

St. Paul the Apostle and Immaculate Conception Churches



"To grow as disciples, living and sharing the love of Christ." - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - in our lives, energized by the intercession of Mary and the great Communion of Saints, and grounded in the Sacred Scripture, Tradition, Catholic Teaching, Sacrament and Prayer, we, parishioners of St. Paul the Apostle Parish, reach out to embrace all of God's children, encouraging them to receive the gift of eternal salvation, accept Jesus Christ as their Lord, and follow in his footsteps. We declare our solidarity with the poor of the world, and pledge to help them by sharing our love and bounty.

Sunday Liturgies

Saturday:

5:00 p.m. at St. Paul's

Sunday:

9:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception

10:30 a.m. at St Paul the Apostle

Weekday Liturgies

Tuesday: 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's

Wednesday & Thursday: 8:00 a.m. at St. Paul's

Friday: 12:10 noon at Immaculate Conception

Saturday: 9:00a.m. at Immaculate Conception

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Exposition on the First Friday of each month at Immaculate Conception Church from 1:00pm Friday until 8:00am Saturday.
Tuesday - 6:00 p.m. Holy Hour before 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Paul's

YOUTH MINISTRY:

Edge Night (Gr. 6-8) See parish website

Life Teen (Gr. 9-12) See parish website

Reconciliation(Confessions): at St. Paul's

Saturday 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Tuesday 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Marriage:

Couples planning to be married must contact the parish priest one year in advance. No wedding date is to be set before consulting the parish priest. At least one of the parties should be a registered parishioner and both parties must attend a mandatory Marriage Preparation Course.

Baptism:

Parents/Guardians should be registered parishioners and attend Baptism preparation class along with godparents. (Registration package available from church office).

Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion: If anybody is sick (at the Hospital, Home, Nursing Home, etc.) & needs to be anointed or would like to receive Holy Communion or Confession, please call office.

Schools:

Holy Family Elementary School	705-435-3989
St. Paul's Elementary School	705-435-7211
St. Cecilia Catholic School	705-530-9597
St. Thomas Aquinas High School	905-936-4743

Pastoral Ministries:

Life Teen and The Edge Youth Ministry for students in grade six through to high school; Altar Servers; Lectors; Ushers; Eucharistic Ministers; Music Ministry; Pastoral Care Ministers to the sick and shut-ins; Children's Liturgy; Pastoral Council; R.C.I.A.; and Sacramental Preparation

Organizations:

The Catholic Women's League of Canada; Knights of Columbus; Columbian Squires (boys 10 - 18 yrs) St. Vincent de Paul Society

Stewardship:

Welcome to new parishioners! To be a member of our parish is to have a sense of belonging to a Community of Faith. Registration forms and envelopes are available in the foyer of the church.

PARISH WEBSITE: stpaultheapostleal.archtoronto.org

St. Paul the Apostle

P.O. Box 789, 190 King St. S.,
Alliston, ON L9R 1V9

OFFICE HRS: Tues-Fri 9-4:00 p.m.

Office: 705-435-6325

Fax: 705-435-6859

Immaculate Conception

4791 Conc Rd 5, Adjala

Alliston ON L9R 1V1

email: stpaultheapostleal@archtoronto.org

Office Manager: Anu Antao Ext.21

Pastor: Fr. Norberto Eyule, Ext. 22

email: neyule@archtoronto.org

Deacon: Michael Lewis Tel:905-952-7970

email: mlewis1@sympatico.ca

Youth Minister: Dave McKendrick, Ext. 24

Text/Call – 647-237-1348 (BEST)

Email: DMcKendrick@archtoronto.org



3rd Sunday of Advent ~ 17 December 2023

John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." John 1:26-27

First Reading + Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11
Second Reading + 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel + John 1:6-8, 19-28

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 18

NO MASS SCHEDULED

Tuesday, December 19

5:20pm+Marian Cenacle

6:00pm+HOLY HOUR

**6:15pm – 6:45pm + CONFESSIONS

7:00pm+(Multiple Intentions Mass, RIP)

Jaime, DANIEL, Mary Jo HARRIGAN

Wednesday, December 20

8:00am+Mike FABRIZIO, RIP – A/A Prokopich

Thursday, December 21

8:00am+Emma BRYSDON, RIP-J/C Orr

Friday, December 22

(Mass at Immaculate Conception Church)

12:10pm+Emma WONG, RIP – P. Ceresino

Saturday, December 23

(Morning Mass at Immaculate Conception)

9:00am+Rev. Alan Glass, Per. Int. – J/C Orr

**4:00pm – 4:45pm + CONFESSIONS

5:00pm+John KENNEDY, RIP-M. Kennedy

Sunday, December 24

9:00am+Jim VANDERVOORT, RIP –M. Lynch & Family

10:30am+ FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

Vigil of The Nativity of Our Lord

5:00pm+Michael & Maria Berberick, Per. Int.-M/M Berberick

7:30pm+Minino ANTAO, RIP – Antao Family

9:30pm+John & Edna O'Donnell, RIP-Steip Family

From the desk of Father Norberto

As we gather on this sacred occasion of the 3rd Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, our hearts are filled with anticipation and joy. In the midst of the Advent season, we are invited to reflect on the profound significance of joy in our spiritual journey.

The theme of joy resonates deeply with the essence of Gaudete Sunday. The word "Gaudete" itself translates to "Rejoice" in Latin, and it serves as a poignant reminder of the joy that permeates the Christian faith. This Sunday acts as a joyful interlude within the more reflective Advent season, signaling that our anticipation is transforming into jubilant celebration as we draw closer to the birth of our Savior.

Joy, in the context of Gaudete Sunday, is not merely an emotional response to favorable circumstances. It is a profound, spiritual joy that emanates from the assurance of God's promises. The liturgical color of rose or pink, symbolizing joy, visually emphasizes the unique character of this Sunday.

The Scripture readings appointed for Gaudete Sunday further illuminate the theme of joy. Prophet Isaiah foretells the coming of the Messiah and the jubilation that accompanies His arrival. "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound."

In the Gospel of Luke, we witness the exultant response of Mary, the mother of Jesus, as she magnifies the Lord for His faithfulness. Her soul rejoices in God, recognizing the fulfillment of His promises in the coming Messiah. Mary's joyful proclamation, known as the Magnificat, becomes a model for us to express our joy in God's redemptive work.

Our journey of faith is marked by seasons of waiting, anticipation, and rejoicing. Gaudete Sunday invites us to reflect on the joy that permeates our lives because of Christ's redemptive work. It prompts us to find joy not only in the fulfillment of God's promises but also in the waiting—knowing that God is faithful, and His timing is perfect.

As we light the pink candle on our Advent wreath, let it serve as a beacon of joy, dispelling any darkness that may linger in our hearts. In a world often marred by challenges and uncertainties, the joy of Gaudete Sunday becomes a testament to the enduring hope we have in Christ.

May this season of Advent, and particularly Gaudete Sunday, be a time for us to cultivate joy in our hearts. Let us rejoice in the salvation that Christ brings, find delight in His promises, and share the good news of His love with others.

May the joy of Gaudete Sunday propel us forward in our journey of faith, filling our lives with hope, peace, and the transformative power of God's love.

In Christ's joyous name,
 Fr. Norbert Eyule
 Pastor

Saint of the Week: Never was a whimpering bit of humanity so powerful that, while lying on His bed of straw, He could command the very stars to direct whom He wished to visit Him. Never a child so wise or so rich as this little Infant who was full of grace and incarnate truth. - *St. Peter Canisius (1521-1597), Doctor of the Church, Feast Day December 21*

Collections for – Dec 10, 2023

(This does not include PAG collection)

Sunday offering	\$5332.65
Other collection	\$ 5375.35

Total -	\$10708.00
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PARISH CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Confessions:

Every Tuesday: 6:00 – 6:45p.m. (before 7:00p.m. Mass)
Every Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45p.m. (before 5:00p.m. Mass)

Christmas Mass Times:

(At St. Paul the Apostle Church)

Sun, December 24th - 5:00p.m. 7:30p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Mon, December 25th - 10:30a.m.

(At Immaculate Conception Church)

Mon, December 25th - 9:00a.m.

New Year's Eve Mass Times:

(At St. Paul the Apostle Church)

Sun, December 31st - 5:00 p.m.

New Year's Day Mass Times

(At Immaculate Conception Church)

Mon, January 1st - 9:00 a.m.

(At St Paul the Apostle Church)

Sun, January 1st - 10:30 a.m.

****Please note ****

Saturday Vigil Masses on Dec 23rd, Dec 30th and Sunday Masses on Dec 24th, Dec 31st will be celebrated at usual times.

Knights of Columbus 50/50 Lottery

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!! The final draw will take place on **December 31st, 2023** and the Grand Prize is now over **\$12,500** and still growing. Tickets may be purchased at <https://www.knightsofcolumbusalliston.ca> In addition, tickets will be available after each Mass for the next 2 weekends for those who wish to purchase tickets in person by cash or credit.

Get your tickets today!

Street Patrol- HOMELESS

Our youth will once again be collecting

'Clean Winter Clothing in Good Condition' for ADULTS ONLY (mostly men's clothing please) to distribute to the homeless & shelters.

Adult clothing, especially - winter boots and socks, winter coats, shoes, boots, mitts, hats, pants, sweaters, blankets, sleeping bags, personal hygiene items.

Food- Loaf of sandwiches, granola bars, fruit drink boxes, water bottles, gift cards- \$5-10

(Please no summer wear and no children's clothing, light weight material pants or men's suits, these are not practical on the street in winter). See posters in Foyer for items needed.

****Items may be dropped at St. Paul's Church in the bin below the Youth Ministry Board. ****

Our Life Teen (high School teens) will be sorting, bagging, and then delivering these items to homeless in Barrie on December 29th, **donations accepted until Dec. 27.** Help Pack at Church – Dec 28th -12-4 pm. *Thank-you for your generosity.*

Muffin Sundays

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone for making our muffin Sundays such a success in 2023. This social, for the good of the parish, event was restarted in 2023 after an extended pause for the pandemic. We gather approximately once a month after the 10:30 mass to enjoy two varieties of muffins, hot and cold beverages, and most importantly fellowship with our fellow parishioners, young and older, new or longtime. We look forward to seeing everyone on **Jan.14** for first muffin Sunday of 2024.

Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Prayer Service 2024 Sunday, January 21, 2024, 4 p.m.

Venue: St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral (455 Ferrier St., Markham, Ont. L3R 5Z2)

Theme: "You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself." (Luke 10:27)

Join Archbishop Francis Leo and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church. This event is jointly organized by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and the Greater Toronto Area Council of Christian Churches.

Celebration of Marriage Mass with Archbishop Francis Leo – February 11, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

As part of Marriage Sunday 2024 celebrations, Archbishop Francis Leo will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2024. **The Mass will take place at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto).** All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass.

All are welcome to attend. Couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversary in 2024 may register for reserved seating. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass. Registration and other important information can be found at www.archtoronto.org/marriage. For questions, please email formation@archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3400 ext. 523.

Please note the Office Hours during the Holidays.

The Parish Office will close at 12:00 noon on Friday, December 22nd and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd at 9:00 am.

***In case of emergency you may call Father Norberto on 905-715-1530.**

Have a blessed Advent Season!





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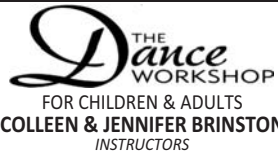
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