

# 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](mailto:stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org) | 🌐 [stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org](http://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

### Redemption

During the past week, we celebrated the memorial of St. Pio of Pietrelcina, better known as “Padre Pio”. Like the Curé of Ars, he was recognized for his deep insight in the confessional and his reverence in celebrating the Mass. The prayer for his feast reminds us that sharing in the Cross is not a burden but a privilege—a way of joining Christ in His redeeming love. The apostles themselves would have been happy to be amongst those redeemed, yet at first did not grasp that they were also called to join Christ’s work of redemption. We are much the same. We celebrate the Resurrection and rejoice in Christmas but often struggle with the Cross. Like the apostles, we need time and grace to understand what redeeming love really asks of us.

On Monday, September 29th, the Church observes the Feast of the Archangels, and for us in a special way, St. Michael. We may know him from the prayer introduced by Pope Leo XIII, often recited in our Archdiocese, or from the Book of Revelation, where he, as one of God’s messenger angels, proclaims God’s victory over every breach of divine love and over death itself.

On Tuesday, September 30th, Canada marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with our Indigenous Peoples. This, too, is part of the Cross, as uncomfortable as it may be. Whether we were aware of it or not, we have inherited a



history shaped by systems, implemented by the federal government, intended to erase Indigenous identity and make them “like us.” In that lies the harm. Just as the wounds of the past touch us through our ancestors’ choices, wittingly or unwittingly, so too the wounds borne by Indigenous Peoples call for healing. Reconciliation requires entering a new journey together, rooted in mutual respect and affection.

Our personal conversion follows the same pattern. We gradually recognize the barriers that keep us from a deeper life with God. Some are sins we know well; others arise from ignorance or neglect. Learned truthfulness to ourselves, patience, and openness to grace help cultivate life-giving responses. When we pray for our deceased loved ones, we intercede, by freely choosing to carry a part of their cross, that regardless of their shortcomings they be welcomed into heaven. Padre Pio, like St. Francis of Assisi, bore the stigmata on his hands as a privilege—literally bleeding as a visible sign

of his union with Christ’s redeeming work. For most of us, the wounds remain hidden, but inwardly we share in the same work of redemption.

We believe not only that the Cross leads to the Resurrection, but that both are inseparably part of our life in Christ. May Christ the Healer, work on us and all those who have experienced harm. Help us together, to learn from one another and walk with those seeking to have their wounds healed. In this patient journey, may our indigenous brothers and sisters be granted wisdom and the gifts they need to recover those things that will help them to be themselves in peace and confidence. May that divine love that the Father has for us all, accomplish in Christ and through the Holy Spirit, the entirety of redemption.

Amen.

*Fr. Bob*

## ❖ NOTEWORTHY



### Thanksgiving Food Drive

*Ongoing until to October 12th, 2025*

Until October 12th, 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](https://goodshepherd.ca/donate).

# ❖ NEWS

## Weekly Mass Intentions

**Saturday, September 27**

4:30 pm ♦ For the People

**Sunday, September 28**

8:30 am ♦ † Niall O'Bracken

11:00 am ♦ † Aileen Menez

**Tuesday, September 30**

5:00 pm ♦ † Stanley Kamski

**Wednesday, October 1**

5:00 pm ♦

**Thursday, October 2**

5:00 pm ♦

**Friday, October 3**

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

## Parish Collection Summary

	2025	2024	Diff
<b>Aug 31</b>	\$ 4,104	\$ 3,293	↑ \$ 811
<b>Sep 7</b>	\$ 4,950	\$ 2,661	↑ \$ 2,289
<b>Sep 14</b>	\$ 3,458	\$ 3,317	↑ \$ 141
<b>Sep 21*</b>	\$ 6,194	\$ 6,786	↓ \$ 591
<b>Sep 28</b>		\$ 3,016	
<b>Mth Target</b>	\$ 18,706	\$ 19,072	↓ \$ 366

\* 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



### Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation

Next weekend, **October 4 & 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 **October 11 & 12**. This collection helps cover the ongoing maintenance needed to preserve and care for our beautiful Basilica, ensuring it remains open and welcoming to all.

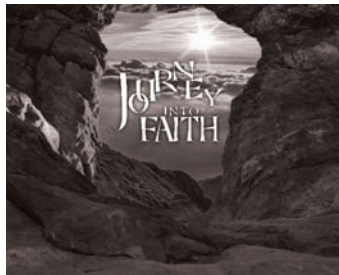


### World Mission Sunday

The World Mission Sunday collection will be on **October 18 & 19**. This collection is dedicated to the evangelization of nations and assisting at-need Catholic Communities globally.

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

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) starting soon



The RCIA program is designed for any non-Catholic adults interested in learning about our Catholic faith and potentially joining through baptism or, for those already baptized in a different Christian denomination, full reception into the faith. RCIA is also for any baptized Catholic adults who wish to further their understanding and involvement in their faith and receive the Sacraments of Eucharist, Reconciliation and/or Confirmation.

Participants meet weekly to undertake a journey devoted to prayer, inquiry, learning and understanding of God, His love for us, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, culminating in the reception of the Sacraments during the Easter Vigil. Please contact Fr. Bob through the parish office, if you or someone you know is interested in learning more.

## 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](http://sharelife.org/donate) or by using a ShareLife envelope. Thank you for your kind generosity!



## The Latest from His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo

*The Solemnity of Saint Michael the Archangel - September 29, 2025*



Cardinal Leo, has released a pastoral message on the Solemnity of Saint Michael the Archangel. St. Michael is the patron saint of the Archdiocese of Toronto and celebrated yearly on September 29th. Visit '[archtoronto.org](http://archtoronto.org)' and navigate to the Latest News section, or scan the QR Code to go directly there.



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