

# St. Paul's Basilica Parish

*Established in 1822*

*First Parish of the Archdiocese of Toronto*

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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**

Patrick Cleary, Principal

Phone: 416-393-5204

## **PARISH MINISTRIES**

Sacramental Preparation

Breakfast Club

Children's Liturgy

**Taize Prayer**

Eucharistic Adoration

Choir

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday	February 29 <sup>th</sup>	4:30 p.m.	Giuliana Marrelli +Julia Mercuriano +Ercolo Mercuriano
Sunday	March 1 <sup>st</sup>	8:30 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Paul's Basilica
Sunday	March 1 <sup>st</sup>	11:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Paul's Basilica

Weekday Masses are held at the Good Shepherd Centre Tuesday to Friday at 12 noon.



THE SANCTUARY LIGHT BURNS FOR:  
Giuliana Marrelli



## Stations of the Cross at the Basilica Friday evenings at 7P.M.

Let us pray together on Fridays during Lent



The Way of the Cross or Stations of the Cross is a Catholic devotion that originated in the journey of pilgrims to Jerusalem where they would retrace the steps of Jesus during his passion. Franciscans originally encouraged this devotion, which became popular in the fifteenth century. The focus for the devotional practice consists of fourteen stations that can be as simple as a cross or as elaborate as wood, marble, or other artistic renditions of various aspects of the passion. Specific prayers are recited before each station as the participants meditate on that aspect of the passion of Jesus

## Lent

The evolution of Lent as a time of preparation for Easter began as a very modest few days of preparation before the annual celebration of the Paschal Vigil. By the end of the fourth century, those days had expanded to a forty-day period of prayer and fasting that began on a Sunday, with an emphasis mainly on the preparation of catechumens for initiation at Easter.

In subsequent centuries, with the decline and virtual disappearance of the catechumenate, the focus of Lent shifted to those doing public penance in anticipation of being reconciled to the Eucharist for Easter. The public penitents had ashes placed on their heads as an outward sign of their mortification. When public penance disappeared, the custom grew up of all the faithful asking for penitential ashes at the start of Lent. At the beginning of the sixth century, the start of Lent was shifted from Sunday to the preceding Wednesday so that there would be exactly forty days of fasting (since Sundays were not observed as days of fast), and during the next two centuries a preparatory period of three weeks was added prior to Ash Wednesday. By the end of the eleventh century, Ash Wednesday was observed throughout Christendom, and by the thirteenth century even the Pope himself accepted ashes as part of the papal liturgy on Ash Wednesday.

### Lenten Pancake Breakfast

You are invited to attend a Lenten Pancake Breakfast on **Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** after the 8:30 & 11 a.m. masses. Bacon, eggs, juice and coffee will also be served.

This breakfast is sponsored by The Knights of Columbus.



It has been said that nothing in this world is certain except death and taxes. Surely temptation could be added as a third. Our lives are constantly fraught with urges and desires that we either succumb to or rebuff.

Having fasted for 40 days and 40 nights, Jesus was left in the most vulnerable of human conditions. Sensing weakness, Satan sprung into action and tried to tempt Jesus three times. On each occasion, the great deceiver was spurned by Jesus, who stubbornly obeyed the will of God. Denying God's will didn't even enter Jesus' mind as he chided Satan for his wilderness volleys. Jesus' resolve faced a much more vigorous test in Gethsemane when he asked God if the cup of his pending crucifixion might pass him by. Even then, Jesus overcame human frailty to submit to God's will.

As was the case with our first parents in the Garden of Eden, we are offered freedom of choice and are constantly tested by temptation. Like Adam and Eve, our human infirmity renders us susceptible to Satan's seductions. As we begin Lent, let us use the traditional practices of fasting, prayer and almsgiving to provide us with the defence we need to fend off the advances of Satan. These practices, rooted in our belief in Jesus as our Redeemer, are the bulwarks of that resistance.

*Frank Campbell  
Enfield, NS*

The re:gen mission of the Archdiocese of Toronto is currently hiring young adults to become chastity or campus missionaries for 15 months starting in June 2020 until August 2021. If you or someone you know would be interested in this great opportunity, please contact Genicia Dabu at

[regen@ocytoronto.org](mailto:regen@ocytoronto.org)

You can count on our prayers as you discern joining our team! You can also find this employment opportunity online at

[www.archtoronto.org/contact-us/employment-opportunities](http://www.archtoronto.org/contact-us/employment-opportunities)

To learn more about re:gen, visit their website at

[www.ocytoronto.org/regen](http://www.ocytoronto.org/regen)

### TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 2020 from 3:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Basilica Parish invites you to meditative Scripture-based prayer and music in the Taize tradition. Join us in celebrating "**Finding Hope in the Darkness**" through contemplative song, scripture and silence. All are welcome. Social and light refreshments to follow.

RSVPs appreciated. Contact:  
St. Paul Taize Prayer Group at

[stpaultaize@gmail.com](mailto:stpaultaize@gmail.com),

website:

[www.stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org](http://www.stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org)

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