



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



Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI; born Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger on April 16, 1927; died December 31, 2022. Head of the Catholic Church from April 19, 2005 until his resignation on February 28, 2013.

What We Look Forward to is More Important Than What We Leave Behind

The death of Pope Emeritus Benedict has media outlets and Church people talking a lot about his legacy. I made some remarks about that in my homily last week. This week I took a look at Bishop Barron's remarks on YouTube and thought they were very helpful.

Whether it is the business world or the cultural world or the environment, we hear the challenge to leave a legacy invoked. Of course, there is something important in that. We would like to leave a world easier to navigate for our children than the one we lived through. In the life of the Church too, a time of reflection like this can be very good. It is what is invisible and what doesn't lend itself to media chatter that is actually more important. The legacy of Pope Benedict, or any of us Christians, is surely most valuable in the spiritual nourishment it provides for others. It is the way our lives reflect divine love that is most important. We don't have to become famous or important for that to be true.

Much of the talk of "legacy" we hear is from people who don't think that there is a life beyond this one. In that context a legacy is something to live for. We are with the psalmist: "Not to us, Lord, not to us! But to Your Name give the glory!"

The Church will build upon the work of each Pope. When John Paul II died in 2005, he left a storehouse full of writings for the Church to digest and make use of over time. In a more distilled way, Pope Benedict leaves us a journey through the Second Vatican Council to the present time. In some of the oscillations within the Church between then and now we have too easily gained the impression that one must oppose a point of view in order to embrace another. Our political life is based on that kind of inherent butting of heads. The risk in the Church is that we turn our reflections into a competition. The Beatitudes counsel us against that when they tell us that the meek will inherit the earth. The mode of the Church is more like a careful listening and then discernment. The present Holy Father is striving to have that listening happen more widely and the discernment to be more deeply considered. Pope Benedict was a relatively young priest at the time of the Second Vatican Council. Pope Francis was a young Jesuit still far from ordination. As the legacy of the Council passes into the hands of those who were not present to it, may we learn to accept the nourishment we have received and put it to use for the good of the whole Church.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NEWS

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.

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Annual week of prayer for Christian Unity Prayer Service

January 22th at 4 pm; Theme: “Do good; seek justice” (Isaiah 1:17)

Join His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church (73 Simcoe St. at King St. W. in Toronto) on Sunday January 22, 2023, at 4 p.m. This event is jointly organized by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches.

Celebration of Marriage Mass with Bishop Nguyen

February 12, 2023 at 2:30 pm at St. Michael’s Cathedral Basilica - 65 Bond St.

As part of Marriage Sunday 2023 celebrations, Bishop Vincent Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2023. Scan the QR code or visit archtoronto.org/marriage for info and to register.



Faith & Reason Lecture Series

Faith, Reason & Beauty – Guest Speaker Prof. Randy Boyagoda

January 26th - 7 pm at the Newman Centre Catholic Mission - 89 St. George St.



In this lecture, Professor Randy Boyagoda (UofT English Department) argues that the great interest, in recent years, in horror movies is indicative of a suppressed but enduring desire for faith and beauty. Situating his discussion in the context of the Catholic intellectual tradition, Professor Boyagoda makes a case for how to best to cultivate an openness to the transcendent in mundane times. Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/3UETiip for info.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 7

4:30 pm ♦ Cles Gustave

Sunday, January 8

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ † Graeme Kelly

Tuesday, January 10

5:00 pm ♦

Wednesday, January 11

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

Thursday, January 12

5:00 pm ♦

Friday, January 13

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

Kindergarten Registration!

Beginning January 25th, 2023, parents/guardians may register their children, born in 2019, for Junior Kindergarten this September. For more information or to apply, visit tcdsb.org/page/kindergarten-registration



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.

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 dropdown menu when signing up.



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