

# 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 Office Manager

Jason Lo

**Lynett Wilson** 

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 | 
 1 (416) 364-7588
 1 Stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org | 
 1 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 Paster**

# **Meeting Life in Community**

Although we talk a lot about community, we live a very sectioned off life, with time allotted for this and that. When the group of people living in any one place becomes too large, we have to become segmented in some way. Even in the seminary where there were about 110 of us, we were broken down into groups of 12 to 15 men. It was within this group that we did our meaningful sharing and mutual encouragement that contributed to the prospect of saying, "Yes", to the big commitment of giving our lives as coworkers, with our bishop, in the service of, Christ, the Gospel and the Body of Christ in the Church.

It's the same within parishes. Long-time parishioners will often know one another. Those who share in a particular ministry or who encounter each other at a parish event or activity can begin to put a face on their mutual care.

This past week I have been participating in our annual priest education days. This year's theme has been understanding and beginning to implement an approach to the care of persons with serious illness. We are very hesitant to recognize that we become frail or that we are on some trajectory toward death. The very mention of the word can be upsetting. Living in North America has meant that our lives have been through long periods without mass disruption. We are fortunate to have the amazing curative powers of medicine. Indeed, many illnesses from which people

used to die, are now very infrequent. With the recent pandemic this extended period of peacefulness has been jolted.

But these otherwise positive changes have also come with some costs. We may not think a good deal about how extensively medical care has been segregated from daily life. Specialization has provided treatments not formerly possible, but it has also partitioned us bodily up. How many seniors report the litany of various doctors' visits to deal with facets of chronic issues surrounding health? How unlike the hospital room is to our home.

Each of us is a whole unit. We are not merely the collective effects of our parts. In earlier times when medicine was closer to being equal parts clinical practice and patient care, it was easier to see that integrity. Living life is not only when we are running around and otherwise healthy. Maybe the best testimony we give is when we face challenges. It is certainly when I have seen the most powerful courage, the most beautiful hope and the most human testimony of faith. Why then, can we not acknowledge that we do wear out in this world? And what is more, how important it is that we deepen our community life during these times. Yes, we need good clinical care from our medical professionals, but we need (even more!) care from our community - our family, our friends, our fellow pilgrims along the road to new life.



This past week, at the priests educational retreat, has been spent looking at an approach to care which acknowledges the need for the 'curative treatment' model of care to be supplanted by a model which adapts as we age, or when we suffer from illnesses for which there is no curative remedy. The quality of what occurs in this stage of our life is possibly even more important to most of us than what has happened in our past. These are things that we, as a parish community, need to learn more about, both for the sake of our own families and ourselves, and for the sake of others, especially those who have not known community or care for some portion of their lives.

I am grateful to Dr. Moira McQueen and Sr. Mary Rowell CSJ, for their inspired input during my retreat and I hope we will put this important dimension of parish life more intentionally into practice.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

# \* Noteworthy

# **A Visit from Archbishop Leo**

Saturday, November 18th, 2023 at 4:30 pm

St. Paul's Parish is pleased to extend a warm welcome to Archbishop Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto, who will be visiting the Basilica on Saturday, November 18th and celebrating the 4:30 pm Mass. All are welcome to attend.



### **Irish Mass of Remembrance**

Sunday, November 19th, 2023 at 2:00 pm

St. Paul's is pleased to once again host the Annual Mass of Memory, which will take place on Sunday, November 19th at 2 pm. This Mass is dedicated in memory of the over 1000 victims of the 1847 Irish Famine who died of typhus on arrival in Toronto. Proceeds from this celebration will go to both St. Paul's and St. Michael's Catholic Schools.

# ❖ News

# **Weekly Mass Intentions**

Saturday, October 28 4:30 pm ♦ † Rosemary Sullivan

Sunday, October 29

8:30 am ♦ For the People 11:00 am ♦ † Maria Nelly Gonzalez

Tuesday, October 31 5:00 pm ♦ † Christie Agbing

Wednesday, November 1

5:00 pm ◆

7:00 pm ◆

Thursday, November 2 5:00 pm ◆

7:00 pm ♦ For the Repose of the Souls of the Deceased.

Friday, November 3 5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

# **All Saints Day and All Souls Day Mass Schedules**

On both November 1st, All Saints Day, and November 2nd, All Souls Day, the parish will celebrate Mass at 5 & 7 pm.

# **Parish Collection Summary**

	2023	2022	Diff
Last Wkd	\$ 6,184	\$ 2,641	<b>↑</b> \$ 3,542
Mth Target	\$ 15,644	\$ 15,724	<b>4</b> \$ 80

Thank you for supporting our parish!

### **Donate Online**



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'

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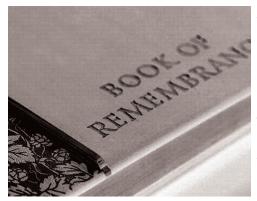
# **Pope Francis Prays for Peace in Middle East**



In a statement, Pope Francis has asked for prayers for sustained peace in the Middle "I am following apprehensively and sorrowfully what is happening in Israel where the violence has exploded even more ferociously, causing hundreds of deaths and casualties," said the Holy Father. "I express my closeness to the families and the victims." He continued, "I am praying for them and for all who are

living hours of terror and anguish. May the attacks and weaponry cease. Please! And let it be understood that terrorism and war do not lead to any resolutions, but only to the death and suffering of so many innocent people. War is a defeat! Let us pray that there will be peace in Israel and in Palestine." "In this month of October dedicated, in addition to the missions, to praying the Rosary, let us not tire of asking through Mary's intercession for the gift of peace in the many countries throughout the world marked by war and conflicts," Pope Francis concludes, "And let us continue to remember the dear Ukraine, which suffers so much every day, which is so battered."

## **Praying for Our Beloved Dead in November**



A Book of Remembrance will be available at the front of the church throughout the month of November, when we traditionally pray for the repose of the souls of our beloved. All are welcome to offer prayers for the faithful departed by writing the names of deceased family and friends in the book or by using one of the All Souls Day donation envelopes. These names will be remembered at all Masses throughout November.

# **Join the Knights of Columbus**



If you're interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith or obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you.

Please consider joining our council - Council 1388 - by visiting 'ontariokofc.ca' and join online for free. For 'preferred local council' type in 1388 or Shane Beal Council #17500, if you are a U of T student. For more information, visit 'kofc.org' or email Ross at sross4015@gmail.com.

# **Everyone is Welcome to Try Alpha**

Every Sunday from 12 pm to 2 pm, until December 10th, in the Parish Basement

The parish is currently hosting an Alpha series every Sunday, after the 11 am Mass, until December 10th, in the parish basement. All parishioners are welcome. If you are interested in joining or learning more, please speak to Micah at the back of the church or email mmacmullen@archtoronto.org.

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