



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

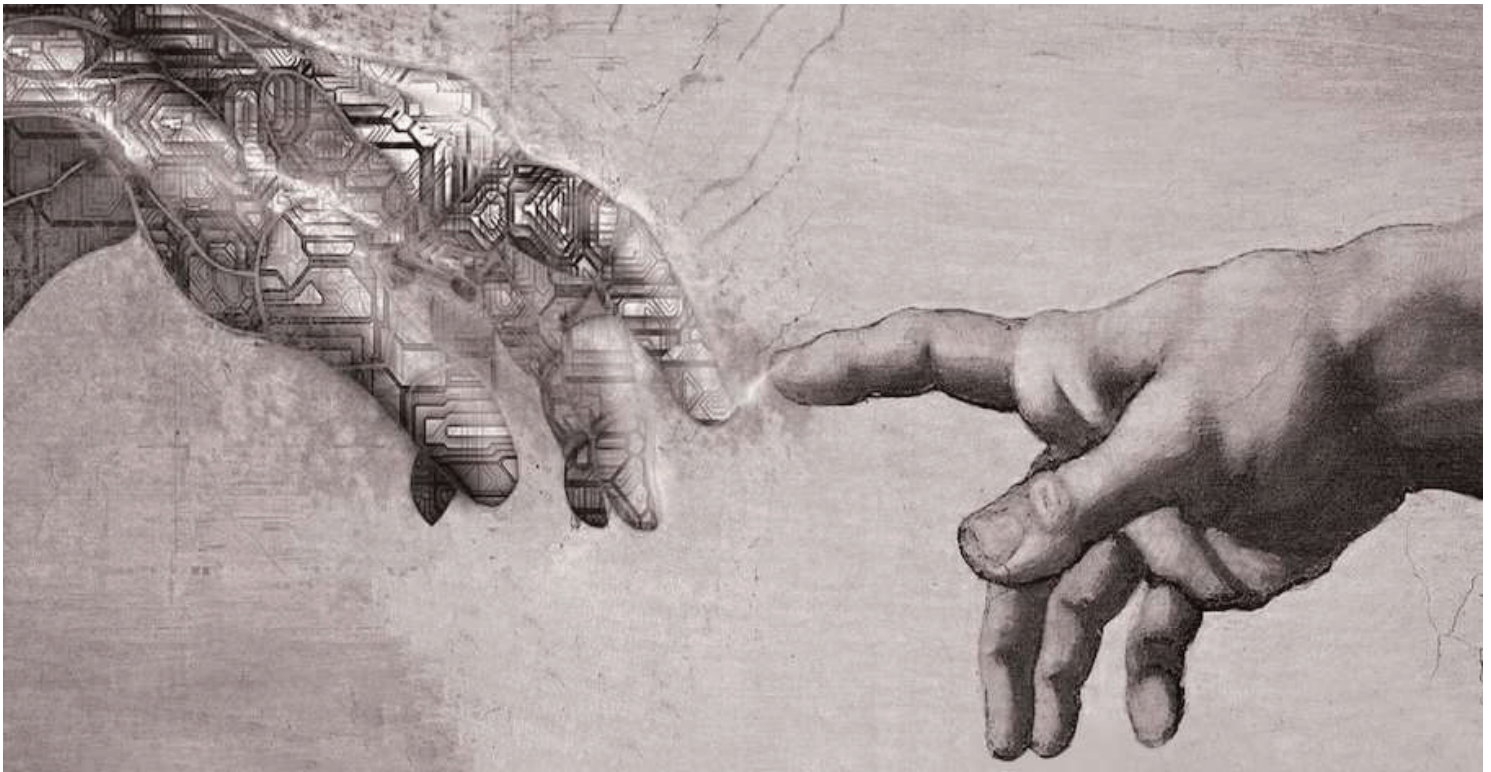
Please contact us for more information on preparing for and receiving a Sacrament at St. Paul's Basilica.

- ♦ 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



Story and History

Since the 1990's or so, there has been a strong emphasis in education on "STEM", Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, in Ontario and in many other places. Outwardly, this has been to produce educated people who are "competitive" on a worldwide stage. There are things missing, of course, in this approach to education, not the least of which is that we are story dependent beings. To realize a unity within ourselves we need to have a story of ourselves in relation to the world and the people around us. I would go further and say that we even need a story that places us within the cosmos.

The prevailing model these days seems to be the scientific one. It should be realized, however, that science gives us a kind of knowing with specific characteristics. It is very good at relating causes and providing models that represent physical realities. Science can say that we are our cells, for example. It can't describe love or a grounded sense of meaning. One proved theorem is as true as another. Social sciences can illuminate or confuse us. We should remember that they deal in statistical relationships not in the relationships of causes. They describe or hold up a kind of mirror. They don't provide meaning.

History is dotted with the struggle between fact and myth. Our society is struggling right now with the stories we have told ourselves and are becoming aware of how these have ignored important truths, for example, about our relationship with First Nations peoples. So, story and history can be hazardous, but it seems to me that they are absolutely necessary. All of us live with them, consciously or unconsciously.

Whether it is having a moral and ethical basis to decide on the development and use of technology or reconciling ourselves in a mobile interdependent world, we will have to come back to our stories and to history.

In the Church, as elsewhere, we have good reason to be self-critical in order to be genuine contributors of hope, and especially for us to display the hope we have in Christ. History can be the act of learning from one another across time, and story can be a way for us to illuminate more fully the richness of our souls and those of others. While we should not use these things to shy away from what is true and perhaps difficult to look at, we also need to be part of making a life in harmony with what Christ reveals. Developing a story makes us articulate. It lets others hear us and it opens us to revision and in the spiritual life, a perfecting of our discipleship.

Those who have only lived in a "post-modern" world are rightly attracted to the life of faith. In a world of specialized knowledge that lacks broader perspective, we need to provide hope and a clarity of vision.

May the Gospel penetrate our hearts and minds and bodies that we may be joined to Christ.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NEWS

Social Committee Start-up!



We are currently recruiting volunteers for a new parish Social Committee. Members of this new committee will be responsible for planning, preparing and hosting social events under the guidance of parish staff. Some useful skills include brainstorming ideas, planning logistics, preparing food/desserts, setup/cleanup, serving and volunteering the day of. Parish events currently in planning include monthly coffee & dessert socials and a summer festival.

If you feel you would like to be a part of this committee, please contact the parish office with your name, contact info and ways you can help!

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Parish Collection Summary

	2023	2022	Diff
Last Wkd	\$ 3,707	\$ 1,367	↑ \$2,339
Mth Total	\$ 3,707	\$16,618	↓ \$12,911

31st World Day of the Sick

“Take care of him” - Compassion as a synodal exercise of healing



Healing and merciful God, you walked among us, brought healing, and looked with compassion on the most vulnerable. Help us not to reject our human vulnerability, but see it as a condition that welcomes the need and kindness of another person among us. May our families and faith communities become true ‘field hospitals’ that manifest concrete acts of caring and compassion which knows how to pause, approach, heal, and raise up. Give us grace and courage so that we may never be indifferent to suffering and may always bring your healing ministry to our world. Amen. Scan to read the Pope's message.



Healing after Abortion – Day of Prayer and Healing for Women

Saturday, March 4, 2023 from 9am to 5pm



The Sisters of Life are hosting a Day of Prayer and Healing for women seeking healing after abortion. The day is an opportunity to experience the loving mercy of God and the joy of healing in Christ, in a confidential and sacred space. It will include a witness of mercy, a Scripture reflection, personal prayer, opportunity for Sacramental Confession, and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. There is no fee for the day, lunch will be provided. Please contact the Sisters of Life at 416-463-2722 for the location details and more information.

2022 Tax Receipts

Tax receipts for 2022 will be mailed out the week of February 20th. We appreciate your generosity in supporting your spiritual home. Thank you!

Lift Jesus Higher Rally

*March 4th, 2023 from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm
Metro Toronto Convention Centre*

Lift Jesus Higher Rally (LJHR) is an annual rally, hosting separate events for Adults and Youth, that focuses on evangelizing through uplifting music, testimonials, reflections, Divine Mercy celebration and Eucharistic Adoration.

The Adult rally will feature keynote speakers Ralph Martin and Chris Stefanick and Mass celebrated by His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins. The Youth event, created for those between 13 and 18 years old, runs concurrently and is supercharged through great music, inspiring skits, fabulous testimonies and talks.

For more information or to purchase tickets visit ljhr.ca or scan the QR code.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 11

4:30 pm ♦ † Veronica Ball

Sunday, February 12

8:30 am ♦ † Charles & Giovanna Zuzek

11:00 am ♦ For the People

Tuesday, February 14

5:00 pm ♦

Wednesday, February 15

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

Thursday, February 16

5:00 pm ♦

Friday, February 17

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

The Beginning of Lent



This year Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22 (Ash Wednesday). The 40 days of Lent are a special time of spiritual renewal in the Church. The parish will have three Masses on Ash Wednesday with the distribution of Ashes. These will be at 12:30 pm, 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm in the Church. During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be prayed Friday evenings in the Church after the 5:00 pm Mass.

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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