

# 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

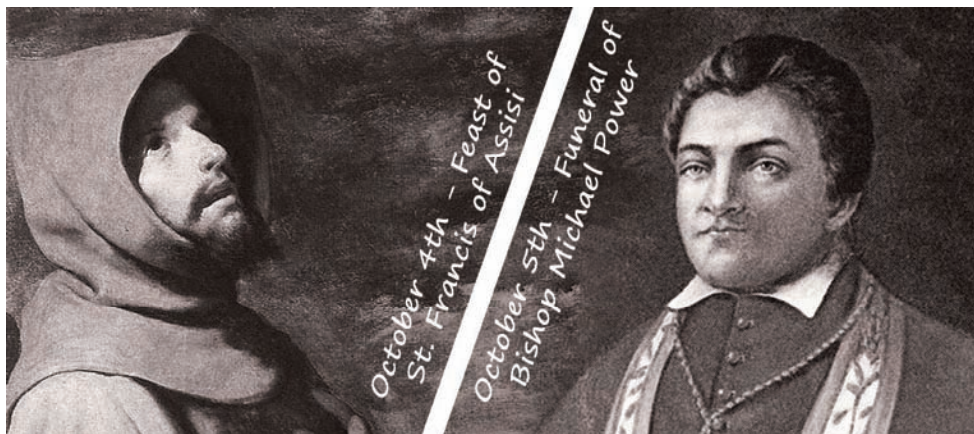
### St. Francis and Bishop Michael Power

This weekend, the universal Church celebrates the memorial of St. Francis of Assisi on Saturday, and on Sunday we remember the funeral of Bishop Michael Power, the first bishop of Toronto, which took place at the original St. Paul's Church in 1847.

St. Francis' radical embrace of simplistic life bore tremendous fruits during his lifetime. Thousands were drawn to join the Franciscan community, and St. Clare, his spiritual companion, founded the Poor Clares, a community of women who shared the same vision. All over the world this past Friday evening, Franciscans marked the "Transitus" of St. Francis, the commemoration of his passing into eternal life. In my previous parish, I had the privilege of having a local fraternity of the "Third Order" of St. Francis—lay men and women who commit themselves to living out Franciscan spirituality. That simplicity, among other things, shaped St. Francis' way of life into an experience of faith that engaged both body and soul.

In the Office of Readings for St. Francis, we hear these words from one of his letters:

*"We must not be wise and prudent according to the flesh. Rather we must be simple, humble and pure. We should never desire to be over others. Instead, we ought to be servants who are submissive to every human being for God's sake. The Spirit of the*



*Lord will rest on all who live in this way and persevere in it to the end. He will permanently dwell in them. They will be the Father's children who do his work. They are the spouses, brothers and mothers of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

Bishop Michael Power arrived in Toronto in 1842 and died just five years later, on October 1, 1847, a few days shy of his 43rd birthday. He contracted typhoid fever while ministering to the sick in the "Fever Sheds" near the lake, where many newly arrived immigrants were quarantined. His first Mass as bishop was celebrated at St. Paul's, which served as his temporary cathedral while St. Michael's was still under construction. Toronto at that time was a small, rough, and struggling community, yet Bishop Power poured himself into shepherding it with compassion and courage.

The lives of both St. Francis and Bishop Power were profoundly shaped by the circumstances around them. Francis, confronted with the futile conflicts of life in the Italian city-states, chose instead a life of peace, reconciliation, and joyful embrace of the Cross with serenity of heart. Bishop Power, facing hardship and disease in a young, fragile city, gave his life in service, bringing hope and healing to the sick and to those struggling simply to meet the basic needs of life.

Their witness invites us to recognize the path to holiness the Lord has set before us—not in a perfect world, but in bringing Christ into the real world we inhabit, with all its challenges and imperfections.

In Christ

*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).

October 5, 2025



# ❖ NEWS

## Weekly Mass Intentions

**Saturday, October 4**

4:30 pm ♦ For the People

**Sunday, October 5**

8:30 am ♦ † Susan Noboa

11:00 am ♦ Eliza Baleanu

**Tuesday, October 7**

5:00 pm ♦ † Thomas Edward Stuckey

**Wednesday, October 8**

5:00 pm ♦

**Thursday, October 9**

5:00 pm ♦

**Friday, October 10**

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>	\$ 3,446	\$ 3,016	↑\$ 430
<b>Mth Target</b>	\$ 22,152	\$ 19,072	↑\$ 3,080

\* 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



### 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) Underway



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

### National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Cardinal Leo has released a pastoral letter to the Faithful on National Day for Truth & Reconciliation and Indigenous Reconciliation Fund.

### World Day of Migrants and Refugees

Cardinal Leo has also released a message for World Day of Migrants and Refugees

Visit '[archtoronto.org](http://archtoronto.org)' and navigate to the Latest News section, or scan the QR Code to go directly to the letters.



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