

2A3	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	
5	Saturday, May 27 St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop	
	5:30pm+Doris Micallef	M
8	Sunday, May 28 Pentecost Sunday 9:00am	AASS
1	Missa Pro Populo10:30am	Ę
	 +Frank 'Cikku' Zammit +Tony Axiak +Natalino & Rosa Taliana 	THE
	 +Charlie, Albert & Anthony Taliana +Silvana Dewe & Grace Bugeja +Emanuela Micallef & Joseph Bugeja 	INTENTIONS
1	 +Joe & Apolonia Farrugia 12:00 noon ***No 12 noon Mass this weekend*** 	ONS
	Monday, May 29 Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church • +Carmela Galea	
200	Tuesday, May 30• +Eda & Sam Sciberras	
ling.	 Wednesday, May 31 The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass +Josie Cauchi 	
	Thursday, June 1St. Justin, Martyr• +Paul Delicata	Con and and and and and and and and and an
is not a	Friday, June 2 Sts. Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs	
e. It is a	Sunday, May 28, 2023 Pentecost Sunday - Year A	5/0
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From the Desk of Fr. Roy...



At Pentecost Sunday 2,000 years ago, the Holy Spirit was given to 120 believers who had gathered to receive the promised gift!

St. John explains, "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate to be with you forever, the Spirit of truth. The world cannot receive Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you do know Him, for He abides with you and will be in you."

Most recognize this day as the Birthday of the Church as the Word of God was powerfully preached by Peter. Following this message, the Bible tells us that over 3,000

were added to the church in one day!

Peter was transformed after the Resurrection, and then after being filled with the Spirit on Pentecost.

Pentecost isn't just about remembering a "historical event" every year. Every believer can tap into the Holy Spirit's power by asking God for it, and live a victorious life.

The enemy tried to scare and get rid of the Church from the start, but the persecution just caused it to grow even more.

Pentecost marks the end of the Easter Season with the celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the infant Church. Although the work of the Holy Spirit had been evident before then, Pentecost

marked his coming in a new and powerful way. The apostles changed from a timid group to a strong and enthusiastic group ready to share Jesus with everyone.

The Church is the Temple of the Holy Spirit, who directs and strengthens the Church. He comes to everyone who's been baptized, not just the ordained. We have different parts to play and unique talents, but it's all from the same Spirit. This is not done to benefit us, but to strengthen the Church.



On the day of Pentecost, let us request guidance on how to use our abilities and gifts, and then the courage to meet our commitments.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: Being Strengthened by the Spirit Today we celebrate Pentecost Sunday which is called by many as the birthday of the Church. Let us take some time to reflect on the Holy Spirit in our lives as stewards. Firstly, we should never fail to marvel at the fact that starting with 11 lowly men 2000 years ago, the Catholic Church still continues to this day and the name of Jesus is praised and adored all over the world. This is the powe0r of the Holy Spirit. From a human standpoint, the church should have failed centuries ago if it were not sustained by the Spirit. This should inspire us as stewards to rely on the Holy Spirit to guide all of our actions. Moreover, in today's second reading from Corinthians, St. Paul says that "there are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit ... [and] to each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." Each of us as stewards have particular gifts and talents from the Spirit that are not to be hoarded but generously used for the "common good" of the Church. We should all take time to reflect on what particular way is God calling us to serve Him. None of us are exempt from this call for St. Paul explains that we are all to work for the good of the Church in our own ways. Let us pray this week for a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit into our lives. May the same Spirit that has birthed the Church and guided her through the millennium continue to raise up great stewards to continue to carry out the great commission of Christ in all the world.

In today's second reading from Corinthians, St. Paul says that "there are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit ... [and] to each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." Each of us as stewards have particular gifts and talents from the Spirit that are not to be hoarded but generously used for the "common good" of the Church. We should all take time to reflect on what those gifts are and in what particular way is God calling us to serve Him and the Church.

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.

Gospel Summary

Because we are celebrating the sending down of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, you may want to also consider the second reading for 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13. In this reading Paul helps us understand the Gifts of the Spirit. There are many gifts of the Spirit, Paul explained, although they all come from one God. The Spirit comes to each of us that we may use our gifts to work for goodness. Even though we each have a variety of gifts, together we can use them for the glory of God.

Reflection for Families

This reading is like the person who got tired of hearing the same excuse: "I'm too busy." We all are given the same 24 hours each day and each one of us chooses how to spend them. Of course we have responsibilities and there are probably things we would rather do, but even so, we determine how we will fill our time. It is the same with gifts. Through the Spirit we are all given gifts and it is up to us how and for whom we will use them. It is our diversity that binds us together as children of God, each one of us using our gifts for the good of all.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Sketch a simple figure of a body and call it by your family name. Label parts of the body such as ears, eyes, hands, feet, etc. and consider which members of the family are those parts of the whole body. For example, who is a good listener? Whose eyes are good a finding lost items? Who helps out at home doing extra chores, and who walks the dog? Certainly more than one person can claim a part. When you are finished, you will marvel at how many gifts you have together as a family.

Discussion Starters

- 1. One of the strongest gifts we have as a family is . . .

2. I have seen the Holy Spirit at work in our community when . . . 3. Like the apostles, I have felt abandoned before, but my "Pentecost" came when... Reprinted courtesy of RCL Benziger, a Kendall Hunt company. All rights reserved.

ShareLife Sunday Collection **SL** ShareLife June 4

Pentecost Sunday

The Parish is pleased to announce that His Grace, Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto, appointed Mr. Raymond Frendo to serve our community as Permanent Deacon. His appointment began as of May 1st, 2023. Deacon Ray returns to be with the Maltese-Canadian community after having served as a Lay Pastoral Minister over 25 years ago. The Parish welcomes his return as he now serves through his ordination as a Permanent Deacon. Please keep Deacon Ray, his wife Teresa and family in your prayers, as their journey of faith at St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Church continues.

ShareLife-funded agencies turn no one away Did you know that no one is turned away from ShareLife-funded agencies due to inability to pay? This is all thanks to your generosity to our annual appeal. It is through your support that ShareLife agencies are able to help the most vulnerable in our community and around the world. Thus far we have raised \$2,390.00 toward our goal of \$10,100.00. Our third and final collection is next Sunday (June 4th). Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope provided, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

VOCATION REFLECTION "Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love." Send forth workers into your vineyard. If God is calling you to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

WELCOME **DEACON RAYMOND FRENDO**

