Jesus' temptation suggests to readers that the presence and power of God was always with Jesus. Encouraged by this affirmation, believers are encouraged to rely on the same presence and power of God in their own struggles with evil and weakness.

Finally, the mention of the wild beasts and the protective angels further affirms the constant caring of God for the Son, who was sent into the world to save sinners. Jesus' encounter with evil and danger here, at the very outset of his earthly mission, offers a prelude to the struggle he will accept and endure for the sake of others. That struggle began immediately after Jesus emerged from his wilderness experience. Announcing the kingdom and calling for repentance and belief, Jesus went forth to confront and overcome evil wherever and in whomever he found it. Jesus' struggle against evil would end in victory only on the cross, thereby attesting to the Marcan characterization of him as the suffering Savior of sinners, the one who holds out strength to each of us and invites our trust and hope.

What Jesus learns in the desert will be played out in the longer narrative of his messianic call – Baptism, discernment, full ministry, confrontation, suffering and death. This is God's plan and he will carry it out. Lent is our time to figure it out. Where are we in our own salvation? At what stage of growth and awareness are we in as we pursue human ambitions, use our gifts to succeed? Has the Spirit disturbed our lives yet, taken us deeper into the identity that will give meaning and purpose to our lives? Has our baptism made a difference? Have we calculated the cost of discipleship? Has suffering touched us sufficiently to force our priorities into view, made us choose the narrow path that leads to life in relationship with others, responsibility for others? This is the ordinary drama of every Christian life, the quiet, daily sorting-out of options that define us and direct us first inward, then outward, teaching us to feel the graces at work, the strength of good habits, the value of honesty and dependability. It slowly adds up to a holiness that exceeds our own efforts. It is the Holy Spirit with us, within us, whispering, "This way." "That way." "Be patient." "Act now." Jesus begins his public ministry with the words, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent and believe in the good news." Perhaps we heard these words when we received ashes on Ash Wednesday. Jesus is speaking to all of us. Now is the time to renew our baptism and commit to some quiet time with Jesus in the desert. Will this Lent be the start of a new chapter in our personal story that will bring us closer to God and truer to who we really are?

SHARELIFE

Support our vulnerable youth through ShareLife

In this time of Lent, we ask you to think of our brothers and sisters in need – especially our vulnerable youth who call the streets their home.

"Your gift ensures youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness have access to individualized support and variety of programs and services to meet their complex and diverse needs," says Mark Aston of Covenant House Toronto. "With your caring support, youth have a safe space to turn to and a supportive team to help them plan their own path."

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

SAVE THE DATE – for our anointing of the sick which will take place during the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, March 2nd. More details to follow in the next bulletin...

2024 CCCB "JOURNEY THROUGH LENT" SERIES

This year's videos are now available to view by visiting cccb.ca

FREE CATHOLIC ESTATE PLANNING WEBINAR

Saturday, February 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Learn:

- **How to avoid problems:** in your Will, in the Powers of Attorney, and through proper Estate Trustee selection
- **How to create your own legacy**
- **About our Catholic traditions around cremation, burials and funerals**

3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

1. scan this QR code:

2. follow this QR link:

<https://QRCO.de/WebFeb24>

3. send an email to:

Development@ArchToronto.org and write

"webinar February 24" in the title line +

your name(s) in the body of the message.



BOOK CLUB FOR LENT

The next book club will meet twice – Tuesday, February 27th and Tuesday, March 5th at 10:00am in the church. We will be discussing the play "Doubt" by John Patrick Shanley.

To join, please call or email the parish office.

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