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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, March 19**

- Rose & Domenic Bartolo
- Mike Micallef

**Sunday, March 20**

**9:00am**

- Anne Muscat
- Maria Di Maulo
- Patricia Neilson

**10:30am**

- Enzo Gusman
- Nenu Dingli
- Charles Micallef
- Emanuel, Carmela & Tessie Psaila

**12:00 noon**

- Guza & Carmel Vella
- Maria Fenech
- Susanne Camilleri
- Tessie Sultana

**Monday, March 21**

- For the people of the Parish

**Tuesday, March 22**

**Wednesday, March 23**

- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass

**Thursday, March 24**

- For Peace in the world


**Friday, March 25**

- Paul Delicata

**March 20, 2022**

**Third Sunday of Lent - C**

MASS INTENTIONS





# Pastor's thoughts ...



If ever there were a gospel reading relevant for our times, we have it today. Jesus refers to two incidents which have caused a lot of discussion and, probably, confused many people.

One was a terrible act of non-sensical violence: Pilate had unscrupulously massacred a number of Galileans. The other was an accident which left a number of people dead. Do Putin and Covid ring a bell? When these things happen, people start asking questions, demanding answers. Dealing with pain is never easy! Why and how? Whose fault is it? And, if no answer is to be found, one is conveniently made up. Very often this takes the form of blame and finger-pointing.

It was not uncommon for the people of Jesus' time to conclude that, when someone becomes a victim of some incident, that person must have been guilty of something. Divine punishment can take many forms!

Jesus takes issue with this line of thought. If Pilate did that horrible act of violence, he is the one who has done wrong, not his victims. And if a tower (probably part of an aqueduct construction) collapsed, it could have possibly been due to human error in the construction, or perhaps merely an accident. But certainly, one cannot blame the victims!

Jesus departs from these contemporary pieces of news to drive home a message. We are all in the same boat. We cannot group the world in two groups: "they" who are bad, and "us" who are good. We are all on a journey – a journey of constant conversion. If we're not careful, Jesus tells us, we will "all perish". In his typical matter-of-fact manner, St Paul tells us: "if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall". Nobody is to be scandalized of another's failure. No one is immune from falling.

Lent is a very apt reminder of all this. It is a journey that leads us to the celebration of Easter. Easter itself is a memorial of a journey: the journey of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land. The Passover of the people of Israel which, in the person of Jesus, took a much deeper meaning.

As Christians, we are invited to participate in this journey of Jesus. Last Sunday we saw Moses and Elijah on the mountain talking with Jesus about his "Exodus". It is, indeed, an exodus – a moving out from the darkness of sin and evil towards the light of freedom and new life. In Jesus, everything takes on a new meaning.

In the Old Testament, it all started with the calling of Moses. God saw the people's misery: God heard his people's cry; God knew their sufferings. God is not indifferent. And throughout the whole story of the people's exodus, God proved to always be present, even when the people thought he was absent. Our God is a God who is always present: "I AM" is his name. He is the God of the people's ancestors: of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob. History has shown that he has always been with his people. There is no reason why he should fail them now.

As we move on in our own journey, God may show us that we, too, have our own areas of darkness, our little masters that enslave us. With the help of prayer, and strengthened by the practices of fasting and almsgiving, Lent is the ideal time when we can experience our own exodus. With God's help, we too can experience the movement towards a freer, happier, more fulfilled life.

- Fr Mario

**LENT**  
WALKING WITH CHRIST

## 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.

## SHARE LIFE - 2022

**SL ShareLife**

This year's ShareLife Campaign is now underway. In this time of Lent, please reflect on the great needs of our brothers and sisters who are helped through your kind support of ShareLife.

After two years of crisis, our communities need hope and healing. That hope can be found in you – the "hands and feet of Christ" making possible the life-changing work of ShareLife agencies.

Vulnerable people are turning to these agencies for support more than ever. And the problems are many, ranging from mental illness, to poverty, addiction and isolation.

The solution is in reach: your hands and ours, working together to live the Gospel. **March 27 is ShareLife Sunday.** Please give generously.

With this bulletin you are finding the **Share Life Envelope** for your donation, and a **letter from Cardinal Collins** as an insert.

## PRAYING FOR PEACE

Pope Francis is encouraging Christians around the world to join him in prayer for peace and for the entrustment and the **consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord: Friday, March 25, 2022.**

## PRAYER FOR PEACE

God of peace and justice,

we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at-risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them.

## ANNUNCIATION

On Friday, 25 March, the Church celebrates the solemnity of the Annunciation. In the midst of confusion, Mary's only response was: **"Here am I, the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your word".**

Let us, like her, allow our lives to be shaped by God's word.



## COVID-AWARENESS

As of this Monday, we are no longer required to use face masks in our churches. However, as you are well aware, Covid is still with us! Naturally, those who would like to still use it are free to do so.

Please be considerate of other people. There might be people who are more sensitive or vulnerable than you are, besides the fact that the average age of our parish community is quite advanced! This is also a way of showing our love as Christians to our neighbor.



Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey."