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WHAT'S HAPPENING!

St. Paul's Bloor Street

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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
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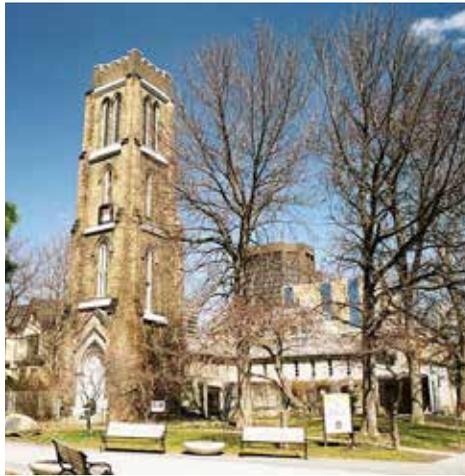
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St. George the Martyr Information Session



Today you are invited to join us as we consider next steps towards the reboot of the ministry at St. George the Martyr. We will be meeting at **10:30 a.m. in Cody Hall.**



Join St. Paul's Young Professionals on **Thursday, March 22, from 7 p.m. 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.

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

The Sounds of Holy Week

by Tom Bell

Does any other week in the year bring such emotional depth as Holy Week? What sort of music can accompany us as we travel from the happy noise of Palm Sunday, through the quietness and resignation of Maundy Thursday and the brutality and emptiness of Good Friday, to finally arrive at Easter Day? Music of celebration, contemplation, desperation and exultation! We are privileged to enjoy some truly lovely music at St. Paul's throughout the year, but Holy Week in particular brings stark contrasts of mood and depth of feeling that cannot be equaled at any other time. It is a week of great musical richness and gravity.

Jesus' entry to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday was a time of celebration (falsely, as it turned out), and so the songs and hymns at both the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services are for the most part, unremittably cheerful: the children sing at both services, and the triumphant sounds of the brass quintet and our organ will ring through the rafters on Palm Sunday at 11 a.m.



Maundy Thursday, commemorating the first communion service and Jesus' betrayal, is a beautifully reflective time. The hymns and meditative choral music is calm. Perhaps the most moving part of the service is the final song; the lights are dimmed and, as we remember the solitude of the Garden of Gethsemane, we sing the Taizé chorus "Stay with Me, Abide with Me" in near darkness.



The solemnity of Good Friday is expressed through the most simple and deep musical utterances; some German churches refer to this day as *Stiller Freitag*, or Silent Friday, but that is to relinquish our voice and part in this most difficult day. The moving sounds of a large congregation singing together, unaccompanied, "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?" is particularly fitting. The choral music too, such as John Saunders' beautiful setting of "The Reproaches" is at its most profound.



And finally we arrive at Easter Day, despair has turned to hope, and our music has turned from minor to major! The sounds of brass instruments return accompanying some of the loveliest hymns of the season. At the 11 a.m. service, "The Hallelujah Chorus" by Handel is an eagerly awaited tradition at St. Paul's, and Widor's famous organ toccata closes a journey unlike any other. It will be a joyful experience for everyone on this day.



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.

For more information visit stpaulsbloor.org/easter



Serve in Children's Ministry during Holy Week

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. to help 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.

Have questions about life, faith, meaning, and God?

Are you, or do you know, a person in Grade 6 to 12, who has questions about life, faith, meaning, and God?

Encourage them to sign up for Alpha Youth - starting **March 21 at 6:30 p.m** in Cody Hall. Dinner is provided and there will be activities in the Gym and Youth Room, following each session from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Alpha Youth involves a weekend retreat at Ontario Pioneer Camp from April 27 to April 29. The cost is \$150 and bursaries are available. To register online, visit stpaulsbloor.org/alpha-for-youth or contact Ian Koiter at ext 295 or ikoiter@stpaulsbloor.org.



Palm Cross-Making Day

Join us for fun and fellowship as we learn to make palm crosses. We will be making palm crosses in Cody Hall this **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.

Small Groups: An Update and Invitation

We are experiencing a great response to our latest sermon series, **Better Together... The First Small Group**. Close to 100 people have come forward to learn more and get connected to a small group, many for the first time, and we are thrilled.

Thank you to all who have come forward and submitted your names. We are working hard to connect people to both existing and new small groups, which includes training new leaders. Due to demand, this takes a little time, and we will get people connected to small groups in the weeks following Easter.

In the meantime, we invite everyone who has signed up or is interested to hear more, to come to an information session on **Sunday April 8 following the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services** in Cody Hall. There you will learn more about how small groups change lives, where you can meet small group leaders, and potentially get added to a forming or existing group.

For more information and to register, contact Mark Regis at ext. 230 or email mregis@stpaulsbloors.org



Femi's Story



"When I came to St Paul's, I knew no one and I lacked a Christian community to call home. After several months of attending the 9:30 a.m. service, I fell in love with St Paul's and decided to plant roots. I am not the best at doing this, so after some thought and prayer on how to effectively do this, I decided to participate in several courses offered at the time. From there, I spoke to someone who mentioned I should join a small group. I eventually decided to join a small group both to meet people and to continue the Bible study in a group environment similar to the courses I had taken.

I have been a member of three different small groups during my 4+ years at St Paul's, and have come to know good people who I am proud to call friends. Since joining a small group and studying with these friends, I have developed a consistent practice of studying the Bible on my own beyond the regular small group sessions." - Femi Faulkner

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 Keewatin, which includes parts of Manitoba and Ontario.

In Our Own Church

- We pray for the following members of our St. Paul's community: Mark, Heather, Eric, Brendan, Kyle, Hannah, Alphonso, Ancil, Gary, and Bonny. 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.

The Flowers Today

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

High Table:

Donald W. Treble
given by Patricia Treble.

In the Chapels:

Frank and Mildred Tidy and Karol
and Wilton Tidy given by Shelley
and Ashley Tidy and family.

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.**

What's Happening This Week

Sunday, March 18

St. George the Martyr Info Session - 10:30 a.m. | *Cody Hall*
Pilgrim: The Bible - 12:15 p.m. | *Room 106*

Monday, March 19

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

Tuesday, March 20

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 21

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

Thursday, March 22

Choir Practice - 6:30 p.m. | *Music Room*
St. Paul's Young Professionals - 7 p.m. | *Youth Room*

Friday, March 23

Music for Health - 10 a.m. | *Gym*
Palm Cross-Making - 10 a.m. | *Cody Hall*
GriefShare - 1:30 p.m. | *Library*

Sunday, March 25 - Palm Sunday

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



Watch and share our new Easter invite video on our Facebook and YouTube pages!



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

Pick up an Easter invite card from St. Paul's Central.



Give it to your family, friends, neighbours and colleagues.

Next Sunday's Preaching Passage:

John 12:12-16

Topic: Faith Seeking Understanding