



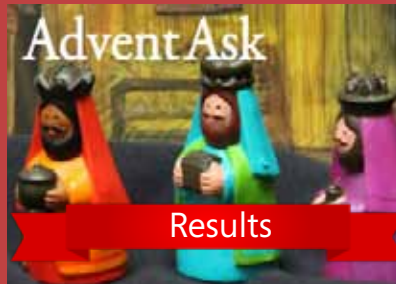
January 7, 2018

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

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WHAT'S HAPPENING!

St. Paul's Bloor Street

227 Bloor Street East
Toronto, ON M4W 1C8

Phone: 416-961-8116

Email: mail@stpaulsbloor.org

Office Hours

Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sanctuary Hours

Sundays: 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Parking

Parking is free on Sunday mornings at the Manulife building located on the north side of Bloor Street at the top of Ted Rogers Way. To gain access to Manulife's parking, press the intercom button and inform the security attendant you are attending a service at St. Paul's.

Charitable Number
119194942RR0001

www.stpaulsbloor.org

 @stpaulsbloor

 stpaulsbloor

Try Alpha



Have questions about life, faith and God? Join us for our next Alpha experience Wednesdays at either 12 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. starting January 17.

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith.

Is Alpha for me?

Alpha is for anyone who's curious. Each session looks at a different question, and is designed to create conversation. There's no pressure, no follow-up and no charge; it's just an open, informal, and honest space to explore life's big questions together.

How does it work?

Our 12 p.m. Alpha sessions are geared towards professionals and are one hour long, including lunch. Our evening Alpha sessions are from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and include dinner. Each session includes a short video followed by discussion.

Register at: stpaulsbloor.org/alpha

Looking Back, Living Forward



by Sandra Seaborn

One early morning, as I made my way downstairs to get some breakfast I was surprised to hear the sound of a chair scraping. My grandparents were staying with us, so I tried to be quiet as I walked over to the study to see what might be going on. There in my dad's office was my grandfather, sitting in the armchair, Bible open on his lap, eyes closed. I tiptoed away, hoping my footsteps would not disturb him.

I often think of this moment now, thirty years later, when I rise early in search of time for prayer and devotion. My grandfather was a significant example of faith in my life, someone whose actions aligned with his words; a person who had found peace in the midst of conflict (literally as well as spiritually, as he was a WWII chaplain).

I look back to my experiences with him for guidance as I seek to live forward, continuing to walk faithfully with Jesus.

Maybe you had a person like my grandfather in your life. Maybe you did not. But what we all share are stories of people found in the first part of the Bible: the Hebrew or Old Testament section. Stories of people who learned, through trial and error, how to live for God in a confusing and troubling world.

In this sermon series, we will meet Daniel, who held fast when faced with work expectations that challenged his convictions. We will encounter Moses who sought help from his father-in-law after he felt overwhelmed by the volume of decision-making he had to do. We will find Joseph accused of impropriety, even while he was trying to live with integrity. We will join Nehemiah in his quest to rebuild while neighbours actively opposed his efforts. We will hear from Jeremiah, speaking to a people displaced who felt isolated and different. We will watch Esther as she navigates a political climate that threatens to obliterate her people.

We will look back to the challenges faced by our faith-ancestors, so that we can learn to live forward in hope.

2017 Advent Ask Results



For our Advent Ask, we invited you to donate to Operation Mercy's Women Empowerment Project. This year, we raised **\$24,829** for Afghan refugee women! Your donations will help provide literacy, language and skills classes to improve the lives of mothers and young women in Terheran, Iran.



Thank you to all who donated gifts using our Reverse Advent Calendar. We partnered with local outreach ministries to provide much-needed necessities. One of the places that received your donations is the Yonge Street Mission Food Bank. Thank you for your overwhelming generosity as we collected a record-number of bags this year.



50th and Final Christmas Day Lunch

A special thank you to all who have served and participated at our Christmas Day Lunch over the years. Special thanks to Linda Barnard and Joan Herron for these photos.



Happening Next Sunday, January 14



Pilgrim: The Eucharist Starts Next Sunday!

The Pilgrim course, beginning next Sunday **at 12:15 p.m.**, explores life as a Christian. It unpacks the basic message and teaching of the faith, and shows how to pray and live like Jesus. It is reflective and conversational.

Our second book in Pilgrim, The Eucharist, explores in greater depth how Christians know and worship God. Its six sessions reveal the reasons why The Eucharist is celebrated as a memorial of Christ's saving passion and stands at the very heart of Christian worship.

To register, please visit stpaulsbloor.org/pilgrim



Organ Recital

Join us next Sunday **at 3:00 p.m.** for the first organ recital of 2018 featuring Stephen Frketic, Director of Music from Grace Church-on-the-Hill. Admission is free for this one-hour concert.

Pick up a card at St. Paul's Central for more dates. For more information contact Thomas Bell, Music Director, at ext. 233 or email

music@stpaulsbloor.org

Wednesdays With God Resumes January 10

12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Dalton Room



We will spend the first eight weeks on "The Bible Jesus Read," based on Philip Yancey's book by the same name, and its accompanying video. This exploration of the Old Testament promises to be both intriguing and thought-provoking. Each session includes questions and a time for reflection. Study guidebooks will be available for \$10.00. Lunch will be available for \$8.00 (ordered in advance).

For more information email Shelley Tidy at shelley.tidy@rogers.com or leave a message at the office: 416-961-8116.

This week we are praying for...

World and National Issues

- People who live in the fear of war and terrorism. Place courage and peace in their hearts.
- Wisdom to be granted to all leaders, and especially our governments as they decide how to respond to the crises faced every day.
- The progress made in people's health made possible by wisdom, technology and creativity, we give thanks.
- All those who have fled their homes in search of food and better conditions.

The Global Church

- Unity amid diversity, so we will love those with whom we have nothing in common but the saving grace of Jesus Christ.
- All followers of Christ to grow in the faith and walk humbly, with you, our Lord and God.
- Everyone gathered today to worship in the Anglican Diocese of Brandon in Manitoba.

In Our Own Church

We pray for the following members of our St. Paul's community: Mark, Monica, Freda, Mo, Jack, Todd, Jim, Lyn, Carey, Jennifer, Cosette and Jackson We pray for your love, grace and mercy to sustain them.

The Flowers Today

The flowers in the Church are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of:

High Table:

The Rt. Hon. Sir William & Lady Mulock and Col. & Mrs. A. E. Kirkpatrick given by St. Paul's

The Chapels:

Doris & Edward Varley given by Shelley & Ashley Tidy and Family.

Ways to Give

For more information visit stpaulsbloor.org/give



In Person



Pre-Authorized Giving



Through our App



Online

What's Happening This Week

Tuesday, January 9

Winchester Group - 10 a.m. | *Library*
Holy Communion - 12:10 p.m. | *St. Paul's Chapel*
Christian Meditation - 1 p.m. | *Room 206*

Wednesday, January 10

Wednesdays With God - 12:15 p.m. | *Dalton Room*
Youth Group - 7 p.m. | *Youth Room*

Thursday, January 11

CBS Women's Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. | *Music Room*
Choir Practice - 6:30 p.m. | *Music Room*

Friday, January 12

Music for Health - 10 a.m. | *Gym*

Sunday, January 14

Pilgrim: The Eucharist - 12:15 p.m. | *Room 106*
Organ Recital - 3 p.m. | *Sanctuary*

Starting Next Week:

ESL Café - Monday, January 15 | 7 p.m.
DivorceCare - Tuesday, January 16 | 7 p.m.
Alpha - Wednesday, January 17 | 12 noon & 6:30 p.m.

**For news, photos, and updates,
Like our Facebook Page!**



facebook.com/stpaulsbloor

Every Sunday

Worship Services

8:15 a.m. | *Chapel of the Good Shepherd*
9:30 a.m. **the bridge** | *Sanctuary*
11 a.m. | *Sanctuary*

Prayer Ministry

10:20 a.m. & 12 p.m.
St. Paul's Chapel

Nursery

beginning at 9:15 a.m. | *2nd Floor*

Children's Ministry

9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. | *2nd Floor*

Youth Group

9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. | *Youth Room*

Prayer Groups

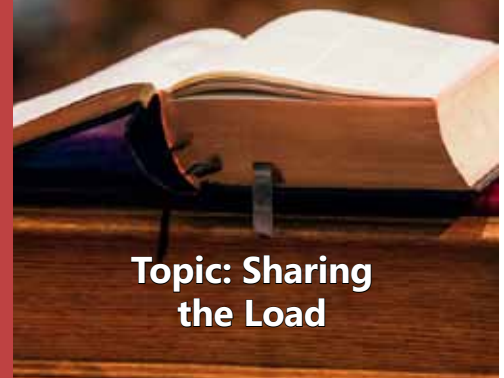
10:20 a.m. | *Room 7*
10:50 a.m. | *St. Paul's Chapel*

Community Lunch

12:15 p.m. | *Great Hall*
\$8 per person

Next Sunday's Preaching Passage

Exodus 18:13-26



**Topic: Sharing
the Load**