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

3224 Dundas Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 2A3  
**416-767-7054**

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 29**

• Maria, Peter & Joseph Portelli

**Sunday, January 30**

**9:00am**

• For the People of the Parish

**10:30am**

• Charlie & Albert Taliana  
 • Mike Micallef  
 • Tony Axiak  
 • Silvana Dewe & Grace Bugeja

**12:00 noon**

• Linda Apalit  
 • Carmnu Vella  
 • Joe & Apolonia Farrugia

**Monday, January 31**

•

**Tuesday, February 1**

• Carmel & Edmond Scicluna

**Wednesday, February 2**

• Our Lady of the Immigrant  
 Perpetual Mass

**Thursday, February 3**

• Doris Micallef

**Friday, February 4**

• Carmnu Vella

MASS INTENTIONS



**January 30, 2022**  
**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - C**



# Pastor's thoughts ...



Today's second reading is probably one of the most read, most quoted passage from the letters of St Paul - particularly in weddings and anniversaries. It is poetic, comforting, beautiful. It is Paul's explosive ode to love. Who doesn't like to talk about love? And yet, it is also very challenging. Because, according to Paul, love is not easy. It is patient and kind, it does not insist on its own way, it bears and endures all things, it does not rejoice in wrongdoing. It is not irritable, envious or resentful.

In her autobiography St Therese of Lisieux explains how she had her life-changing aha-moment when she was thinking about her vocation. She felt she was being called to do a lot of things within the Church - from priest to apostle, from doctor of the Church to becoming a martyr. Then, in her own words: "then in the excess of my delirious joy, I cried out: "O Jesus, my Love, at last I have found my vocation, my vocation is Love!" Therese understood what she was saying.

She had just been meditating on the above-mentioned reading from St Paul. She wasn't talking about the fuzzy-feeling kind of love. Being love means being patient and kind in all situations of daily life, it implies being all the attributes St Paul mentions in his letter. If you think that is easy, just re-read that passage and put your name instead the word "love", and see how it sounds!

Both Therese and Paul came to the understanding that, without love, we can do nothing. Indeed, if I could do anything and had no Love, I would be as good as useless says St Paul! Sometime after St Paul, St John would tell us that God is Love. Thus, when St Paul tells me that I have to do everything with Love, he is practically telling me that I have to do everything with God. Without Love, or without God, I am nothing.

In today's first reading we hear some very beautiful words God told the prophet Jeremiah: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you." Has it ever occurred to you that you meet someone for the first time, and that person shows that he or she already knows many things about you? It is a sign that that person is interested in you, that you are not just a name or a number. You matter, and this creates a beautiful feeling inside. It's good to know that God knows me - dare I say even more than I know myself. He knows how I think, what makes me sad or happy, what my gifts and my defects are. And this is how He loves me. He does not expect me to change before He starts loving me. In fact, this is the person He chose for Himself, or "consecrated", to use the term the prophet used.

Yes, through our baptism we are all consecrated, we are all chosen, as Christians set apart to live a life lived for God. In my case, He chose me as a Religious, a missionary, a priest. In the case of many of you, He chose you to be parents, or grandparents. Sometimes people tell me "I don't believe I'm doing a good job being a parent", or doing whatever it is that God could be asking of them. In these cases, my answer is always the same: if God has entrusted you with a particular mission, it means that He believes you can do it, but not on your own!

This is what Jesus did in his life. Everything with Love because, as he himself told us, "the Father and I are one". Not everybody was willing to accept this. Some found Jesus' teaching and his way of living too challenging or uncomfortable. It would go against their selfishness, their interests, or their ego. That is why, like in today's gospel, they often tried to get rid of him. In today's case, it was not yet the right time, and he simply escaped from them. Later, as we know, they did manage to get rid of him. Or so they thought, because Love is stronger than everything, even than death itself, and he came out of it victorious.

This is the great message that Jesus gives us. We are sure to encounter problems in life. Sometimes things seem to be getting very difficult. But united with him, we're assured that we can do it. This was precisely Jeremiah's experience, as he tells us in today's reading. Because, as St Paul reminds us, "Love never ends".

- 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.

## WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE

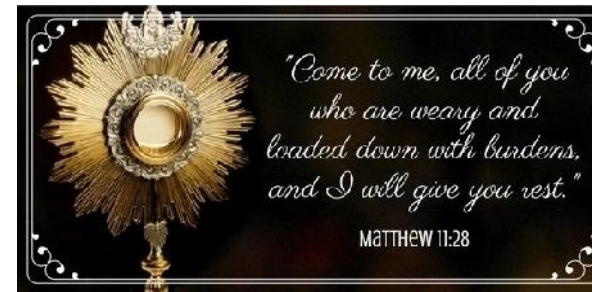


The Church celebrates the **World Day for Consecrated Life** on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which is on February 2. This day was instituted by St John Paul 2 in 1997.

We celebrate and pray for the consecrated men and women who are a vital part of the life and ministry of the Church in our archdiocese. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation. We also pray for more holy vocations to the Religious Life around the world.

## FIRST FRIDAY

Please remember that this coming Friday, February 4, is the first Friday of the month. As usual, there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction after the 9:15 Mass.



## PLEASE NOTE:

... there are still some Offertory Boxes to be picked up, at the Church entrance.

A big thank you to all who are financially helping the running of the parish.

## SYNOD OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

Pope Francis has launched the **Synod on Synodality**: a two-year global process of listening to the faithful that will help the Church reflect on how we can do God's will in the world today. The comments of the faithful will ultimately be discussed at a meeting of the bishops in the Vatican in 2023. To learn more about the Synod on Synodality and to share your thoughts, please visit: [www.archtoronto.org/synodality](http://www.archtoronto.org/synodality). **On the same page there is a survey where everyone is invited to share their thoughts about different aspects of the Church.** Please participate!



Synod  
2021  
2023

For a synodal Church  
communion | participation | mission

## ST. BLAISE

**Thursday, February 3**, the Church celebrates the feast of St Blaise. According to the "Acts of St Blaise", while he was being taken into custody, a distraught mother, whose only child was choking on a fishbone, threw herself at his feet and implored his intercession. Touched at her grief, he offered up his prayers, and the child was cured. Consequently, Saint Blaise is invoked for protection against injuries and illnesses of the throat.

On Thursday we shall have a special the blessing of the throats during the 9:15 am Mass.



## 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)

## How Do We Walk Together as Church? Embracing Pope Francis' New Call to Synodality

Wednesday, February 16, at 11:00 am. - A virtual event sponsored by Novalis Publications

Join authors Moira McQueen and Massimo Faggioli for a robust conversation on the topic of Synodality and how the faithful at all levels can participate in Pope Francis' call to solidarity and contribute to a rich reflection on a vibrant future for the Catholic Church.

Cost: Free

Register: <https://bit.ly/RegisterSynodality>