

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 |
 1 (416) 364-7588
 1 stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org |
 1 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

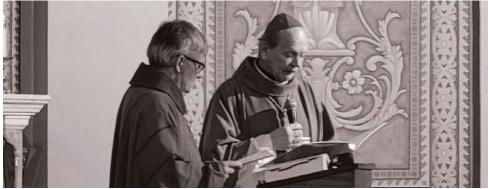
What's A Parish?

That may seem like a funny question given that St. Paul's has had over 200 years to figure it out! The reality, however, is that a parish is a living community, so its texture is always changing. Its purpose is real communion with the living God in the person of Jesus Christ.

This weekend our Archbishop, Francis Leo, is celebrating his first parish Mass here at St. Paul's. Parishes are an extension of the ministry of the bishop. He shares his responsibility with priests to whom he commits "the pastoral care of souls". We call those priests, pastors, but they are pastors in an extended sense; they embody the pastoring of the bishop. This is the essence of priestly ordination, when the bishop asks the candidate: "Do you promise respect and obedience to me and to my successors?" The priest's ministry is tied intimately to the ministry of the bishop.

Parishes are many things. Many of our parishes are very large. Even in our parish there are over 2,000 names on our database. A parish is, in part, a community that includes many smaller communities. Parishes thrive by nurturing things at that small human scale, and by paying attention to not only drawing people together, but by encouraging those smaller communities to contribute to the benefit of the whole.

Nowhere are we more one, of course, than when we celebrate the Eucharist together. We should never take that for granted. When I enter the church,



October 2021 - Bishop Kasun installs Fr. O'Brien as Pastor of St. Paul's

I see the sacredness of the place. The tabernacle welcomes me. Christ is calling out and gathering me to Himself. And we see the others who are also gathering. What graces do they bear? What are their concerns or burdens? It is a great comfort to carry one another's burdens to the Lord. We truly need one another, and we need our families and spiritual communities to be part of this holy exchange that praises God and entrusts us to the health-giving salvation Christ shares with us.

When a pastor is assigned, he is called to provide care to all the people in his territory. That means, not only those who come to church or even who are Catholic, but everyone else too! We know that pretty well here at St. Paul's because we encounter many people looking for hope in their lives. It is good for us to think about that as we are being sent out to proclaim Christ. We do have a world where many need to know that Christ cares for them. It is interesting that we do not read very much in the Gospels about the dialogue Jesus has with people. We have

some bits of conversations, of course, but not a great deal. We should pray that we can be present to others in such a way that pathways to faith in Christ are opened up. In our world where messaging is on overload, perhaps it is a gentle path that will be a doorway for many.

May the breath of the Holy Spirit lead us more deeply into communion with Christ. May Mary, who so graciously allowed grace to guide her, whisper her serene trust in God in our hearts and affectionately join us to her Son's covenant love. May the intercession of St. Paul who followed his vocation with a happy abandon, help us to be free to say, "Yes", to all that God desires of us. May we, as a community gathered by Archbishop Leo, our local shepherd, reflect harmoniously the iridescence of our faith – shining for all the world to see! We ask all these blessings through Christ, Our Lord. Amen!

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ Noteworthy

Winter Clothing, Toiletries and Food Drive

During the month of December, the parish will collect **CLEAN GENTLY USED** winter clothing, such as, coats, boots, hats, gloves, warm tops and pants. We will also collect **NEW UNOPENED** toiletries, such as, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, bar soap and shampoo as well as **NEW UNWORN** socks. These donations will benefit our neighbours the Good Shepherd Ministries and the Mustard Seed. Please separate clothing from toiletries when dropping off donations in the boxes near the altar.



Advent Cheer Coffee Social

December 16 / 17, 2023 after all Masses

Join us on Saturday, December 16 and Sunday, December 17 in the parish hall, after all Masses, for our Advent Social. Come celebrate this wonderful time of the year in fellowship and cheer! All are welcome! If you wish to help to setup or donate some Christmas themed baked goods, please contact the office.

❖ News

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 18 4:30 pm ♦ For the People

Sunday, November 19 8:30 am ♦

11:00 am ♦ † Drazen Daniel Domacina

Tuesday, November 21 5:00 pm ◆

Wednesday, November 22 5:00 pm ♦ † Francis "Frank" Doris

> Thursday, November 23 5:00 pm ◆

Friday, November 24 5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Join the Knights of Columbus

If you're interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith or obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus, Council 1388, is the organization for you. For more information, email Ross at sross4015@gmail.com.

Parish Collection Summary

| | 2023 | | 2022 | | Diff | |
|------------|------|-------|------|--------|-------------|-------|
| Last Wkd | \$ | 2,716 | \$ | 2,105 | ^ \$ | 611 |
| Mth Target | \$ | 6,722 | \$ | 13,153 | ₩\$ | 6,431 |

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

or scan the QR code. Please ensure that "St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto" is selected from the Parish drop down menu when signing up.



Little Saints: A Catholic Children's Program

Sundays from 12 pm - 2 pm



October 2023 - Little Saints pose in their Saint inspired Halloween Costumes

Open to all elementary school aged children, each Sunday will focus on a different Saint or a Saint based theme with fun games and arts & craft projects to enhance the learning experience. This is a great way to meet other children, form friendships and learn a bit more about our Catholic Faith.

Parents are welcome to stay with their children or sit in on the Alpha program while

the children work. Meet in the parish basement after the 11 am Mass. Light snacks are provided. All are welcome!

Christmas Ornament Creations

On *December 10th*, the Little Saints will be creating their very own Christmas ornaments which can taken home or placed on a tree here at the parish.

Archdiocesan Consultation Underway – Your assistance is requested!

Our archbishop, the Most Rev. Francis Leo, is inviting Catholics throughout the archdiocese to share their key priorities to help inform and guide an updated Pastoral Plan. To participate in the consultation, visit 'archtoronto.org/consultation' or scan

the QR code, to complete a brief survey by December 15, 2023, where you can offer your suggestions and insights. The process should take just a few minutes and we ask that you complete the short survey as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for sharing your insights, ideas and discernment.



A Christmas Concert by Villa Charities and Coro San Marco

Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:30 pm; Columbus Centre: 901 Lawrence Ave. W.

Celebrate the festive season with a live performance of holiday music by Coro San Marco. Under the baton of Daniele Colla, pianist Adolfo De Santis, violinist Carina Charmaine Sandejas and talented vocalists, will perform a selection of traditional Christmas music sure to get you in the holiday spirit. For more information or to purchase tickets visit 'villacharities.com/culture' or scan the QR code.



The Shepherds' Trust Special Collection, November 19, 2023

There will be a second collection on this weekend, for The Shepherds' Trust. The mission of The Shepherds' Trust is to help ensure that elderly and disabled priests are provided with sufficient financial resources to lead a dignified life after many years of ministry. Your generous gift will help our priests to maintain a modest but active and independent lifestyle in their retirement years. For priests who are ill or otherwise infirm, the Trust ensures they have access to nursing home facilities and medical care. Thank you for your support of this important work.

Praying for Our Beloved Dead in November

The "Book of Remembrance" will remain at the front of the Church until the end of this month. The names of deceased family and friends may be added and will be remembered at all Masses throughout November.

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