

St. Paul the Apostle and Immaculate Conception Churches



Graced by the constant, loving presence of God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - in our lives, energized by the intercession of Mary and the great Communion of Saints, and grounded in the Sacred Scripture, Tradition, Catholic Teaching, Sacrament and Prayer, we, parishioners of St. Paul the Apostle Parish, reach out to embrace all of God's children, encouraging them to receive the gift of eternal salvation, accept Jesus Christ as their Lord, and follow in his footsteps. We declare our solidarity with the poor of the world, and pledge to help them by sharing our love and bounty.

Sunday Liturgies

Saturday:

5:00 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle (LIFE TEEN Mass)

Sunday:

9:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception

10:30 a.m. at St. Paul the Apostle

Marian Cenacle: Tuesday - 5:30 p.m.

Life in the Spirit Prayer Group:

7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

(On the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month)

YOUTH MINISTRY:

Edge Night (Gr. 6-8) every 2nd Friday 7-9 p.m.

Life Teen (Gr. 9-12) every 2nd Saturday 6-9 p.m.

Reconciliation(Confessions):

Saturday 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. or by appointment

Tuesday 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Marriage:

Couples planning to be married must contact the parish priest one year in advance. No wedding date is to be set before consulting the parish priest. At least one of the parties should be a registered parishioner and both parties must attend a mandatory Marriage Preparation Course.

Pastoral Ministries:

Life Teen and The Edge Youth Ministry for students in grade six through to high school; Altar Servers; Lectors; Ushers; Eucharistic Ministers; Music Ministry; Pastoral Care Ministers to the sick and shut-ins; Children's Liturgy; Pastoral Council; R.C.I.A.; and Sacramental Preparation

Organizations:

The Catholic Women's League of Canada; Knights of Columbus; Columbian Squires (boys 10 - 18 yrs) St. Vincent de Paul Society

Stewardship:

Welcome to new parishioners! To be a member of our parish is to have a sense of belonging to a Community of Faith. Registration forms and envelopes are available in the foyer of the church.

NOTE: PICTURES & VIDEOS ARE NOT PERMITTED DURING OUR LITURGIES

St. Paul the Apostle

P.O. Box 789, 190 King St. S.,

Alliston, ON L9R 1V9

OFFICE HRS: Tues-Fri 9-4:30 p.m.

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Immaculate Conception

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Alliston, ON L9R 1V1

Rectory: 705-435-0131

www.stpaulsalliston.com

Secretary: Deborah Donnelly, Ext. 21

Pastoral Team: Pastor: Fr. Alan Glass

father.glass@gmail.com

Deacon: Desmond Carroll

Youth Minister: Dave McKendrick, EXT. 24

or email Dave: *allistonlifeteen@gmail.com*

Text Dave @ 647-237-1347



3rd Sunday of Advent ~ 13 December 2015

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming." — Lk 3:15-16a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC.

First Reading + Zephaniah 3:3.14 – 18a
Second Reading + Philippians 4:4-7
Gospel + Luke 3:10-18

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 14
 NO MASS SCHEDULED

Tuesday, December 15

****8:00am**+Rosemary O'LEARY, RIP – Staff, St Paul's School
 7:00pm+Lessons & Carols – for St. Paul's School

Wednesday, December 16

8:00am+Joseph BOGUCKI, RIP – T/C Martins

Thursday, December 17

8:00am+Thanksgiving for Angels of Care of St. Paul's
 10:30am+Mass at the Good Samaritan

Friday, December 18

12:10pm+Richard CRONIN, RIP – M Cronin

Saturday, December 19

(Morning Mass at Immaculate Conception)

9:00am+Ashlyn HARRIS, RIP – T Gillespie
 5:00pm+Colin LANDRY, RIP – D/R Sampson & T Landry

Sunday, December 20

9:00am+FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
 10:30pm+Thanksgiving for L/T KEOGH – M Murphy/M Webb

FROM THE DESK OF FR. GLASS:

The water-cooler Catholic.

Many years ago, when I was taking part in a parish Bible-study, one of our group would recount his workplace experiences as the "water-cooler Catholic." Whenever anyone in the office had some question about the Catholic Church he was the go-to guy for answers. Whether it related to something in the news or in their private lives, they turned to him as a reliable source of information. There were probably other Catholics in his office, but he was the one who got the job because he was casually up-front about his faith and approachable.

Nobody can be expected to have an answer for every question about the faith and the Church — a fool can ask more questions than a wise man can answer — but candor and sincerity go a long, long way. It is moreover an effective means of evangelization: informing others of the truths of our Catholic faith. What is required in this type of everyday evangelization is not eloquence but faithfulness.

The water-cooler Catholic certainly needs to be knowledgeable about the faith. As the old adage goes: *Nemo dat quod non habet* — you can't give what you don't have. But that is true for every Catholic — as St. Peter says: "Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence."

As with most things, practice makes perfect. It is usually not comfortable being put on the spot, but that itself is a motivation to improve one's own knowledge. The best way to master a subject is to teach it. St. Augustine said: "I must also acknowledge, incidentally, that by teaching I have myself learned much that I did not know."

When I was working as an engineer, the office was mostly a religion-free environment. If there were any Catholics, they were flying below the radar. When I was leaving to enter the Seminary, many of my fellow workers came by to congratulate me. It was the first time that we recognized each other as fellow Catholics.

St. Theresa of Avila says: "The most we have to strive for in the beginning is to care for oneself alone and consider that there is nothing on earth but God and oneself — and this practice is very beneficial." When we are still "beginners" in the faith, it is natural that we should be too concerned about by own relationship with God to worry about others. But once we are established in our own faith we should be able to share our faith with holy boldness.

Jesus tells us: "You are the light of the world. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others." It is not always comfortable letting our light shine, but as the Letter to Diognetus says: "God has assigned us such a high position, and we are not allowed to abandon it."

Help for the Homeless

We are asking for your support to bring the following items to either Confirmation Sessions, St. Paul's Church Masses, Edge Nights and Life Teen Nights.

- Adult Winter Clothing, especially socks, coats, shoes, boots mitts, gloves, scarves, shirts, pants, blankets, belts, new underwear hygiene products, food gift cards.

- Edgers (grade 6-8) will also be baking/wrapping cookies.

- Life Teen (high School teens) will be sorting, bagging, and then delivering the items to homeless on Toronto streets on December 29.

PARISH CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Confessions

Every Saturday: 4:00-4:45 pm
(before 5:00 pm Mass)

Every Tuesday 6:15-6:45 pm

There will be *no* confessions on December 24th.

NOTE: All Sunday Masses for the weekend of December 26 & 27 will be at regular Mass times.

Christmas Mass Times

At Saint Paul the Apostle Church

Thurs. December 24th at 5p.m.; 7:30p.m. & 12 midnight

Friday, December 25th at 10:30 am

At Immaculate Conception Church

Friday, December 25th at 9:00 am

New Year's Eve Mass Times:

At Saint Paul the Apostle Church

Thursday, December 31 at 5:00 pm

Friday, January 1st at 10:30 am

At Immaculate Conception Church

Thursday, December 31 at 12 midnight

Friday, January 1st at 9:00 am



Christmas Smiles Campaign:

In the past we have raised \$200 -\$400 to give a healthy meal to children in developing countries. This year we would like to raise enough money to adopt a new child from the Philippines as Erwin has moved on.

Answer Christ's Call ~ by joining many Parishes around N. America answering the call to serve the poor. During the Advent season, Parishes will place a metal container in front of the altar. At Offertory time, the pastor asks the children to come forward and drop coins in the tin. Along with the joyful noise, this special moment in the mass teaches the importance of charity and stewardship.

CHALICE ~ *Largest Canadian Catholic Child Sponsorship*



CWL 2016 MEMBERSHIP DUES

We are quickly approaching the dead-line of Dec. 31, 2015 of our membership campaign. Our memberships have to be collected and remitted to the CWL National office on Jan. 1, 2016.

Please enclose the fee of \$25 in the CWL envelope in your church offertory box or the pre-printed envelopes on the bulletin board. It can be dropped in the collection basket at weekend masses, the CWL mail box or the church office. Submitting your fee on time will prevent interruption of your League magazine as well as the years of service.

Weekly Collection: Thank you for your continued Support!
Sunday Offering: \$6,502.00



Catholic Ministry to Grades 6-8

Extended EDGE Night

Wednesday, December 30, ~ 1:00pm – 8:30p.m.

Tobogganing, Dinner & Movie

To help the youth grow a deeper understanding of the season of Christmas and how we are called to say yes to Jesus Christ in our lives.



Catholic Ministry to Grades 9-12

Next LIFE Night

Saturday, December 19, 5-9pm

Christmas Celebration

Jubilee Year of Mercy

The Jubilee Year of Mercy begins on December 8, 2015 and concludes on November 20, 2016. Eight holy doors in the Archdiocese of Toronto open on Sunday, December 13. Visit <http://bit.ly/mercyholydoors> for a list of Holy Doors and information on obtaining the Jubilee Indulgence.

In this Year of Mercy (announced by Pope Francis) why not consider a daily reading of the The Divine Mercy delivered free by email to your phone or computer. Follow this link . <http://www.lighthousecatholicmedia.org/divinemeracy>

Lions Club Christmas Hampers:

Food items and unwrapped toys can be dropped of at the Church. The hampers will be delivered to hundreds of families in Alliston and surrounding area on December 21, 2015.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

'Sponsor A Family' for Christmas, please call Paul Healy @ 705- 435-4951



We wish to congratulate the families of the following children who have entered in to the Roman Catholic Community through the Holy Sacrament of **BAPTISM:** Sienna Marie BULHOES; Chloe Anne GRAHAM; Brianna Seraphina PAU PRETO; Alexander John James PAU PRETO and Noah Joseph TIBURCIO.

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