



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
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

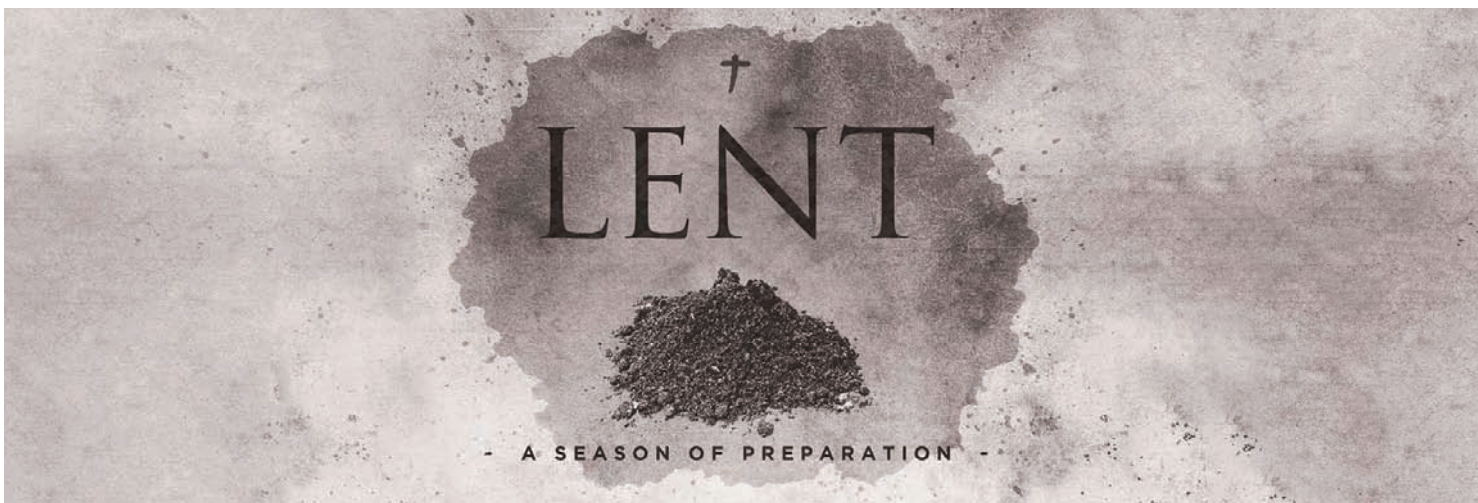
To begin donating via Weekly Offertory Envelopes or Pre-Authorized Monthly Direct Debit, please contact the parish office.

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



You Have the Words of Everlasting Life

As we begin the season of Lent, we seek to live the gift of new life as deeply and clearly as possible. For those preparing to receive the Sacrament of Baptism at the Easter Vigil, Lent is a period of purification, which will culminate in a total belonging to Christ. Today's Gospel takes us into the desert, where Jesus thwarts three temptations which represent the wilier parts of the human heart influenced by evil.

The first temptation is to lessen the importance of our relationship with God in favour of our own wants and needs. The second of the temptations is for power and status. The third is that we are somehow preserved by God from our own recklessness. What these all have in common is that we are somehow telling God what behaviour we expect – making ourselves into God.

While we might recognize our own tendencies to egoism in the daily back and forth of our lives, we may not be seeing the ways in which quiet desperation, greed, and insecurity play in the background. My dad had an old expression that was common among Catholics of his era: "We have not here a lasting city." Another way of saying much the same thing is the expression that we are "in the world, but not of it". Today's Gospel is powerful because it captures some of the essential ways that sin and death are embodied in our earthly lives. It ushers in the New Covenant in Christ which purifies creation.

Repeatedly, Christ announces to the devil His reliance on the Father and His trust in the Father's goodness. Our position as Christians is a challenging one. We cannot be satisfied with the present situation, nor are we to be discouraged from living out

the gift of new life we have received. The temptations of our age are perhaps to see our vocations as individual or private, keeping our Christian lives "safe", or to be blind to the corrosive effects of the evils of greed, power, status and entitlement.

This Lent God is speaking the Word to us. Ask for guidance about how you are being called to make your contribution to the building up of God's Kingdom. No, we are not only concerned with this earthly city, nor are we sealing ourselves off from the great potential body of believers whom Jesus desires to be His own. We are seeking to live with vitality the life we received at Baptism. Let us have a blessed Lent together.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Stations of the Cross



The 40 days of Lent is a special time of spiritual renewal in the Church. During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be prayed Friday evenings after 5 pm Mass. All are welcome to join in prayer.

March 9, 2025



Lenten Resources

To assist you this Lenten Season please avail yourself of the numerous Lenten resources found on the Archdiocese of Toronto website, archtoronto.org/lent. There you will find Pope Francis' 2025 Lenten Message, a variety of Online Retreats and Reflections, Lenten Activities for Families, and much more.



❖ NEWS

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 8

4:30 pm ♦ † Stanislaw Jaskowska

Sunday, March 9

8:30 am ♦

11:00 am ♦ For the People

Tuesday, March 11

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Wednesday, March 12

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Thursday, March 13

5:00 pm ♦

Friday, March 14

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Prayer for Pope Francis



O merciful and loving God, fountain of all grace and source of eternal healing, be with our Holy Father as he faces this battle with illness. Surround him, O Lord, with boundless compassion and strengthen his spirit so that he may regain the health needed to continue to lead your flock with a father's heart. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adoration and Social



All are welcome to join us after the 11 am Mass this Sunday, March 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, March 26th at 7 pm for an evening of faith, fellowship and food. Email mmacmullen@archtoronto.org for info.

Parish Collection Summary

	2025	2024	Diff
Mar 2	\$ 4,404	\$ 5,585	↓ \$ 1,181
Mar 9		\$ 2,268	
Mar 16		\$ 3,310	
Mar 23		*\$ 7,165	
Mar 30		‡\$ 10,419	
Mth Target	\$ 4,404	\$ 28,747	↓ \$ 24,343

‡Includes Easter Donations

*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 ‘taptap’ 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 ‘taptap’ device. An information sheet is available next to the ‘taptap’ device.



Your love is a guiding light during Lent

Maria, a 64-year-old newcomer to Canada, arrived seeking a fresh start but found herself struggling to find both stable employment and affordable housing. Through your support of ShareLife, she received personalized guidance at Catholic Crosscultural Services that helped her secure both a job and a home. She found stability and peace of mind, giving her the strength to embrace her new life. Now, she’s a guiding light for seniors, helping others access the support that changed her life. This Lent, you can walk the same path as a testament to resilience and the transformative power of community. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope or online through our parish website.



2024 Tax Receipts Mailed

All 2024 Parish Tax Receipts should have received by now. Please contact the parish office if you have not received your receipt or if an error is present.

Annual Mass of St. Patrick

March 17 at 10 am; St. Michael’s Cathedral Basilica



The annual Mass of St. Patrick at St. Michael’s Cathedral Basilica in Toronto will take place on Monday, March 17 at 10 a.m. His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop Emeritus of Toronto, will be the presider and homilist. All are welcome. Those unable to attend can participate in the celebration via livestream at stmichaelscathedral.com/live

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