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

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email: [stpaulmssp@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulmssp@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.saint-paul-maltese.com](http://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, January 22**

- Charles & Christina Cini

**Sunday, January 23**

**9:00am**

- Fr. Karm Borg
- Charles & Christina Cini

**10:30am**

- Carmen & Joseph Govè
- Nenu Dingli

**12:00 noon**

- Czeslaw Iwan
- Carmnu Vella
- Maria Fenech

**Monday, January 24**

- Lina Bonello & Family

**Tuesday, January 25**

- Paul Delicata
- Angelo Buttigieg
- Susan Cornacchia

**Wednesday, January 26**

- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass

**Thursday, January 27**

- Doris Micallef
- Maria Di Maulo

**Friday, January 28**

- Joseph Farrugia

MASS INTENTIONS



**January 23, 2022**  
**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - C**



# Pastor's thoughts ...



“Most excellent Theophilus” ... my dear Lover of God. We do not know whether this Theophilus, to whom Luke is going to write this gospel, actually existed. We do know, however, that Theophilus means “lover of God”. What St Luke is going to put on paper is written to you who love God.

I know, your life might not be an exact example of the perfect Christian. You have your weaknesses and have made your fair share of mistakes. All this does not take away the fact that you love God. It only says that you are not always able to express this love as you would probably like to do. And Luke is here to help you.

The word “gospel” literally means “good news”, and this is what St Luke intends to impart. He knows that we go through down-times in our lives. We go through moments of difficulties or crises. We have moments when we are disheartened and tempted to give up. It is not a coincidence that Luke (who was also a doctor, by the way) puts today’s gospel reading at the beginning of Jesus’ ministry. It was on a Sabbath when Jesus goes to the synagogue of his home village. The reading from the prophet Isaiah which he chooses is actually speaking about himself, he tells the people. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,” he reads, which reminds us of the Holy Spirit which appeared upon him not long ago at his baptism. He is “anointed” to bring good news to the poor, to bring freedom to those who lack it, to bring light to those who need it. In a very significant gesture, Jesus closes the book and puts it away after reading that passage. “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing,” he tells those around him. From now on, he is going to be the living Word of God for us.

Throughout history God has never abandoned those who love Him. In the Old Testament He sent prophets, like Ezra in today’s first reading, to encourage and give hope to His people when they were discouraged. For the people, listening to Ezra’s words was not like simply hearing someone tell a story. It was a living experience of true listening which made them cry and then rejoice. It was something that touched their hearts and transformed their lives. This is what happens to anyone who truly listens to God’s Word. St Paul is a typical example of this reality. During this week we shall be celebrating the day when he heard God’s voice on the road to Damascus. There, Paul listened. “What do you want me to do, Lord,” he asked while he was still on the ground. Through that act of listening Paul allowed God’s Word to transform his life. From then on, he became a bearer of good news to the whole world.



“What am I to do, Lord?”

Sometimes people think that faith or religion simply means having to obey a certain number of rules and commandments. The truth is that true faith implies listening to God’s Word, which is a word of love and mercy, and allow oneself to be transformed by it, just like St Paul.

- Fr Mario

### 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.

### PRAYING FOR THE SYNOD ... AND FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The international week of prayer for Christian unity ends on January 25th, the feast of the Conversion of St Paul. The theme for this year is: We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship him.

Presently the Church is also going through the process of consultations as part of the Synod as envisioned by Pope Francis. Our Archdiocese has prepared some information about this Synod, and also a survey where everyone is invited to share their thoughts about different aspects of the Church. Please participate, by visiting [www.archtoronto.org/synodality](http://www.archtoronto.org/synodality)  
**In the meantime, here is a prayer for these two events.**

#### Friars' Student Writing Contest 2022

Open for students 13-19 years of age, who are to submit a 450-500-word essay on Christian Unity.

**Prizes:** HP Pavilion 14" Touchscreen 2-in-1 Laptop, Samsung Galaxy Watch4 40mm Smartwatch , and Apple Air Pods.

Closing date: February 14, 2022

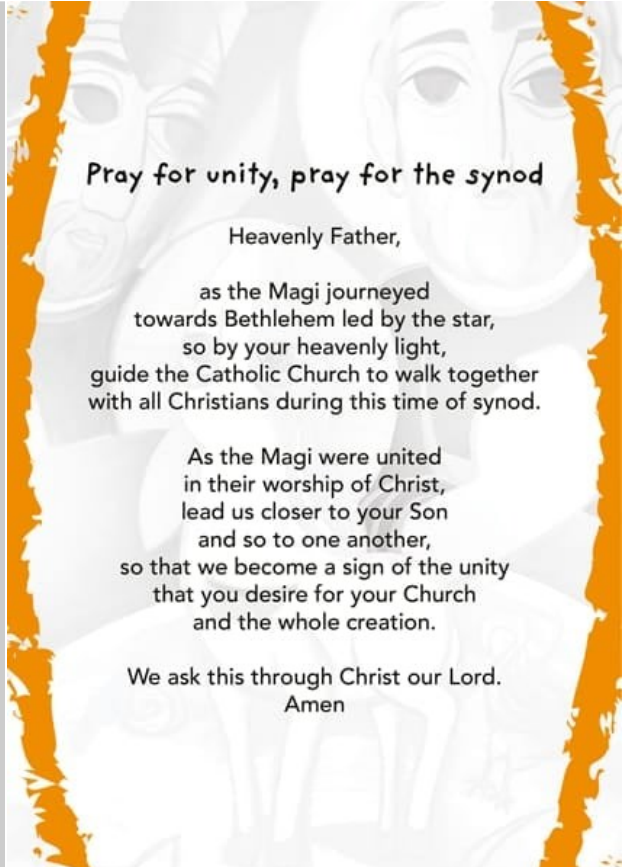
Full information: [www.catholicregister.org/writingaward](http://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward)



### PARISH INCOME/EXPENDITURES JULY - DECEMBER, 2021

We are presenting here the income and expenditures of the Parish for the second half of 2021. As expected in the present circumstances, expenditures have been slightly greater than income. While income from Sunday collections has remained roughly the same as in pre-covid times (**and for this, we are truly grateful**), we are missing the income generated by the use of the hall and other fund-raising activities.

A big thank you from all of us goes to Mr Larry Cini and Mrs Violet Sillato, who diligently look after our accounts and book-keeping.



#### Pray for unity, pray for the synod

Heavenly Father,

as the Magi journeyed towards Bethlehem led by the star, so by your heavenly light, guide the Catholic Church to walk together with all Christians during this time of synod.

As the Magi were united in their worship of Christ, lead us closer to your Son and so to one another, so that we become a sign of the unity that you desire for your Church and the whole creation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Join **Cardinal Collins** and a wide representation of **Christian leaders** to pray for the restoration of the full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church. We will pray at Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church at 920 Progress Ave., Scarborough, on Sunday, January 23, 2022 at 4 p.m. All are welcome to attend in person or watch the livestream on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TorontoArmenianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TorontoArmenianChurch).

St. Paul the Apostle Church Income and Expenditures For the 6-months Ending December 31, 2021			
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditures</b>	
Sunday Collection	64,253.00	Salaries	63,637.55
Other Collections	11,595.00	Utilities	5,828.84
Diocesan Collections	5,610.00	Diocesan Assessment	10,915.00
Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals	7,185.00	Church Expenses	7,255.79
Donations	9,835.00	Office Expenses	4,155.46
Mass Offerings	5,050.00	House Expenses	5,875.28
Candles & Missals	4,047.00	Hall Expenses	2,520.21
Bulletin Advertising	3,450.00	House Upgrades	19,775.00
HST Rebate	5,430.84	Insurance	11,109.31
Other Income	3,495.04	Diocesan Collections	7,515.00
	119,950.88	Miscellaneous Expenditures	1,586.96
Extraordinary Item:		<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>140,174.40</b>
CEWS - Covid Wagesubsidy from Gov't	14,937.86		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>134,888.74</b>		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>134,888.74</b>		
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>140,174.40</b>		
	- 5,285.66		