

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

Listening and Talking

This weekend we celebrate “Victoria Day”. The holiday is in honour of the late Queen Victoria, who sat on the throne of the United Kingdom for almost 65 years. Canada’s journey to become a mature and independent country has played out from the days of Queen Victoria’s reign, right up until recent times. The backbone of our democratic development, however, has remained a parliamentary democracy. The word “parliamentary”, simply means, “talking”. The processes by which we determine the policies and laws of our country are built upon informed discussion. It is the role of the governing leaders to propose, and the opposition parties to critique and offer other options. While political parties may treat their business as a series of wins and losses, over time, the true measure of their success is the resulting qualities of the society. Are our elected leaders attentive? For that matter, we could ask ourselves, how attentive are we to the needs of others? We live in complex times and with numerous other people. How can we hope to develop policies and laws that respect each person if we don’t take the time to listen?

Our new Holy Father, Pope Leo, has already spoken about this urgent need for all of us, as members of Christ’s Body, to listen to one another. He has underlined that we have a relationship with all of humanity, and that we are responsible for the care of the earth we live in.

Teachers of young children will tell you that a strong indicator of a child’s future ability

to make their way through life corresponds to their ability to accept the delay of their satisfaction. Too much impulsivity easily derails us. In the wider arenas of society, and our life together in the Church, are we sometimes too attached to seeing the changes we want when we want to them? Are we too committed to our own formula for the problem and its alleged solution? The attentiveness that makes any relationship deep can sometimes come at the cost of our sense of security.

Both Pope Leo and Pope Francis have come to us from religious communities. For Pope Francis’ community, the Society of Jesus, the pressing question for all members is, “Am I doing God’s will?” The spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius are at the core of their lives and vocations. It remains to be seen how the inner spiritual dialogue following the example of St. Augustine will manifest itself in the reflections and teachings of our new Holy Father. What is common, however, is the humility of one who knows that they are still in the process of conversion.

Discussions can at times be vigorous but always need to be respectful. When speaking, we need to prominently include the goals we are pursuing, and perhaps, the person we are talking to can actually shed more light on them. If we were to do this with our relationships inside the Church, it would be far easier for us to articulate a message that is faithful to the vitality of the new life that Jesus invites everyone to. We would be a much stronger sign to the world.



Habemus Papam! Pope Leo XIV named 267th successor of Peter. Source: vatican.va

As a priest who has served for 36 years, I often reflect on what, I hope, are fruitful seeds that God has planted through me. I must be confident that God would not waste the graces that have been given. Even in the early Church, as a way to understand how we are all working together for God’s Kingdom, St. Paul proclaimed that one sows while another reaps. In this time of new beginning in the Universal Church, may we invoke God’s help and reflect deeply on our own humble path forward for the sake of all.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Adoration and Social



All are welcome to join us after the 11 am Mass next Sunday, May 25th, as we host Holy Hour (adoration) in the Church until 1 pm, followed by a social in the parish hall until 2 pm.

St. Paul's Summer Day Camp

Weekdays from July 7 - August 1; 9 am - 3 pm (extended care available)

St. Paul’s is once again running a four-week summer day camp for children in grades 1 to 7. The camp focuses on helping children learn about our Catholic faith while providing fun opportunities to meet new friends and participate in a variety of activities including games, arts & crafts and sports. Each week will feature prayer, games and sports, a field trip and a drama production open to families and friends. The weekly cost per child is \$130, plus extra for extended care. Full four week registration and family discounts available. For more information please reach out to our youth minister, Micah, at mmacmullen@archtoronto.org.



❖ NEWS

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 17

4:30 pm ♦ † Lucelia Correa & Miguel Escalante

Sunday, May 18

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ For the People

Tuesday, May 20

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Wednesday, May 21

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Thursday, May 22

5:00 pm ♦

Friday, May 23

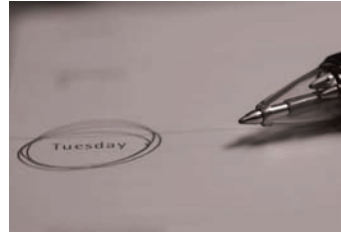
5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Upcoming Celebration of First Communion

After many months of preparation, the children, and their families, will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist for the first time on **Sunday, May 24th, at the 11 am Mass.** Please keep them in your prayers.



Office Schedule



The parish office will be closed on Monday, May 19 for the Victoria Day Holiday. In addition, Fr. Bob will be away until Friday, May 23. During this time various priests will celebrate the parish Masses, including Fr. Keith Wallace and Fr. Michael Lehman. For sacramental (baptism, marriage etc.) inquiries please contact the parish office after Fr. Bob returns.

Special Collection: Pope's Pastoral Works

May 24/25, 2025

Next weekend, there will be a second collection for the Pope's Pastoral Works. These funds are passed on to the Holy Father for immediate response in countries stricken by war, famine and natural disasters. The Pope's Pastoral Works displays Christ's love and compassion for people in desperate need. Please give generously.



Thank You!

Thanks to all who purchased mother's day flowers at last weekend's impromptu youth camp fundraiser! Your help enables more of our parish's youth to have the opportunity to enjoy the camping experience!

Parish Collection Summary

| | 2025 | 2024 | Diff |
|------------|----------|-----------|------------|
| May 4 | \$ 3,639 | \$ 2,238 | ↑ \$ 1,401 |
| May 11 | \$ 5,783 | \$ 4,122 | ↑ \$ 1,660 |
| May 18 | | *\$ 7,515 | |
| May 25 | | \$ 3,808 | |
| Mth Target | \$ 9,422 | \$ 17,683 | ↓ \$ 8,262 |

* 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 'tip tap' 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 'tip tap' device. An information sheet is available next to the 'tip tap' device.



A Day With Mary – Registration CLOSES May 19th

May 31, 2025 from 10 am to 4 pm; Villanova College, King City



Online registration closes May 19th for **A Day With Mary** taking place May 31 at Villanova College in King City. During this Jubilee Holy Year, spend a day with our Blessed Mother, Our Lady of Hope and deepen your devotion to her through a keynote address by Dr. Josephine Lombardi, a number of inspiring witnessings and Holy Mass presided over by His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo. This family-friendly event will have music, food, fellowship, children's catechesis and activities – something for everyone. For more information and to register, visit archtoronto.org/mary.



Your helping hand ensures that no one struggles alone

No one is turned away from ShareLife-funded agencies due to inability to pay. You make it possible for individuals, couples, and families to access mental health services. Like Aimee, who grew up believing that life's challenges were meant to be faced alone. She searched for the strength to speak with a counsellor, but felt hopeless, imagining that her struggles would be dismissed. Financial concerns weighed heavily on her, making it even harder to reach out. Imagine the relief Aimee felt when she learned about the sliding scale payment system at Catholic Community Services of York Region (CCSYR). Because of you, Aimee received immediate care, free of judgement. Thus far we have raised \$21,500 toward our goal of \$55,000. Please give using a ShareLife envelope or at sharelife.org/donate.



Fifth Sunday of Easter

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