



ST. PAUL'S BASILICA

EST. 1822~FIRST CATHOLIC PARISH IN TORONTO

STAFF

Fr. Robert O'Brien
Pastor

Delmalisa Chilombo
Sacristan

Ben Richards
Sacristan

Micah MacMullen
Youth Minister

Fr. Keith Wallace
In Residence

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 or by appointment

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

Taking Sacred Time in Advent

We have just begun the Advent season. In this part of the world, the days are getting shorter and travel can be treacherous, so many of us find ourselves staying closer to home. We might need a little something to lift our spirits and bring a bit of light into these darker days.

In many European countries, there is a tradition of the Advent Calendar—a small daily surprise for each day of Advent. Commercial versions often include treats, but you certainly don't need those. Creating your own Advent Calendar can be both simple, meaningful, and a lot of fun.

To mark each day, you can do a simple shared activity with family and friends: make a tree ornament, play a short game, pray together—especially a prayer of gratitude—bake something, or read a short story. You can use your Advent Calendar to build gentle rituals at home. Set up your Christmas creche one piece at a time. If you don't have one, try making your own figures and furnishings; that alone could take a week or two and will likely become an unforgettable memory. And perhaps it's a little radical to say, but this can be just as valuable for adults living together—or even for those who live alone. These practices aren't only for children.



For some, Christmas can also be a painful season. I feel that myself this year after the death of a family member. Our small rituals can help us mediate our grief or the difficulties we carry. Emmanuel is with us precisely because we have griefs, so the true joy of Christmas comes from God's presence in our real lives. We don't need a cheerful mask or to meet someone else's expectations—though Christmas can sometimes make us feel that way. By doing something simple and sacred each day until Christmas, we may discover unexpected consolations and encouragements along the way.

And of course, positive social time matters for all of us. Some of us—myself included—may be working around Christmas! So if you need to spend time together a little before or a little after the day itself, that's perfectly fine.

These Advent days will lead us to Christmas sooner than we expect. Treasure the time!

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Holiday Mass Schedule

Advent Confessions

Dec 18

5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Dec 20

2:30 pm to 4:15 pm

Christmas Masses

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 Masses

New Year's Eve - Dec 31

4:30 pm

New Year's Day - Jan 1

11:00 am



Please join us in celebrating our

JUBILEE YEAR **Closing Mass**

DECEMBER 28TH, 2025
11 AM MASS



❖ NEWS

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 6

4:30 pm ♦ † Rose Yeung

Sunday, December 7

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ † Joan Shenoy

Tuesday, December 9

5:00 pm ♦

Wednesday, December 10

5:00 pm ♦

Thursday, December 11

5:00 pm ♦

Friday, December 12

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Parish Collection Summary

	2025	2024	Diff
Nov 2	\$ 5,773	\$ 4,804	↑\$ 969
Nov 9	\$ 2,872	\$ 2,924	↓\$ 52
Nov 16*	\$ 6,424	\$ 6,663	↓\$ 239
Nov 23	\$ 2,768	\$ 2,572	↑\$ 196
Nov 30	\$ 3,855	\$ 6,101	↓\$ 2,246
Mth Target	\$ 21,692	\$ 23,064	↓\$ 1,372

* Includes Monthly Pre-Authorized Debit Donations

Thank you for supporting our parish!

Upcoming Special Collections

- **December 13/14** - Youth Outreach
- **December 25** - Christmas

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.



Christmas Carols & Fellowship

All are welcome to join us for an afternoon of Christmas Carols and Fellowship on December 21st, after the 11 am Mass. Light refreshments will follow in the parish hall. Potluck contributions are welcome. This is a great chance to come together and share in the holiday spirit!



2026 Offertory Envelopes



Offertory Envelopes for 2026 are now available in the front entrance vestibule, organized alphabetically by last name. **Please VERIFY that the box you pick up has your name on the label and DO NOT begin using the 2026 envelopes until January.**

Winter Clothing, Toiletries and Food Drive

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.



❖ HOUSEKEEPING

New to our Parish 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 ways to support the parish.

1. **Envelopes:** Registered parishioners can request assigned donor numbers linked to their records and pre-printed weekly envelopes. People using visitor envelopes who want to receive a tax receipt must **ensure that their name and address are clearly written.**
2. **Direct Debit:** Donations can be debited directly from your bank or credit card and directed to a parish or archdiocesan fund.
3. **Tip Tap:** Simply tap your card on the device amount to donate. For a tax receipt, register your card.
4. **Securities:** By donating stocks, bonds or mutual funds you can avoid capital gains allowing you to give more.
5. **Time & Talent:** Donations don't always have to be monetary. Consider volunteering your time or abilities with a parish ministry or event.

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