

ST. PAUL'S BASILICA

EST. 1822 ~ FIRST CATHOLIC PARISH IN TORONTO

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Sacristan

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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

Singing Together

As we move a little deeper into Lent, we may find ourselves wrestling with our Lenten practices. Have I aimed too high? Do I feel as though I am simply not disciplined enough? Are some of these practices becoming sources of frustration?

It took me a long time to understand that most things we do require a balanced recipe of engagement. What do I mean? We need the right amount of effort, accompanied by the right amount of observation and awareness, while also leaving room for the Spirit to do with our efforts something better than what we might have imagined. Those of us who are, or who have been, athletic know this in a very bodily way. Most sports and athletic disciplines require the coordination of many skills, measured in relationship to one another and in consideration of the unique makeup of our own bodies. We strive to make all these things “sing together.”

It seems to me that this is even more true of our spiritual life and discipline. In this area of life, the “singing together” is less our own achievement and more a matter of full cooperation with grace. It takes time to recognize the fruits and to learn how to build on them.

If you are struggling to keep up with your Lenten practices—or simply with the habits you believe will help you live a more virtuous life—it may be liberating to reflect a little less on the “failure” to



do it all, and a little more on the heart of what you are truly striving for. Chances are there are other ingredients in the recipe that will enhance the results. If you are trying to become more patient, for example, your ability to listen to others may be helped by taking some quiet time to listen to yourself—and bringing that experience to prayer. In doing so, you may gain a keener sense of what the true object of your listening really is. It is more than an outcome or a decision; it is the fruitful exchange between two persons.

I would also like to offer one simple suggestion: it may be very helpful to reach out a little. When we widen the circle of people we see and speak with, we cannot help but learn from one another. Nothing

lifts us out of a rut more effectively, or raises our horizon so that hope can once again stand at the center of our lives. That reaching out can take many forms—reconnecting with family or friends, developing a creative skill, or participating in a shared activity.

The Lord Jesus came so that each of us might have fullness of life. His love is shaped and offered in exactly the way each of us needs. Our vision of that full life is meant to be a singing chorus, rising together with the joys of the Kingdom. May all of us experience the true spiritual fruits the Lord desires for us.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Stations of the Cross



The 40 days of Lent is a special time of spiritual renewal in the Church. During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be prayed Friday evenings after 5 pm Mass. All are welcome to join in prayer.

March 8, 2026

Lenten Reconciliation Service



Reconciliation Services will take place:

- » Every Saturday from 3:30 pm to 4:15 pm, or by appointment
- » March 21 from 2:30 pm to 4:15 pm
- » March 25 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Lenten Resources

To assist you this Lenten Season please avail yourself of the numerous Lenten resources found on the Archdiocese of Toronto website, archtoronto.org/lent. There you will find a Lenten Message from His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo, a variety of Online Retreats and Reflections, Lenten Activities for Families, and much more.



❖ NEWS

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 7

4:30 pm ♦ Timothy Buckman

Sunday, March 8

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ † Fortunato Cofinco

Tuesday, March 10

5:00 pm ♦ Sardelic Family

Wednesday, March 11

5:00 pm ♦ † Paul Matthew Meade

Thursday, March 12

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Friday, March 13

5:00 pm ♦ Private Intention

Parish Collection Summary

	2026	2025	Diff
Mar 1	\$ 5,227	\$ 4,404	↑\$ 823
Mar 8		\$ 2,344	
Mar 15*		\$ 6,500	
Mar 22		\$ 2,496	
Mar 29		\$ 3,351	
Mth Totals	\$ 5,227	\$ 19,094	↓\$ 13,867

*Includes Monthly Pre-Authorized Debit Donations

Upcoming Special Collections

- **March 22** - ShareLife
 - **April 3** - Needs of the Church in the Holy Land (Good Friday)
 - **April 5** - Easter Sunday
 - **April 12** - Preservation Fund
 - **April 19** - Youth Summer Activities
- 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.

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.



On Fridays, we refrain from eating meat since Jesus sacrificed his flesh for us on Good Friday.

WHY NO MEAT?

Why is fish permitted on Fridays?

Fish doesn't belong to the "flesh meats." The Latin word for meat "caro" from which we get words like carnivore and carnivorous applies to flesh meat only and does not include fish.

Traditionally, meat was more expensive and eaten only during times of feasting and rejoicing.



What is considered flesh meat? Flesh meat includes any meat from poultry or mammals, such as beef, chicken and pork. Products that come from these animals can be consumed on Fridays, such as milk and eggs.



Archdiocese of Toronto

www.archtoronto.org
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2025 Tax Receipts Mailed

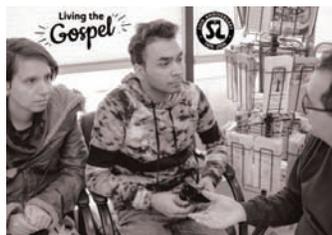
2025 Parish Tax Receipts were mailed on February 18th. Please contact the parish office if you have not receive your receipt or if an error is present.

Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services Speaker

Today, Sunday, March 8, we welcome Mr. Frank Jannetta, who will speak on behalf of Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services, operated under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Toronto. Each Catholic cemetery and funeral home reflects our Catholic beliefs and are a vital part of our faith. To learn more visit catholic-cemeteries.ca/ or scan the QR code.



Through ShareLife, you ensured Tyler didn't face his hardships alone



Many of our brothers and sisters are struggling in silence. Because of your support of ShareLife, Tyler didn't face his hardships alone. When he first came to counselling at a Catholic Charities agency you support through ShareLife, he was withdrawn and guarded—reluctant to open up. But slowly, with support, he began to share the weight he carried: the trauma of losing his father to a drug overdose and the pain of repeated loss in his family life. Over time, Tyler found the courage to face his story, make sense of his struggles, and take steps toward healing. Today, he says counselling has become something he looks forward to—even when it's hard—because it's helping him grow. Through ShareLife, you help people in our community access mental health services. You offer healing to those who feel forgotten and hope to those who are hurting. The first ShareLife Sunday collection is on March 22. Our parish goal this year is \$55,000. Please give using a ShareLife envelope or at sharelife.org/donate.

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