

St. Paul's Basilica Parish

Established in 1822

First Parish of the Archdiocese of Toronto

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Ontario M5A 3A8

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Pastor: Fr. Edward J. Smith

*"May the message of Christ, in all its fullness, continue to find
a home in you."*

Colossians 3:16

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Mass available

At the Good Shepherd Centre

412 Queen St. East

Tuesday to Friday 12:00 noon

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.

SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, FIRST COMMUNION, MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish to begin the
process of preparation

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Please call the parish office so that our
parishioners may receive communion
regularly.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Micheline Dutil, Principal

Phone: 416-393-5204

PARISH MINISTRIES

Sacramental Preparation

Breakfast Club

Children's Liturgy

Taize Prayer

Eucharistic Adoration

Choir

St. Vincent de Paul

Food Bank

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Intentions

Tuesday	Dec 15	12 noon	+ James Busby
Wednesday	Dec 16	12 noon	+ Mary Busby
Thursday	Dec 17	12 noon	+ Linda Butler
Friday	Dec 18	12 noon	+ Peter Shea
Saturday	Dec 19	4:30 p.m.	+ Mercedes C. Santos
Sunday	Dec 20	8:30 a.m.	AVAILABLE
		11:00 a.m.	AVAILABLE



THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNS FOR:
CAMERON SMOOK



Third Sunday of Advent

HOW AMAZING IT is to think that in today's second reading, Paul was actually writing from prison. While we may not know his exact circumstances, we can imagine that imprisonment in the first century undoubtedly meant horrible living conditions, likely in darkness, with very little to eat. In spite of this, however, Paul exudes a profound sense of joy and peace and gratitude in his Letter to the Philippians. How is that even possible?

It is possible because Paul knew to the very core of his being that God was with him, as real as the chains that bound him. Knowing that God was present sustained Paul and filled him with joy, even in the very midst of suffering.

God is just as real and as present in our world today as he was for Paul. In today's gospel, however, John the Baptist challenges us to make that presence known and felt in very concrete ways. Share everything you have, he tells us. Be fair and honest in everything you do. Be satisfied with what you have, not always grasping for more.

In less than two weeks, we celebrate the coming of Emmanuel. In a world much in need of joy and peace, our lives must be the witness that God is with us, here and now. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice!

THE YEAR OF MERCY

Pope Francis has proclaimed a Year of Mercy beginning on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2015 and concluding on Saturday, November 20, 2016.

Pope Francis states in his letter announcing the Jubilee of Mercy that this is to be a year allowing every person to encounter the Mercy of God. The Pope states that the most evident sign of this pastoral Year of Mercy is the opportunity to open A Door of Mercy in every Diocese. These Doors of Mercy are analogous to the Holy Doors of the Papal Basilicas in Rome. St. Paul's is one of the seven churches throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto that will have A Door of Mercy.

This weekend of December 12th and 13th at all the Masses, we will have a Special Ceremony opening our Door of Mercy.

Throughout the Year of Mercy, there will be opportunities to celebrate the mercy that only God the Father offers through His son Jesus.

Celebrate the Sacrament of Mercy on this week-ends December 12th/13th and 19th/20th. Fr. Ron Krafchik will be available before, during and after all the Masses on these weekends to celebrate the Sacrament of Mercy (Confession) with you.

Children's Liturgy

Every Sunday at the 11:00 A.M. Mass.



A HUGE THANK YOU

I want to thank all of our good people who have contributed to our Family of Faith Campaign. Your generosity is outstanding!! Together we have continued the very strong legacy established by so many other people of faith who have worshipped here at St. Paul's from one generation to the next and have given thanks to God for their blessings! Through our collective generosity we have raised to date \$509,208.00 If you have not contributed please call the parish office or see Fr. Smith.

Help to the Refugee Crisis

In response to the global refugee crisis, Cardinal Thomas Collins has launched "Project Hope" a special emergency appeal. This 100-day campaign aims to raise 3 million in order to settle 100 refugee families in the Archdiocese of Toronto as soon as possible. The effort will also require 100 volunteer committees to assist with settlement services. To make a donation to support the appeal visit: www.archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3411. You can also donate through our parish with a cheque made payable to *St. Paul's Basilica-Project Hope-Refugee Sponsorship*. We continue to pray for all those suffering, mindful of our call to welcome the stranger in our midst. Those interested in assisting by being a volunteer should contact the Office for Refugees at 647-780-0827.

Pauline Book & Media Fair

You are warmly invited to come to the Pauline Book & Media Fair that will be held at our Church this week-end before and after the scheduled Mass times. There will be an extensive selection of Catholic Bibles, books, Music CDs and DVD movies for all ages. You are certain to find something inspiring for yourself and others. Please stop by and show your support for the Sisters who this year celebrate their 100th Anniversary of Evangelization with the Media Communication.



CHRISTMAS MASS AT AT ST PAUL'S BASILICA

CHRISTMAS EVE:

4:30 P.M., 7:00 P.M. AND MIDNIGHT

CHRISTMAS EVE

CAROLING 4:00 P.M.

CAROLING 11:30 P.M.

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30 A.M. AND 11:00 A.M.

WE WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A BIG THANK- YOU FOR ALL INVOLVED FOR THE ADVENT CONCERTS

COMMUNITY LIFE

There will be coffee and snacks served after all St. Paul's masses on December 12th and 13th



Taize Prayer Ministry at St. Paul's
To be held Sunday January 17, 2016 at 3:30 P.M.
at St. Paul's

We are looking for help in the following areas:

- musicians
- readers
- greeters
- hospitality helpers

If you are interested in assisting us, please contact StPaulTaize@gmail.com

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