



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

Walking in the Way of Peace

We live in a world of clambering voices. Some are asserting themselves; others are offering strong advice about how we should think and behave. The sheer quantity of communication often pushes us into little niches where we hear only what seems to suit us best. But the kind and quality of relationships the Scriptures invite us into today look very different!

The prophet Amos denounces the selfishness that takes advantage of others in the marketplace—altering the scales, watering down the product, and profiting from dishonesty. St. Paul, by contrast, reminds us that God's desire is for the salvation of all. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that the gift of life in Him is a trust placed in our hands, and that even the smallest act which honours that trust is essential to a life of integrity. We are not our own masters, but stewards of what God has given. How does this square with the culture of rights and entitlements that surrounds us today?

As believers, our most fundamental right is the freedom given to us in the New Covenant with Jesus Christ—the freedom to say with Mary, “Let it be done to me according to Your Word.” This is the true freedom to grow in sharing divine love. We may not always feel it, but we are most ourselves when we are receiving and giving this love. When a parent devotes themselves to their child, when spouses delight in simply being together, when we sense in the pew our oneness in Christ,



when we say “Amen” and receive the Host—these are all graced moments of genuine freedom.

We have the power to intentionally carry that divine love into our daily lives. One way is by freely choosing to not always insist on our own rights and entitlements. True freedom sometimes means stepping back so that another may step forward. It may mean foregoing something so that someone else is freer to do what they need to do. It may mean asking, What can I do today to make life more about relationships that nourish, rather than demands that divide?

We can choose to listen more, to let differences soften, or simply to be present with others. To sustain that way of living, we also need moments that allow Christ to abide in us. After our spoken prayers, even a little time of quiet—thanking Christ for His presence—can open our

hearts. From that stillness, we learn again how to be truly present to others.

In the days of the early Christians there was great chaos. Yet in the midst of it all, the letters of St. Paul, and the other apostles, repeatedly called for peace. They urged believers not to panic, but to remain attentive to one another—living in peace together and sharing the Good News with others in peace. This is the pathway that will be victorious, despite appearances to the contrary. It is divine peace that leaves us in awe, that takes our breath away.

The Lord came to school us in this way of peace, to prepare us for the life He offers. Help us, O Lord, to be trustworthy with this precious and life-giving gift!

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NOTEWORTHY



Thanksgiving Food Drive

September 20th to October 5th, 2025

Starting September 20th, the parish will be collecting non-perishable food on behalf of the Good Shepherd, who help provide meals for the homeless and at-risk individuals in our community. Most needed are canned foods such as tuna, tomatoes, tomato sauce, beans, soups and vegetables. Dry goods needed include cereal, granola bars, bagged rice, condiments, tea and coffee. Boxes for food are available at the front of the church through thanksgiving weekend. You can also donate financially by visiting goodshepherd.ca/donate.

September 21, 2025

❖ NEWS

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 20

4:30 pm ♦ For the People

Sunday, September 21

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ † Cathy LeBlanc

Tuesday, September 23

5:00 pm ♦ † Fr. James Adams

Wednesday, September 24

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Thursday, September 25

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Friday, September 26

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Parish Collection Summary

	2025	2024	Diff
Aug 31	\$ 4,104	\$ 3,293	↑ \$ 811
Sep 7	\$ 4,950	\$ 2,661	↑ \$ 2,289
Sep 14	\$ 3,458	\$ 3,317	↑ \$ 141
Sep 21*		\$ 6,786	
Sep 28		\$ 3,016	
Mth Target	\$ 12,512	\$ 19,072	↓ \$ 6,560

* 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.



Upcoming Special Collections

The Needs of the Church in Canada

The collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada will take place next weekend, **September 27 and 28**. This annual initiative is an important opportunity for the faithful to actively support and assist the Bishops in their ministry of accompanying, teaching, guiding, sanctifying, and caring for the Church in Canada.



Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation

On the weekend of **October 4 and 5**, we will take up a collection for the Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation Fund. This annual initiative is a national effort by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops to provide funds in support of programs and initiatives that respond to the various needs that exist among Indigenous Peoples both locally and throughout the country.

Parish Preservation Fund

Our monthly Preservation Fund collection will be held on **October 11 and 12**. This special collection helps cover the ongoing maintenance needed to preserve and care for our beautiful Basilica, ensuring it remains open and welcoming to all.

We thank you in advance for your support, generosity and continued commitment.

Help fill plates with hope this Thanksgiving

This Thanksgiving, gratitude comes with a challenge — families are struggling to put food on the table. ShareLife has pledged \$800,000 through its Food Security Grants to bring warm meals to those who need them most.

Will you share your blessings with our parish's ShareLife Campaign? We have currently raised **\$34,200** towards our suggested goal of \$55,000. Please help fight hunger through sharelife.org/donate or by using a ShareLife envelope. Thank you for your kind generosity!



Free Catholic Estate Planning Webinar

Saturday, September 27, 2025 at 9:00 am



Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services and the ArchTO estate planning team invite you to join this free webinar to learn about how to avoid issues with your Will, Powers of Attorney & Estate Planning as well as Catholic traditions around cremation, burials and funerals. To register scan the QR code, visit qrco.de/WebSept27



St. Michael's Presents: Stop & Song

September 28, 2025, 2:30 pm; St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto

On Sunday, September 28th at 2:30 pm, you are invited to join the distinguished faculty of St. Michael's Choir School the distinguished faculty of St. Michael's Choir School as they present an unforgettable afternoon of music for voice and organ, featuring timeless works that echo the grandeur of our sacred space. Experience the artistry and spirit that define SMCS in a concert celebrating tradition, talent, and transcendent sound. The recital is free; a suggested donation of \$25pp can be made online at smcs.on.ca/concerts or on the afternoon of the recital.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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