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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: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org
Website: www.stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org

Administrator: Fr. Roy Farrell
Parish Secretary: Mrs. Rita Apalit

REGULAR 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/English)
Tuesday & Thursday - 9:15 am (English)

First Friday of the Month:
Bilingual Mass at 9.15 am,
followed by Adoration & Benediction until 11:00 am

Weekend Masses;
Saturday 5:30 pm (English)
Sunday: 9:00 am (English)
10:30 am (Maltese/English))
12:00 noon (English)


Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Every Wednesday from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

SACRAMENTS
Baptism: Please contact the Parish Office for more details
As of April 2023, Baptisms are held every 1st Saturday of every month at 10:30am. Excluding Holy Saturday
You can find the Registration Form on our website.

Marriages:
Contact the priest at least one year in advance of the wedding.
A marriage preparation course is required. You can find the Registration Form on our website.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
First Fridays from 8:40 am to 9:10 am
Saturdays: from 4:45 pm to 5:15 pm

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 Archdiocese of Toronto. 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..

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 18
5:30pm

- +Janet Bonett

Sunday, February 19
9:00am

- Missa Pro Populo

10:30am

- +Joseph Gauci
- +Moses & Elizabeth Mifsud
- +Nenu Dingli
- +Auxibius & Cynthia Alexander

12:00 noon

- +Theresa Massa & Tonna Family

Monday, February 20
Family Day

Tuesday, February 21
St. Peter Damian

- +Eugenio Sturino, Amalia & Mariano Stellato, Adelina Stellato

Wednesday, February 22
Ash Wednesday

- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass
- +Larry Ciappara & Deceased Family members

Thursday, February 23
St. Polycarp

Friday, February 24

February 19, 2023
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year
A

From the Desk of Fr. Roy...



After bidding farewell to Fr. Ivano on Wednesday at 4 am, the goodbye felt so final it was overwhelming. I will forever owe him a debt of gratitude for his hospitality and support since I arrived at St. Paul's on January 5th.

Let us all ask for God's divine protection on him as he embarks on his new ministry in Peru. It must have been difficult to start fresh in a country where the political climate is so unpredictable.

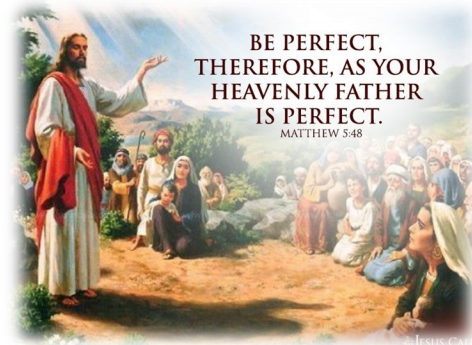
I'm sending my appreciation to the Social Committee for their phenomenal work for the feast of St. Paul. I was astonished by the amount of energy they put forth as well as their devotion to the parish and their goal of creating a stronger Maltese community.

Everyone was delighted with the entertainment, and the food was extraordinary. It was an enormous success. Our total revenue will be published in the coming weeks.

Your effort was incredibly appreciated, and we want you to be aware that we have taken notice of your hard work.

Gospel Summary

In this Sunday proclamation, we continue to hear from Matthew's Gospel account of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus calls us to holiness. Jesus' preaching does not devalue the Mosaic Law, but reveals the heart of God's Law. To observe God's Law, we are to live a life of holiness. We are called to be perfect as God is perfect. Perfection is a tall order, but Jesus asks us as his disciples to emulate the perfection of God the Father. Jesus is calling us to "be perfect" in our relationships with one another. So we are called to love one another as God loves us. And in loving others as God loves us, we emulate the perfection of God.



Reflection for Parents

When difficult times and strife occur in family life, what are our natural tendencies? Taking the perspective of the other person is a great challenge, yet a necessary skill for a healthy relationship. Consider the challenge of Jesus to turn the other cheek during difficult times. Jesus is not asking us to accept or tolerate abuse, but to consider the perspective of the other person in how we relate to him or her. So next time when the family is challenged, or an argument occurs, how might you consider the perspective of the other person? How might you show your spouse or children the love that God shows all of us?

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

During mealtimes this week as you eat, talk together about how each member of the family is important. Share with one another the goodness and beauty that each family member has. Highlight special talents and skills which have made a difference in the life of the family. Take the time to specifically discuss the qualities you cherish about one another.

Discussion Starters

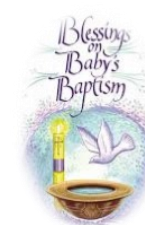
1. As a disciple of Jesus, I need to learn how to love others by . . .
2. I know I am loved by others when . . .

The greatest challenge I have in loving like God is . . .

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STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: Holiness and perfection. These are the ideals that the readings this Sunday call us to. In the first reading from Leviticus the Lord tells Moses, "be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy." Similarly, in the Gospel Jesus exhorts us to "be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. Is Jesus calling us to an impossible standard? Of course not, for Jesus would not call us to something and not strengthen us to achieve it. Many people may think that holiness is the prize for the elite reserved only for popes and bishops and saints. However, the Second Vatican Council decrees that all children of God have a universal call to holiness. The Council says that "all Christ's faithful, whatever be the conditions, duties and circumstances of their lives—and indeed through all these, will daily increase in holiness, if they receive all things with faith from the hand of their heavenly Father and if they cooperate with the divine will" (Lumen Gentium, 41). Essentially, Lumen Gentium teaches us that we can reach holiness by gratefully acknowledging the gifts God has given us and cooperating with God in giving these gifts back for the service of the Church. This is the crux of what it means to be a steward. So we can strive for holiness through our path of stewardship. Let us take some time to reflect on how we can become better stewards in our parish community so that we may move closer, through God's grace, towards holiness.

God says to all of us "be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy." The Second Vatican Council teaches us that we can reach holiness by gratefully acknowledging the gifts God has given us and cooperating with God in giving these gifts back for the service of the Church. Therefore, let us take some time to reflect on how we can become better stewards in our parish community so that we may move closer, through God's grace, towards holiness.



This weekend we welcome **Sebastian Raffaele Rico Grella** and **Calvin Michael Grech Silva**, who joins our Christian Community through the sacrament of Baptism.

We congratulate their families and support them with our prayers, as they do their best to help their children grow into mature Christians.

During this past week we had the funerals of **Joseph Muscat** and **Christopher Portelli**.

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.



VOCATION REFLECTION: "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Do you feel called to help people get closer to God? If you think God is calling you to be a, priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email us at vocations@archtoronto.org visit our website at www.vocationstoronto.ca

HANDICRAFT HOLY LAND CHRISTIANS

On the weekend of Feb 25-26, we will welcome our special guest Vera, a member of Sebastien Cardinal's team, representing "Handicraft Holy Land Christians", who after all the masses will briefly address the issues and concerns regarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land.

Christians in the Holy Land graciously ask your support through conscience prayers and will have many unique hand carved olive wood religious art pieces made by these families in Bethlehem available for purchase after every mass.

Proceeds of the sales generate much needed employment for our Christian brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.

May God Bless you for your generosity, for you help and for your prayers.

Cash, debit, credit cards and cheque will be accepted.

You can visit and support us at www.HolylandChristians.ca

NEW ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO

Pope Francis has appointed Bishop Francis (Frank) Leo, currently Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Montreal, as the 14th Archbishop of Toronto. The archbishop-designate succeeds Cardinal Thomas Collins, who has served the archdiocese since 2007.