



ST. PAUL'S BASILICA

EST. 1822 ~ FIRST CATHOLIC PARISH IN TORONTO

STAFF

Fr. Robert O'Brien
Pastor

Fr. Keith Wallace
In Residence

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 | 🌐 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 the autumn
- ♦ 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



Everyone Has a Story

As the city gets bigger, we appear to become more anonymous. Sometimes it's okay to be anonymous; but it's not a desirable full-time occurrence. As many of you who live near St. Paul's know we have quite a few neighbours who make their home on various bits of public land. As we advocate to address the homeless crisis around us, we can easily forget that each homeless person has their own story.

Within our own circle of family and friends there may be situations where we must navigate social delicacy, if not outright social discomfort. There is an elephant in the room, and we don't know how to talk about it. Sometimes we need to be patient and wait for the right moment to do something positive in the situation.

There are many identifiable factors that affect a significant number of people experiencing homelessness. The sheer cost of housing, mental health issues, the availability and the effects of drug use that mask emotional pain, and even technological advancements that require the use of a smartphone for transactions.

Over Christmas I became concerned about one person who has been living outside near the church. We began to have short conversations, and I brought a bit of food over for several days. I was also worried about the expected cold weather conditions. A few days ago, having spent a few hours with the person, and learning the person was no longer able to walk, it was agreed that a trip to the hospital was in order.

In our conversations the most piercing thing that was said to me was: "People give me assistance, but I don't get any help." As we talked the meaning became clear; handouts happen, but no one was consistently there to help navigate the steps that would change things. What was needed were skills and relationship. The person is 60, has been homeless for 10 years and has had experiences that stoke distrust. Talking to a social worker friend of mine about what might happen next, there is no guarantee that this person will fully receive the treatment they need or that someone will help them navigate to more stable housing. The system passes them from one area to another, and it is

not surprising that one can begin to feel more like an object than a person with a real life and a real story.

It seems to me that one thing a parish is, is a place where we are all allowed to have our story. It is from that starting point we can grow in love and discipleship. At one of my previous parishes, we had a person who worked one day a week helping people navigate the various available assistance services, while walking with them. The difference here is that we were striving to provide a sense of community in the midst of people's struggles. It took time to cultivate relationships with some of the local agencies (and get periodic advice from them) and to begin to see an effect on the overall picture. If any of you have had experience here at St. Paul's (or elsewhere) that you think might be useful to me in designing something here that will make a significant difference I would be very happy to hear from you.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NEWS

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 11

4:30 pm ♦ † Stephen Ball

Sunday, January 12

8:30 am ♦ For the People
11:00 am ♦

Tuesday, January 14 - 5:00 pm

Wednesday, January 15 - 5:00 pm

Thursday, January 16 - 5:00 pm

Friday, January 17

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Parish Collection Summary

	2024	2023	Diff
Dec 1	\$ 6,101	\$ 5,030	↑ \$ 1,071
Dec 8	\$ 6,993	\$ 10,450	↓ \$ 3,457
Dec 15	*\$ 7,008	*\$ 8,530	↓ \$ 1,522
Dec 22	\$ 15,663	\$ 21,328	↓ \$ 5,665
Dec 29	\$ 3,726	\$ 2,682	↑ \$ 1,044
Mth Target	\$ 39,492	\$ 48,020	↓ \$ 8,528
	2025	2024	Diff
Jan 5	\$ 5,742	\$ 5,912	↓ \$ 169
Jan 12		\$ 3,715	
Jan 19		*\$ 6,653	
Jan 26		\$ 2,680	
Mth Target	\$ 5,742	\$ 18,960	↓ \$ 13,217

**Includes Monthly Pre-Authorized Debit Donations*

Thank you for supporting our parish!

Cashless Donations

With fewer people using cheques or cash, here are some new ways to donate!

Online at stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org or scan the QR code or and hit the Donate button. Check that “St. Paul’s Basilica, Toronto” is selected from the Parish drop down menu when signing up.

Tip Tap - Simply tap your card on the ‘tiptap’ device, located at the back of the church, to donate. If you would like to receive a tax receipt at the end of the year, you can register your physical card by scanning the QR Code next to the ‘tiptap’ device. An information sheet is available next to the ‘tiptap’ device.



Kindergarten Registration!



Starting January 22, families with children born in 2021 can apply for Junior Kindergarten at St. Paul’s School this September. Visit tcdsb.org/kindergarten or scan the QR for info.



Registration for Sacramental Preparation Final Weekend

This is the final week for families with children ready to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation next spring to register for classes. Contact Micah MacMullen at mmacmullen@archtoronto.org for more info.

Youth Ministry Start Dates

After taking a break over the holidays, our EDGE program will restart on Friday, January 24th, Little Saints restarts Sunday, January 26th, and the first Young Adults meeting in 2025 will take place on Tuesday, January 28th.

Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

“Do you believe in this” (John 11:26);

January 18 to 25, 2025, marks the annual celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU). This year, we commemorate the 1,700th anniversary of the first Christian Ecumenical Council in Nicaea, offering a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate our shared faith as expressed in the Creed established during that council. A prayer service will take place on at 4 pm, January 19th at North City Church, 377 Woodbridge Ave., Woodbridge.

❖ Housekeeping

New to our Parish Community?

Welcome to St. Paul’s Basilica! If you’ve recently, or not so recently, joined our parish community, please take a moment to fill out a parish registration form. There are many benefits to registering at the parish. It enables easier and more accurate donation tracking so you receive a tax receipt. It allows us to verify your information if you need a reference or are planning to celebrate or be part of a sacrament in the future. We can even transfer your records to another parish if you move. Forms are available at the back of the church or in the parish office.

Moving / Moved?

If your mailing address has changed we kindly ask that you notify the parish office by phone at 416-364-7588 or email at stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org, so we can ensure our records are up-to-date and there are no delays in issuing tax receipts.

Different Ways to Give

There are many different ways to support the parish.

- Envelopes:** Registered parishioners can request envelopes with assigned donor numbers linked to their records. Visitors who wish to receive a tax receipt should make sure to clearly write names and address on the generic envelopes.
- Direct Debit:** Donations can be debited directly from your bank or credit card and directed to the parish or special archdiocesan collections.
- Tip Tap:** Simply tap your card on the device amount to donate. For a tax receipt, register your card.
- Securities:** By donating stocks, bonds or mutual funds you can avoid capital gains allowing you to give more.
- Time & Talent:** Donations don’t always have to be monetary. Consider volunteering your time or abilities with a parish ministry or event.

MOSS PARK
PharmaChoice *Advice for Life*
FREE DELIVERY
 CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY
 325 Queen St. E. **416-361-5713**
David Chan & Jim Giontsis
 Pharmacists
 Mon - Fri 9AM-7PM
 Sat 9AM-5PM
 Closed Sundays



Fresh breads, cheeses, deli, pastries, catering, gift baskets.
 Serving Cabbagetown since 1980
 473 Parliament St.
 416-928-0291
 www.theepicureshop.com



Domino's
 ORDER ONLINE  **DOMINOS.CA**

312 Queen Street East
416-366-3666



Pre-Order Take-out Catering
BUY 1 BURRITO, GET THE 2ND 50% OFF (with this ad)
 320 Richmond St E, #107 **416-368-6013**

De La Salle College

 Now Accepting Applications
 Grades 5 through 9
 Apply online: delasalle.ca

Remember...
 Let our advertisers know you saw their ad here. 



Corktown Eyecare
 focused on your vision
 569 King Street East **647.539.3937**
www.corktowneyecare.com



REEVES RICHARZ LLP
Real Estate, Family Law, Estates and Personal Injury
416-365-0000
reevesricharz.com

THE PERFECT SPOT TO ADVERTISE

 TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL **905-624-4422**

BE THE GOOD
 Inquire about financial assistance at stmichaelscollegeschool.com
 **SMCS**
 ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE SCHOOL

In Good Hands Pet Loss
 Holistic Pet Funeral Home
 Pet Cremation Services
416-831-7714
support@ingoodhandspetloss.ca
www.ingoodhandspetloss.ca
1061 Woodbine Ave, East York

Funeral Prearrangements available
 Call for your FREE Personal Planning Guide

RM
ROSAR - MORRISON
 FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
 467 Sherbourne Street (at Wellesley)
416-924-1408
James A. Munroe, General Manager
james.munroe@dignitymemorial.com
Michael Kessel, Assistant Manager
michael.kessel@dignitymemorial.com



TURCO PERSIAN RUG CO.
 Unbeatable Since 1906.
 Area Rug Cleaning • Rug Repair & Restoration
 Rug Showroom • Appraising • Upholstery Cleaning
 Broadloom Cleaning & Installation
 452 Richmond St. E. **416.366.0707**
www.TurcoPersian.com

TEAM JON AMANTE

 REALTRON REALTY INC., BROKERAGE
CALL JON AMANTE
O 416-782-8882 C 416-543-8852
 Sylvia Amante
 Mehdi Hassanianesfahani
 Neil Yapp

IT'S WISE TO ADVERTISE!




CATHOLIC CEMETERIES FUNERAL SERVICES
 ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO
www.catholic-cemeteries.com
Holy Cross Cemetery & Funeral Home 905-889-7467
Mount Hope Cemetery 416-483-4944
 In keeping with your Catholic faith