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Fr. Charles Forget
Pastor

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Sacristan

Mareike Achenbach
Sacristan

Lynett Wilson
Office Manager

Jason Lo
Bookkeeper

Rodney Llamera
Custodian

Joseph Angelo
Music Director

Allison Angelo
Cantor

Andrea Cerswell
11 am Choir Lead

PARISH SCHEDULE

Mass Times

Saturday: 4:30 pm ♦ Sunday: 8:30 am and 11:00 am

Monday: No Mass ♦ Tuesday: 7:00 pm ♦ Wednesday to Friday: 8:30 am

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

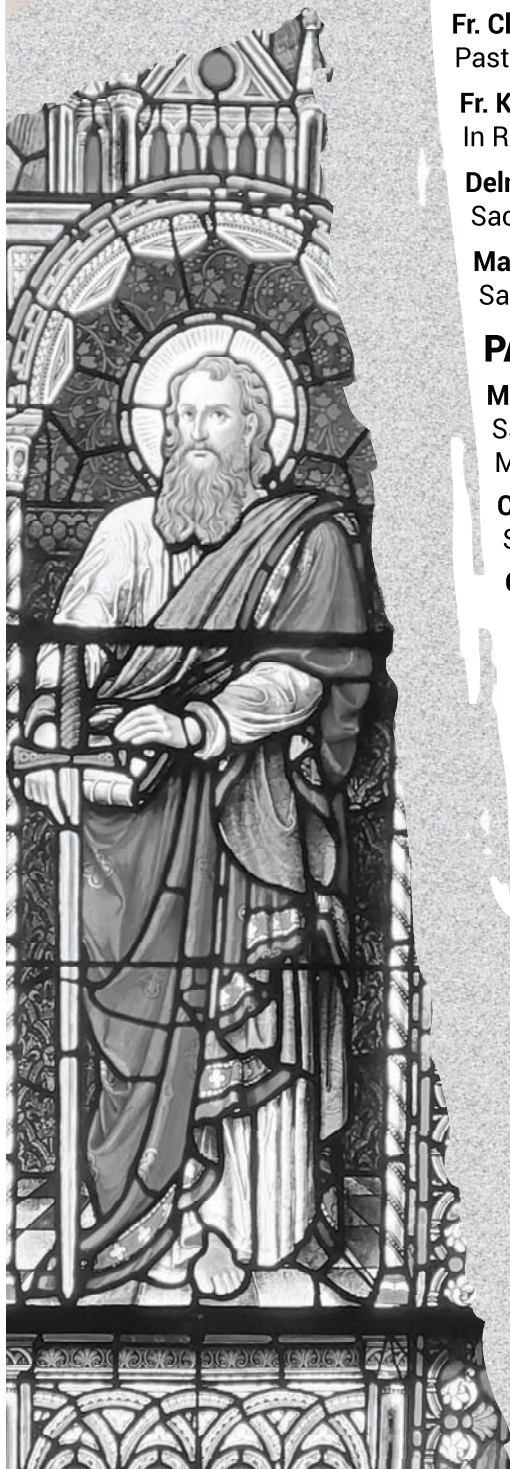
To begin donating via Weekly Offertory Envelopes or Pre-Authorized Monthly Direct Debit, please contact the parish office.

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.

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

St. Paul's Catholic Elementary School; ☎ (416) 393-5204

Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services; ☎ (416) 733-8544



Communion is the Answer to Fear

Why just trying to be braver doesn't satisfy our hearts

(by Sisters of Life, Sr. Mary Margaret Hope, SV)

When I saw the following article in a Sisters of Life publication, IMPRINT, and began to read, I couldn't help but think of M.A.I.D. because Sister Mary Margaret speaks of 'communion' with one another. Communion is in regard to our common union as humans. I dare say that in a world where so many are living with various forms of fears, and some rightly so in the case of great threat, many are choosing the ways and means of their own unnatural death by M.A.I.D. because they are afraid: afraid of being alone, forgotten, insignificant, alone in sickness and pain and isolation. And even if one is surrounded by many loved ones and caregivers, the decision may be from an isolation from faith and the lack of knowledge of anything that is beyond visible, earthly reality. The need to be loved and to love is so keenly human and, as Bl. Fulton Sheen once said, "...while love does not kill pain, it softens it".

It's a funny thing: as human persons, each of us longs to be loved and to love, but when we're afraid, we can find ourselves fleeing from the communion and love we actually desire. Instead, we can tend to isolate or try to white-knuckle our way through life. Why? Because, as psychologists point out, our personalities may be marked by basic fears which are often rooted in childhood experiences. As adults, this tendency towards particular fears can become a barrier to authentic communion. It can be helpful to name four core fears we might experience:

1. Fear of intimacy: We might tend to view others, even subconsciously, as a threat to our personal identity. We want to maintain absolute boundaries, a solid wall of defense against the world. Sometimes this means we are afraid to let others in, and sometimes it means we are afraid to let ourselves be known. Sadly, the price we pay for our perceived "safety" is the loss of real, authentic relationships.

2. Fear of individuality: On the other hand, we can be so afraid of rejection, of losing the relationships on which we depend, that we hesitate to assert ourselves. We live in a kind of helpless passivity, relying on others' opinions to define us. The natural emotion of fear is meant to move us to action, but when excessive fear keeps us from acting, it frustrates its own purpose and results in ceaseless anxiety.

3. Fear of freedom: We can become so reliant on external structures to preserve our identity that we are terrified of any change. This permits us to experience control, but the rejection of change is often a rejection of our own interior freedom. We narrow our interior world for the sake of material stability instead of living out of the freedom of the children of God.

4 Fear of dependence: Another fundamental tendency is to lash out at anything or anyone which threatens to limit our freedom. We refuse to accept that we are finite, dependent creatures on whom others also depend. When others place demands on us, or we have to rely on others, we see ourselves as victims instead of seeing our human neediness as a gift. We fear the necessity and limits which also belong to our humanity and are the instruments of communion.

Though we may be disposed to one of these particular fears, all of us experience each of them at different moments in life. Naming them helps us to recognize that they are all ultimately fears of the wrong things. Real communion never threatens our integrity. True love is never conditional. Individuality and dependence are not incompatible, and our interior freedom is neither threatened nor limited by our finite, needy experience.

Our weakness, need, and desire for relationship is the stuff of connection and communion with others. Total self-sufficiency only isolates. Every child knows what to do with fear-run to Mom and Dad for protection. This remains the best strategy for adults, too. As Dr. Bob Schuchts urges those struggling with anxiety: "You don't need to muster more courage right now. Courage is not the opposite of fear. The opposite of fear is communion. The only answer to your fear and anxiety is the knowledge that Jesus is here, intimately present with us."

Let us name the truth about our fears, but then bring them straight to His Heart and His Mother Mary's heart. God has given us our freedom, He has given us to ourselves, but He never leaves us alone. Instead of letting fear drive us away from communion with others, let's allow communion to drive away fear. Whatever threats we face, whether real or mistaken, it is only His perfect love, experienced in Himself and through the love of others, that has the power to cast out all fear. We can pray: Jesus, I give you permission to love me. You see me; You know me. Speak truth into my fears, and bring me into communion with You and with others.

❖ NEWS

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 24

4:30 pm ♦ † Jade Hernandez

Sunday, October 25

8:30 am ♦ For the People

11:00 am ♦ † Aileen Menez

October 27-30 Masses Cancelled

Kindly note that due to Fr. Charles' attendance at the annual Priest's Retreat, weekday Masses between Tuesday, October 27th and Friday, October 30th will not take place. The usual weekday Mass schedule will resume on November 3rd. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Parish Collection Summary

	2026	2025	Diff
Oct 4	\$ 5,300	\$ 3,417	↑\$ 1,883
Oct 11	\$ 4,868	\$ 4,198	↑\$ 670
Oct 18*	\$ 6,238	\$ 6,361	↓\$ 122
Oct 25		\$ 3,489	
Mth Totals	\$ 16,406	\$ 17,465	↓\$ 1,059

*Includes Monthly Pre-Authorized Debit Donations

Upcoming Special Collections

- **November 1**- Preservation Fund
- **November 15**- Shepherds' Trust Fund

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.



Daughters of St. Paul Book Fair

November 7 & 8, 2026, at each Mass



The Daughters of St. Paul will visit our parish November 7 & 8, before and after all Masses, with a display of Catholic books and faith formation resources to help you and your family grow in faith. Come out and meet the sisters as they share their mission of communicating Christ with their lives and with all forms of media.

The Daughters of St. Paul are based in Toronto and operate the Pauline Books & Media Centre. To learn more about them or place a special order, visit paulinestore.ca or call 416-781-9131. We invite you to stop by and meet the sisters!

Upcoming Special Collections

Parish Preservation Fund

Our monthly Preservation Fund collections will be held on **October 31 & November 1**. This collection helps cover the ongoing maintenance needed to preserve and care for our beautiful Basilica, ensuring it remains open and welcoming to all.

Shepherds' Trust

The annual Shepherds' Trust collection will be held **November 14 & 15**. This collection supports the needs of elderly and disabled priests so they can lead a dignified life after many years of ministry.



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

❖ NOTEWORTHY

Fr. Charles' Installation & Welcome Reception

November 1st, 2026 at the 11:00 am Mass

Join us on Sunday, November 1, 2026, as we welcome Bishop Kasun for the official installation of Fr. Charles Forget as the new Pastor of St. Paul's Basilica!

Following the 11:00 a.m. Installation Mass, all parishioners are warmly invited to the parish hall for light refreshments and a welcome reception.

This special occasion is a wonderful opportunity for our parish family to welcome our regional Bishop, congratulate Fr. Charles on his new ministry, and celebrate together in the Lord through fellowship and community.

We look forward to celebrating this joyous occasion with you!

All Saints Day

Sunday, November 1 - 8:30 am & 11 am Mass

On Sunday, November 1, we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints. Masses will be celebrated at the regular Sunday times of 8:30 am and 11am.

All Souls Day & Praying for Our Beloved Departed

Monday, November 2 - 7 pm Mass

November is traditionally a special time for remembering and praying for our beloved departed, giving thanks for their lives and entrusting them to God's loving care. The parish will have a **Book of Remembrance** in which parishioners may write the names of deceased family members and friends for whom they wish the parish to offer prayers. All names entered in the book will be remembered at every Mass throughout the month of November.

On Monday, November 2, the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day), the parish will celebrate a special Mass at 7 pm to pray for all our beloved departed.



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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