



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

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

Vocation to Religious Life

I wrote last week about vocations to the priesthood. Here in St. Paul's especially we also should have vocations to religious life front and centre of our minds. First off, I would say it seems to be a bit confusing for people. I don't know how many times I've been asked: "What community of priests do you belong to?" When I tell them I don't belong to a religious community they are often surprised, not realizing that diocesan priests are ordained but have not taken the vows of a religious community. We belong to our local bishop and diocese.

Religious life is marked by two important qualities. Each community has a specific spirituality or spiritual tradition and a specific kind of apostolate, literally a way of giving witness to the Good News. Depending on what communities you may have met in your lifetime you could have a wide variety of visions of what religious life entails.

Almost all religious communities embrace the "evangelical counsels" of poverty, chastity and obedience. Contemplative communities based in monasteries may also take a vow of stability – staying in the same place. The purpose of these vows is to give witness not just to the future hope of God's kingdom, but to make it easier to manifest



ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO - ORDINATION CLASS OF 2022

a communion with Christ and His reign in the present. Think of the pressures to earn money to flaunt one's success that are almost omnipresent in our world. Religious life helps us all to become more detached from these concerns and become focused on what is actually important, living our lives in love of God and neighbour. Are the sacrifices involved difficult? Yes, but in other ways they are liberating as well.

Locally, we are familiar with religious communities like the 'Sisters of St. Joseph', the 'Congregation of Notre Dame', the 'Sisters of Loretto', the 'Sisters of Life', and the 'Capuchin Friars'. These are all communities that have a spiritual heart of prayer and whose work is actively present to the world.

In many parts of the world religious women and men are leaders in the daily lives of Catholics. The largest identifiable group of people associated with the Catholic Church worldwide are called

catechists who, prepare people for sacraments, tend to pastoral needs, orchestrate ongoing formation and common prayer and who cultivate other leaders within the wider community. This is true also in some of Canada's remotest places and represents an important part of healing our relationship with indigenous peoples.

The simple reality of the Church is that in most of the Church's history the labourers have been few relative to the tasks they are called to respond to. I have no doubt the Holy Spirit continues to call forth people to religious life. Pray to the One whose harvest it is to provide happy and generous labourers who work in a variety of ways but who sing the same song of God's praise.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ EVENTS

Take a tour of St. Paul's



Curious about the beautiful artwork, the tragedy of the Irish or the building's history? Why is St. Paul's a Basilica and how can you know that you are in a building of importance?

Tours take place after the Saturday 4:30 pm and

Sunday 11 am Masses. Meet at the back of the church and a volunteer tour guide will take you on a short journey through the church.

Ordination Prayer Vigil

You are invited to attend the Ordination Prayer Vigil, for our soon-to-be priests. This beautiful event is being held at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica on Friday, May 13 starting with Mass at 5:30 p.m. followed by the vigil from 6 p.m. to midnight. For more information, please contact the Office of Vocations at vocations@archtoronto.org

World Day of Prayer for Vocations – May 8th

Sunday, May 8th is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. May each baptized person remember he/she is called to respond to God's love. Please ask the Lord what He is calling you to do to build the kingdom. Pray for Vocations. Thank you for all your continued support and prayers.

Please Get Involved!



We are inviting parishioners to consider getting involved in different parish ministries. We are currently seeking volunteers for Children's Liturgy and Sacramental Preparation Instructors, Ushers and Ministers of Hospitality, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Eucharistic Ministers for sick and shut-ins and Altar Servers.

Workshops for each ministry will be held in the upcoming weeks. The parish depends on and is grateful for the support of our parishioners through their time and talents. Please consider volunteering for one or more ministries. If interested, please call the parish office at 416-364-7588 to sign up.

Theology on Tap East: Debt, Taxes, Savings...God? What's Happening with My Money?

Monday, May 09, 2022 from 7 to 9pm Willie Stouts Pub and Grill, 2175 Sheppard Ave. E., North York



Scan for more info

Theology on Tap East invites all young adults (19-39) to join us for our next event on being stewards of our money, featuring Dean Penafiel. Looking at the different financial challenges that a young adult faces, this evening will feature a talk on personal finances. Night starts at 7 p.m. Bring your friends!



Weekly Mass Intentions

- Saturday, May 7 4:30 pm ♦ Resul Ross
Sunday, May 8 8:30 am ♦ For the People 11:00 am ♦ Mario Anecchini
Tuesday, May 10 5:00 pm ♦ Manuela Puziarski
Wednesday, May 11 5:00 pm ♦ Manuela Puziarski
Thursday, May 12 5:00 pm ♦ Manuela Puziarski
Friday, May 13 5:00 pm ♦ Manuela Puziarski

An Ontario Election Debate from a Catholic Perspective

On Wednesday, May 18 starting at 7:30 p.m. the Archdiocese of Toronto will host an Ontario Election Debate from a Catholic Perspective, featuring representatives from the major political parties. The debate will be livestreamed on the archdiocese's Facebook page and YouTube channel, and it will be broadcasted live on Salt+Light TV. Peter Stockland, publisher of The Catholic Register, will be the moderator and will ask the candidates how they will respond to the concerns of Ontario's Catholics. For more information visit archtoronto.org/election



4th Sunday of Easter May 8, 2022

ShareLife and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations

When you support ShareLife, you help educate our future priests. Through ShareLife, you invested in our Church's future by supporting 60 seminarians at St. Augustine's Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary in this past academic year.

If you haven't yet contributed, please make your sacrificial gift through the parish office or at sharelife.org.

Thank you for supporting ShareLife!

2022 Offertory Envelopes

If you have not already done so, please pick up your Offering Envelopes for 2022 which are available at the back of the church.

Online Credit Card Donations

If you collect points or miles on your credit card, donating to St. Paul's online is a great option.



You can make a single donation or set up a recurring gift. Donations can be directed as you wish: Offertory, Building Fund etc. For a single donation, a tax receipt will be immediately generated and emailed to you. If you decide to set up a recurring monthly gift, a tax receipt will be mailed out at the end of the year.

To make an online credit card donation visit our website: www.stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org and select the "Donate" button. Please ensure that "St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto" is selected from the Parish drop down menu when signing up.

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