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email: [stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org](mailto:stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org)  
 Website: [www.stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org](http://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:**  
 Bilingual Mass at 9:15 am (Maltese/English)  
 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, April 29**

*St. Catherine of Siena*

**5:30pm**

- +Edward Caruana

**Sunday, April 30**

**9:00am**

- +Luigi Ricchiuto

**10:30am**

- +Natalino & Rosa Taliana
- +Charlie & Albert Taliana
- +Silvana Dewe & Grace Bugeja
- +Emanuela Micallef & Joseph Bugeja
- +Tony Axiak
- +Doris Pereira
- +Joe & Apolonia Farrugia
- +Michael Howard

**12:00 noon**

- Missa Pro Populo

**Monday, May 1**

*St. Joseph the Worker*

- +Joseph Farrugia

**Tuesday, May 2**

*St. Athanasius*

- +Maria Mendonca & Antonio Da Silva

**Wednesday, May 3**

*St. Philip & James*

- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass
- +Doris Micallef

**Thursday, May 4**

**Friday, May 5**

- +Emanuel Sammut & Grech Family

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Sunday, April 30, 2023**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter - Year A**



## From the Desk of Fr. Roy...



This weekend, known as “Good Shepherd Sunday” has been set aside by the Catholic Church to pray for vocations around the world. Let us recall the words of the Risen Jesus in the Gospel of St. Matthew: “The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; pray to the Lord of the harvest to send more laborers to His vineyard.”

By being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, we are called to show our love and reverence to God by engaging in multiple ministries, including priesthood, diaconate, religious life, and single life.

We must beseech the Lord of the harvest to dispatch laborers as a faith-filled community.

Guided by the example of our patron St. It is our duty to both pray and support those who have been appointed to specific roles.

An article by Joseph Vorstemans that I found gave me a deeper understanding of vocation and how to apply it in today's world. Here is a passage which merits considerable reflection.

“We have all been asked the question, “So what are you going to be when you grow up?” We usually answer, “I want to be a teacher, a parent, a doctor, a religious, a plumber, a nurse, etc.!” But that response really answers, “What do we want to do?”

I and not “What do we want to be?” When we tell people which profession of trade we are interested in, we are telling them about a career choice. Our vocation is another thing.”

“The gospels do not tell us about Jesus’ career – he was a carpenter - but they speak clearly about Jesus’ vocation. He was the beloved child of God, sent to bring good news to everyone and to lay down his life for others. His vocation was to love with all his heart, mind and strength. This is our vocation too. Our vocation is how we live our careers. Being a teacher, plumber, nun, priest, salesperson is one choice. Being a kind gentle, compassionate teacher, plumber, nun, priest, salesperson is more significant choice.”

“God is not so much calling us to do what Jesus did but to be like he was. Jesus expresses his vocation succinctly at the Last Supper when he says, “Love | one another, as I have loved you!” What we most I want to be remembered for is how kind, patient, loving and compassionate we were. Every career gives us an opportunity to be those things. The world becomes a more loving place when we live our vocation like Jesus.”

We should strive to live faithfully under the commands of the gospel devotedly serving the Lord and our neighbor.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** Imitating the Good Shepherd “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures.” These are the beautiful opening verses of Psalm 23 which describes God as a shepherd taking care of His people. One attribute of shepherds that is especially poignant is how hard they labour for the good of their flock. Faithful shepherds will journey with their flock, seek out the lost sheep and defend them from any ravaging predators. Jesus does this as well, labouring for us so that we may reach our eternal home where we will rest in His love. As Christians we are called to imitate Christ in all things including being a shepherd. We too should labour for others, putting their needs before our own. To be a shepherd is essentially to be a good steward. As stewards, we offer ourselves and our gifts for the good of others, especially our parish communities. Let us labour for Christ and His Church in thanksgiving for how he labours for us. One practice we can adopt, especially on this world day of prayer for vocations, is to encourage and pray daily for an increase in vocations to priesthood and religious life. Cardinal Collins in his Pastoral Letter on Stewardship\* says that “stewardship parishes report an ... increase in religious and priestly vocations.” Let us play our part as stewards and begin to share our gifts for the good of the Church.

Faithful shepherds labour for their flock by journeying with them, seeking out the lost sheep and defending them from any ravaging predators. As Christians we are called to imitate Christ in all things including being a shepherd, which means we too should labour for others, putting their needs before our own. Let us labour for Christ and His Church in thanksgiving for how he labours for us.

*Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.*

### Gospel Summary

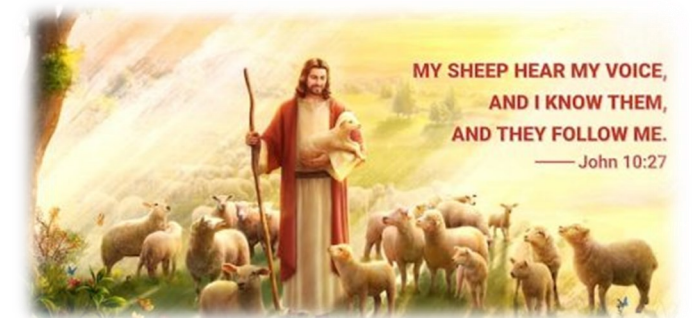
Using the image of shepherd and sheep, Jesus made an analogy for us to listen to the voice of God. Sometimes we are distracted by other voices that Jesus called "thieves." These thieves rob us of our desire to follow Jesus. True sheep, however, know the voice of the shepherd. The shepherd provides safety and life for the sheep age.

### Reflection for Families

Imagine your child wandering off in a crowd of strangers - perhaps at an amusement park or a shopping mall. After an anxious period of separation, your child hears your voice above all the others calling out his or her name. The relief and joy your child would feel is the same emotion Jesus promises us when we follow his voice. The thieves that separate us from our children are not necessarily people. Sometimes we allow thieves of busyness, work priorities or even social engagements to steal control of our lives. This Gospel reminds us it is better to listen to the trusted voice of the Good Shepherd.

### Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Think of a person or group of people your family knows who needs to be "shepherded" (or cared for). Decide on an action you can all do together to help this person. When you have completed the service, talk over with one another how your family's "shepherding" was similar to the shepherding Jesus talked about in today's Gospel. Consider whether or not your service shepherded your own family as well.



### Discussion Starters

1. I know Jesus cares for me because . . .
2. As a family we shepherd one another by . . .
3. Some thieves in my life are . . .

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**VOCATION REFLECTION** The Good Shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them. Is He asking you to help others to find Him? Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life, especially for our archdiocese, that God will raise up good shepherds in our midst. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)

Website: [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

**FR. ROY IS SEEKING** parishioners to serve on the Parish Finance Council. Parish Finance Council members serve a three-year term and provide counsel to the pastor on matters related to parish financials. The Finance Council is an advisory body that meets 4-6 times per year to review financial reports, provide suggestions and recommendations to the pastor, and vote annually on the budgets for the parish. Candidates for the Finance Council should have experience reviewing financial reports and an understanding of accounting principles; however, members are not required to be accountants to serve on the Council.

Interested parishioners are invited to speak to Fr. Roy explaining why they would like to serve on the Finance Council. Please consider sharing your gifts and talents with our parish family!

ShareLife

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April 30 | June 4

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