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St. Paul the Apostle Church
Maltese-Canadian
Community Parish
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email: stpaulmssp@gmail.com
 Website: www.saint-paul-maltese.com

Pastor: Fr. Mario Micallef MSSP
Associate Pastor: Fr. Ivano Burdian MSSP
Parish Secretary: Mrs. Rita Apalit

OFFICE HOURS
 Tuesday to Friday: 10:00 am to 5:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULES & OTHER ACTIVITIES
Weekday Morning Mass
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 9:15 am (Maltese)
 Tuesday & Thursday - 9:15 am (English)

First Friday of the Month:
 Mass in Maltese at 9.15 am,
 followed by Adoration & Benediction

Weekend Masses;
 Saturday 5:30 pm (English)
 Sunday: 9:00 am (English)
 10:30 am (Maltese)
 12:00 noon (English)

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

• **SACRAMENTS**
Baptism: Please contact the Rectory.
 Baptisms are held every Saturday at 10:30am.

Marriages:
 Contact the priest at least one year in advance of the wedding.
 A marriage preparation course is required.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 Any day, by appointment; call the office.

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.



Mission Statement

We, the community of St Paul the Apostle, are a Maltese-Canadian personal Parish, founded on September 8, 1930, and administered by the Missionary Society of St Paul. We are a faith community reflecting the gospel values of Christ according to the teaching and tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. We serve the Maltese community, welcoming also other people from other nationalities. Our mission is to follow Christ by sharing our gifts of time, talent and treasure: by imitating Christ; and by giving witness to our faith through our everyday lives..

Saturday, October 23

- Pauline Migliore
- Sunny & Leli Camilleri

Sunday, October 24

- 9:00am**
- Joe Farrugia
- 10:30am**
- Tony Axiak
 - Nenu Dingli
 - Tina Camilleri
 - Rose Azzopardi & family

- 12:00 noon**
- Carmen Muscat
 - Carmenu & Guza Vella
 - Maria Fenech

Monday, October 25

- Paul Delicata

Tuesday, October 26

- For the people of the Parish

Wednesday, October 27

- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass
- Doris Micallef

Thursday, October 28

-

Friday, October 29

- All Souls



MASS INTENTIONS

October 24, 2021
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - B

Pastor's thoughts ...



Jesus journeys towards Jerusalem. We know what's expecting Him there. He knows it too. More than once he had told his disciples what was about to happen to him there – something which they did not like! As they leave Jericho, the last town before entering the great city, a blind man named Bartimaeus becomes aware of His presence, and starts calling Him. Bartimaeus' prayer, eventually, became the prayer which has helped millions of people around the globe in their journey of faith: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!". The blind man knows who Jesus is: the Son of David which, for all those hearing him, immediately meant the Messiah. Bartimaeus knew that Jesus was the fulfillment of the prophecy of the seed of David as foretold by the prophet Nathan. He was the one who could give him what he really needed. We remember how important it is to know who Jesus really is. Early in the gospel Jesus had asked this question to his disciples: Who

do you say that I am? The danger to follow a false God is always real!

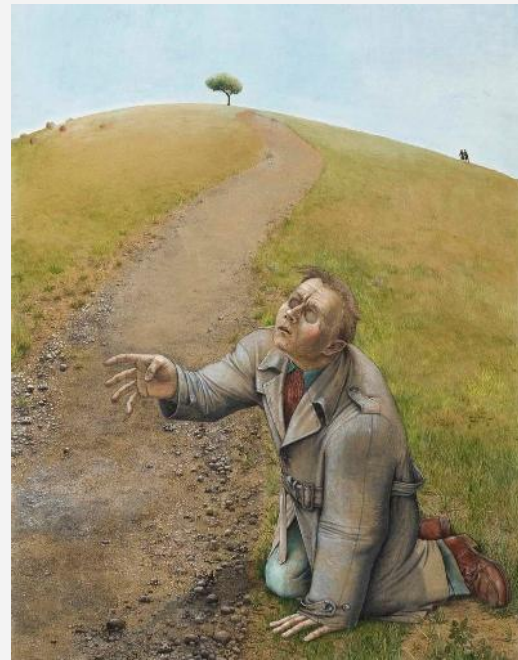
Interestingly, those around Bartimaeus, instead of encouraging and helping him to approach the Master, tried to shut him up. This is something that often happens to us, too, in our prayer. How often do we tell ourselves, or hear others telling us, "Don't bother praying ... It's all pointless ... God is too busy to hear your prayers ...". Yet, Jesus orders those same people to bring Bartimaeus to Him. Jesus could have called Bartimaeus Himself, but He ordered those people who were following Him to call the blind man. This is one important task of Jesus' disciples, of each and every one of us: to encourage people in their prayers, to help people get closer to Jesus. Those people in the gospel had had the opportunity to see, hear and experience Jesus. Their job was to enable others to do the same.

Today we happen to be celebrating World Mission Sunday. In his message for today Pope Francis talks precisely about this fact: that "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). This is the mark of the disciple, sharing with others what we ourselves have experienced.

Back to our story: finally Jesus asks the blind man, "What do you want me to do for you?" It is the same question He had asked James and John earlier in the gospel. But while they had asked for status and glory, Bartimaeus asks for light! This blind man has definitely understood everything. He instinctively knew that true light can only come from the One who is light Himself. Unlike with the case of James and John, this time Jesus fulfills the petitioner's desire. And as soon as "the man regained his sight, he followed Jesus on the way." In other words, Bartimaeus who, up till that moment, had been a poor, blind, wretched beggar, became a disciple in the true sense of the word. In the Acts of the Apostles, before being called "Christians" the followers of Jesus were always referred to as "followers of the Way".

The story of Bartimaeus can be our own story. Because, like him, we too can often be blinded in our lives. Our selfishness, hurts suffered, past experiences, and so many other things can blind us from seeing the true light. Like Bartimaeus, let us be humble enough to ask Jesus to have mercy on us and give us the true light.

- Fr. Mario



"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

OFFICE HOURS

During this pandemic, the Parish Office is **opened on a limited schedule** (Tuesday to Friday from 2:00pm to 5:30pm), however phone calls and emails are still being attended to during normal office hours:

Tuesday to Friday: 10:00 am to 5:30 pm.

Please call the office at 416-767-7054 to offer masses, or to make arrangements to pick up or drop off items.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Today is **World Mission Sunday**. In his message for today (included with this bulletin) Pope Francis reminds us that, like the apostles, we are all called to share with others the good we have received through our encounter with Christ.

Today's collection is a worldwide collection for the missionary Church and it is our opportunity to assist at-need Catholic communities around the globe. Our offerings are combined with those of other Catholics around the world and distributed to missions worldwide.

Photo: Bishop Giovanni Cefai MSSP brings God's comfort to a sick person in a remote village of his diocese in Huancane, Peru.



ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the way that a non-baptized person is brought into full communion with the Catholic Church. It provides the ritual actions for all the stages of initiation as well as, guides those who might not participate in the full Rite, but who are not yet in full communion with the Church.

If you, or you know someone who is interested in the **RCIA** program please contact the office.

Sacramental Classes

Preparation Classes for the sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion will begin towards the middle of November. We are envisioning that the Sacraments will, then, be conferred in June.

Please pick up registration forms from the back of the church, or from the Office and return them as soon as possible.

REST IN PEACE

Recently we had the funerals of our parishioners Gemma Ellul and Pauline Migliore.

While asking the God of Mercy to grant them eternal rest with Him in heaven, we also pray for their families and loved ones during this time of loss.



ShareLife update: Your gift will be matched!



The ongoing pandemic has made life even harder for those who are poor and marginalized. A couple that has supported ShareLife for many years felt so moved by this unprecedented crisis that they wanted to do more to help – and are inviting you to join them.

For every dollar you give to ShareLife, they will do the same. From now through November 15, your gift will be matched up to a total of \$750,000.

The needs are greater than ever. And now your gift will go even further towards making our communities more caring and compassionate.

Next Sunday, October 31 is the final ShareLife Sunday of 2021. As always, God will bless your generosity.