



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 of Married Life

As a little follow-up to last week, I thought a few words about marriage might be good.

One of the privileges I have as a parish priest is to work with couples preparing for marriage. I have worked with something like seven hundred (700) of them over the years. I learned early on that this time ahead of the wedding itself is especially important. During the year or so before the wedding, a couple is usually beginning to make real their vision of life together. As a priest, being involved with them is a wonderful opportunity to accompany them and hear them share the way that God is present in this vocation of mutual self-giving. And from it there is a natural generosity, open to changed lives . . . and new ones! Our reading from Revelations refers to it today.

I began to realize that this accompaniment was worthwhile and started to have four interviews with each couple, a process that I have honed over the years. Still, today our first meeting is one where we look at this exalted time just before marriage, take time to get to know each other a little and begin to aim ourselves toward the goal of cementing God's grace of love and communion.



The second interview we take a serious look at the content and commitments of marriage. It is a time of mainly one-on-one discussions. At the end of that interview, we discuss the opportunities that the marriage preparation course provides as a tool to see all that is good and even some of what may be “bad” or “ugly.” Marriage is about marrying the whole person and not just their personality. The tools we put in our kit bag on the way, perform a critical role in growing more and more deeply into that life of love and communion. Our “tender spots” need compassion and encouragement. Most couples I have met are significantly together because this quality is present in both partners. The course lets them see that mirrored in one brief period of time, giving them the sense of what they bring to marriage as well as some possible tasks that lay ahead.

The third interview follows the completion of the prep course and is a fantastic opportunity for feedback and

sharing. I enjoy their sharing and the recognition of the strengths they have as well as the areas that will benefit from attention over time.

The last interview focuses on the liturgy itself. They share their experience of the Word of God in choosing the scripture texts for the day and we talk about the way that all this love is going to be embodied in the celebration of the sacrament. We close off the period of preparation and then launch into “proclamation,” the love of God that they have received through family and friends and all that good grace in the life of the Spirit. The couple are the ministers of the Sacrament after all. They proclaim God's acts of grace in a special way and even more by the living out of their vocation.

More on marriage and family to come.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ EVENTS

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

Doors Open Toronto – May 28 & 29, 2022

St. Paul's Basilica will be participating in this year's Doors Open event. The parish will be open to the public on Saturday, May 28th from 10 am to 1 pm and Sunday, May 29th from 12 pm to 5 pm. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in volunteering for this event.



Scan for more info

Other nearby locations also participating are: Little Trinity Church, Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, Daniels Spectrum, Toronto's First Post Office, St. Lawrence Hall, The Market Gallery and many more. To learn more about Doors Open please visit their website toronto.ca/doorsopen or scan the QR code.



Free Webinar! Estate Planning from a Catholic Perspective Saturday, May 28, 2022, at 9:00 am

Join this online seminar and learn about the importance of a Will, Powers of Attorney & Estate Planning as well as Catholic teachings and traditions around cremation. The Archdiocese of

Toronto estate planning team & Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services will share:

- How to protect your loved ones with a proper Will
- How to ensure that your wishes are legally protected
- About Powers of Attorney
- Estate Trustee selection
- Finding lawyers and estate planning advisors
- Our Catholic traditions around wills, cremation, burial, and funeral

To register, send an email to: development@archtoronto.org

Please include **'Webinar May 28'** in the subject line and provide your **name in the body of a message**. For statistical purposes, please include if you will watch this online seminar alone or together with a family member.

You will receive a link closer to the online seminar.

Thank you to Gord McCarroll!



Gord McCarroll, who has served as the Parish Custodian for the past few years, will be retiring. He has been a faithful and friendly presence in our community and a loved member of our parish family.

Gord's last day working on our site will be Friday, May 13, 2022. On behalf of our entire parish community, the parishioners and parish staff, we wish Gord a happy, healthy, and enjoyable retirement.

Thank you, Gord, for your service to the community and we extend to you and your family our best wishes and prayers for the future.

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.

5th Sunday of Easter May 15, 2022

ShareLife Goal Update!

Thus far our parish has raised \$15,773 toward our goal of \$50,000.

"Our goal can be met, but only with your help. I invite you to join today's generation of heroes by making a sacrificial gift to ShareLife. As you contemplate the blessings God has entrusted to you, please join me in giving to ShareLife to the best of your ability." – Cardinal Thomas Collins

The final ShareLife Sunday of the year is June 5. Please give generously through the parish or at sharelife.org. Thank you for living the Gospel!

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.



Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 14

4:30 pm ♦ † Greg Szpara

Sunday, May 15

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

Tuesday, May 17

5:00 pm ♦ Mario Anecchini

Wednesday, May 18

5:00 pm ♦ Manuela Puziarski

Thursday, May 19

5:00 pm ♦ Manuela Puziarski

Friday, May 20

5:00 pm ♦ Manuela Puziarski

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