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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
Monday 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 (during Lent):
Bilingual Mass at 9.15 am followed by the Stations of the Cross
Adoration & Benediction from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

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
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
Tuesdays at 8:30 am (during Lent only)
Anytime by appointment.

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.

Sunday, March 5, 2023
Second Sunday of Lent - Year A



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, March 4
5:30pm
• +Nina & Angelo Schembri

Sunday, March 5
9:00am
• +Moses & Elizabeth Mifsud

10:30am
• +Emanuel, Carmela & Tessie Psaila
• +Joseph Muscat

12:00 noon
• +Suzanne Camilleri

Monday, March 6
• +Anthony Joy Fernando
• +Leticia Carmen Tranchel

Tuesday, March 7
Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs
• +John Sultana

Wednesday, March 8
St. John of God
• Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass

Thursday, March 9
St. Frances of Rome

Friday, March 3
World Day of Prayer

From the Desk of Fr. Roy...



In the bulletin this week, I'm going to speak about why prayer matters and how it influences our daily lives.

Lent is a graced and opportune time to focus on prayer, as well as practice fasting and almsgiving. One way to pray is to contemplate the word of God in Sacred Scripture.

With the power of His words, God brings His will to fruition. God's word is like the refreshing rain from heaven, bringing life to the earth and providing us with the sustenance we need. It is the power of God's word, not ours, that can be felt in the

heavens and on the earth, fulfilling his will.

Prayer is about God's sovereign power and will, his knowledge of our needs and will to fulfill them. We do not need a lot of words. We do not need to convince God of our needs. We can be confident that God will provide us with what we need.

Jesus teaches us the Our Father because it literally covers every need. The first five lines of the Our Father offer adoration, giving God praise and honoring the sovereign power of his will on earth, as in heaven. The last five lines offer our petitions, asking God to grant what he already knows we need: daily bread, forgiveness and deliverance from evil.

Brief and simple, this prayer needs no extra words to be effective. Jesus reminds us that God's forgiveness of us is predicated on our willingness to forgive those who have wronged us. God's forgiveness is given to be shared. Forgiveness is like God's word that rains down from heaven, providing an abundant harvest for all.

Forgiveness - like all effects of prayer - is a gift from God given for all of us.

Setting aside moments in our busy schedules to listen to God in the upcoming week is a beneficial practice not only for Lent but all the time.

Gospel Summary

The second Sunday of Lent always gives us an account of the transfiguration. Jesus asked Peter, James and John to go with him to the mountain top. While they were there, Jesus was transfigured and became dazzling white before them. Along with Jesus stood Moses and Elijah. The voice of God announced that Jesus was his son and that all should listen to him. The disciples were frightened, but Jesus calmed them. When Peter, James and John looked up, Jesus was the only one left . . . the one to whom we need to listen.

Reflection for Families

Children adapt to change. They love the excitement of something new. As parents, however, we'd like to slow down the changes we see - changes in our community, our jobs, government, and even the changes in our growing children. As it was for the disciples, it's hard sometimes for us to understand and accept things changing in front of our eyes. However, change and constant motion are part of the divine plan as we journey to God. Today, instead of digging in our heels to slow the change, try lightening your heart as a child and accept with joy, the changes you face.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Consider your community, family, relatives, and people at work or school. Who is struggling right now because of a recent change? How is this change darkening their world? Once you have identified the person (or people) and their situation, think of one way as a family you can be a light to them. Our action is our response to listening to Jesus.

Discussion Starters

1. I know the reason I am reluctant to accept change. The reason is . . .
2. One action I will take this week to better accept change is . . .
3. I witnessed a kind of transfiguration when . . .

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STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION In the Gospel this Sunday we are invited to reflect on the account of the Transfiguration. In this mystery, Jesus goes up the mountain with Peter, James and John, and is transfigured before them and briefly "discloses His divine glory" (CCC 555). Moreover, "the Transfiguration gives us a foretaste of Christ's glorious coming, when he will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body" (CCC 556). The mystery of the Transfiguration alludes to the teaching of the Church called divinization, in which we believe that we humans will be made like God. Not only does Jesus raise us from sin, death and hell, but He even raises us up to divine life. He desires us to be made sharers in His own divine nature and participate in the life of the Trinity. St. Athanasius boldly proclaims that "He was made man that we might be made God." We can share in the Trinitarian life by cooperating in the work of God. The USCCB in their Pastoral Letter on Stewardship* states that "God wishes human beings to be his collaborators in the work of creation, redemption, and sanctification; and such collaboration involves stewardship in its most profound sense." To be a steward is to be deified and take part in the life of the Trinity. How often do we appreciate this rich reality of being a steward for Christ? Let us take some time to reflect on our raised identities in Christ and strive to be greater stewards in our parishes.

The mystery of the Transfiguration alludes to the teaching of the Church called divinization, in which we believe that we humans will be made like God. The USCCB in their Pastoral Letter on Stewardship states that "God wishes human beings to be his collaborators in the work of creation, redemption, and sanctification; and such collaboration involves stewardship in its most profound sense." Let us take some time to reflect on the teaching of divinization and strive to be greater stewards in our parishes, for to be a good steward is to be like Christ. (composed by staff at the Archdiocese of Toronto).

VOCATION REFLECTION Peter, James and John had a mountaintop experience with Jesus by witnessing His transfiguration. We too can have a mountaintop experience when we open our minds and hearts to following God's Will for our life. If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997

email vocations@archtoronto.org

ShareLife ShareLife Sunday Collections:
March 26 | April 30 | June 4

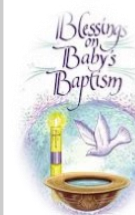
2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Live the Gospel by supporting ShareLife

ShareLife Sunday is March 26.

Our parish goal for this year's campaign is \$10,100.00. More than 40 Catholic organizations and social service agencies are supported through your generosity. Without your contributions, more than 150,000 people would not receive the hope offered through the vital work of these agencies.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.



This weekend we welcome **Isabella Sophia Scamolla**, who joins our Christian Community through the sacrament of Baptism.

We congratulate her family, and support them with our prayers, as they do their best to help their daughter grow into a mature Christian.

During this past week we had the funerals of **Luigi Ricchiuto** and **Carmela Bonanno**.

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 year's Passover Seder Meal will be held on **Saturday, March 25th**, after the 5:30 evening Mass.

Tickets: Adults - \$20.00/person
Children 12 yrs. & under - Free

For tickets or more information call Freda Mifsud at 416-762-1891