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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)
(Fridays during Lent: Stations of the cross following morning Mass)
Tuesday & Thursday - 9:15 am (English)

First Friday of the Month:
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.



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..

Saturday, March 25
The Annunciation of the Lord
5:30pm
• +Paul Delicata

Sunday, March 26
9:00am
• Missa Pro Populo

10:30am
• +Natalino & Rosa Taliana
• +Charlie & Albert Taliana
• +Silvana Dewe & Grace Bugeja
• +Emanuela Micallef & Joseph Bugeja
• +Joseph, Rosaria & George Gauci
• +Tony Axiak
• +Joseph Muscat

12:00 noon
• +John Camilleri

Monday, March 27
• +Doris Micallef

Tuesday, March 28
• +Joseph Farrugia

Wednesday, March 29
• Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass
• +Joseph Farrugia

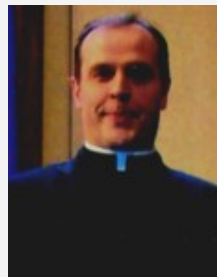
Thursday, March 30
• +Carmen Debono

Friday, March 31
• +Violet & Angelo Saliba
• +Richard Jankowski

Sunday, March 26, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year A

MASS INTENTIONS

From the Desk of Fr. Roy...



Easter's almost here, can you believe it? We probably didn't stick to all our Lenten promises and resolutions. Don't get discouraged. We start over and ask the Lord to keep us going for the rest of Lent.

As we prepare for our Lenten Mission, (evenings of March 29th, 30th and 31st I invite you to reflect on the people who mean the most to us and the relationships we hold most dear. Maybe this season is the right time to think about our families and how we can be more prayerful, not just over Lent but all year.

One of the real graces of Lent has to do with forgiveness and reconciliation – mercy and healing. It's never just between me and Jesus. It's always about my family and how we relate to each other. What do we need to be healed from? What patterns that we have need our reflections and common family choices and actions?

In the evening, make an examination of conscience and then pray a prayer of faith, hope, and charity.

Prayers you can use or adapt below:

Act of Faith: My God, I believe in you and I hope in you. I love you above all things, with all my soul, with all my heart and with all my strength. I love you because you are infinitely good and worthy of being loved.

Because I love you, I repent with till my heart of having offended you. Have mercy on me, a sinner. Amen.

Act of Hope: My God, I believe in you and I hope in you. Because of your infinite goodness and kindness, I hope for everlasting life, patience in my sufferings, and, above all, your gentle and guiding hand, leading me to everlasting peace and joy. Amen.

Act of Charity: O my Jesus, you who are love, enkindle in my heart that divine fire which consumes the saints and transforms them. Fill up that which is lacking in me and form me each day more and more into your divine image. Help me to love and serve my brothers and sisters and to recognize in them your loving presence. Amen.

You can go to confession in both English and Maltese on the evenings of March 29th and 30th between 6 and 7 pm. Going to confession helps you be spiritually ready for Easter. Going to Confession can be a profoundly spiritual experience, with many blessings and graces to be found.

Gospel Summary

In this Gospel, John tells the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. The story is significant because it is likely that his action was his last miracle before Jesus began the journey toward his own death. Jesus was called to Bethany to save his friend, but instead waited several days to return. This action confused Lazarus' sisters, Mary and Martha, because they knew that Jesus could have healed their brother. Jesus used the incident to strengthen the faith of Mary, Martha, and all who believed. He made sure that Lazarus was raised from death so that the people could witness God's glory.

Reflection for Families

The healing power of Jesus brings new life to all of us. Are there some things in our lives that cause us to die to others? Perhaps we are impatient, ungrateful, critical, or quick to anger. Maybe we're proud, boastful, or envious. Jesus promises us new life if we trust in him and allow our actions to follow his ways.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

If there are members of your extended family who have died, share with one another what this passage might mean for them. What hope does the reading give us for ourselves and for our loved ones? How does new life that we can see this spring help us know what Jesus promised? As you did last week, bring some symbols of God's promise to your prayer table.

Discussion Starters

1. The best example I saw of the new life Jesus promises was...
2. Like Mary and Martha, my faith was strengthened when...
3. This story brings me hope because...

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STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION In today's Gospel we encounter Jesus healing a man who was born blind. In all of the Bible, this is the only healing of a man blind since birth, whereas other healings were of temporary blindness. The uniqueness of this great mystery offers us the ability to richly reflect on what it means to be good stewards of Christ. Firstly, while the man was healed of his physical sight, the more remarkable miracle was his ability to grasp Jesus' true identity. When Jesus reveals to him that He is the Son of Man, the blind man boldly responds, "Lord, I believe." The blind man did not come to this realization on his own, but it was the Lord's working in his life that led him to this change of heart. So too in all of us, it is the Lord and His grace that brings about our interior conversion. We must never fall into the temptation that our faith and charity is the result of our own strength or abilities. After the blind man's encounter, it says "he worshipped Him." As good stewards we should seek to imitate his example, falling down in thanksgiving and adoration for all of the grace and gifts the Lord has poured into our lives. Let us take a moment today to praise God most especially for the gifts of our Catholic faith and the Church.

In the Gospel Jesus performs a two-fold miracle of healing a man of his physical blindness and his spiritual blindness. So too in all of us, it is the Lord and His grace that brings about the miracle of our interior conversion. Let us imitate the cured blind man and fall at the feet of Jesus and thank Him for the gifts and graces He has poured into our lives.

VOCATION REFLECTION "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" Do you believe that your plan is God's plan? 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
www.vocationstoronto.ca

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS! We are delighted to welcome you to our parish community. Please take a look at our website, stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org, where you can register as a member of the parish. The registration page can be found by clicking on 'Contact Us' and selecting 'Register' in the drop down menu. You can also register or update your information by filling out the forms found at the back of the church and the parish office.

Both **Sunday Offering Envelopes** as well as a digital **Authorized Giving Program** (direct deposit donation) are available to you as a means of helping to meet the needs of the church. For more information please contact the Parish Office during office hours; Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 5:30 pm.



EASTER LILLIES will be accepted during the week of April 3rd to the 6th to be used for our Easter Triduum liturgies.

Donations for flowers will also be accepted.

Let us make our church beautiful:
Jesus deserves the best!



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

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

This weekend is ShareLife Sunday ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection for our parish's annual campaign. In the words of Cardinal Collins: "Vulnerable members of our community are relying on you and me to ensure ongoing access to the care they so desperately need. This is why it's crucial we meet our parish campaign goal. Our goal can be met, but only if we each do our part." Our parish goal this year is \$10,100. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

During this past week, we had the funerals of **Rosemarie Micallef** and **Giulio Cassar**.

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



SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

March 25th



Most glorious and ever-virgin Mary, when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to you to announce the coming of God within your virginal womb, you inquired with humility how this could be. The Archangel spoke further, and you assented to this divine mystery with all your heart. Please pray for me, that I may always consent to the will of God in my life so that your divine Son may also be conceived in my soul to continue His saving work of redemption. Mother Mary, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.