

St. Paul's Basilica Parish

Established in 1822

First Parish of the Archdiocese of Toronto

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Pastor: Fr. Edward J. Smith



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday December 17th

4:30 p.m.

Sunday December 18th

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

+Jose Faller

+Armando & Antonietta Tiano

+Oscar Guasch



THE SANCTUARY LIGHT BURNS FOR:
JOSE FALLER

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

By far, the best way to celebrate Christmas is to be with children. And we are so close to Christmas now that our children can barely contain their excitement!

Yet, before his marriage, poor Joseph could not have been very excited to hear that Mary was with a child. Sure, most fathers, when they learn their wife is expecting, can get a little bewildered, too. But Joseph felt that this was not the expected way to bring children into the world, and so he planned to dismiss Mary quietly from his life.

And then the unexpected happened to this bewildered man who was just looking to do the right thing. Divine intervention arrived in the form of a dream – complete with talking angels. This convinced Joseph that his plans had to change. Will the unexpected presence of God awaken us this Advent, and really change our lives as a result?

Advent is all about deeply living this exciting time of expectation, a precious time to prepare to change ourselves, our homes, and our hearts, for sharing. We have to remember that it was the Divine who initiated this sharing in the first Feast of the Incarnation, sending his Son to be the Saviour that our lives yearn for most. Emmanuel – “God with us!” Can we open our hearts to see the signs that “God is with us” today?

Joe Gunn, Ottawa, ON

CHILDREN'S LITURGY



Children's Liturgy for all children JK through to Grade 6 is **every Sunday at the 11:00am mass** from now until December 18th, and then will resume January 14, 2017. Please try to be on time as the children gather and go into their group at the beginning of mass. They will return to you at the offertory. Thank you to all of the volunteers who help in the program.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

St. Paul's is starting a children's choir!! We invite children of all ages to come to practice **after the 11am mass**. Practices will be 45 minutes with a snack provided. The goal is to have the children sing one song during the 11 am mass. The choir will not conflict with the children's liturgy or other ministries. If you have any questions please contact: st.pauls.childrens.choir@gmail.com

Please come join us for this wonderful opportunity!

"From my Life to Yours": An exhibit on the life of Father Luigi Giussani, founder of the Catholic lay movement, Communion and Liberation.

"Is it possible that faith is still relevant?"

Fr. Luigi Giussani lived his life answering this question.

Please join us in the parish hall on **Sunday December 18** after the 8:30am and 11am Masses.

For info please contact us via email at toronto@clonline.org / www.clonline.ca

Christmas and New Year Mass Times

Christmas Eve:	4:30pm, 8:00pm and 12 Midnight
Christmas Day:	8:30am and 11am
New Year:	Dec. 31st 4:30 pm
	Jan. 1st 8:30am and 11am

Mass Intentions

We continue the tradition at St. Paul's of inviting people to have Masses said for a special intention. Most often this is for someone who has died but it may be for someone who is ill or is marking a special birthday or anniversary. If someone wants that Mass on a certain day that can be arranged if the day is not already taken, or the Mass is said and you are given a card to give the family. There is a cost. Announced Masses, that is a Mass on a particular day is \$20.00 and an unannounced Mass is \$10.00. Having a Mass said is a great gift for someone who has everything

Band of Christian Brothers Men's Conference

On **February 18th** join **Fr. Larry Richards** and **Archbishop of Montreal Christian Lépine** for Serviam Ministries' 2nd annual **Band of Christian Brothers Men's Conference** at Canada Christian College in Toronto. The theme is "Step Up". The day will strengthen and challenge men to become the man God created them to be. Mass, Adoration and Confession will take place.

Special Father/Son rates available. All info and tickets: <https://www.serviamministries.com/events/step-up/>, info@ServiamMinistries.com or 1-888-522-2070.



Archdiocese
of Toronto

EUTHANASIA AND ASSISTED SUICIDE

There has been a great deal of interest in the Cardinal's Statement. You are asked to tell Legislators how you feel. You are encouraged to join the coalition for Health Care and Conscience. Visit CanadianConscience.ca. A video of Cardinal Colin's statement on federal euthanasia/assisted suicide legislation is now available online at <http://www.archtoronto.org/euthanasia>

When Can I Visit St. Paul's

You can visit St. Paul's Monday to Friday during office hours. There is a buzzer by the side door just press the buzzer and Sue will let you into the church. We do have visitors' every day and it stands right now. More would be welcome.

DAY OF CONFESSIONS

"So often, our own sins and failings seem to be an obstacle in encountering the love of our Lord, preventing us from taking the steps towards authentic and renewed conversion. Yet Jesus came not to call the righteous, but sinners. He is the Good Shepherd who seeks out the lost, the physician who comes to heal the sick. And one of his first acts after the Resurrection was to entrust to the Church the power to forgive sins in his name. Thus, in order to undergo an authentic and renewed conversion, and to encounter the Love of God, a focus on the Sacrament of Reconciliation – this most powerful encounter with divine mercy – is essential." - *Thomas Cardinal Collins*.

From **December 11 to 17, 2016**, each parish in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be holding a **Day of Confessions**. Confessions at our parish will be available on:

December 17th / 18th

Saturday:

Confession 3:45pm to 4:15pm

Mass 4:30pm to 5:15pm

Confession until 6pm following Mass

Sunday:

Confession 8am

Mass 8:30am to 9:15am

Confession 9:30am to 10:30am

Mass 11am to 11:45am

Confession until 1pm following Mass

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