

Living the Gospel



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❖ A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Culture and Community

In a society full of diverse distractions while focused on productivity, our lists get pretty long.

At the same time, all this planning can have an adverse effect on our sense of community. While a percentage of people thrive in making and keeping lists, I'd say more than 50% of us don't. And what we lose is the sense of spontaneity and maybe even the depth and reliability we would otherwise feel in some of our relationships. In our relationship with the Church the inertial gear pushes us to credit it as another function or thing to do during the week.

This doesn't fit with the early experience of believers and it takes away the more natural instinct we might have to be neighbours to one another. It is a challenge but also an opportunity to develop the space in our parish life to facilitate the kinds of mutual encounter that will help us to be neighbours to one another. Community is most profound when it is on a human scale and when it remains open to others outside the group.

I will be reposting a youth ministry job for the parish. This time, it will be a part-time position and hopefully we will find the right candidate to reach out to our St. Paul's students and their families and to younger adults as well. After that I am going to look at other ways to strengthen our capacity to provide opportunities to be enriched and engaged in the life of faith. I will have more to say about that as plans show potential of coming to fruition.

The parish needs you. I would love to have a marriage preparation course here at St. Paul's since I am already working with a fairly large number of couples. I'd also like to start something I've informally called, "Marriage Prep Alumni", a gathering 2 or 3

times a year for couples in the first years of marriage to visit the themes of married life as a vocation, to simply get to know one another, and to pick up from one another a few more tools for living marriage well. I would be looking for at least two couples and ideally four who would take on this area of ministry.

Similarly, if we get youth ministry off the ground, family-oriented ministry will soon follow. To move from that sense of juggling the never-ending lists to grounded peaceful relationships at home, I am sure a little shared effort will bear great fruit.

On the explicitly spiritual side, I would love to introduce Eucharistic Adoration in a way and at a time that would work for people in the parish. I would also like to begin a process to familiarize people with the Prayer of the Church, the Liturgy of the Hours. I know, in the past we have had Taizé prayer. That is usually a form of Evening or Night Prayer. In the longer term, I would like to develop the capacity here to offer days of retreat several times a year and for various groups across the Archdiocese that would take advantage of the parish's identity as the Mother Church. For that, we, ourselves, need be gathered more deeply and often for prayer.

All of these things may or may not be possible but by taking a run at them we will surface all kinds of fruits that we will be able to use to live the Gospel more fully. It would be great if more of our mutual life lands in all of our schedules.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NEWS

Parish Collection Summary

March	2023	2022	Diff
Last Wkd	\$ 1,910	\$ 2,101	↓ \$ 488
Mth Total	\$ 6,092	\$ 9,978	↓ \$ 3,886



Paschal Triduum Schedule

Palm Sunday / April 2

4:30 pm (Saturday Vigil)
8:30 am & 11:00 am

Holy Thursday / April 6

(No 5:00 pm Mass)

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:00 pm
Adoration until 9:30 pm

Good Friday / April 7

The Lord's Passion
1:00 pm & 3:00 pm

Stations of the Cross - 5:30 pm

Holy Saturday / April 8

Easter Vigil - 8:00 pm
(No 4:30 pm Mass)

Easter Sunday / April 9

8:30 am & 11:00 am

Lenten Reconciliation Services

Reconciliation Services will take place:

- » Every Saturday from 3:45 pm to 4:15 pm or by appointment
- » Tuesday, March 21 - 5:30 pm to 7 pm

4th Sunday of Lent

Show your love on the Feast of St. Joseph through ShareLife



Today we celebrate the feast of St. Joseph and reflect on his holy life and the way he loved and cared for Jesus and Mary.

Next week is ShareLife Sunday. May we emulate St. Joseph's example and share our blessings with the least of our brothers and sisters.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website.

Mass Intentions

The Sanctuary Lamp Burns For:

Giuliana Marrelli & Teresa Tiano

Saturday, March 18

4:30 pm ♦

Sunday, March 19

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ The Marrelli Family

Tuesday, March 21

5:00 pm ♦

Wednesday, March 22

5:00 pm ♦ † Sheila Hands

Thursday, March 23

5:00 pm ♦

Friday, March 24

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

Stations of the Cross



The 40 days of Lent are a special time of spiritual renewal in the Church. During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be prayed Friday evenings in the Church after the 5:00 pm Mass.

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.

❖ NOTEWORTHY

A Hail Mary for Pope Francis



On March 13th Pope Francis celebrated ten years of his pontificate. To highlight this milestone anniversary the Digital Synod launched an online map featuring virtual lighted candles representing the prayers of the faithful worldwide for the Pope, thanking God for His Mercy.

Anyone wishing to join this initiative are invited to pray one or more Hail Marys and add a virtual candle to the map at decimus-annus.org/site/index/



Please join us on April 7th, at 7:30 pm, as our parish hosts artistic director, Mark Wood-Salomon, organist, David Simon and the Together in Worship Canada (*TWCCA*) Choir, as they enable our reflection on Christ's death through word and music, with works by Fauré, Allegri, Victoria, Lotti, and Lobo, performed by some of Toronto's finest musicians.

Save by purchasing tickets in advance at bit.ly/3KJUCip or from parish staff after Mass or during office hours. Tickets will also be available at the door for full price: Adults: \$25; Child/Senior: \$20.



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