



ST. PAUL'S BASILICA

EST. 1822~FIRST CATHOLIC PARISH IN TORONTO

STAFF

Fr. Robert O'Brien
Pastor

Rev. Antanios Farah, OAM
In Residence. Hospital Chaplain

Lynett Wilson
Admin / Communications

Jason Lo
Bookkeeper

Cathy LeBlanc
Sacristan

Ives Alvarez
Custodian

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 4:30 pm ♦ Sunday: 8:30 am and 11:00 am
Tuesday to Friday: 5:00 pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays from 3:30 pm to 4:15 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm
(closed for lunch from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm)

CONTACT

83 Power Street, Toronto, ON M5A 3A8 ♦ Tel: (416) 364-7588
Fax: (416) 366-5617 ♦ Email: stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org
Website: stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org

SACRAMENTS

Please contact us for more information on preparing for and receiving a Sacrament at St. Paul's Basilica.

- ♦ Baptism; Two months in advance
- ♦ Marriage; Registered parishioners at least one year in advance, For all other marriage inquiries please contact the parish office
- ♦ First Holy Eucharist, Confirmation and RCIA;
Registration takes place in the fall
- ♦ Anointing of the sick & Communion of the sick and shut-ins;
Please contact the parish office

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Alyson Sobol, Principal ♦ Tel: (416) 393-5204

❖ A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Family Rituals at Christmas

We are built for ritual. As you placed yourself in the pew for this joyful celebration of the arrival of our Saviour, you brought the heart of your life with you. What we might say out loud is that we connect with the sights and sounds, the carols, the rituals at church and at home.

Modern life prods us to glide over it, to accept its comforting aspect without taking time to hear our own inner voice calling us to be fed at a deeper level. In the same way, the outer trappings of the Church can obscure its inner beauty where we are connected by a profound communion that we believe and know comes from God's initiative to live among us.

As you go to or welcome family and friends today and in the coming days, slow down long enough to savour the spontaneous gifts and your own particular traditions that capture what is meaningful and true. We are so full these days of thinking about our "own truth" we easily miss that the deeper truth is what draws us out of ourselves and into relationship and community. This is getting us closer to what it is to be joined together in the Church.

In our house, when I was growing up, we had a few rituals. On our way out the door before going to Mass on Christmas Eve we would place the baby Jesus in the crib. That was our sign that Christmas had arrived. My parents, wisely I thought, began a tradition where we received a gift from Jesus at supper time on Christmas Day. It was a simple gift usually and always a game that my sister and I could play. Jesus wanted my parents to have a peaceful Christmas supper that would give us something to do after dinner and occupy us as we were getting tired. Rituals don't always have to have an elevated purpose. This one was humane, loving, beautiful and conveyed the fact that our faith touched even the simplest parts of our lives.

As we centre ourselves on the truth that God did not leave us alone, but came to be in this world with us, may we treasure the ways that this becomes visible in our lives. Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

In Christ,

Fr. Bob



Schedule

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve - Dec 24
4:30 PM, 8:00 PM & 11:00 PM

Christmas Day - Dec 25
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

New Year Masses

New Year's Eve - Dec 31
4:30 PM

New Year's Day - Jan 1
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Merry Christmas and Blessings for 2023

The entire parish staff and Fr. Bob extend to you and your families prayers and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy 2023. May God bless us all with His loving presence throughout the coming New Year! Merry Christmas!

Winter Clothing, Toiletries and Food Drive

The parish is collecting **CLEAN GENTLY USED MENS** winter clothing, specifically, coats, boots, hats, gloves and warm tops and pants. We are also collecting **NEW UNOPENED** toiletries such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, bar soap and shampoo as well as **NEW UNWORN** socks. These donations will benefit the Good Shepherd Ministries and the Mustard Seed (part of Fontbonne Ministries). Please separate clothing from toiletries when dropping off donations in the boxes near the altar. **NON-PERISHABLE FOOD** will go to the Society of Sharing food pantry program.

Ministry Training Workshops



The parish will be hosting ministry training workshops in the coming weeks, intended for **ALL** volunteers who are **CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN** or are **INTERESTED IN** the parish ministry. The goal of these workshops is to ensure that all volunteers, both new and

existing, are familiar with and following the current procedures and responsibilities for performing the ministry. Workshops will also include practical run-throughs, scheduling / time expectations, and ensure that all screening requirements and checks are up to date.

- Altar Servers (Part 1) – Saturday, January 14, at 10:30 am
- Collection Counters – Sunday, January 22, at 2 pm
- Altar Servers (Part 2) – Saturday, February 11, at 10:30 am

Please register with the parish office if you plan on attending. If you are unable to make the scheduled date, please notify the office as alternate dates may be scheduled based on numbers.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 24

4:30 pm ♦ † Sr. Margaret Feely
8:00 pm ♦
11:00 pm ♦

Sunday, December 25

8:30 am ♦ Leonila Nerizon's Birthday
11:00 am ♦ For the People

Tuesday, December 27

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

Wednesday, December 28

5:00 pm ♦

Thursday, December 29

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

Friday, December 30

5:00 pm ♦

Holiday Office Closure

The parish office will be closed between Wednesday, December 21, 2022 and Monday, January 2, 2023. Emails and voicemails will be returned when the office reopens on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

2023 Offertory Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for 2023 will be available at the back of the church next weekend. The boxed sets will be organized alphabetically. Please make sure to pick up only the box with your name on it.

Please DO NOT use the 2023 envelopes until the new year begins.

Credit Card Donations



Don't carry cash or even own cheques? Want to collect miles or points on your credit card? A single or monthly donation through your credit card is a great option.

Tax receipts are issued immediately for a single donation and at the end of the year for a recurring gift. Select the Donate button at stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org or scan the QR code. Please ensure that "St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto" is selected from the Parish drop down menu when signing up.



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