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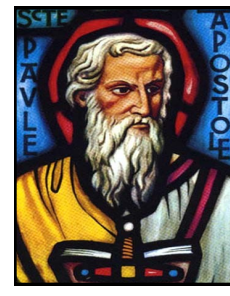
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# St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

3224 Dundas Street West,  
 Toronto, Ontario M6P 2A3  
 Tel 416-767-7054

Email: [stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org](mailto:stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org)

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### Gospel Summary

Jesus uses the image of a vine and its branches to help his listeners understand the interconnectedness and relationships between God the Father, Jesus, and all followers of Jesus. Jesus is the vine and we, the followers, are the branches that grow from that vine. The way we glorify God is by bearing much fruit and by becoming disciples of Jesus.

### Reflection for Parents

Today's Gospel invites you to consider what you are doing in your domestic Church, the Church of your home, to remain connected to the vine (Jesus) and to the vine grower (God the Father). Have any attitudes, behaviors, choices, or practices crept into family life and weakened or broken your connection to Jesus, the vine? If so, what can you do to re-establish or strengthen the connection?

### Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Bring your "Reflection for Parents" into a family discussion of what you are doing to remain strong in your connection to the vine (Jesus) and to the vine grower (God the Father). Then talk about things that are happening that could potentially weaken your connection to Jesus, the vine. For example, the Sunday sports schedule is taking precedence over attending Sunday Mass and religious education classes. Or, the busy pace of weeknights has crowded out time for family prayer at the end of the day. Make a plan to re-energize your connection to the vine, and work together to accomplish the plan!

### Discussion Starters

Use today's discussion time to take a walk together. Notice new growth on the trees and bushes, and pause in your walk to name ways you are growing in faith and bearing good fruit. Continue walking, and point out any dead branches or leaves that have fallen away from the trees. Pause to quietly pray for forgiveness for any ways in which you have turned away from Jesus, the vine.

## Visit Our Website

You can register for Sacraments, become a member of our parish community, get information on upcoming events, and much more. Visit our website at [stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org](http://stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org) or simply scan the QR code below.



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, April 27

- 4:30pm  
 • +Fr. Lawrence Bonavia

### Sunday, April 28

- 9:00am  
 • Missa Pro Populo
- 10:30am  
 • +Michael Saliba  
 • +Peter Galea  
 • +Tony Axiak  
 • +Natalino, Rosa & Anthony, Charlie & Albert Taliana  
 • +Sylvana Dewe & Grace Bugeja  
 • +Emanuella Micallef & Joseph Bugeja
- 12:00 noon  
 • +Joe Sammut

### Monday, April 29

- St. Catherine of Siena*  
 • +Shawn Fernando & Kingsley Pranchell

### Tuesday, April 30

- +Gino & Angelina Sturino

### Wednesday, May 1

- St. Joseph the Worker*  
 • +Emmanuel, Paul & Reno Sammut

### Thursday, May 2

- St. Athanasius*  
 • +Theresa Massa & Kity Tonna

### Friday, May 3

- Sts. Philip & James, Apostles*  
 • +Doris Micallef

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**Pastoral Team**  
 Fr. Roy Francis Farrell  
 Pastor  
 Deacon Raymond Frendo  
 Permanent Deacon

**MASS SCHEDULE**  
**Daily morning Mass:**  
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
 9:15am (Maltese/English)  
 Tuesday & Thursday  
 9:15am (English)

**Weekend Masses:**  
**Saturday:** 4:30pm (English)  
**Sunday:**  
 9:00am (English)  
 10:30am (Maltese/English)  
 12:00pm (English)

**Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Every  
 Wednesday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Secretary**  
 Mrs. Rita Apalit

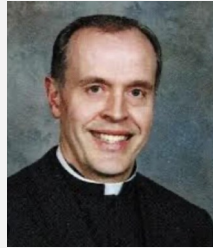
**OFFICE HOURS**  
 Monday to Friday  
 9:00am to 4:30pm  
 (Priest is always available by appointment)

**SACRAMENTS**  
**Baptism:** Please contact the priests. Baptisms are held on the first Saturday of the month at 10:30am  
**Marriages:** Contact the priest one year in advance of the wedding. A marriage preparation course is mandatory.  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
 First Friday: 8:40am to 9:10am  
 Saturdays: 4:45pm to 5:15pm  
 Anytime by appointment.  
**Anointing of the Sick:**  
 Contact the priests. Parishioners are reminded that this is not a sacrament that should be left for the last possible minute. It is a Sacrament for the sick, not just for the dying.

April 28, 2024

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## From our Pastor's Desk...



In this week's pastor's corner, I want to bring your attention to the ongoing celebration of the Year of Prayer. It is a time for us to reflect on the importance of both personal and communal prayer in our everyday lives. As stated by the Holy Father, the Year of Prayer 2024 is devoted to "rediscovering the immense significance and essential requirement of prayer - prayer in our personal lives, within the Church, and throughout the world."

Additionally, this year is also a time of preparation for the upcoming Year of Jubilee in 2025. Similar to previous Jubilees, the Holy See will organize global initiatives, and there will be various special events and local initiatives in the Archdiocese of Toronto. To help with the preparation and execution of the 2025 Jubilee Year, Father Tim Hanley, who currently serves as the pastor at St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish in Mississauga, will act as the coordinator. Father Hanley will establish a small committee, and more details will be provided regarding our own plans to commemorate this occasion in the Archdiocese of Toronto.

A mini-site has been developed at [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org). The archdiocese will add resources and information as they become available. Regular video reflections on the seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer will be produced. The Year of Prayer and Jubilee Year offer a chance to intensify personal and community prayer. This will help Jesus be present in our hearts.



**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** In today's Gospel we are invited to reflect on the image of Jesus, the true vine. Jesus says "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me." As stewards, there is much to be gleaned through reflecting on this passage. Firstly, Jesus desires to abide in us. He does this whenever we receive Him in the Eucharist. In the same way, we are called to abide in Him by prayerfully placing our very selves in His presence, whether it's through praying in our rooms or before the Blessed Sacrament. This close relationship with Jesus is where our stewardship originates and is sustained. Jesus bluntly proclaims that we can do nothing without abiding in Him first. As stewards, more than the actual works we perform, we are giving other people Christ through our time and talents. We can only give what we have first received. Therefore, it is of paramount importance that we focus on our prayer life above all. For example, before we plan on giving our time to a fellow parishioner and journeying with them, let us say a prayer asking God for the strength to work through us. Similarly, before we offer up our talents through various ministries in the parish, we should try to say a prayer asking that our works may point others to Christ, not to ourselves. Therefore, through abiding in Christ we may share His love and presence with others.

In today's Gospel Jesus says "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me." We can abide in Jesus by placing ourselves in His presence whenever we pray and He likewise abides in us, especially through receiving Him in the Eucharist. This close relationship with Jesus is where our stewardship originates and is sustained so let us never fail to go to Him before we offer up our time and talents to the parish

*Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.*

 5th Sunday of Easter  
ShareLife Sunday

### Share the love with our beloved seniors through ShareLife

Last year, ShareLife supporters like you offered quality care and companionship to over 2,300 vulnerable seniors.

"The largest thank you to all ShareLife donors for your continued generosity! With your support, our centre is able to provide assistance to seniors in need through our community programs." – Jaymie Daunt, LA Centre for Active Seniors

The third ShareLife Sunday of the year is June 2. We ask you to share your blessings through the parish or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

Thank you for living the Gospel!



This coming Friday, **May 3<sup>rd</sup> is the First Friday of the month.** We will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass, followed by some time of adoration and benediction.

**ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX PRAYER GROUP** will meet on **Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>** at 10 am in St. Joseph's Room.

Please join us after the 9:15 am Mass as we come together to pray and reflect. Refreshments to follow.



### International Eucharistic Congress - September 8-15, 2024-

#### Join the Archdiocese of Toronto Delegation!

Traditionally every four years, the Holy Father invites pilgrims from around the world to join in an International Eucharistic Congress.

This year's event will take place in Quito, Ecuador from September 8 - 15, 2024. Limited spaces are available for pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Toronto to join with other Canadian delegates to travel to Ecuador.

To learn more about the pilgrimage, visit [www.archtoronto.org/iec](http://www.archtoronto.org/iec). Registration deadline is June 6 with early bird pricing available until May 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Catholic Education Week – May 5 - 10, 2024 "We Are Called To Love"

During Catholic Education Week we give thanks for the gift of publicly funded Catholic Education in our province. Catholic schools foster supportive communities where children can experience the joy of God's love and understand the Christian mission in the world.

Together, our parishes, educators and families sow and nurture the seeds of faith with the next generation of Catholics, encouraging them to live lives of holiness and Christian witness as one body in Christ.

To indicate your support of Catholic education and sign-up for email updates, visit:

[www.togetherinfaith.ca](http://www.togetherinfaith.ca)

**VOCATION REFLECTION** Our second Scripture reading reminds us that we are to love, not in word and speech only, but in truth and action.

If God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call **Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.**

[vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)  
[www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)



This weekend is **COFFEE SUNDAY.**

Coffee and tea will be served after all Masses on Sunday.

### A FLOWER FOR MOM

To pay tribute to our mothers who have passed away during this Mother's Day weekend, we will be recording their names beginning on April 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> at the back of the church. Volunteers will be available to assist. On the weekend of Mother's Day, flowers will be put next to the Remembrance Book in the sanctuary to commemorate our deceased mothers.

We kindly ask for an amount of \$5.00 per intention to help cover the cost.