

Catholic Pastoral Centre 1155 Yonge Street Toronto, Ontario M4T 1W2 T416.934.0606 www.archtoronto.org

FOR ASSIGNMENT EDITORS **MEDIA ADVISORY:**

Restoration prevents media presence at Cathedral for Christmas

Alternative churches available for coverage of Christmas celebrations

TORONTO (December 22, 2014) As Catholics across the Archdiocese of Toronto prepare to celebrate Christmas and local newsrooms plan their coverage for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, we would like to alert you to a temporary change in our ability to accommodate cameras and journalists.

Recognized as the Mother Church of the archdiocese and home parish of Cardinal Thomas Collins, journalists and camera crews often include St. Michael's Cathedral in downtown Toronto as part of their Christmas coverage. This year, however, restoration of the interior of the cathedral has hampered our ability to host working media during Christmas celebrations.

In an effort to provide alternative locations for media crews, two neighboring parishes in downtown Toronto have offered to welcome working media crews. Locations and Mass times are listed below.

St. Basil's Parish

50 St. Joseph Street Toronto ON M₅S ₁J₄ *Christmas Eve* – midnight (carols at 11:30) *Christmas Day* – 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., Noon

St. Paul's Basilica

83 Power Street Toronto ON M5A 3A8 Christmas Eve – 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., midnight *Christmas Day* −11 a.m.

Note: To respect the sacred nature of Mass, we ask that working media identify themselves to a church representative and follow the protocols they provide.

We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and happy New Year.

The Archdiocese of Toronto is Canada's largest diocese, stretching from Toronto north to Georgian Bay and from Oshawa to Mississauga. It is home to 1.9 million Catholics and 225 churches, with Mass celebrated in more than 30 languages each week.

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