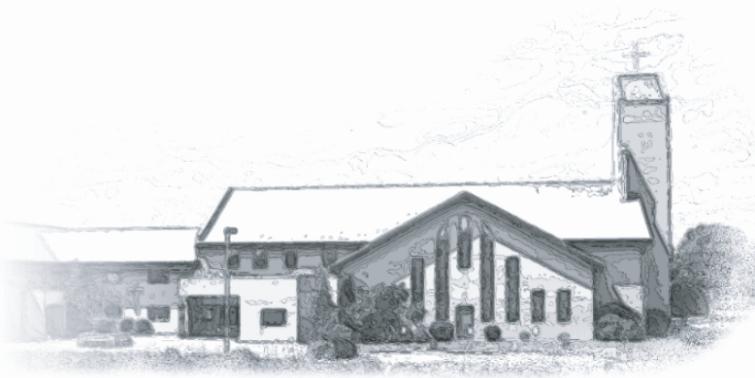


St. Paul the Apostle and Immaculate Conception Churches



“To grow as disciples, living and sharing the love of Christ”

Sunday Liturgies

Saturday:

5:00 p.m. at St Paul the Apostle

Sunday:

9:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception

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

6:00 p.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

email: DMcKendrick@archtoronto.org



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ 8 February 2026

Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden." *Matthew 5:13a-14*

First Reading + Isaiah 58:6-10
Second Reading + 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Gospel + Matthew 5:13-16

Mass for the Intentions Week

Monday, February 9
 NO MASS SCHEDULED
Tuesday, February 10
 10:30am+Mass at Good Samaritan
 5:20pm+Marian Cenacle
 6:00pm+HOLY HOUR
 6:15pm – 6:45pm + CONFESSIONS
 7:00pm+ David SCHEMBRI, RIP-L. Schembri
Wednesday, February 11
 8:00am+Michael Berberick, Per. Int.- M. Berberick
Thursday, February 12
 8:00am+Marissa Filippelli, Per. Int.-M/M. Berberick
Friday, February 13
(Fri. Daily Mass at Immaculate Conception)
 12:10pm+(Multiple Intention Mass-Per.Int.)
 Rita Vandervoort, Francis Horan
Saturday, February 14
(Sat. Daily Mass at Immaculate Conception)
 9:00am+SOULS IN PURGATORY- M/M Berberick
 5:00pm+Don MILES, RIP-C. Cicinski
Sunday, February 15
 9:00am+Michael Berberick, Per. Int.- M. Berberick
 10:30am+ For the People of the Parish
 6:00pm+John & Anu Antao, Per. Int.- Antao Family

Saint of the Week

We must direct all our thoughts, words and actions to His honor; and by prayer, counsel, and good example seek His glory solely, whether for ourselves or for others, so that through our means all may love and honor God.

- *St. Catherine De Ricci (1522-1589), prioress, Feast Day February 13*

Flavor, Preservation, and Purity

Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot." *Matthew 5:13*

Sodium chloride, also known as salt, is one of the most commonly used substances in the world, used for seasoning, preserving, and purifying. Sodium chloride is a very stable compound and cannot lose its flavor unless there is a chemical reaction or dissolution. Why, then, did Jesus suggest that salt could lose its taste? One likely explanation is that the salt used in ancient Palestine could indeed lose its flavor due to impurities and the conditions in which it was stored.

The Dead Sea, located in modern-day southeast Israel, contains a massive deposit of salt and other minerals. According to biblical history, Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt in this region. Because of the vast salt and mineral deposits, the area surrounding the Dead Sea is desolate.

Salt extracted from the Dead Sea was never pure sodium chloride. Gypsum and other minerals were also present, making the salt impure. If this salt were stored improperly or came into contact with water, the sodium chloride could dissolve and wash away, leaving behind the solid residue of minerals. These residual substances, like gypsum, had the appearance of salt but were tasteless and useless for flavoring, preserving, and purifying purposes. When this happened, the "salt" lost its taste. In light of this explanation, Jesus' teaching becomes especially clear.

The first notable feature of salt is its ability to add flavor to food. By calling His disciples the "salt of the earth," Jesus was instructing them to enhance the "flavor" of the world by bringing the truth of the Gospel and the joy of His message to others. A Christian life lived in fidelity to Christ would make the world a better and more virtuous place, just as salt enhances the flavor of food.

Salt is also commonly used for preservation. Before the age of refrigerators and freezers, salt was mixed with food to prevent corruption, by drawing out moisture and hindering bacteria and other microorganisms. Though this practice is still used today, it was especially vital in ancient times. By being the "salt of the earth," Jesus was calling His disciples to preserve the world from moral decay. Through their witness and proclamation of the Gospel, they were to act as a preservative against sin and spiritual ruin. If they were to "lose their taste," they would become indistinguishable from the rest of the world and ineffective in their mission. Hence, Jesus was exhorting them—and us—to avoid becoming watered down and bland in our witness to the Gospel.

Lastly, salt held a significant role in Jewish religious practices, symbolizing purity and consecration. In sacrificial rituals, salt was used to consecrate offerings, as commanded in Leviticus: "You shall season all your grain offerings with salt. Do not let the salt of the covenant with your God be lacking from your grain offering. On every offering you shall offer salt" (*Leviticus 2:13*). By seasoning their offerings with salt, the Israelites preserved the sacrifices from decay, making them pure. This practice reflects the disciples' role in purifying the world through their example of holiness, their lives of self-sacrifice, and their participation in Christ's redemptive work. They were to live lives of integrity, leading others to God through the purity of their hearts and their unwavering commitment to His will.

Reflect today on this powerful metaphor of being the salt of the earth. The world desperately needs the enriching "flavor" of God's grace. Without Him, the world is left to corruption and decay. With God, we, and those we serve, are preserved as pure and holy offerings, adding to His glory and growing in holiness. Be the salt of the earth. Do not become watered down in your faith. Remain steadfast in your fidelity to Christ and His Gospel, and you will transform the world around you. In doing so, you will not only glorify God but will also share in His eternal joy.

Most pure and enriching Lord, You alone enrich and enhance our lives, preserve us from sin, and make us a pure offering to Your Father. Please use me to be an instrument of Your grace to the world, making me the "salt" that remains pure and effective, to bring Your saving truth to the ends of the earth. Jesus, I trust in You. Source: MyCatholicLife

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



COME HUNGRY

Pancakes, Sausages, Beans, Drinks
By Donation

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17TH, 4-7PM

St. Paul the Apostle Church Hall

St. Paul the Apostle LIFE TEEN Knights of Columbus SQUIRES Youth Organization

Confessions – Feb 17, from 5:30pm-6:45pm at St. Paul's
†

Ash Wednesday Masses
Feb 18 at St. Paul's
8:00a.m. & 7:00p.m.
†

The Stations of the Cross During Lent
we will pray The Stations of the Cross every **Friday at 7:00p.m.** from February 20th - April 3rd

CWL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

The Mary Matthews Public Speaking competition sponsored by the C.W.L. will take place in the parish hall on Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. ALL parishioners are welcome to come and support these young people from St. Paul's, Holy Family and St. Cecilia schools as they deliver their prepared speeches in front of an audience.

Pastoral Council Nominations- 2026-2028 term

For February and March, we will have nominations for Pastoral Council members for the 2026-2028 term. Elections will be held on April 19th. The nomination forms are placed in the narthex. You may nominate yourself or and of your fellow parishioners.

A Heartfelt Thank-You!

Thank you to everyone who joined in the fun at our Euchre evening this past Thursday. With eight full tables of players, the room was lively, and it was clear that a wonderful time was shared by all. Prizes were awarded to our top scorers as well as to those who may have found the game a bit more challenging - adding to the spirit of friendly competition. Guests also enjoyed delicious baked treats and had the chance to win additional draw prizes, making the evening even more memorable. We extend our sincere appreciation to all who generously contributed their time and talents to make this event such a success. The 150th Anniversary Committee looks forward to many more celebrations in the months ahead.

COLDEST NIGHT of the YEAR- FEB. 28th

The coldest night of the year is a winteriffic family-friendly walk of 5 km to raise money for S.H.I.F.T., our local shelter, which serves people experiencing hunger and homelessness in our community. Members of the C.W.L. have once again entered a team into the walk.

Would you like to join the team in walking? There is no cost to sign up. Call or email Martha Whelton (the Team Captain) at 705-435-0991 or me.whelton@sympatico.ca.

Prefer to donate? Donations may be made online by googling: Coldest Night of the Year 2026, click on donate, and enter the team's name (St. Paul's CWL). Then click on the arrow after the team's name, the names of Martha Whelton and Beatriz Baumfeld will be displayed. Click on donate to team. A printed tax receipt will be sent to your email address. Sometimes people write a short message to encourage the team.

Thank you very much for your donation to the CWL Team's efforts.

SPIRITUAL BOUQUET FOR 2026 ORDINANDIS'

A **Spiritual Bouquet** is a beautiful offering of prayers—Masses, Communions, Rosaries, Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Adorations, Sacrifices, Novenas, and other devotions—made for a particular intention. This year, we invite you to offer these prayers for the seminarians of St. Augustine's Seminary who will be ordained to the priesthood and make their vows in 2026. These offerings are **not monetary gifts**. They are the heartfelt prayers and devotions you personally undertake—such as attending Mass or praying the Rosary—and lovingly offer for this intention. Though the seminarians cannot hold this gift in their hands, they carry it deeply in their hearts and minds. We encourage you to participate by offering as many Masses, Communions, Rosaries, and other prayers as you are able. Any Mass or devotion you attend during the week or on Sunday may be offered for this intention, even alongside your other personal intentions. The Ordinandi consistently express how meaningful this Spiritual Bouquet is to them. They look forward to receiving it each year, grateful and strengthened by the knowledge that they are being held in prayer as they prepare to serve the Lord in their new vocation. **Sign-up sheets are posted at the back of the church.** Thank you for your generous and prayerful support of these soon-to-be ordained priests and seminarians.

2025 Parish Tax Receipts are being processed. You will receive them by mail at the address in our system, by Monday February 16th. If you do not receive them by end of February, please contact the office.

Thank you for your generosity.

Important Reminder - Offertory Envelopes

Please do **not** use envelopes from previous years. If you cannot locate your assigned envelope box, contact the office for assistance.

If you pick up a new box, complete the enclosed registration form and return it to the office so the box can be properly assigned to your household. This process must be done manually in our system and is **not** automatic.

Using mixed or incorrect envelope numbers creates confusion and may cause concern about whether donations are being correctly credited to your account.

Your cooperation in helping us keep our records accurate and organized is sincerely appreciated.

Save the date..... August 30th, 2026

Conclusion of 150th anniversary of St Paul's Church. The 10:30am Mass will be celebrated by **His Eminence Francis Cardinal Leo**.

More information to follow....



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