

# 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

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## 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

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 4:30 p.m.

Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m. +Jose Faller



THE SANCTUARY LIGHT BURNS FOR:



### 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

What would it feel like to stand before John the Baptist who is admonishing you to confess your sins? It sounds scary, but is there not a longing in us for the healing and wholeness he is offering?

John is preparing the way for God's definitive Word who will come into our midst. His call to repentance is a call to stand before Almighty God, the All-Good, the All-Holy, and to recognize ourselves as sinners. Recall Isaiah seeing God in the Temple and exclaiming, "Woe is me...I am a man of unclean lips...among a people of unclean lips!" (Isa 6.5) Or Peter's awareness, after Jesus directs him to the abundant catch of fish: "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" (Lk 5.8)

Seeing ourselves as sinners before God, and confessing during this Advent/Preparation season, is not meant to make us feel bad. Rather, we acknowledge who we are in order to open ourselves to what God wants to do for us. Through gentle mercy and graciousness, God frees us from sin and its consequences, inviting us into the kingdom of heaven announced by John and Jesus.

And what is this kingdom of heaven? In today's readings Isaiah describes a kingdom of peace and justice. Then Paul says it is where we find "encouragement...to live in harmony with one another." This is the purpose of repentance.

*Fr. Mark Miller, CSsR, Toronto, 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 19th. 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 the first practice Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:st.pauls.childrens.choir@gmail.com)

***Please come join us for this wonderful opportunity!***

A public meeting has been scheduled for **December 7, 2016 at 7:00 pm at St. Paul Catholic School** regarding a Pupil Accommodation Review of schools which include St. Michael, St. Paul and Our Lady of Lourdes.

Details about the review are posted on the Board website at <https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/PlanningandFacilities/PlanningServices/SARC/Pages/default.aspx>.

All parishioners are welcome.

***We thank you for your continued support of Catholic education in the City of Toronto.***

## Taizé Prayer

St. Paul's Basilica Parish invites you to meditative Scripture-based prayer and music in the Taizé tradition. Join us in celebrating the Advent season through contemplative song, scripture and silence. All are welcome. Social and light refreshments to follow. RSVPs appreciated. Contact: St. Paul Taizé Prayer Group: [stpaultaize@gmail.com](mailto:stpaultaize@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.stpaulsbasilicaparish.com](http://www.stpaulsbasilicaparish.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1478849965476185/?ti=icl>

**St. Paul's Basilica Taizé Prayer Service:  
A Light in the Darkness  
Saturday, December 3, 2016 – 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

## Advent Concert



### **Lessons and Carols at St. Paul's Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 2pm**

The **Advent Concert** at St. Paul's Basilica is a celebration of music and Scripture for the Christmas Season. The service will consist of 8 traditional readings for the Christmas Season from Scripture, interspersed with carols, hymns, solos and ensemble music performed by the musicians of St. Paul's Basilica.

Admission is free for all. A freewill offering will be collected during the service.

*Refreshments to follow in the Basilica Hall.  
Please join us!*



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](http://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>

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS MASS TIMES

Saturday December 24<sup>th</sup> – 4:30pm, 8pm, Midnight  
Sunday December 25<sup>th</sup> – 8:30am, 11am  
Saturday December 31<sup>st</sup> – 4:30pm  
Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup> – 8:30am, 11am

*Christmas cake sales will take  
place after all Masses  
**THIS WEEKEND**  
December 3/4<sup>th</sup>*



## 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 10<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup>**

### **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

**December 17<sup>th</sup> / 18<sup>th</sup>**

**SAME SCHEDULE AS DEC 10<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup>**

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