



ST. PAUL'S BASILICA

EST. 1822 ~ FIRST CATHOLIC PARISH IN TORONTO

STAFF

Fr. Robert O'Brien
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Fr. Keith Wallace
In Residence

Cathy LeBlanc
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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
Monday: No Mass ♦ 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

CONTACT

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

✉ stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org | 🌐 stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org

SACRAMENTS

Please contact the parish office 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

DONATION OPTIONS

To begin donating via Weekly Offertory Envelopes or Pre-Authorized Monthly Direct Debit, please contact the parish office.

To donate by Credit Card, visit our website or use the Tip Tap Device located near the main entrance. To receive a tax receipt please register your card after your first tap. Information is available near device.

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

❖ A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Family Day Weekend

This mid-winter, Ontario, holiday has been around for a some time now. It breaks up, what would otherwise be a long, unbroken, stretch of cold months. Its theme, however, is one well worth our reflection. Family is at the heart of our lives. It can be a school, not only of love, but of reconciliation. It is where we learn to forgive. It is a jumping off point as we enter our place in the wider world. Parents learn to let go. Children learn to become adults, walking alongside their parents, hopefully aiding and supporting each other. Does it come with baggage? Yes, for most of us, it does. Perhaps, with time, prayer and reflection, we can learn about the humanity of one another and our strivings for virtue.

When I was growing up, I hardly thought about the past burdens of my parents. My dad had to leave school as a teenager and work in the steel mill to help the family make ends meet. A dozen years later he

went off to war. My mother was the eldest child, who took responsibility for the needs of her younger siblings as her father was often away and her mom needed help. She grew up during the Great Depression and World War II, going to work for the federal government as a young woman. She cared for each of her parents as they aged.

To me, as a youngster and later a teenager, this was all ancient history. Now, ready to turn 64 myself, I realize that when I was adopted in 1964, the war had ended less than 20 years before, and even the Depression was only 30 years earlier. How much did my parents have to deal with just to live their lives? A lot, I'd say! While I may have found them sometimes lacking in a few lessons from the parenting handbook, I now see them as amazingly resilient. Of course, I wish I had understood even a little of this when I was younger and they were still here. It's fair to say I feel even closer to them now.

We all have, or have had, sacred time with our families. We can honour it, grow from it, and be thankful for it; whether it has been simple and beautiful, or complicated and difficult.

If you are young and reading this, then please try to look deeper into your parents lives and actions. Seek to understand them. Pray for them. If you are older and looking back, please remember that Christ makes the valleys and the hills level, and the pathway of peace that the Lord Jesus shows us is a certain hope, whether our family seems ideal or not.

Lastly, take time this weekend to enjoy each other's company, and to be grateful for the love you give and receive.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Adoration and Social



All are welcome to join us after the 11 am Mass on Sunday, February 23rd, as we host Holy Hour (adoration) in the Church until 1 pm, followed by a social in the parish hall until 2 pm.

Young Adult Night



We invite all young adults between the ages of 18 and 39 to join us on Tuesday, February 26th at 7 pm for an evening of faith, fellowship and food. Email mmacmullen@archtoronto.org for info.

Family Day Office Schedule



The parish office will be closed starting Thursday, February 13th and reopening on Tuesday, February 18th for the Family Day Holiday. Have a wonderful long weekend!

❖ NEWS

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 15

4:30 pm ♦ † Philomena O'Brien

Sunday, February 16

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ † Albina Keyes

Tuesday, February 18

5:00 pm ♦

Wednesday, February 19

5:00 pm ♦ † Matty Crasto

Thursday, February 20

5:00 pm ♦

Friday, February 21

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Jubilee Year Opening Masses

Opening Jubilee Year Masses will be celebrated at the following parishes:

» **St. Mary's Church**

(588 Adelaide Street) Thurs, Feb 20, celebrated by Bishop Robert Kasun

» **St. Edward the Confessor Church**

(75 Churchill Ave) Tues. Feb 25, celebrated by Cardinal Francis Leo

Mass begins at 7 pm. Confessions from 5:30 pm to 6:45 pm. No need to register. Just come!



Chalice Child Sponsorship Weekend

All Masses on March 1st & 2nd, 2025

On March 1st and 2nd, Canada's largest Catholic Child Sponsorship organization will provide you the opportunity to begin a relationship with a child in the developing world through the benefits of Child Sponsorship. These are children in extreme poverty who need your support to excel in their education and fulfill their God-given potential. Please visit chalice.ca for more information about Chalice and its mission.

Jubilee of Youth

Calling all young adults (ages 19 - 39), join Fr. Paul Magyar and the OCY team for a pilgrimage of a life time! We will be embarking on a pilgrimage to Rome, Italy from July 23rd to August 5th, 2025. Please contact youth@archtoronto.org to receive the pilgrim information package.

Parish Collection Summary

	2025	2024	Diff
Feb 2	‡\$ 19,487	\$ 3,709	‡ \$ 15,778
Feb 9	\$ 3,455	\$ 3,324	‡ \$ 131
Feb 16		\$ 4,559	
Feb 23		*\$ 7,207	
Mth Target	\$ 22,942	\$ 18,799	‡ \$ 4,143

‡ Includes a One-Time \$15,000 Donation

* 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.



Annual Manresa Weekend Lenten Retreat for Men

March 14 - March 16, 2025; Manresa Jesuit Renewal Centre, Pickering, ON

The theme is: *The Wisdom of Henri Nouwen: Guidance for the Lenten Journey*. Nouwen was able to help people connect with their vulnerabilities, to grow in trust and intimacy. This retreat will consider common themes in his writing, such as being the beloved of God, giving and receiving forgiveness, growing in hope, and accepting one's limitations; with a focus on providing ways to incorporate these ideas into our prayer lives. For info or to register visit manresa-canada.ca/events.

16th Annual Dynamic Women of Faith Conference

Saturday, March 22, 2025, 9 am to 4 pm, at the Old Mill, Toronto

Get inspired, meet like-minded women and discover your mission at the Catholic Moms Group annual Lenten Dynamic Women of Faith Conference. This year's speakers will include Annie Kart, Lisa Canning, Fr. Marcin Serwin OMI, Dr. Stephanie Kafie and Dorothy Pilarski. The conference includes a light lunch and Mass celebrated by Most Reverend Robert Kasun, CSB. To register or for more information visit DynamicWomenFaith.com.

Lift Jesus Higher Rally

March 29th, 2025 from 9 am to 5:30 pm; Metro Toronto Convention Centre

Lift Jesus Higher Rally (LJHR) is an annual rally that focuses on evangelizing through uplifting music, testimonials, reflections, Divine Mercy celebration and Eucharistic Adoration.

There will be several inspirational speakers for the Adult rally and for those between 13 and 18, the Youth rally will be supercharged through great music, inspiring skits, fabulous testimonies and talks. Attendees will have the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and The Most Reverend Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto will celebrate Mass. For more information or to purchase tickets visit lhr.ca.

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