



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
Website: stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org

SACRAMENTS

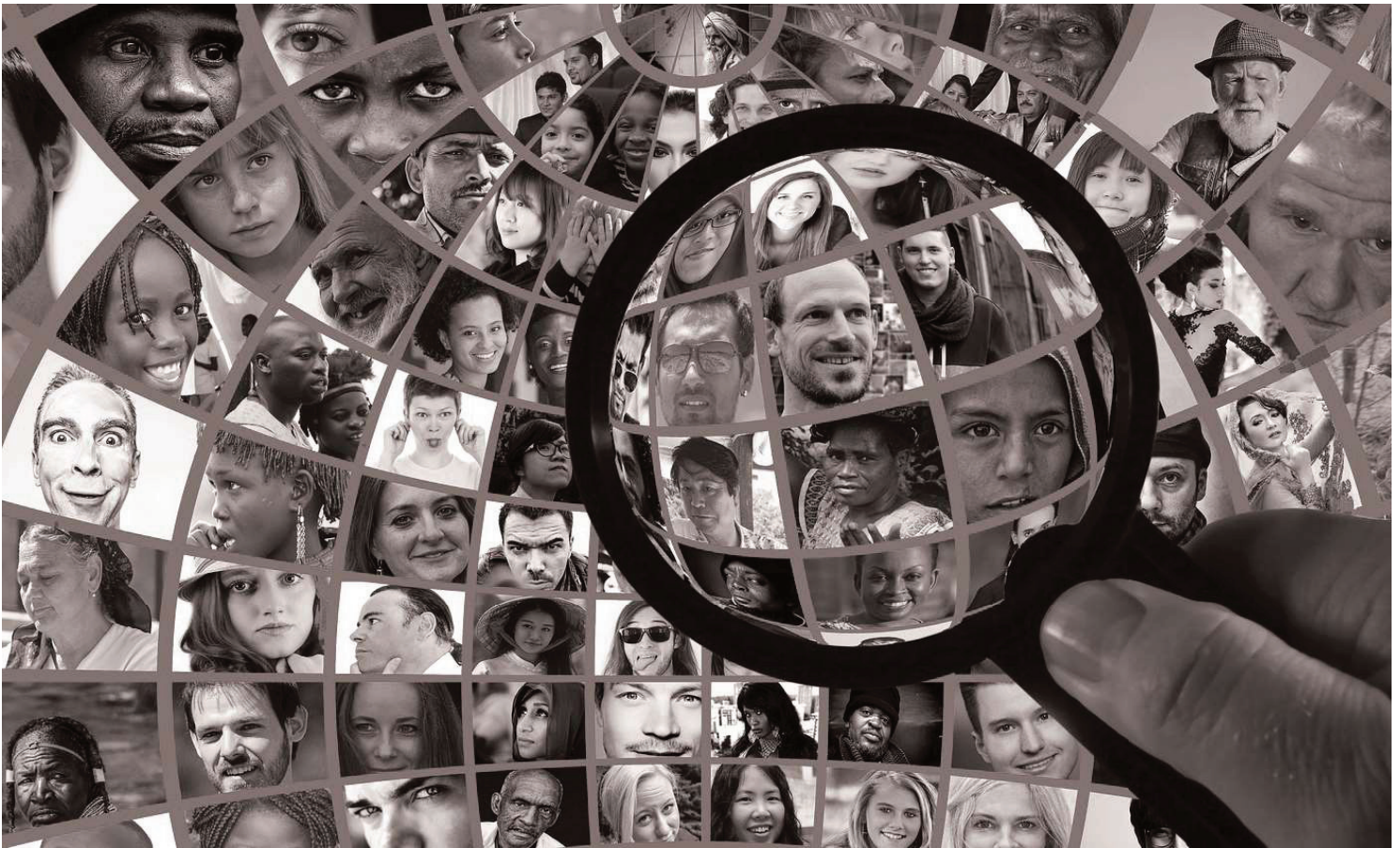
Please contact us for more information on preparing for and receiving a Sacrament at St. Paul's Basilica.

- ♦ 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



The Unsung Power of Acquaintances

Sometimes what is best in our life goes unnoticed. Why? Often, I think, it is because it works. Then, when we feel ourselves off balance we look for “solutions” and it is comforting to have something large and significant to “solve” the problem.

In society, this is why we are hearing, seeing and reading so much about leadership. The media world in which we live loves “talking heads”, people telling us stuff. I wonder, sometimes, if too many of us want to be leaders and whether that is part of what can make some of us unhappy. We get set up for a lifetime of competition ... even if it is only with ourselves. The behaviour we are schooled in by this media-driven environment is quite far from the interior discipline that can help us on the road to holiness. Being a modern leader requires us to seek the recognition of others, often to an exaggerated degree. Holiness moves us in a different direction. We come to live not for ourselves but to reflect God’s divine and saving love, something that often asks us to overlook problems and the faults of others and to creatively find ways to give hope instead.

Many years ago, I ran into a book by a McGill prof, Henry Mintzberg, and I liked his somewhat contrarian vantage point. He has written a whole slew of books on the importance of managing that serve as a kind of counterpoint to all this yacking about leadership. We don’t notice when things are going well and smoothly, but there are good reasons for it.

Some of those reasons have to do with having a healthy community of people. As individuals we need it; and for us to do anything together as a community, we need it too!

There are many contributing factors that help us to thrive in our Christian lives but one of them is simply having a diverse enough set of relationships that feed, gently challenge us and quietly help us to be formed more easily into disciples of the Lord Jesus. Family is important and so are friends, but acquaintances are also important. In the virtual world we are in now it seems more difficult to have diverse acquaintances, people we “rub shoulders with” regularly. I mentioned last week that we will be starting a social committee for the parish soon. The relaxed encounters we have will, I am sure, have a profound effect on the pastoral work we take up in the years to come. The faith is rich here and we cannot help but grow more deeply in our faith by such encounters. Then, when we pray together, the graces we are praying for are likely to be more fruitful.

Let’s ask the Lord to help us to be the kind of organic community that naturally holds up the graces of everyone for the sake of our shared mission to reflect Jesus’ saving love.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NEWS

Collection Counters Workshop



The parish will be hosting a training workshop on **Sunday, January 22,**

at 2 pm, for all those who are currently involved in or are interested in learning more about the collection counting ministry. The goal of this workshop is to ensure that current volunteers are familiar with and following the current procedures as well as ensuring all screening requirements and checks are up to date. Prospective volunteers will be introduced to the ministry and given the opportunity to apply for an interview should they wish to join.

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Annual week of prayer for Christian Unity Prayer Service

January 22th at 4 pm; Theme: "Do good; seek justice" (Isaiah 1:17)

Join His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (73 Simcoe St. at King St. W. in Toronto) on Sunday January 22, 2023, at 4 p.m. This event is jointly organized by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches.

Celebration of Marriage Mass with Bishop Nguyen

February 12, 2023 at 2:30 pm at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica - 65 Bond St.

As part of Marriage Sunday 2023 celebrations, Bishop Vincent Nguyen will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, especially those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2023. Scan the QR code or visit archtoronto.org/marriage for info and to register.



Momentum Toronto Catholic Single Mothers Gathering

Saturday, January 21 - 1:30 to 3 pm at St. Peter's Parish; 840 Bathurst St., Toronto

Momentum Toronto Catholic Single Mothers' Group is a faith community for Single Mothers in the Archdiocese. Join us for fellowship, prayer, and tea on January 21st, at St. Peter's Church in the parish hall. Visit momentummothers.org or scan the code for more. Children are welcome.



Weekend Collection Summary

	2023	2022	Diff
Last Wkd	\$2,746	\$1,498	+\$1,248
Mth Total	\$4,356	\$10,889	-\$6,533

Faith & Reason Lecture Series

Faith, Reason & Beauty – Guest Speaker Prof. Randy Boyagoda

January 26th - 7 pm at the Newman Centre Catholic Mission - 89 St. George St.



In this lecture, Professor Randy Boyagoda (UofT English Department) argues that the great interest, in recent years, in horror movies is indicative of a suppressed but enduring desire for faith and beauty. Situating his discussion in the context of the Catholic intellectual tradition, Professor Boyagoda makes a case for how to best to cultivate an openness to the transcendent in mundane times. Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/3UETiip for info.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 14

4:30 pm ♦ For the People

Sunday, January 15

8:30 am ♦ † Amanda & Alfredo Gabat & their daughter Cynthia Barachina

11:00 am ♦ † Nilda Valencia

Tuesday, January 17

5:00 pm ♦

Wednesday, January 18

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

Thursday, January 19

5:00 pm ♦

Friday, January 20

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

Kindergarten Registration!

Beginning January 25th, 2023, parents/guardians may register their children, born in 2019, for Junior Kindergarten this September. For more information or to apply, visit tcdsb.org/page/kindergarten-registration



2023 Offertory Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for 2023 will be available at the back of the church next weekend. The boxed sets will be organized alphabetically. Please make sure to pick up only the box with your name on it.

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.



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