



ST. PAUL'S BASILICA

EST. 1822 ~ FIRST CATHOLIC PARISH IN TORONTO

STAFF

Fr. Robert O'Brien
Pastor

Fr. Antanios Farah, OAM
In Residence, Hospital Chaplain

Cathy LeBlanc
Sacristan

Micah MacMullen
Youth Minister

Lynett Wilson
Office Manager

Jason Lo
Bookkeeper

Ives Alvarez
Custodian

Joseph Angelo
Music Director

Allison Angelo
Cantor

Andrea Cerswell
11 am Choir Lead

MASS TIMES

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

Mass is celebrated at the Good Shepherd Centre - 412 Queen St. East,
Monday to Friday: 12:00 pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays from 3:30 pm to 4:15 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

CONTACT

📍 83 Power Street, Toronto, ON M5A 3A8 | ☎ (416) 364-7588

✉ stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org | 🌐 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
- ♦ First Communion, Confirmation and RCIA;
Registration takes place in September
- ♦ Anointing of the sick & Communion to the sick and shut-ins;
Please call during office hours

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

❖ A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Back to School

Not only have students gone back to school, college and university, but at parishes most of us priests think of the next six months as a stream of continuous activity. Rhythm at St. Paul's is affected by the fact that we have a reasonable number of weddings as well, making the summer also relatively busy.

This next stretch of time will see things developing on a number of fronts. On the heels of the Alpha program, I will be meeting this weekend with participants who will share their ideas coming out of this experience of engaging their faith. Already, a few things are clear. We do have the makings of some healthy young adult ministry. Families and couples, as well as children, can look forward to the development of both ministries and spiritual activities. I will write again next week about more specifics.

You may have noticed that cameras have been installed throughout our church and elsewhere. While this improves security, one camera, in particular, will help us to have streaming capacity. You may have spotted it under the choir loft. I believe internet is now working in the meeting rooms and the hall. We will



also be replacing our telephone system in due course and making a few other improvements to the security system. These are being paid for out of the Family of Faith funds that you generously gave during the Archdiocesan capital campaign some years ago. Recently, we also addressed a deficiency issue with what is called a "standpipe," which brings

high pressure water into the building, for the use of the fire department should the need occur. A valve and pressure monitor have been installed as well. We have added a water softening system to the supply for the boilers which should make them more efficient and extend their life.

On January 25th, we have the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, and as with other important feasts, I am adding a Mass at 7 pm so people can come after work. As it happens, I will be away for the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, our other feast which will be caught up in the July 1st long weekend, so there won't be an extra Mass that day.

And finally, just a reminder that Lent starts early this year. Ash Wednesday is February 14th! So, if you are romantic and Catholic you might want to celebrate St. Valentine on the evening of the 13th, Wednesday being a day of fast and abstinence.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Pastoral Letter from the Most Rev. Francis Leo –

"Seeking The Kingdom of God Above and Beyond All Other Things"



Archbishop Francis Leo has released a Pastoral Letter to the Church of God in the Archdiocese of Toronto, entitled, "Seeking The Kingdom of God Above and Beyond All Other Things". This significant reflection from our spiritual shepherd is intended to offer a theological, spiritual, and pastoral meditation as we embark upon a New Year and our collective efforts to build and strengthen the Kingdom of God throughout our archdiocese.

The Pastoral Letter can be accessed by visiting the archdiocesan website at: *'archtoronto.org'* or scanning the QR code.



Roll the Dice & Grab a Slice! YA Board Game & Pizza Social

January 19 at 6:30 pm - St. Patrick's Church

Come and Meet other Young Adults (ages 19–39) at St. Patrick's Parish for a social evening of Board Games in the Parish Hall, 139 McCaul St., Toronto.

BYOG: Bring your own games or join in a game brought by others. Pizza will be served. Cash bar available. This is a ticketed event. Suggested donation: \$5. Donations help us cover the cost of this event and to continue offering events like this in the future.



❖ NEWS

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 13

4:30 pm ♦ For the People

Sunday, January 14

8:30 am ♦

11:00 am ♦ In Thanksgiving to St. Paul

Tuesday, January 16

5:00 pm ♦

Wednesday, January 17

5:00 pm ♦

Thursday, January 18

5:00 pm ♦

Friday, January 19

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Kindergarten Registration!



Registrations are now being accepted for children, born in 2020, to begin Junior Kindergarten at St. Paul's School this September. For more information or to apply, visit tcdsb.org/kindergarten or scan the QR code.



New Session of Merrymakers - A dynamic afternoon children's program

Wednesdays from 1-3 pm at Mary, Mother of God School; 1515A Queen St. W, Toronto



Mary, Mother of God School is currently registering children, aged 3 to 5 years old for a new session of Merrymakers - a dynamic afternoon program for children. Merrymakers, taking place on Wednesday afternoons from 1 - 3 pm, is an enriched program. Children experience the joys of songs, stories, poems, nursery rhymes, instruments, games, classical music, mime, drama, and lots of play. For more information, call the school office at 416-531-7897. Come and make merry with us!

Beyond Polarities: Ignatian and Jesuit Sources for a Wounded World

Windows on Theology Winter 2024 Course - Regis College / Zoom

Wednesday's from 11 am to 12:45 pm, January 24, 2024 - February 28, 2024



Today's Christians are called to walk with a wounded world whose culture has become increasingly uncivil and polarized. Resources drawn from the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius, as well as from the Society of Jesus's reflection on its mission oriented to justice and reconciliation in service of the faith, offer both a path to personal conversion and tools for accompanying our fellow travelers and offering Christ's healing.

This course will be delivered in a hybrid format (in-person at Regis College and online via Zoom). Online participants will receive a Zoom conferencing link before the course begins. To register or receive more information visit regiscollege.ca/academics/windows-on-theology or scan the QR code.



The Source Holy Hour

January 25, 2024 at 7 pm - St. Peter's Church, Toronto



The Source Holy Hour, hosted by The Sisters of Life, invites us to unite around the source and summit of our faith - Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, with one hour of Eucharistic Adoration including music by the Sisters and the opportunity for Confession. Take a break from the noise of your daily life and spend time in quiet reflection with Jesus. Then come downstairs to hang out with the Sisters and meet some other awesome people from Toronto. To learn more visit sistersoflife.org/the-source-holy-hour.

Celebrating St. Paul's Conversion

We will have celebratory Mass for the Feast of the Conversion our patron, St. Paul, on Thursday, January 25th at 7 pm. All are welcome!

Parish Collection Summary

	2023	2022	Diff
Dec 3	\$ 5,030	\$ 5,119	↓ \$ 89
Dec 10	\$ 10,450	\$ 8,126	↑ \$ 2,324
Dec 17	\$ 8,530	\$ 7,484	↑ \$ 1,046
Dec 24	\$ 21,328	\$ 8,122	↑ \$ 13,206
Dec 31	\$ 2,682	\$ 0	↑ \$ 2,682
Dec Total	\$ 48,020	\$ 28,852	↑ \$ 19,168
	2024	2023	Diff
Jan 1	\$ 2,371	\$ 1,610	↑ \$ 761
Last Wkd	\$ 3,541	\$ 2,746	↑ \$ 795
Mth Target	\$ 5,480	\$ 15,108	↓ \$ 9,197

Thank you for supporting our parish!

Donate Online

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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