



# 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

### St. Michael the Archangel: The Messenger of Christ's Victory Over Sin

St. Michael is the patron saint of our Archdiocese and every year the feast is celebrated on September 29th. This year, our new archbishop, Francis Leo, will receive from the Pope's representative, the pallium, the sign of his shepherding ministry in the name of Christ. Each day leading up to the celebration, you are asked to pray the novena to St. Michael the Archangel, available this weekend at the entrances of the church. As announced, this ceremony will take place during a special Mass at St. Michael's Cathedral at 5:30 pm on the 29th. Our parish Mass that day will be at 12:15 pm. Please pray for our whole local church of Toronto and for the fruits of the life and ministry of our new archbishop.

The day following the feast is a national day devoted to healing and reconciliation with our indigenous peoples in Canada. As I said in the homily last week, reconciliation is a positive action. Healing and forgiveness have to engage us. For them we will have to be patient and mature.



We all have some experiences of being hurt and know that sometimes the way forward is not easy or clear enough for us to take any comfort. With the treatment of our indigenous peoples, we can multiply these difficulties through generations and geographic displacement. Though we may not have any personal connection to the injustices wrought on them, we do share a collective responsibility as members of the Catholic family and as members of Canadian society to listen and work with our First Nations. In these early stages, the most important thing may be to learn and to listen. Since the heart of our lives as Christians is healing and reconciliation this is an important way for

us to live it. At the societal level there are also many steps to be taken. Historically, this has been messy, often with the federal and provincial governments failing to co-operate very effectively. Since I have the luxury of not being an elected official, I might suggest that at a higher plane we may need to embody the life and importance of our First Nations in our constitution. In light of the very diverse cultures we now have in Canada, simply asserting that the country has two founding cultures, English and French seems to lack something important.

Next weekend, September 30th and October 1st, in place of the planned preservation fund collection, there will be a special collection to support the commitment that our Canadian bishops have made to First Nations peoples as part of our effort at reconciliation and healing. Please be supportive.

In Christ,

*Fr. Bob*

## ❖ NOTEWORTHY



### Thanksgiving Food Drive

The parish is collecting non-perishable food on behalf of the Good Shepherd, who help provide meals for the homeless and at-risk individuals in our community. Most needed are canned foods such as tuna, tomatoes, tomato sauce, beans, soups and vegetables. Dry goods needed include cereal, granola bars, bagged rice, condiments, tea and coffee. Boxes for food are available at the front of the church through thanksgiving weekend. You can also donate financially by scanning the QR code or visiting [goodshepherd.ca/donate](https://goodshepherd.ca/donate).



### Try Alpha

*Sundays from 12 pm to 2 pm, October 1st to December 10th, in the Parish Basement*

You may have heard about the parish's plans to host an Alpha series beginning this Fall, but what exactly is Alpha...

**What is Alpha?** Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith.

**Who's it for?** Alpha is for anyone who's curious. The talks are designed to encourage conversation and explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open environment. No question is out of bounds and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you want.

Alpha

**How does it work?** Alpha runs for 7-12 sessions. Each session includes food, a short talk and discussion where you can share your thoughts and ask questions. There's no pressure, no follow up and no charge. Donations towards food costs are appreciated.

The parish will host our first Alpha series on Sundays, after the 11 am Mass, from October 1st to December 10th, in the parish basement. If you are interested in joining or learning more, please speak to Micah at the back of the church or email [mmacmullen@archtoronto.org](mailto:mmacmullen@archtoronto.org).

**September 23-24, 2023**

## Parish Collection Summary

	2023	2022	Diff
Last Wkd	\$ 2,898	\$ 8,684	↓ \$ 5,785
Mth Target	\$ 6,464	\$ 16,773	↓ \$ 7,410

*Thank you for supporting our parish!*

## Blessing of the Creatures

*Saturday, September 30th, 2023 at 3 pm  
St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Toronto*

St. Francis' Parish will be hosting a Blessing of Creatures on September 30th at 3 pm. This is a wonderful event where people can bring their pets and see them blessed. All are welcome.

## Mass Intentions

*Saturday, September 23*

4:30 pm ♦ † Louise & Joseph Purcell

*Sunday, September 24*

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ † Wilfredo Quito Trinidad

*Tuesday, September 26*

5:00 pm ♦

*Wednesday, September 27*

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

*Thursday, September 28*

5:00 pm ♦

*Friday, September 29*

12:15 pm ♦ Private Intention

## Donate 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](http://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.



## 2023 Parish Survey

As we look at ways to further foster our parish's Catholic community we hope to hear from you, our parishioners, to better understand and serve your needs. We would be very grateful if you would take a moment to fill out a survey. Paper versions are at the back of the church and can be left in the weekend collection basket or scan the QR Code to complete the survey online.

## Special Collection Date Changes

*Indigenous Healing and Reconciliation - September 30/October 1*

*Preservation Fund - October 8/9*

Our preservation fund collection, which was scheduled to take place next weekend, September 30/October 1, will be postponed until October 7/8. In its place, the archdiocese has asked that we hold a special collection in support of the Indigenous Healing and Reconciliation Fund. Envelopes for this special collection are available at the church entrances.

## Thanksgiving Weekend Holiday Schedule

The parish office will be closed for thanksgiving from Friday, September 29th, reopening on Tuesday, October 10th. Have a happy and safe thanksgiving long weekend!

## Archbishop Leo invites you to join ShareLife's fight against hunger

"It is heart-wrenching and unacceptable that anyone today lacks access to food which is a most basic human right," shares Archbishop Francis Leo. "Our parishioners are taking action in response to the Lord's call to feed the hungry. Since the earliest days of the Catholic community in the Archdiocese of Toronto, the faithful have cared for those in need, on the margins of society and we continue this life-giving legacy." Please support the fight against hunger at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate) or by giving at our parish using a ShareLife envelope. Thank you for reaching out with the hands of Christ to feed the hungry.

## Celebration of the Solemnity of St. Michael & Conferral of the Pallium upon the Most Rev. Francis Leo

*Friday, September 29, 2023 – 5:30 pm – St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica - 65 Bond St.*



The Archdiocese of Toronto celebrates the feast day of our patron, St. Michael, on Friday, September 29, 2023 at St. Michael's Cathedral. As part of the celebration, the pallium will be conferred on our archbishop, a symbol of his role as Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto and shepherd to the faithful. All are welcome to join in this special celebration for our archdiocese and archbishop! *Due to the timing of this Mass, our parish Mass on September 29th will take place at 12:15 pm rather than the usual 5 pm.*

## The 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees

This weekend is the 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees. With this year's theme being "Free to Choose Whether to Migrate or to Stay," Pope Francis acknowledges that while the decision to migrate should always be free, in many cases it is not. Please pray for all people displaced around the world, driven from their homeland because of war, persecution and injustice. Visit [migrants-refugees.va](http://migrants-refugees.va) or scan the QR code to learn more.



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