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**St. Paul the Apostle Church
Maltese-Canadian
Community Parish**

3224 Dundas Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 2A3
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email: stpaulmssp@gmail.com
Website: www.stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org

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, June 25

• Theresa Massa

Sunday, June 26

9:00am

- Cassie Rankin
- Joe & Charlie Cutajar
- Romauld & Ralph DeFry (Birthdays)

10:30am

- Charlie & Albert Taliana
- Silvana Dewe
- Grace Bugeja
- Joseph Pace & Grezzju Brincat

12:00 noon

- Linda Apalit
- Tony Axiak
- Maria Fenech
- John & Carmen Debono
- Susanne Camilleri

Monday, June 27

• Doris Micallef

Tuesday, June 28

- Joe Fenech
- Joe & Polonia Farrugia
- Inid DeFry

Wednesday, June 29

- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass
- Rita Borg

Thursday, June 30

• Frank 'Cikku' Zammit

Friday, July 1

- Francisco Meneses & Souls of Purgatory



MASS INTENTIONS

June 26, 2022
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - C

Pastor's thoughts ...



Recently we have had the beautiful opportunity to celebrate First Holy Communions and Confirmations at our parish. These, together with the regular celebrations of baptisms as well as Christian funerals, are very Special moments for the people involved. But they are also opportunities for each one of us to reflect on things that we usually tend to take for granted. How often do I participate in the Eucharist without thinking of what I'm doing? Or, seriously, how often do I stop and think what does it really mean in my life to be a Christian? What difference does my baptism make in my life?

On the day of their confirmation our young people confirm their resolve to follow Christ. Now they are no more Christians simply because their parents decided to baptize them when they were babies. The decision is theirs, and they are now becoming adults in their faith journey.

These thoughts came to mind as I heard the words of Jesus in today's gospel: "Follow me". It is his calling ... it is my response. That's what discipleship is all about. Sometimes we might think that it has been our choice, our decision. If that were the case, we would be able to do it on our own terms. But, since it is his calling, his initiative, we must let him decide how we're going to live it.

"Follow me". The Christian, the disciple of Christ, is one who follows. I remember the beautiful episode when, in the gospel, Peter tried to lead Jesus, rather than follow him. It was when Jesus was telling his disciples that he was heading towards Jerusalem to meet his fate: passion, death and resurrection. Of course, Peter did not like the idea of suffering and death. Who does? So, he rebuked Jesus telling him that such should never happen. In this instant Jesus, who had just chosen Peter as the "rock" on which to build his Church, had a very harsh reaction. "Get behind me, Satan", he told Peter. Peter had to understand that the place of the disciple is to be behind Jesus, not in front of him; to follow Jesus, not to lead. Otherwise, he would not be any better than "Satan", the rebellious one who became God's adversary.

In today's gospel, we have a couple of instances when Jesus tries to help his followers understand this basic fact about discipleship. When Jesus was not made welcome by the Samaritans, James and John suggested that that city should be destroyed by fire coming down from heaven. Of course, this was not the way of the Master, and they had to learn that being a disciple means walking on the Master's footsteps. Jesus is for mercy, love, forgiveness and compassion, not violent vengeance.

Later on, someone told Jesus that he wanted to follow him. For some reason, Jesus discouraged him. Perhaps he wanted him to understand that it was Jesus who decides what he should be doing, not vice-versa.

Yes, the disciple is one who follows the Master, which means that he has to be attentive to see where the Master is leading him.

Sometimes, following Jesus might give us some surprises. Joseph DePiro was one who had accepted to follow Jesus throughout his life. "I follow you wherever you go" was, in fact, his life-motto. This made him change course mid-way through his legal studies to enter the seminary. This also led him to found a Religious Congregation with the aim of sending missionaries where they were needed. This week, on June 30, we celebrate the anniversary of when, back in 1910, the first members joined DePiro to start what we now know as the MSSP. It is an opportunity to thank God for this great man who, as a true follower of Christ, was able to listen and go wherever his Master was leading him.



- Fr Mario

CONFIRMATIONS

Congratulations to the following young people who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday, as they could not make it with the rest of the group:

- Mateo Giannopoulos
- Caitlyn Sammut
- Evelyn Sammut
- Josephine Skudra
- Ricardo Sousa



As a parish community, we accompany them with our prayers. May the love and joy of Jesus be always present in their hearts and may the Holy Spirit guide them throughout their lives.

HAPPY CANADA DAY

Wishing everybody a great day, as we celebrate the anniversary of July 1, 1867, the effective date of the Constitution Act, 1867 (then called the British North America Act, 1867), which united the three separate colonies of the Province of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick into a single Dominion within the British Empire called Canada.



A Prayer for our Country

Eternal God, whose reign extends from sea to sea and whose care endures throughout the ages, hear our prayers for our country: grant wisdom to those who govern it and respect for human life and dignity to every citizen, so that justice may flourish and all peoples live in unity and peace.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen



MSSP FOUNDATION DAY

On June 30, 1910, Joseph DePiro started the first MSSP community in Mdina, Malta. Here is a prayer for the MSSP Missionaries which we are encouraged to pray on our anniversary.

Father, you call us to become your children, and to spread in the world the fragrance of your love.

We pray particularly for all MSSP Missionaries whom you have called to follow you and spread the Good News in the world on the footsteps of St. Paul.

May they become more like your Son, as their hearts are inflamed with the fire of your love. Fill them with your pastoral love to respond with great generosity to those who are at the periphery; imbue them with courage to trust in your providence; and give them hope even when everything seems lost.

We ask this through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Assumed into Heaven, and of the Servant of God Joseph DePiro, who inspires them and guides them. Amen



REST IN PEACE

Margaret Micallef, who passed away last Tuesday, and whose funeral will be held on Thursday. While praying our Resurrected Lord to grant her eternal peace with Him, we also pray for her family during this time of grief and loss.

We also pray for **Fr Raymond Camilleri, OFM**, who died on Wednesday. Fr Raymond ministered in our parish in the late 1990's.



Rest In Peace

MAINTENANCE WORKS

As you must have noticed, we are currently doing some maintenance works in both the church and the rectory. A number of cracks have developed in the church walls. These are being fixed, and all the walls will then have to be re-painted. We are also fixing some water-damage which was caused both in the "Ta' Pinu" chapel and in the rectory, before we fixed the roofs. The total cost for this work will be around \$20,000. In the meantime, the very old and faithful **stove in the hall** is dying on us, and needs to be replaced.

We are not going to organize a special fund-raiser for these works. Whoever would like to contribute, please put your donations in the "Maintenance" envelopes. More details in the enclosed information-sheet.