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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

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Are you interested in learning more about Refugee Sponsorship?

You are invited to come **today from 12:15 p.m. to 2 p.m.** in Cody Hall to learn more about our refugee sponsorship initiative.

In 2016, St. Paul's sponsored a Syrian family's relocation to Toronto. We worked with AURA and received a family via the Blended Visa Office-Referred program. Come and learn how this came about from some of our parish members who formed the core team.



Pilgrim: The Bible starts today

The Pilgrim course, beginning **today at 12:15 p.m. in Room 106**, 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.

Come as you are to participate in a way that is comfortable, whether sharing openly in conversation or listening quietly. All questions are welcome in this formative experience of learning and reflection.

Beyond the flowers

Have you ever walked into the Sanctuary during special times of year, like Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving, with an overall sense of warmth, harmony and beauty just flowing over you?

Have you ever stopped to ask yourself why? Esthetics can help add to, and create, a space for worship as well as mark the important seasons of the Christian calendar. At St. Paul's we have a very special Chancel Guild member who plans and cultivates that atmosphere.

It's all the result of the hard work of Laura Chamberlain, Special Events Convenor for the Chancel Guild, and her loyal group of volunteers.

The festive decorations are only part of the tasks carried out by the Chancel Guild. Every week, members prepare the altars for services (and clean up afterward) and arrange flowers. In contrast, the special events give Laura and her team a chance to strut their stuff. Between six and eight people are needed for each festival – Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving.

"I have a general idea of how we want to group the flowers, but people are free to use their own imagination," Laura explains. Laura starts consultations with the church's flower supplier several weeks beforehand. Then there are trips to select the flowers: chrysanthemums at Thanksgiving, poinsettias at Christmas, lilies at Easter. Thanksgiving also entails visits to the grocery store to pick out pumpkins. Finally, on the big day, the team assembles and starts work, fuelled by many coffees.



One of the big tasks is manoeuvring the vases and boxes required for the arrangements. Laura would like to see help come from outside the Guild - men as well as women. "The more the merrier," she says, adding "it's a great way to meet people who attend the different services."

If you would like to be a part of Laura's team and have a hand in creating our space for worship during special seasons, please contact the office at 416-961-8116 or email mail@stpaulsbloor.org. Laura will be happy to hear from you!



Easter

MARCH 25 - PALM SUNDAY

Communion services at 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

MARCH 29 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

Communion service at 7 p.m.

MARCH 30 - GOOD FRIDAY

The Passion Reading service at 11 a.m.

Journey to the Cross for children and youth at 11 a.m.

APRIL 1 - EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Communion Services at 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt for children after the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services

Pick up an Easter invitation from St. Paul's Central.

For more information visit stpaulsbloor.org/easter

Palm Cross Day

Join us for fun and fellowship as we learn to make palm crosses. We will be making palm crosses in Cody Hall on **Friday, March 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** They will be distributed at St. Paul's on Palm Sunday.

Please bring scissors, an apron and lunch. We will provide instructions, tea, and coffee.



Easter Tribute Flowers

Honouring a loved one with an Easter tribute flower is a wonderful way to share in decorating the church for Easter.

If you would like to contribute, complete the information on the memorial flower envelope in the pew or at St. Paul's Central. Place it on the offering plate, or in the office mailbox. Tributes can also be completed online at stpaulsbloor.org. Click on the "Donate" button at the top right corner. Be sure to include the names you wish to remember. Tributes begin at \$20 per entry. Donations must be submitted no later than **Sunday, March 25**.



Looking for a volunteer opportunity?



Looking for an opportunity to serve in our church community? Consider taking on a short-term service project in Children's Ministry. Help us get ready for our special Easter programs.

Thursday, March 29 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. – prepare for our Good Friday 'Journey to the Cross' program.

Friday, March 30 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – clean up from 'Journey to Cross' program.

Saturday, March 31 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. – prepare for Easter Sunday.

Sunday, April 1 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Easter Celebration help.

To find out more, contact Janet Earle at children@stpaulsbloor.org or ext. 241.

small groups

Growing together, rooted in Jesus.



Why John joined a small group

"For me, the reason for joining a Small Group was about searching for Truth. I wanted to dig into the message that was written millennia ago to see what it meant for me today.

Reading and contemplating the Bible on my own was great, but exploring together with small group members became irreplaceable. I discovered that diverse perspectives led to uncovering fundamental truths, which helped me establish a stronger foundation for my life. And, whether I originally sought them or not, cherished friendships naturally formed and my time at St. Paul's Bloor Street became all the more meaningful." - John Smid

Joining a small group is simple - connect with us and we'll help you find a group that fits you best. To learn more and to join, visit stpaulsbloor.org/small-groups or contact Mark Regis at ext 230 or mregis@stpaulsbloors.org.

This week we are praying for...

World and National Issues

- We pray for the courage to give up that which draws us away from you, a willingness to share our lives with each other, and the will to give ourselves to Jesus.
- Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and the passion to seek peace.

The Global Church

- Give your Church the daring to give up her preoccupation with herself and to give more time to your mission in the world.
- Everyone gathered today to worship in the Diocese of Huron in southwestern Ontario.

In Our Own Church

- We pray for the following members of our St. Paul's community: Juan, Marilyn, Trini, Ron, Joy, Robert, Wendy, Francis. We pray for your love, grace and mercy to sustain them.
- Give us perseverance to build St. Paul's as a community of learning and trust through our small group ministries.



Communication skills are essential for success in both relationships and careers. Yet, studies repeatedly show as much as 90% of communication is non-verbal. If you are a young professional, join us **Thursday, March 22, from 7 to 9 p.m.** in the Youth Room for a video and discussion about Life Hacks for Better Communication.

St. Paul's Young Professionals group is a great new way to meet other young adults in our church community and to share ideas and struggles that come with being a young person in the working world. We meet on the last Thursday of every month (except this month, due to Holy Week).

If you have questions, contact Ian Koiter at ikoiter@stpaulsbloor.org or ext. 295.

What's Happening This Week

Sunday, March 11

Pilgrim: The Bible - 12:15 p.m. | *Room 106*

Refugee Sponsorship Meeting - 12:15 p.m. | *Cody Hall*

Monday - Friday

TCM Day Camp | *Youth Room*

Monday, March 12

ESL Cafe - 7 p.m. | *Sanctuary*

Prayer Time - 7 p.m. | *St. Paul's Chapel*

Tuesday, March 13

Winchester Group - 10 a.m. | *Library*

Holy Communion - 12:10 p.m. | *St. Paul's Chapel*

Christian Meditation - 1 p.m. | *Room 206*

DivorceCare - 7 p.m. | *Library*

Wednesday, March 14

Little Sunbeams Parents and Tots - 9:30 a.m. | *Nursery*

Wednesdays With God - 12 p.m. | *Dalton Room*

Lunchtime Alpha - 12 p.m. | *St. Paul's Chapel*

Prayer Time for Alpha - 6 p.m. | *St. Paul's Chapel*

Alpha - 6:30 p.m. | *Cody Hall*

Youth Group - 7 p.m. | *Youth Room*

Marriage Course - 7 p.m. | *Great Hall*

Thursday, March 15

Choir Practice - 6:30 p.m. | *Music Room*

Friday, March 16

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

GriefShare - 1:30 p.m. | *Library*

Sunday, March 18

St. George the Martyr Info Session - 10:30 a.m. | *Cody Hall*

Pilgrim: The Bible - 12:15 p.m. | *Room 106*

Next Sunday's Preaching Passage

Luke 14:25-34

Topic: Counting the Cost

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

The Flowers Today

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

High Table:

Albert Cribb and Keenan Cribb
given by Florrie Cribb

In the Chapels:

Mrs. Barbara Cody given by the congregation of St. Paul's church.