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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.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, March 12

- Gino Sturino

Sunday, March 13

9:00am

- Peter, Maria & Joseph Portelli

10:30am

- Carmen Muscat

12:00 noon

- Fausto Orellana
- Gladys Haredia
- Ricardo Solis
- Frank Cini

Monday, March 14

- For the People of the Parish

Tuesday, March 15

-

Wednesday, March 16

- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass

Thursday, March 17

Friday, March 18

- Joseph & Jane Farrugia

MASS INTENTIONS



March 13, 2022
Second Sunday of Lent - C

Pastor's thoughts ...



"It is good for us to be here". This was Peter's spontaneous expression on Mount Tabor as he witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus. Peter, the most spontaneous of them all. Peter, the one who always spoke what came out of his heart, before processing it through his mind. It is good, it is beautiful, it is wonderful. He could not help express his desire to keep enjoying the experience, as Jesus reveals himself for who he really is.

This is faith. This is faith, at least, as it is supposed to be. How often have we thought that faith is a matter of do's and don'ts? How often have we been made to believe that faith is a burden, rather than joy? In Jesus' presence, Peter discovers that it is good, it is beautiful, it is joy.

A very short time before this experience, Jesus had told his friends that he was going to suffer passion, death, and then experience resurrection. The disciples could not understand the meaning of any of that. And yet, the little they could have understood – the passion and death bit – resurrection was something unheard of for them – they found very hard to accept. Moreover, through this experience, Jesus wanted to equip Peter, James and John for the passion-experience which was soon to follow. In his foretelling, Jesus could not speak of death without making reference to the resurrection. And his oncoming death would not have made any sense without the resurrection. It is one whole event, and in the moment of darkness the disciple of Christ has to remember that there is always light and life waiting. And yet, talk of resurrection does not in any way deny the reality of suffering.

There are always moments of darkness to be lived in our lives; moments that challenge our faith, which is often taken for granted. As I write these reflections, I share the pain of many people who, in different ways, are going through darkness and suffering. We have been living through two years of Covid, which has made millions of victims throughout the whole world. The war in Ukraine is the latest scourge we are living through. For every victim there are friends, families, pained loved ones. On a more personal level then, I constantly witness stories of people who are going through darkness in their own lives: violence, failed marriages, death in the family, unexpected illnesses, etc. It is very easy to get disheartened in moments like this. It is very normal to start asking questions and, where faith had previously seemed so solid, might now feel all very shaky.

The story of the resurrection which we are about to celebrate at the end of this Lenten season, as does today's story of Jesus' transfiguration, helps us keep things in perspective. Moses and Elijah speaking with Jesus about his "exodus" which was about to happen on another hill in Jerusalem, emphasize the fact that he really had to suffer the consequences of evil. But these stories tell us that evil does not have the last word. The voice of evil is never the loudest voice.

As we journey through our own desert during this lent, let us really listen to that voice saying: "This is my Son, listen to him!" And as we listen we start experiencing what Peter did in that short moment: it is good to be here. Let us really enjoy the beauty of his presence, of his word. Because without beauty, our soul dies.

- 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.

HUMANITARIOAN RELIEF - UKRAINE



The people of Ukraine is suffering! The Archdiocese of Toronto is sending funds to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), which is a papal agency currently working in Eastern Europe, providing Ukrainians with food, shelter, medicine and transportation to safe locations, as well as to the Archdiocese's Office of Refugees which helps to bring Ukrainian refugees to Canada as soon as possible. **Please use the 'Humanitarian Relief' envelopes for your donations and put them with today's collection.**

In the meantime, we continue to pray for the Ukrainian people and all those who suffer under the human tragedy of war.

DINNER WITH FR MARK

Fr Mark Grima, the Superior General of the MSSP, will be visiting our community on his way to Peru. We shall be having a dinner with him on **Saturday, March 19th**. All proceeds will be given to him for the Peru mission. More information on church notice-board. Tickets from the Rectory or Freda (416-762-1891).

***** Meanwhile, we are having a Raffle with some great prizes. This will be drawn during the Dinner.**

MINISTRIES ... GOING BACK TO NORMAL

AT LAST we can have again Eucharistic Ministers and two Readers for our Sunday Masses. Rosters have already been distributed. We are aware that some people might not yet be ready, or some changes need to be made. Please just let us know. **Thank you for your patience and for your service.**

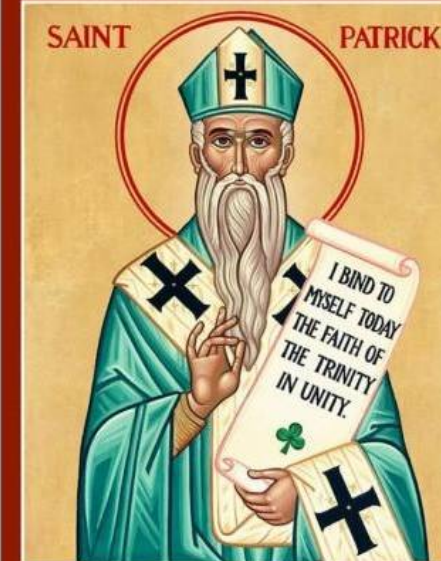
SHOE-BOX CAMPAIGN - LENT 2022

Once again, during Lent we are being invited to give to those who need more than we do. The **Mission Group** is organizing a Shoe-Box campaign, to send necessary stuff to the mission of Bishop Giovanni in Huancane, Peru. Information sheets telling you what is mostly needed can be picked up from the church foyer.

REST IN PEACE!

During this last week we had the funerals of **Theresa Massa** and **Marjorie Klingemann**.

As a community of faith, we keep them in our prayers so that God will give them eternal peace with Him. We also continue to pray for their families and loved ones, to find consolation and peace in their hearts.

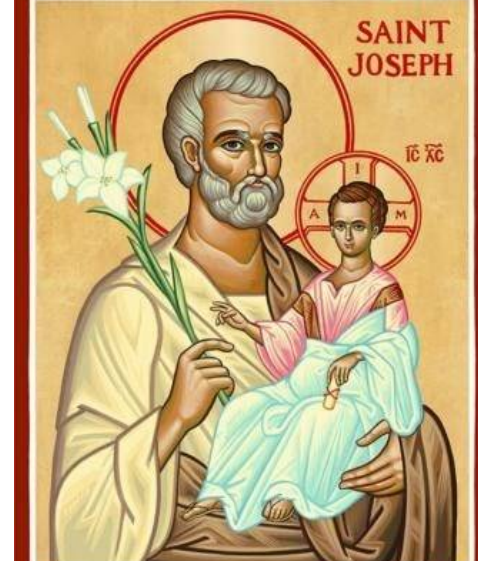


THIS WEEK:

St Patrick - March 17
and

St Joseph - March 19th
(patron saint of Canada)

PRAY FOR US!



MUSIC MINISTRY



Music is a vital part of all our liturgical celebrations and the Music Ministry is looking for new members to help enhance the liturgy. If you would like to lend your talents either through singing or playing an instrument, on a regular or occasional basis, please contact Louise Debono 416-707-8955

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