

#### **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..

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NTENTIO

#### Saturday, June 3

St. Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs 5:30pm

+Doris Micallef

#### Sunday, June 4

The Most Holv Trinity 9:00am

+Rita Caruana

#### 10:30am

- +Emanuel, Carmela & Tessie Psaila
- +Carmel & Edmond Scicluna

+Giovanni, Rose, Catherine & Joseph Ellul

12:00 noon Missa Pro Populo

Monday, June 5 St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr +Nina, Carmenu & Salvu Schembri

+Carmenu Grech

#### **Tuesday**, June 6 St. Norbert, Bishop

Wednesday, June 7 +Anthony & John Sultana

Thursday, June 8

Friday, June 9 St. Ephrem, Deacon & Doctor of the Church

> Sunday, June 4, 2023 The Most Holy Trinity - Year A

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



On the weekend, I will present my ideas regarding the Most Holy Trinity. Despite the mystery of the Trinity, we can still communicate certain ideas about it.

When we cross ourselves, we do it partly for protection. We do it also as an act of faith. We do it to express who God is to us. The Church professes that the nature of God is triune-the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit—who are all equal and distinct.

How do we do we know about the Trinity? The only way we could know about the Trinity was that it was revealed to us by Jesus, who claimed to be the Son of God. We

accept it because it was revealed through Sacred Scripture.

Some might argue that the doctrine of the Trinity was not defined until the fourth century. That is true. The Church had been teaching this doctrine long before it was officially defined.

When you get baptized, the Trinity lives in your soul.

When we truly believe God lives in us, we can change our lives, even with our problems.

What else can we say about the Trinity? The Trinity is about a community of life, Father, Son and Holy Spirit... and that we all exist in relationship to others. Just think about the best experiences of your life?

I think we all would agree that they were experiences you had with a spouse, a friend, a parent, or someone else who had a special place in your life. Conversely, the worst times in our lives have probably been the ones when we felt alone, abandoned. We need to be in relationship with others because we are made in the image and likeness of a God that is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Every time we strive to reach out for companionship gives indirect testimony to the Trinity.



It is important to remember that, when things get hard or we feel like we cannot handle any more, God is present as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. When we are connected to God, we are also connected to one another.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** This Sunday we celebrate the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity which is the "central mystery of Christian faith and life" (CCC 234). While the Trinity is a mystery our mind will never fully grasp we can still glean much spiritual fruit through prayerful reflection. Firstly, we must remember that God is Love (1 John 4:16). In order for God to be Love itself, it stands to reason that He is "one but not solitary" (CCC 254). This is because love requires a lover and a beloved. It is within the Trinity that an eternal exchange of Love exists. St. Augustine describes in his treaty "On the Trinity" that the Father and the Son eternally look at each other with pure Love, and this unadulterated love is the Holy Spirit, existing for all ages. Hence, through reflecting on this mystery we come to understand the immense importance of community and the sharing of love. As stewards, we are called to imitate this divine life of the Trinity. We can do this by living with our brothers and sisters and fellow parishioners in a community of love. Love requires sacrifice and is expressed not just in words but in deeds (1 John 3:18). So let us offer up our time and talents for the good of our parish and the Church. If we strive to create this community of love, we can take great consolation in knowing that we are abiding in the Trinity, for St. John says "whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him" (1 John 4:16).

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Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.

## **Gospel Summary**

Mark describes for his community the words and actions of Jesus at the Last Supper. Scholars believe that the words are more an attempt on Mark's part to help his early Christian community understand the Eucharist than they are the actual words spoken by Jesus. Still they help us understand that Jesus was leaving the physical company of the apostles, and he gave them a way of remembering him through bread and wine, his body and blood.

## **Reflection for Families**

Much of this reading is about sharing a meal with those we love. In today's crazy world, with all the ways we run our children and ourselves ragged, one of our greatest priorities should be mealtime. Make this a time of day when family members feel safe to share their dreams, joys, and struggles of the day. As often as possible, allow enough time so that the meal is not rushed. Try to have all members together at least for one meal each day. Even special touches such as flowers, soft music or lit candles help create an atmosphere that encourages fellowship.

## **Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family**

Most families have lost loved ones, relatives, or close friends in death. Consider who some of these people are in your family's experience and share ways that you still remember that person. Perhaps you have photographs, some of their belongings, or beautiful memories. Make a connection to these memories and the memory Jesus left with his disciples and us. Allow each person to suggest ways he/ she experiences Jesus' presence today.

### **Discussion Starters**

- 1. Meals are a special time people share with one another. My favorite meal to share is...
- 2. Jesus gave up his life for me. Someone else who makes sacrifices for me is...
- 3. As part of the Body of Christ, I share what he gave by...

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## SL ShareLife Show your love for others by giving on ShareLife Sunday

Today's Gospel talks about God's love for us that he gave us his only Son for us to be saved through his life and sacrifice. We are called to live by this love and faithfulness. Your generous contributions speak of love for others and allow ShareLife agencies take care of those in most need.

Today is also the third ShareLife Sunday of the year. If you have not yet donated, you may give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

Thank you for your generosity and for living the Gospel by giving to ShareLife!

## **VOCATION REFLECTION** "God so loved

the world that he gave his only-begotten Son ... " How can you best serve God in a response to that love? If God is calling you to the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

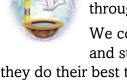
vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca



This weekend we welcomed Bentley & Finley Camilleri, and Elisa & Carlo Di Bernardo who joined our Christian Community through the Sacrament of Baptism.

We congratulate these two families, and support them with our prayers, as

they do their best to help their children grow into mature Christians.



A WHITE ROSE FOR DAD



To pay tribute to our fathers who are deceased, we will be recording their names in our Remembrance Book, beginning this coming weekend. Volunteers will be at the back of the church to assist with this task.

Then on the weekend of Father's Day, which will be celebrated on June 17th/18th, white roses will be put next to the Remembrance Book close to the altar. We kindly ask for an amount of \$5.00 to cover the cost of purchasing the flowers