



#### **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, June 18

Michael Howard

#### Sunday, June 19 9:00am

- Joseph Farrugia
- Fr. William Bonnici
- Joseph Galea & Philip Buhagiar

#### 10:30am

- Nenu Dingli
- Carmen Muscat
- Paul Delicata
- Enzo Gusman
- Charlie Vella

### 12:00 noon

- John Sammut
- John Debono

### Monday, June 20

Paul Delicata

# **Tuesday**, June 21

For the People of the Parish

# Wednesday, June 22

Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass

### **Thursday, June 23**

Friday, June 24 **Family Micallef** 

> June 19, 2022 Corpus Christi - C



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# Pastor's thoughts ...



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It was evening. The crowd had been there for quite a while, listening to the words of the Master. Some had even asked for some sort of healing -a request which He did not refuse.

Now, it was getting dark, and his close friends, those who were always with Him, started getting worried. These people must be getting hungry, and there were thousands of them. There was no point of keeping them there any longer. For, as the French author Jean de la Fontaine once said, (a dictum often told to us in our formation years as missionaries) "a hungry stomach cannot hear". So, they asked the Master to send everybody away to try to find where to buy something to eat.

But that was not the way of the Master. Sending them away to fend for themselves was never part of his logic. So, he does the unthinkable. "You give them something to eat", He tells his disciples, even though He knew quite well that they could not possibly provide for such a big crowd. Five loaves and two fish would hardly provide a snack for them alone! Yet, for some reason, they obey when He tells them to start handing whatever they had to the crowds. Amazingly, all had their full share, and there was plenty of leftovers.

On another evening a few months later - it was a Thursday evening, to be precise - Jesus was again with his disciples. This time the crowds were not there. This was to be a special day for all of them, a day of great intimacy never to be forgotten. Once more Jesus takes the bread, looks up to heaven in thanksgiving, blesses, breaks and distributes the bread. This time however, some very special words accompany these gestures: "Take this, this is my body" - followed by "this is my blood", referring to the wine of the chalice he gave them afterwards. All this is followed by a special command: "Do this in memory of me".

Interestingly, as we celebrate the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, the Church offers us the first episode cited above, rather than the second one, as Gospel for today's Mass. The disciples listen to the words of Jesus, which defy all logic. And unimaginable things happen.

During the Last Supper of Holy Thursday Jesus once more tells his disciples to do something. They are not meant to be spectators. Nor are they to be mere recipients of what is being given. As disciples, they are to walk in the Master's footsteps. What the Master did there was not a simple sharing of a meal. He was giving his own body, pouring his own blood. "Do this" did not refer solely to the breaking of bread, but also to what it implied: the total giving of oneself to others. What Jesus did sacramentally on Thursday evening, He repeated on the following day from the cross.

This is what we are living out every time we celebrate Eucharist. During Mass we listen to those words, over and over again: "do this in memory of me". That is the command I am expected to live in my daily life, as I leave the Church-building after Mass. What I celebrate in Church, I am called to live in my daily life. "Do this" is asking me to give my life to others, without holding anything back, irrespective of who the "other" might be. Otherwise, my Eucharistic celebration would be a contradiction.

Humanly speaking, this might be difficult to do. Not unlike what happened in the first story, doing what Jesus is asking me to do sometimes defies all logic. But it is worth taking the risk. The results might surprise us.

- Fr Mario



# HAPPY FATHER'S DAY ...

... to all fathers of our Parish, and beyond. This weekend we pray in a special way for:

- all fathers who are still with us. May God continue to bless them and help them in all their needs;
- all fathers who have gone to eternal life. May God reward them with his wonderful presence in heaven;
- all fathers/fathers-to-be who have lost their children/babies. May God give them the gift of His consolation and peace.

During this weekend we shall be praying in particular for all those fathers whose names have been put on the list last week. As promised, the stipends of those masses will be sent to the missions and the masses will be individually celebrated by our missionaries during the coming weeks.

# THANK YOU

A huge THANK YOU to all who, in different ways, have made last Saturday's dinner possible. Thank you also to all who graced and helped us with your presence. The total income of the night for the parish was \$3,976.

## **IN OUR PRAYERS**

\*\*\* This weekend we welcome Giuliana McLaughlin, who joins our Christian Community through the sacrament of Baptism. We congratulate her family and support them with our prayers, as

they do their best to help her grow into a mature Christian.

\*\*\* On Saturday we celebrated the funeral of our sister Mary Mizzi, while the funeral of Amalia Stellato will be held on Thursday. While asking our merciful Lord to give them eternal rest with Him, we also pray for their loved ones during this time of grief.





The annual Imnarja Festival is going to be held on Saturday June 25, at Runnymede Park, between 2:00 and 10:00 pm. A celebration of Malteseness!! This is the traditional Maltese festival celebrating the feast of St Peter and St Paul. Music and singing, food - plenty of it! - (our Parish Youth Group will be there with their BBQ), and games for the youngest ones ... and for the not-so-young!



### MARYGROVE



This weekend we are having the collection for Marygrove Camp and Camp Ozanam. These camps, organized by the Society of St Vincent de Paul, provide Summer programs for boys and girls who would not, otherwise have the opportunity to enjoy a residential Summer camping experience. It is estimated that over 1,600 girls and boys will be attending these camps this Summer. God bless your generosity.

### **ROSARY FOR THE FAMILY**

In preparation for the 10th World Meeting of Families, a live and nationwide Rosary for the Family via Zoom is being organized, this Sunday, June 19, at 3:00 p.m. The rosary is being facilitated by several families from across the country. The Zoom Registration can be accessed here, or through the Website of Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops: www.cccb.ca