



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, May 14

Sunday, May 15

9:00am

• For the People of the Parish

10:30am

- Charlie & John Attard
- Carmel & Edmond Scicluna
- Emanuel, Carmela & Tessie Psaila
- Enzo Gusman
- Alfred Saliba

12:00 noon

- Theresa Massa
- Susanne Camilleri
- Frank Cini

Monday, May 16

Tuesday, May 17

Wednesday, May 18 Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass

Thursday, May 19 **Emanuel** Cutajar

Friday, May 20



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May 15, 2022 Fifth Sunday of Easter - C

Pastor's thoughts ...



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As a believing community we are still celebrating Easter. In today's gospel Jesus declares that the moment of death was, in fact, the moment of glory – both for him and for the Father. To the human eye it seems to be the moment of defeat, the moment of deception, of denial. It is the moment when, as John points out, "Judas had gone out". Judas the apostle, one of the twelve personally chosen and called by Jesus three years earlier, now leaves the group. And we know where he went on that fateful Thursday evening.

And yet, this all takes place in a context of deep love. Having loved them

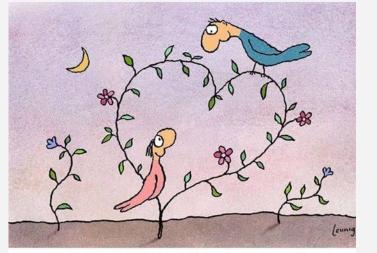
throughout his life, he now "loved them to the end", John tells us. The background of this week's powerful scene is that of love. It is a love that had been steadily growing, and now it reaches its climax. Jesus is preparing his friends for his departure: "I am with you only a little longer", he tells them. He knows that his death is imminent. He also knows that this is going to be the moment of glory, the moment of Truth. "There is no love greater than this", he had once said. Indeed, what was about to happen was the greatest act of love one could ever show. It was not a defeat. Love cannot be defeated, because Love is God.

The moment of departure is also the moment when Jesus leaves a beautiful inheritance to his disciples. It is not money, property or something tangible. It is a simple statement, a direct command: Love one another as I have loved you. This was to become the mark of the disciple. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, he tells them. Now, we know that the commandment of love was not new. The fact that loving God and neighbor were the two biggest commandments was part of the Jewish psyche for hundreds of years. What is new is that I, as a follower of Jesus, have to love others just as Jesus has loved me. Now it is not enough to love the other as myself. Maybe, it's because sometimes we do not even know how to really love ourselves! So, the new measure is the love with which Jesus loved me: that which led him to give his life on the cross.

Jesus loved his disciples, not because they were perfect. Neither did he love them because they loved him in the same measure in return. It is enough to look at Peter and his triple-denial. Yet Peter's sin did not

diminish in any way Jesus' love for him. We also know that Jesus shared the meal with Judas too, in spite of the fact that he knew what he was about to do. He even washed his feet, together with those of the rest of the twelve. This is precisely what Jesus is asking of us, as his followers in today's world. To love without any condition, to keep loving even in the face of denial, treachery or deception.

Jesus says that it is through this that people will know that I am his follower. It is not through the kind of prayers I say, or the number of liturgies I celebrate. Those are important, as tools to help me live this command. Because I know that, without His help, I am totally incapable of loving the same way he loved me. My prayers, my celebrations, have to be translated into love in its most concrete and tangible form.



Love one another and you will be happy. It's as simple and difficult as that. There is no other way.



PARISH DINNER Saturday, June 11th, at 6:30pm Welcoming back Fr Ivano, and farewelling Fr Giovann Details on Church notice board.

Adults: \$40 - Children 5-12 yrs: \$20 Children 0-5 yrs: free

REST IN PEACE

This week we celebrated the funeral services for Carmela Pede and Margaret Ogini.

On Wednesday we shall have the funeral of Rita Caruana, who passed away May 11th.



While asking the Resurrected Christ to welcome them home in Heaven with Him, we also pray for their loved ones, so that the Good Lord will give them the gifts of his peace and consolation during this time of loss.

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

God of peace and justice,

we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at

risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the

name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen



POPE'S PASTORAL WORKS

Next weekend there will be a special collection for the Pope's Pastoral Works. The Pope's Pastoral Works collection was established by the bishops of Canada in 1970. The Papal Charities allow the Pope to contribute to various charitable causes around the world, particularly toward aiding the victims of war, famine and natural disasters. By contributing to the Pope's Pastoral Works, the faithful of Canada give a universal dimension to their charity.

Fr. Mario





Pope Francis will make an Apostolic Journey to Canada from 24 to 30 July 2022.

During this time, he will visit the cities of Edmonton, Québec and Iqaluit.

The programme and further details of the Journey will be published in the coming weeks."

As a community, we pray for a successful outcome of reconciliation, healing and peace for this visit.

