



# 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](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

### Contemplatives in Action

Yoda might say, “Contemplatives in action, we are all called to be.” And truly, we are. Though the phrase is often associated with great contemplative saints like St. Teresa of Jesus (Avila), it describes any of us who are making a sincere effort to live a Christian life.

By the end of each day, we can feel a little jumbled. There are the daily blessings—those moments that stirred gratitude. Then there are the parts of the day that felt wasted. Most days also bring challenges or frustrations. Even if our own homes are peaceful, the news can weigh heavily on us, especially stories of war or famine. Some problems simply do not have quick solutions.

To be contemplative means not only allowing the raw material of our lives to be quietly joined to our prayers, but also consciously cultivating the truth that we dwell in Christ in the midst of it all. Our joys and our sorrows are held by God’s love. This contemplation, in turn, frees us to act—to face our challenges and to bring about change, both visible and invisible, that is mysteriously joined to Christ’s healing work.

Our actions are never perfect, but we believe that God is at work in every good we try to do, even haltingly. The saints became “great” precisely because they learned to live in this



freedom and to surrender themselves more and more to God.

Unlike those whose confidence is artificial, this way of living sharpens our conscience and allows us to be selfless with greater ease. Less energy is wasted on “what ifs” and worries, and more is given to acting helpfully and being at peace.

Simply being at peace this Christmas will give others the freedom to approach you. A little peaceful attention—a willingness to listen—can become a conduit for great good and quiet healing. We may even find that our own burdens begin to lighten as

we enter the present moment as a true encounter with the risen Lord, a sacrament of the present moment.

Christ is with us. On this Third Sunday of Advent, when we are called to rejoice, may we gladly give ourselves over to being contemplatives in action, treating every moment as one filled with grace.

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**

A circular logo for the Jubilee Year 2025. It features a cross in the center, with a path leading towards it. The text 'JUBILEE 2025' is on the left and 'PILGRIMS OF HOPE' is on the right.



# ❖ NEWS

## Weekly Mass Intentions

**Saturday, December 13**

4:30 pm ♦ † Rose Yeung

**Sunday, December 14**

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ † Lymraina D'Silva

**Tuesday, December 16**

5:00 pm ♦ † Chrystie Garcia

**Wednesday, December 17**

5:00 pm ♦

**Thursday, December 18**

5:00 pm ♦ † Maria Cristoforo

**Friday, December 19**

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

## Parish Collection Summary

	2025	2024	Diff
Dec 7	\$ 6,388	\$ 6,993	↓\$ 239
Dec 14		\$ 7,008	
Dec 21*		\$ 15,663	
Dec 28		\$ 3,726	
Mth Target	\$ 6,388	\$ 33,390	↓\$27,003

\* Includes Monthly Pre-Authorized Debit Donations

Thank you for supporting our parish!

## Upcoming Special Collections

- **December 25** - Christmas
- **January 1** - Feast of Mary
- **January 4/5** - Preservation 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.



## 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.

**3rd Sunday of Advent**

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