

ST. PAUL'S BASILICA EST. 1822~FIRST CATHOLIC PARISH IN TORONTO

STAFF

Fr. Robert O'Brien Pastor

Lynett Wilson Admin / Communications

Cathy LeBlanc Sacristan **Rev. Antanios Farah, OAM** In Residence. Hospital Chaplain

Jason Lo Bookkeeper

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 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; Registraition 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

Rowing Together to Raise Up our Parish Life

90 - 4

Coming out of COVID we are all seeing the landscape change; some things for the better. Many of us have realized we are happy to run around less and spend more time with the people who are central in our life. It has also left many isolated or at least hesitant. As a new pastor here at St. Paul's I feel there are many parishioners I have not met yet and some I may never meet because of the long break away from being gathered together.

As we resume the full rhythm of parish life we are carrying more costs. Our churches were greatly helped by the government subsidies offered for salaries and even heating bills during the pandemic. These additional funds kept us going especially when we could not be gathered. These programs are ending lowering revenue while we are resuming activities and increasing expenses.

Given the size of our site, the age and quality of our church building, maintenance, utilities and repairs are significant constant expenses as well as having adequate staff to support the parish's mission and administration.

We have seen more people donating online at stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org (QR code).

NOTEWORTHY You are invited to join us as we celebrate our

Pre-authorized giving directly from people's bank accounts has also provided needed steady income. The parish has relied

on extraordinary income from weddings primarily. While we can expect a steady flow of weddings still, we are sacrificing valuable weekend time when we could be building our parish life. As I remarked in one of my earlier pieces, it would be great to see retreats for prayer groups and lay movements from around the Archdiocese. This has the potential to provide important revenue as well. But we cannot escape the fact that we need to do what we can to support our parish life. A little steady effort from each of us will help seed the resources to complement our mission to share Christ with each other and the wider world.

Here are few remarks from Jason Lo, our bookkeeper in his input regarding the financials for July 2022.

- » Net Revenue is down -\$35K / -59% vs July 2021, but last year included a \$33K receipt for insurance, so the "real" variance is closer to -\$2K
- » Weekly offertory continues to trend down vs last year (-\$813 / -5%)
- » Expenses additional spend of about \$7.5K

I will be meeting with the Finance Council early in the fall and we will be preparing to give you regular reports and ongoing information about the finances, administration and projects of the parish. Life is in the details, so it can be complicated but we will try to keep things distilled and clear enough to give you a realistic picture.

Just last weekend three more families registered in the parish. Some happy faith vitality from all of us will help our community to embrace more people as the effects of the pandemic subside. Each of us is important to the parish community and to those who are looking at this bulletin online and are still at home, I say simply, that I hope you know the love of God and the beneficial effects of the prayer of this whole community for and with you.

Enjoy your Labour Day Weekend and may the fall bring us all closer together after what has been a welcome summer for many of us able to see friends and family at last.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

SEPTEMBER 18тн, 2022

11:00 AM IN THE MAIN CHURCH

Celebratory Mass Presided by: His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins

12:30 PM IN THE PARISH HALL

Light Refreshments, Traditional Irish Music, Ministry Fair and more



* News

Season of Creation 2022



The annual event of Season of Creation begins on September 1, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology.

Each year an ecumenical steering committee selects a theme, and this year inspiration is taken from Psalm 19:1-4 that proclaims, "Listen to the Voice of Creation." A short video to introduce this season may be watched via QR code or this link, youtu.be/WyjUTvGmliI

LISTENIN to Indigenous Voices



Lecture Series – Listening to Indigenous Voices

The Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice has recently published a dialogue guide,

in partnership with Indigenous elders and knowledge keepers, 'Listening to Indigenous Voices: A Dialogue Guide on Justice and Right Relationships'. Elder Bob Philips and Fr. Trevor Scott S.J. will introduce this dialogue process through a series of four monthly encounters and reflections, Thursdays starting



at 7 pm, September 15, October 13, November 10 and December 8, at St. Peter's Church. To learn more visit stpeterstoronto.ca or scan the QR code.

Vacation/Holiday Office Hours



Due to staff vacations and the Labour Day holiday, the parish office will be closed from Friday, September 2nd to Tuesday, September 6th. The office will reopen on Wednesday, September 7th.

> Have a Happy and Safe Labour Day Holiday Weekend!

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



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, September 3 4:30 pm ♦ **†**Joseph & Louise Purcell

Sunday, September 4 8:30 am **+ T**Raymond & Helen Cuneo 11:00 am \blacklozenge For the People

> Tuesday, September 6 5:00 pm ♦ **†**Bernard Whelan

Wednesday, September 7 5:00 pm ♦ **†**Arceli Ramos

Thursday, September 8 5:00 pm ♦

Friday, September 9 5:00 pm ♦



Mass Intention Scheduling

Mass Intentions are accepted for all parish Masses, contingent on availability.

The offering for a scheduled / announced date is \$20 per Mass and \$10 per Mass for an unscheduled / unannounced intention.

To schedule a Mass intention, please call the office at 416-364-7588 or send an email to stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org.

200th Anniversary Celebration Volunteer Sign-up

Forms are available at the back of the church for those who would like to help during our 200th Anniversary Celebration on September 18th. You will be contacted with more information on the specific tasks and scheduling closer to September 18th.

