

## St. Paul's Basilica

Est. 1822~First Catholic Parish in Toronto

#### **STAFF**

Fr. Robert O'Brien Fr. Keith Wallace
Pastor In Residence

Delmalisa ChilomboLynett WilsonJoseph AngeloSacristanOffice ManagerMusic DirectorBen RichardsJason LoAllison AngeloSacristanBookkeeperCantor

Micah MacMullenIves AlvarezAndrea CerswellYouth MinisterCustodian11 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 or by appointment

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Friday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

#### CONTACT

#### **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**

#### **Three Possibilities in the Coming Months**

The role of the pastor is much more than keeping the parish functioning. That work must continue, as does direct pastoral care with individuals and groups in the parish. There is, however, a wider dimension to the pastoral care of souls that includes helping the parish grow as a community that supports the Christian life and is able to look outward.

One area of pastoral life that needs development is our capacity for outreach. I have been meeting with a parishioner who has experience in public health to design a realistic first effort that will be both sustainable and fruitful. What is currently under consideration is a parish ministry that would help people find effective referrals to social agencies that can respond to some of their needs. The web of services can be overwhelming, and it is easy to become discouraged if knocking on one door turns out to be the wrong one. I hope we can offer a bit of follow-through and support that will help people make real progress in their lives. There will be more to say about this soon.

The second area is two-pronged. One parishioner has spoken to me about developing a fundraising event, and several have suggested having an international night. At this point, I see these as



two separate things, partly because I understand the goal of an international night primarily as a community-builder. I will be looking to form a small committee to design and carry out the plans for an international night. I am happy to receive input about possible fundraisers in the parish; just bear in mind that if you have an idea, you may need to be willing to help with the work.

The third area is more long-term. As we see greater participation at the Eucharist and in some of our existing ministries, I believe it is time to develop a parish pastoral council. From my experience, this needs to be a group formed with two important dimensions: discerning and facilitating. What do I mean? The council will not be

any sort of "executive" committee for the parish, but rather a group of people who know a wide range of parishioners and who are good at helping others make connections. My hope is that this will lead to a flowering of the spiritual gifts already present in the parish. This also fits with Cardinal Leo's desire for us to implement the call of the Holy See to institutionalize holy conversation about our life in Christ together. I will need to formulate a mandate and then consider factors such as the size and functioning of the group. Even after four years, I am only beginning to get to know some of you.

Together, these initiatives mark a new phase in our growth as a parish. Please pray and consider carefully what concrete ingredients might help us along the way. If you are connected to other parishioners, feel free to have conversations that help you envision some positive possibilities. My final word is that we cannot always do everything we want, so an important part of the process is being willing to support the things we do undertake without lamenting the things that may not be at the top of the agenda.

In Christ,

## Fr. Bob

### Housekeeping

#### New to our St. Paul's Community?

Welcome to St. Paul's Basilica! If you've recently, or not so recently, joined our parish community, please take a moment to fill out a parish registration form. There are many benefits to registering at the parish. It enables easier and more accurate donation tracking so you receive a tax receipt. It allows us to verify your information if you need a reference or are planning to celebrate or be part of a sacrament in the future. We can even transfer your records to another parish if you move. Forms are available at the back of the church or in the parish office.

#### Moving / Moved?

If your mailing address has changed we kindly ask that you notify the parish office by phone at 416-364-7588 or email at stpaulsbasilica@archtoronto.org, so we can ensure our records are up-to-date and there are no delays in issuing tax receipts.

#### **Different Ways to Give**

There are many different ways to donate to the parish.

- Envelopes & Donor Numbers: If you use the visitor's envelopes and wish to receive a tax receipt, please ensure that your name and address are clearly written. Registered parishioners can request an assigned donor number linked to their records for use with pre-printed or visitor envelopes.
- 2. *Direct Debit:* You can sign up to have your donation debited monthly directly from your bank account or credit card. You can choose where to direct your donation and request an additional amount be debited for special collections.
- 3. *Securities:* By donating stocks, bonds or mutual funds you can avoid capital gains allowing you to give more.
- 4. *Time & Talent:* Donations don't always have to be monetary. Consider volunteering your time or abilities with a parish ministry or event.

#### ❖ News

#### **Weekly Mass Intentions**

Saturday, November 29 4:30 pm ♦ † Anthony & Dominic Pham

Sunday, November 30

8:30 am ♦ For the People 11:00 am ♦ † Nicanor Giocada

> Tuesday, December 2 5:00 pm ♦

Wednesday, December 3 5:00 pm ◆

Thursday, December 4 5:00 pm ♦

Friday, December 5 5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

#### **Parish Collection Summary**

|            | 2025      | 2024      | Diff              |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Nov 2      | \$ 5,773  | \$ 4,804  | <b>↑</b> \$ 969   |
| Nov 9      | \$ 2,872  | \$ 2,924  | <b>\P</b> \$ 52   |
| Nov 16*    | \$ 6,424  | \$ 6,663  | <b>↓</b> \$ 239   |
| Nov 23     | \$ 2,768  | \$ 2,572  | <b>↑</b> \$ 196   |
| Nov 30     |           | \$ 6,101  |                   |
| Mth Target | \$ 17,837 | \$ 23,064 | <b>♦</b> \$ 5,227 |

<sup>\*</sup> Includes Monthly Pre-Authorized Debit Donations Thank you for supporting our parish!

#### **Upcoming Special Collections**

- December 6/7- Parish Preservation Fund
- **December 13/14** Youth Outreach Fund

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

#### **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.



#### **Holiday Mass Schedule**

Advent Confessions Dec 18 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm **Dec 20** 2:30 pm to 4:15 pm

Christmas Christmas Eve - Dec 24 4:30 pm Family Mass (Preceded by Carols) 6:30 pm & 11:00 pm Christmas Day - Dec 25

8:30 am & 11:00 am

New Year New Year's Eve - Dec 31 4:30 pm New Year's Day - Jan 1 11:00 am



#### TCDSB Staff Arts 52nd Annual Christmas Concert

Friday, December 5th, 2025, 8 pm at St. Paul's Basilica



St. Paul's is excited to welcome back the TCDSB Staff Arts group for their 52nd Annual Christmas Concert and Wine & Cheese Social, featuring conductor Anne Bolger, producer Dawn Burke and pianist Cristina Parvu. Concert only tickets are \$20 or

\$35 for the concert and social. For more information or to order tickets, pick up an order form at the back of the church, visit 'tcdsb.org/staffarts' or scan the QR code.



#### **Winter Clothing and Toiletries**

During December, the parish will collect CLEAN GENTLY USED winter clothing, such as, coats, boots, hats, gloves, warm tops and pants. We will also collect NEW UNOPENED toiletries, such as, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, bar soap and shampoo as well as **NEW UNWORN** socks. These donations will benefit our neighbours the Good Shepherd Ministries and the Mustard Seed. Please separate clothing from toiletries when dropping off donations in the boxes near the altar.



#### REJOICE! St. Michael's Choir School Christmas Concert

Jubilee Celebration - 60 Years at Massey Hall! December 13 at 7 pm: Massey Hall



This year's Christmas concert marks a sacred milestone in the life of St. Michael's Choir School and the wider community. A celebration of six decades of music in the historic space, embracing the spirit of the Jubliee Year a time of hope, renewal, and joy in Christ's birth. A a song of gratitude for the past, a proclamation of joy in the present, and a prayerful step into the future. Tickets are now available at 'masseyhall.com'. Please use Promo Code: STARLIGHT. For more info call 416-397-6367.

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