

# 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](mailto:stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org)  
Website: [stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org](http://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

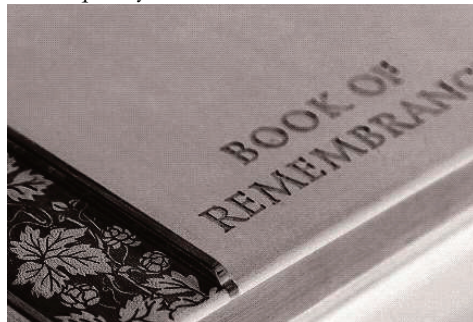
## Praying for Our Loved Ones

November is traditionally set aside in the Church for praying for our deceased loved ones. The Solemnity of All Saints is followed by the Memorial of All Souls. I'd like to visit this important part of our life by recalling a little of my own past.

When I was quite young (maybe five or six) I started attending family funerals. My dad's family is numerous and because he married in his late 40's there were many older relatives in those days. I learned very quickly that funerals especially of these older relatives were approached with equal measures of grief and gratitude. At the wake, there would be many stories shared and loving togetherness. Even I felt it in this dignified and solemn act of journeying with the person who had died.

Why was that? It is safe to say that the body of my relatives believed in the resurrection and knew that the person who had died believed the same. Our prayers together and especially at the funeral Mass were natural outpourings of that faith. The journey to the cemetery was a way of keeping faith also with the deceased person. I am still one of those people who goes to

the cemetery to visit my parents, relatives, and friends. I also like to make at least an annual pilgrimage to the clergy cemetery located at St. Augustine's Seminary. Many of the priests I knew as a child, growing up and into my early priestly years are buried there. I pray for them, talk to them, and stand quietly next to them.



As the practice of the faith has declined our families are not necessarily populated with people who share these basic Christian beliefs. Perhaps that's a stronger reason to get to know each other and to pray for one another – to provide spiritual support for our salvation. It might also be a good idea to write down our desires with respect to the funeral. Just as our Baptism comes at the beginning of our life with Christ on this earth, the funeral liturgy accompanies our journey into the care of God the Father.

About a year ago I drove out to Dundas Ontario and visited the parish cemetery there. It is an old Ontario parish like ours. Among the relatives I found there were a couple of O'Connor sisters whose names I had heard spoken many times by my aunts and uncles. I also found the parents of a friend of mine when I was a young adult. Connecting with people I had never met I experience as a great consolation of our faith. It makes me aware that I am part of something indeed much greater than the world I see immediately around me.

Praying for those who have died has what the Church sometimes calls, "merit". We hear that word in our prayers at Mass sometimes. The "merit" is our own co-operation with God's grace that is effective. We are part of making the divine will happen, in this case helping our loved ones to come to see God face-to-face.

I invite you to feel free to enter names into our Book of Remembrance as we pray together during the month of November. The book will be blessed and initiated on All Souls' Day and will remain in the church until we begin the celebration of Advent.

In Christ,

*Fr. Bob*

## ❖ NOTEWORTHY

### 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.

- Ushers and Greeters – Saturday, November 13, at 1:30 pm
- Lectors – Saturday, December 3, at 1:30 pm
- Eucharistic Ministers – Saturday, December 10, at 1:30 pm
- Altar Servers (Part 1) – Saturday, January 14, at 10:30 am
- 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.

### All Souls Day - November 2nd, 2022; Praying for Our Beloved dead in November

In the month of November it is our tradition to pray for our beloved. The parish will have a "Book of Remembrance" for the faithful departed and the names of all those family members written in it will be remembered at all masses throughout November. Parishioners may add names of deceased family members or friends for whom they wish the parish to offer prayers during this season of remembrance. On November 2, All Souls day the parish will have Masses for All Souls at 5pm and 7pm.

### Pakistan Floods - Humanitarian Relief

*Those wishing to help may do so in the following ways:*

- » Online at [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)
- » By phone 416-934-3411
- » Through the parish, making cheques payable to:

St. Paul's Basilica – Pakistan Floods – Humanitarian Relief

Please continue to pray for those who have died and been displaced as a result of this tragic situation in Pakistan.

## ❖ NEWS

### 21st Annual Friars' Student Writing Contest

High school students (13-19 yrs) in the Toronto Catholic School Board are invited to participate in this annual event commemorating the global Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Write a five-hundred-word essay that explores the theme **“Do good; seek justice” (Isaiah 1:17)**. Great prizes await the top three submissions.

The deadline is January 16th, 2023. For more information and resources, visit [catholicregister.org/writingaward](http://catholicregister.org/writingaward) or scan the QR Code.



### Time to register for First Holy Eucharist and Confirmation



It's that time of year to begin registrations for this year's Sacramental Preparation Programme. We are accepting registrations for children wishing to prepare for the celebration of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation next spring.

To register or for more information, please contact the parish office.

### Film Screening: Waban-Aki: People from where the Sun Rises

**When: November 9th - 6:30 pm**

**Where: The Mary Ward Centre, 70 St. Mary St.**

Join The Mary Ward Centre, The Jesuit Forum, & Regis College for an imaginative encounter towards Truth & Reconciliation. Dr. and Elder, Bob Philips (Great Bear) will be facilitating discussions to help deepen the appreciation for this film. Free to attend, though a good

will offering is appreciated. For more information or to register please scan the QR code or visit <http://tiny.cc/wabanaki>.



### 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](http://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.



### Mass Intentions

**Saturday, October 29**

4:30 pm ♦ † Ron Lichacz

**Sunday, October 30**

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ † Anna Guercio

**Tuesday, November 1**

5:00 pm ♦ † Greg Szpara

**Wednesday, November 2**

5:00 pm ♦ † Spencer Cornelis

**Thursday, November 3**

5:00 pm ♦ The Cornelis Family

**Friday, November 4**

5:00 pm ♦

### Fall Shapiro Virtual Lecture: “The Dead Sea Scrolls and Jewish-Christian Dialogue”

**When: Monday, November 7th at 8 pm**



Lawrence H. Schiffman

The renowned annual fall lecture of the Bernardin Center at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago will this year focus on the significance of the

Dead Sea Scrolls for Jewish-Catholic dialogue. Dr. Lawrence H. Schiffman, the Judge Abraham Lieberman Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies and Director of the Global Institute for Advanced Research in Jewish Studies at New York University, will explore how the discovery and study of these ancient scrolls marks a turning point in understanding biblical history and offer great potential for dialogue today. Plan to attend this event packed with insights on the emerging consensus in interpretation between Jewish and Christian scholars and their impressive witness of collaboration that has fostered the publication of entire corpus of the scrolls. These and other developments are a testimony to the ongoing progress of mutual understanding between our respective faith communities.

To participate, register at: <https://bit.ly/3MmyOYW>.



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