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email: [stpaulmssp@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulmssp@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org](http://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, September 10**

- Charlie & Christina Cini
- Rita Camilleri
- All Souls in Purgatory

**Sunday, September 11**  
9:00am

- Rita Caruana

10:30am

- Josephine & Joseph Xuereb
- John Azzopardi
- Benjamin Paul Haber

12:00 noon

- Frank Cini
- William Paul & France Micallef

**Monday, September 12**

- Paul Delicata

**Tuesday, September 13**

- Eugenio Sturino
- Amalia Stellato

**Wednesday, September 14**

- Sunny Fernando
- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass

**Thursday, September 15**

- For the People of the Parish

**Friday, September 16**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**September 11, 2022**  
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - C

# Pastor's thoughts ...



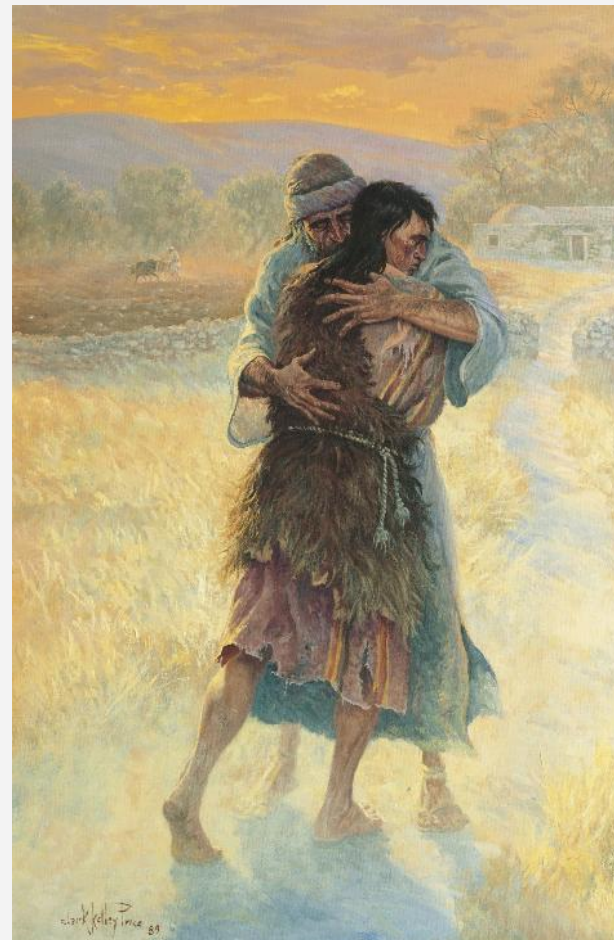
We often hear it said that God's ways are not our ways. This is certainly highlighted in today's story - one which we all know so well.

After all the sufferings he endured because of his wayward son, there is not one angry word that comes from the mouth of the father. Not one word of reprimand, or guilt-inflicting scolding. The son had prepared his begging-speech on the way back to his father's house. Only God knows how many times he must have gone over and over again that phrase: "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired servants". Of course, the father would not have any of this. He did not even allow his son to finish

his well-rehearsed speech. All he does is throw his arms around him, and then a spontaneous feast. What matters for him is that his lost son is now found.

I highly suspect that a normal father would act slightly differently! I know my father would! He would be, of course, happy to see the son back. But he would definitely give him a mouthful, letting him know that he hoped he's learned his lesson, and that now he hopes that he would not commit the same evil again. Some kind of punishment would also, most probably follow.

I'm not sure what idea you have of God. What image comes to your mind when you think of God. The idea that Jesus, the Son, would like to convey to us of his Father is a happy, joyful, loving, feast-loving, merciful father. This is what the story is all about. Sometimes we might focus too much on the younger son of the story - the "prodigal son". As far as Jesus is concerned, the younger son is just one of the characters in the story. He did nothing that you and I would not do! And then, if he erred against his father, so did his older brother. Filled with jealousy and anger, the older brother did not want to participate in the feast organized by his father. The father goes out to beg him come in. His disappointment in the older son is as palpable as the pain caused by the other.



I suppose the basis of both sons' mistakes is the fact that they both had a bad, unreal idea of the father. For them he was just a master, someone to be obeyed. "I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command," says the older son. Yet, there was no joy in his life. Only resentment, versus both his father and his brother. While the younger son would be content with being accepted as a servant. Still, in spite of all the errors committed, all the father wanted was his son back. Not a servant, not a slave. The younger one was still a son as much as he was prior to his departure.

A question that we should ask ourselves today is: how is my relationship with God? Who is God for me? What image comes to my mind when I think of God.

Perhaps if we do not find joy in our Father's house, it is simply because we have not understood who he really is.

- Fr. Mario

## IL-VITORJA



As announced last week, this Sunday we shall be celebrating "Our Lady of Victories" during the 10:30 am Maltese Mass.

As one community of faith, we thank God for all the good things He has done for us through the intercession of Our Lady. We also ask Mary our Mother to help us on our journey, so that we will continue to treasure and live the faith handed down to us by our forefathers.

## PARISH ANNIVERSARY DINNER-DANCE

**Saturday, October 22**

**More details to follow**

**Let us celebrate together**

**KEEP THE DATE FREE!**



## SENIORS GROUP - BINGO

A reminder that the Seniors' Group has started meeting again on **every Wednesday, from 12:30pm onwards**. This is always a great opportunity to spend a couple of hours together, have a chat and a drink, and, of course, play a few games of BINGO. All are welcome ... spread the word!



## CATECHISM CLASSES

It's that time of the year when we start accepting registrations for First Holy Communion and Confirmation classes.

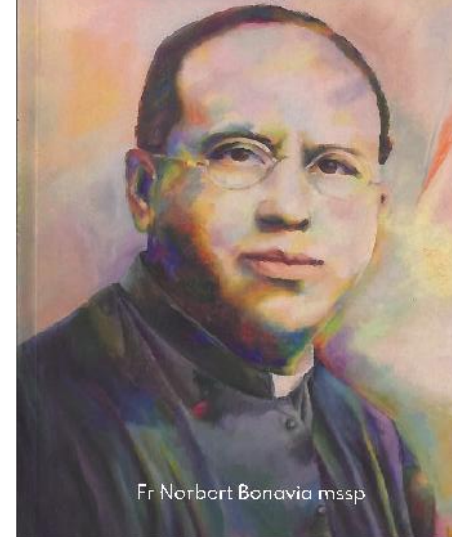
Please take the appropriate form from the back of the church, or download it from our parish website:

[stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org](http://stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org)



## **RIFLESSJONIJIET SPIRITWALI**

dwar il-hajja u l-hidma  
ta' Mons. Guzeppi de Piro



Fr Norbart Bonavia mssp

## SEPTEMBER 17

Next Saturday is the anniversary of the death of the founder of the Missionary Society of St Paul, Msgr **Joseph DePiro**. It was on September 17, 1933, that DePiro died suddenly after celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. He was still 55 years old.

We have some copies of a small booklet containing spiritual reflections from his life and teachings: "Riflessjonijiet Spiritwali", in Maltese. These are available from the back of the church.

**September 14: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross;**

**September 15: Our Lady of Sorrows**

"Mother of the Church, Consoler of the afflicted, with confidence we turn to you: look upon us with tenderness and open your arms to embrace us".

