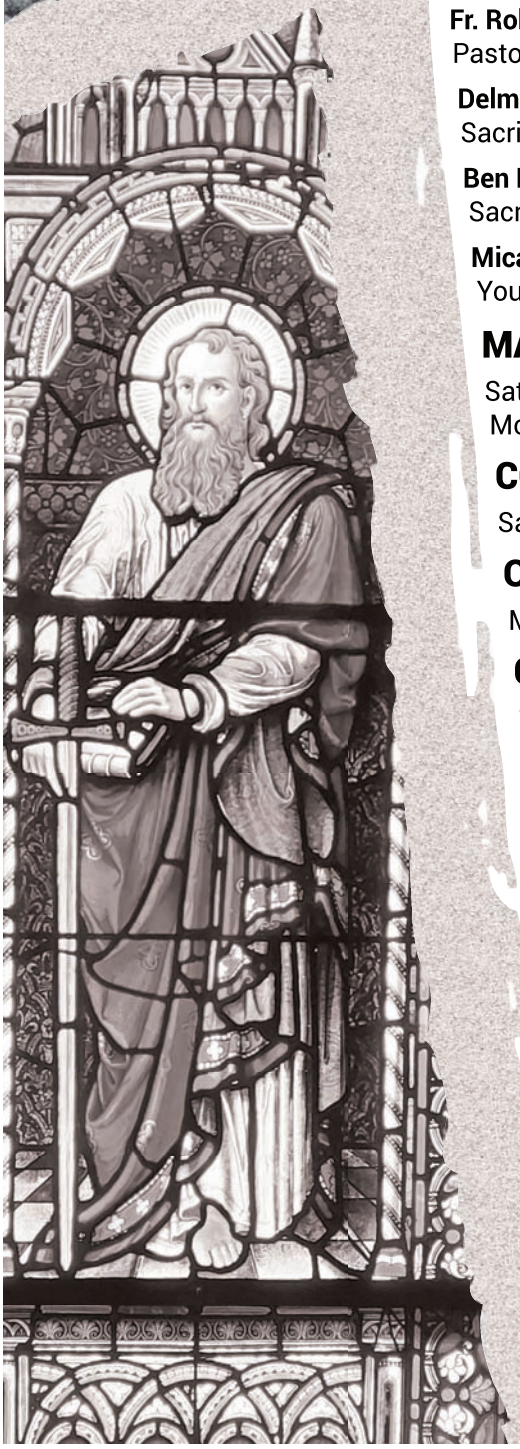

St. Paul's Basilica

Est. 1822~First Catholic Parish in Toronto

STAFF

Fr. Robert O'Brien
Pastor

Fr. Keith Wallace
In Residence

Delmalisa Chilombo
Sacristan

Lynett Wilson
Office Manager

Joseph Angelo
Music Director

Ben Richards
Sacristan

Jason Lo
Bookkeeper

Allison Angelo
Cantor

Micah MacMullen
Youth Minister

Ives Alvarez
Custodian

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

Life in the Key of Music

I think most of you know that I really enjoy music. At this time of year, the shorter days, sometimes-challenging weather, the pressures of work, and the varying moods of the people around us can leave us feeling a little "blah" ourselves.

We all have different tastes in music. For many of us, the music we are most attached to is what we grew up with. Those associations—music linked to our own growth and to important moments in our lives—help keep us in contact with life, with ourselves, and with those who mean so much to us.

I've also found that developing my musical tastes over time has been very enjoyable. While I certainly have my preferences, I try to keep my spiritual life in view in my listening. Obviously, we can always turn to sacred music, whether traditional or contemporary. I enjoy chant of various kinds and also listen to some contemporary sacred material. That said, on Spotify and other streaming services there is all kinds of profound music that can speak to our emotions and help us arrive at a place where we feel more grounded and put together. Even some very secular music can help bring into focus what is most important and assist us in discerning the concrete things we are called to do in the present moment.

Here are a few pieces I particularly enjoy. Henryk Górecki's *Third Symphony,* also known as the *Symphony of Sorrowful Songs*, is deeply moving. Out of the ravages of war, Górecki gave us a work that leads us to a place of profound redemption. Much of the music of Gabriel Fauré carries a hopeful tone. His *Organ Symphony* and even his *Requiem Mass* convey a sense of lightness and peace. The second movement of Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* is something that will stay with you long after it ends. The second movement of Dvořák's *Ninth Symphony (From the New World)* is another familiar and comforting piece.

In the jazz idiom, I particularly enjoy Gregory Porter, who has written a number of songs in which his faith and faithfulness are very evident. He'll be singing next month at Massey Hall. There is also a young jazz pianist, only in his twenties, named Joey Alexander, whose playing immediately takes you to a deep place. You likely have your own favourites in your preferred musical worlds.

I would love to hear what you listen to for your own musical and spiritual enrichment. Music can be a kind of wordless language that offers a gift—not only to the listener, but also something that emanates from the listener after the experience. God is always knocking at the door of our hearts, and whatever helps us remain open allows us to live a more grace-filled life.

As the days slowly grow longer, may our hearts and minds be enlightened by the invisible movement of grace. May "the dawn from on high break upon us … and guide our feet into the way of peace."

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ News

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 10
4:30 pm ♦ † Rose Yeung

Sunday, January 11
8:30 am ♦ For the People
11:00 am ♦ For the People

Tuesday, January 13 - 5:00 pm

Wednesday, January 14 - 5:00 pm

Thursday, January 15 - 5:00 pm

Friday, January 16
5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Parish Collection Summary

	2025	2024	Diff
Dec 7	$ 6,388	$ 6,993	↓$ 239
Dec 14	$ 5,492	$ 7,008	↓$ 1,516
Dec 21*	$ 19,776	$ 15,663	↑$ 4,113
Dec 28	$ 3,253	$ 3,726	↓$ 473
Dec Totals	$ 34,909	$ 33,390	↑$ 1,519

	2026	2025	Diff
Jan 4	$ 7,649	$ 5,742	↑$ 1,519
Jan 11		$ 5,571	
Jan 18*		$ 6,785	
Jan 25		$ 2,805	
Jan Totals	$ 7,649	$ 20,904	↓$13,254

** Includes Monthly Pre-Authorized Debit Donations*

Upcoming Special Collections
- ***February 1 & March 1*** - Preservation Fund
- ***March 22*** - ShareLife

Thank you for supporting our parish!

Cashless Donations

With fewer people using cheques or cash, we are pleased to offer several convenient ways to donate:

Online: Scan the QR or visit *stpaulsbasilica.archtoronto.org* and select the Donate button. Ensure that "St. Paul's Basilica" is selected from the parish drop-down menu.

SCAN ME For Online Donations

TipTap: Tap your card against an amount on the device at the back of the church to make a donation. For a year-end tax receipt, register your physical card by scanning the QR code beside the TipTap device.

SCAN ME For TipTap Card Registration

Kindergarten Registration!

Starting January 21st, families with children born in 2022 can apply for Junior Kindergarten at St. Paul's School this September. Visit *'tcdsb.org/kindergarten'* or scan the QR for info.

SCAN ME

Youth & Young Adults Ministry News

Youth seeking to grow in community and deepen their Catholic faith are invited to participate in our youth ministry programs:
- EDGE (Gr. 5-8) - ***January 23; 6:30-8:30 pm***
- LifeTeen (Gr. 8-12) - ***January 16; 5:30-8 pm***

Our next ***Young Adult*** event will take place on ***February 8*** from ***3-6 pm***. Come out for a tour of our historic Basilica and a presentation on the life of our patron, St. Paul.

Interested in getting involved? Please contact Micah at mmacmullen@archtoronto.org

Celebration of Marriage Mass

Sunday, February 8, 2026; 2:30 pm - St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, Toronto

As part of Marriage Sunday, Bp. John Boissonneau will celebrate a special Mass honouring married couples, with recognition of milestone anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+). All are welcome, and couples may renew their vows during the Mass. Limited reserved seating is available for milestone anniversary couples. Registration and details at *'archtoronto.org/marriage'*.

❖ 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:*** To make tracking donations easier, request an assigned donor number and/or pre-printed weekly envelopes. For donation tracking & tax receipts without a donor number ***CLEARLY PRINT your full name and address*** on the envelope.
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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