



# 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

**Cathy LeBlanc**  
Sacristan

**Lynett Wilson**  
Office Manager

**Jason Lo**  
Bookkeeper

**Ives Alvarez**  
Custodian

**Joseph Angelo**  
Music Director

**Allison Angelo**  
Cantor

**Andrea Cerswell**  
11 am Choir Lead

## 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 10:00 am to 5:00 pm  
(closed for lunch from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm)

## CONTACT

83 Power Street, Toronto, ON M5A 3A8 ♦ Tel: (416) 364-7588  
Fax: (416) 366-5617 ♦ Email: [stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org](mailto:stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org)  
Website: [stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org](http://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



### First Holy Communion

This weekend, at our 11am Mass, we are welcoming some of our children who will receive Holy Communion for the first time. They bring with them their hopes, joys and questions about life.

Jesus lives among us. Fed with Jesus, we are sent out not only to proclaim Christ, but try to let Christ shine! What could bring us more joy than seeing this vital gift grow through the Holy Spirit?

It has only been in the last 100 years or so that young children have been receiving Holy Communion. This step used to take place at an older age. The Holy Father of the time, Pope St. Pius X, desired that the gift of the sacrament be available as early as a child's faith and reason made possible.

Young people can show us so much about what it is to have faith, to trust, and give and not count the cost. The lives of young people can benefit so much from the nourishment of Holy Communion. As adults we can forget to be energized by Jesus' presence in the Eucharist. Maybe we are looking to be comforted instead of being roused. Regaining a keen sense of joy and fulfillment helps us find peace ourselves.

Let us not think only of the innocence of children. While learning still so much about life, they often carry unseen burdens. Communion is as necessary for them as it is for anyone. And they should know that we pray also for them and for their needs.

When we reflect on Holy Communion, we think of Mary whose month it is. If I want to know what Communion is, then I look to Mary whose closeness to Jesus is so real and direct. She embodies communion with God, which means she is also so close to us.

As we receive Communion this week and every week may we contemplate the closeness of Jesus to all of us, welcoming Him, thanking Him and asking Him to help us to welcome more people in knowing Him.

Many thanks to Rosalia James for her hard work and prayerful dedication to preparing our children for their sacraments. My heartfelt congratulations to Roan Angelo, Raymond Anger, Lulia Bahta, Kesanet Berhane, Deandre Cabrante, Kai-Lee Cromwell, Keagan Cromwell, Maria Duailibe, Carmen Grewal, Lucas Hoyte, Callum Miller, Adelina Muy, Nathaniel Pereira da Silva, Maximus Reacido, and Andres Reyes who are receiving the sacrament of First Holy Communion this Sunday.

In Christ,

*Fr. Bob*

# ❖ NEWS

## Parish Collection Summary

April	2023	2022	Diff
Last Wkd	\$ 3,195	\$ na	↑ \$ 3,195
Mth Total	\$ 21,284	\$ 16,787	↑ \$ 4,498

*Thank you for supporting our parish!*

## Take a tour of St. Paul's Basilica



Curious about the building's architecture and beautiful artwork, the connection to the Irish and the tragic epidemics, or the historic importance of the Parish within Toronto and why it is now a Basilica? Self-guided tour booklets are available or speak to one of the ushers after the 11 am Sunday Mass about a guided journey through the church.

## Today is Mental Health Sunday



issues, listening, and sharing information, opens doors to seeking help, and healing.

Br. Peter Poel, a Capuchin-Franciscan, is a priest-chaplain at Poverello Charities, a Christian community for people with mental illness. He will be at our Masses today to share about the importance of mental health. To learn more about Poverello Charities visit ['bit.ly/Poverello'](https://bit.ly/Poverello). Additional mental health resources can be found at ['archtoronto.org/mentalhealth'](https://archtoronto.org/mentalhealth) or by scanning the QR code.



## Our Next Coffee Social!



The parish's Social Committee will host a Coffee Social on the weekend of June 3rd & 4th, following each Mass, in our parish hall. All are welcome and encouraged to stop by for coffee, tea or a sweet treat, and stay for friendly conversations with fellow parishioners! Anyone wishing to volunteer by helping to host or baking goodies to share, are asked to contact the parish office.

## 5th Sunday of Easter

*Living the Gospel through ShareLife*



Thus far our parish has raised \$22,000 toward our goal of \$46,000.

*"Your sacrificial gift will truly make a difference in the life of someone turning to a ShareLife agency in their moment of need."* – Cardinal Thomas Collins

The third ShareLife Sunday of the year is June 4. We ask you to share your blessings and give generously through the parish or at [sharelife.org](https://sharelife.org).

Thank you for living the Gospel!

## Mass Intentions

### *Sanctuary Lamp*

Giuliana Marrelli

### *Saturday, May 6*

4:30 pm ♦ † Trevor Pinheiro

### *Sunday, May 7*

8:30 am ♦ † Vaneza Marcelino &

Federico Marcelino

11:00 am ♦ For the People

### *Tuesday, May 9*

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

### *Wednesday, May 10*

5:00 pm ♦ † Jimmy KK Lau

### *Thursday, May 11*

5:00 pm ♦ Unannounced

### *Friday, May 12*

5:00 pm ♦

## Doors Open Toronto Volunteers

*May 27th & 28th, 2023*



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 27th from 10 am to 4:30 pm and Sunday, May 28th from 12 pm to 5 pm. We are looking for volunteers to fill the roles of tour guides and greeters. Training will be provided. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in volunteering for this event.

## Consider Donating Online

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'](https://stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org) or scan the QR code. Please ensure that "St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto" is selected from the Parish dropdown menu when signing up.



**5th Sunday of Easter**

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