

# ST. PAUL'S BASILICA

EST. 1822 ~ FIRST CATHOLIC PARISH IN TORONTO

## STAFF

**Fr. Robert O'Brien**  
Pastor

**Fr. Antanios Farah, OAM**  
In Residence, Hospital Chaplain

**Cathy LeBlanc**  
Sacristan

**Micah MacMullen**  
Youth Minister

**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

Mass is celebrated at the Good Shepherd Centre - 412 Queen St. East,  
Monday to Friday: 12:00 pm

## CONFESSIONS

Saturdays from 3:30 pm to 4:15 pm

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

## CONTACT

📍 83 Power Street, Toronto, ON M5A 3A8 | ☎ (416) 364-7588

✉ [stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org](mailto:stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org) | 🌐 [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
- ♦ First Communion, Confirmation and RCIA;  
Registration takes place in September
- ♦ Anointing of the sick & Communion to the sick and shut-ins;  
Please call during office hours

## ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Alyson Sobol, Principal ♦ Tel: (416) 393-5204

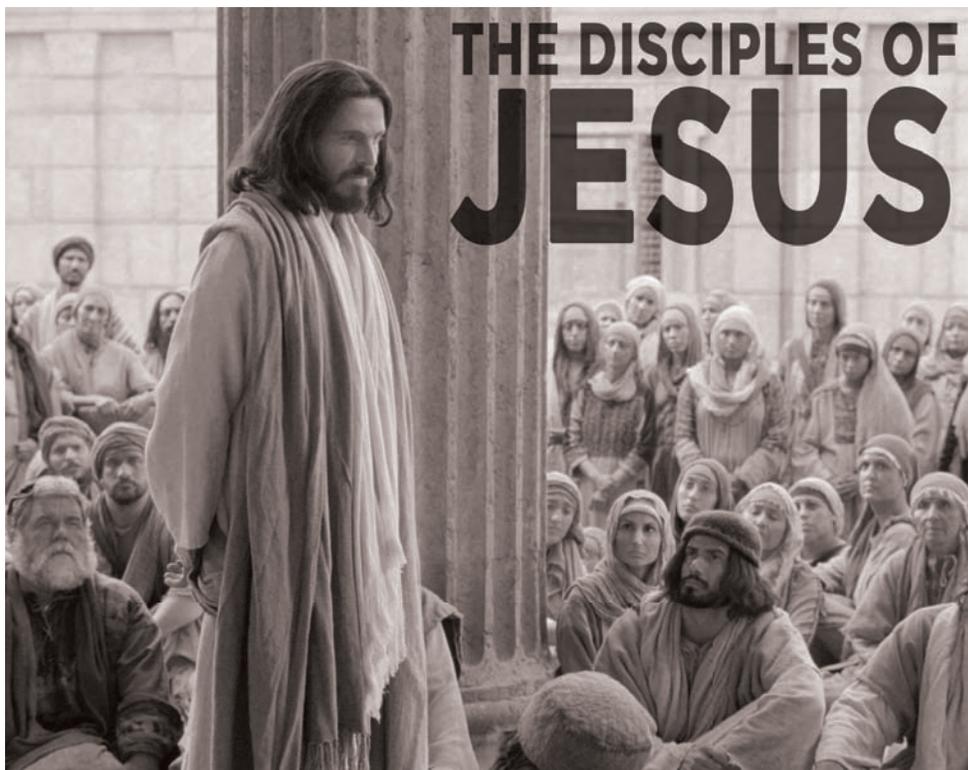
## ❖ A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

### Spiritual and Human Formation

This year we have been reading the Gospel according to St. Matthew (“Year A” in the Lectionary). Woven throughout St. Matthew’s account is a whole schooling in the life of the followers of Jesus. Jesus’ disciples go through many steps along the way. With them, we hear the parables and receive the witness of the miracles. Occasionally, we get glimpses of their very human traits. Peter can be blustery and he so obviously wears his heart on his sleeve. Matthew is very restrained about revealing himself, but we do get a very dramatic description of his conversion. James and John, the sons of Zebedee, whose mother is ambitious for them, are eventually next to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Spiritual formation helps to effect an interior change, in our behaviour, that is progressively reflected on the outside, in the choices we make and most of all in the very character of the love that we share.

Human formation has similarities. We learn in different ways. Sometimes it is the clarity of an idea. At other times, it is the physical sensation of weaving together a symphony of inputs that result in an elegant basket, or goal, that solidifies what we have learned. There are a myriad of self-help apps and books that nudge us in the direction of some personal goals that we have set.



St. John Paul II often wrote of the truth that we are called to be integral, that is, the whole of our being is called to harmonize with the new life we have been given.

God does love the whole of us. To allow ourselves to be formed more and more according to this integral identity is a beautiful thing.

We become more ourselves. It is our real self that is destined to inherit the Kingdom. So, formation, human and spiritual in the Catholic tradition is not a mechanical indoctrination, but a subtle

and lifelong relationship with God, and others, that supports us in saying, “Yes”, to God. From our bones to our heart, from the depths of our soul to the ends of our fingertips we are joined by grace.

This is why it is so important that we look for and find sources for that deep formation that will lead us to let ourselves fall into intimacy with God.

In Christ,

*Fr. Bob*

## ❖ NOTEWORTHY

### Everyone is Welcome to Try Alpha

*Every Sunday from 12 pm to 2 pm, until December 10th, in the Parish Basement*

The parish is currently hosting an Alpha series every Sunday, after the 11 am Mass, until December 10th, in the parish basement. All parishioners are welcome. 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).

**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.

**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.

Alpha

**October 14-15, 2023**

## Weekly Mass Intentions

**Saturday, October 14**

4:30 pm ♦ † Desmond Nugent

**Sunday, October 15**

8:30 am ♦ Thanksgiving from Aila Rica,  
Dorothy, Adrian Nerizon & Family

11:00 am ♦ For the People

**Tuesday, October 16**

5:00 pm ♦

**Wednesday, October 17**

5:00 pm ♦

**Thursday, October 18**

5:00 pm ♦

**Friday, October 19**

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

## Registering your child for Sacramental Preparation

Families with children ready to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation next spring can pick up a registration package from the back of the church or the parish office. The First Holy Communion parent meeting will take place on Saturday, October 21st, at 2 pm and the Confirmation parent & candidate meeting will take place on Saturday, October 28th, at 2 pm. Please see the registration package for more information.

## World Mission Sunday Special Collection, October 22, 2023

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Evangelization of the Nations, otherwise known as World Mission Sunday. This is a worldwide collection for the missionary church and it is our opportunity to assist at-need Catholic Communities globally. Offerings are combined with offerings from other Catholics around the world and distributed to missions and dioceses. We are called to share from our abundance with those less fortunate who lack the basic essentials to know, love and praise God. Thank you for your support of this important work.

## ShareLife: Combating hunger through your compassion

Many of our brothers and sisters grapple with the daily challenge of putting food on the table. In response to their urgent need, ShareLife has launched the Food Security Grants – dedicating over half a million dollars to combat hunger. Your compassionate support of our parish's ShareLife Campaign will make possible this bold action. Please support the fight against hunger at '[sharelife.org/donate](https://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.

## All Saints Day and All Souls Day Mass Schedules

On both November 1st, All Saints Day, and November 2nd, All Souls Day, the parish will celebrate Mass at 5 pm and 7 pm.

## Parish Collection Summary

	2023	2022	Diff
Last Wkd	\$ 2,450	\$ 2,053	↑ \$ 397
Mth Target	\$ 5,961	\$ 15,724	↓ \$ 9,763

*Thank you for supporting our parish!*

## 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](https://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.



## Humanitarian aid for Morocco and Libya

The Archdiocese of Toronto will accept donations and channel funds through our Catholic partners in Morocco to support relief efforts underway. Those wishing to help may do so in the following ways:

- Online at the Archdiocese of Toronto website - '[archtoronto.org](https://archtoronto.org)' or by phone at 416-934-3411
- Through the parish, making cheques payable to: St. Paul's Basilica – Morocco Earthquake - Humanitarian Relief

Currently, our Catholic partners are not present in Libya to coordinate relief efforts and as such we are unable to accept donations to aid those affected by the flooding at this time. For those wishing to offer support to the people of Libya, please consider a gift through the Canadian Red Cross, online at '[redcross.ca](https://redcross.ca)' or by phone at 1-800-418-1111.

Please continue to pray for those who have died, for those who are missing or displaced because of these tragic disasters in both Morocco and Libya and for all who are working hard to provide relief and rescue in both locations.

## Healing After Abortion: Day of Prayer and Healing for Women



The Sisters of Life are hosting a Day of Prayer and Healing, on October 28th, 2023, for women seeking healing after abortion. The day is an opportunity to experience the loving mercy of God and the joy of healing in Christ, in a confidential and sacred space. It will include a witness of mercy, a Scripture reflection, personal prayer, opportunity for Sacramental Confession, and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. There is no fee for the day, lunch will be provided. For times and locations please contact the Sisters of Life at 416-463-2722 or [toronto@sistersoflife.org](mailto:toronto@sistersoflife.org).

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