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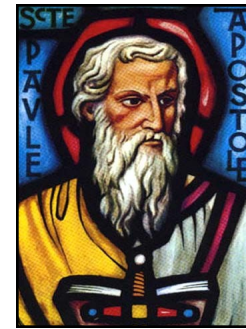
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St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

3224 Dundas Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 2A3

Tel 416-767-7054

Email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastoral Team

Fr. Roy Francis Farrell
Administrator
 Deacon Raymond Frendo
Permanent Deacon

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily morning Mass:
 Maltese/English at 9:15 am:
 Mon., Wed. & Fri.
 English at 9:15 am.:
 Tues. & Thurs.

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 5:30 pm (English)
 Sunday: 9:00 am (English)
 10:30 am
 (Maltese/English)
 12:00 Noon (English)

Secretary

Mrs. Rita Apalit

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
 9:00 am to 4:30 pm,
 (Priest is always available by appointment)

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Please contact the priests. Baptisms are held on the first Saturday of the month at 10:30 am

Marriages: Contact the priest one year in advance of the wedding. A marriage preparation course is mandatory.

Gospel Summary

A Canaanite woman approached Jesus as a petitioner asking Jesus to heal her daughter. At first Jesus put her off by implying that she was not part of the salvation plan. She determined that she was and through her faith and recognition of Jesus as Lord knew that he could heal her daughter. Because of her great and persistent faith, Jesus healed the girl.

Reflection for Families

Sometimes we don't hear our children the first time they tell us something. Maybe we're distracted or we just "tune them out." These are important years to listen carefully to our children. Their faith and trust in us is demonstrated by the conversations they seek.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Share stories about people of other religions who are experiencing troubling times in their lives. You may find stories in the newspaper or news magazines, or learn about them from other media. Try to imagine a family of that faith looking, caring and acting much like your own family. Share ideas about what they might be saying to each other, what they might be feeling, fearing, thinking, or praying.

Discussion Starters

1. I once saw someone demonstrate faith as deep as the mother's faith in today's Gospel when . . .
2. I was touched once by someone's faith that was different from mine when . . .
3. A time I prayed to God with the same faith of the woman in today's Gospel was when...

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 19

5:30pm

- +Richard Bielecki

Sunday, August 20

9:00am

- +Carmen Muscat

10:30am

- +Joseph Farrugia
- +Nenu Dingli & Dun Angelo Camilleri
- +Frank Cini
- +Emanuel, Carmela, & Tessie Psaila
- +Emmanuel Sammut & Sammut Family

12:00 noon

- +Suzanne Camilleri
- +Maria Fenech

Monday, August 21

St. Pius X, Pope

- +Frank Xerri

Tuesday, August 22

The Queenship of the Bl. Virgin Mary

- +George Zahra & Henry Mercieca

Wednesday, August 23

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Thursday, August 24

St. Bartholomew, Apostle

- +Mary Cristina

Friday, August 25

- +Paul Delicata

**August 20
2023**

From the Desk of Fr. Roy...



Each day, God presents us with many opportunities to offer our prayers to those who are in need. Every day appears to bring with it more praises to be grateful for and more struggles to overcome.

I got to thinking about the privileges of prayer. First, we are privileged to have a God who invites us at all times and in all situations to come with confidence in prayer. Psalm 17:6 says, "I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer." When we listen with heart and mind, we will hear God speak. God may speak through scripture, through another person, through a 'still small voice' within, but God will indeed speak.

The Bible reminds us that God is truly eager to hear our petitions, and that He welcomes our prayers of thanksgiving.

We are extremely fortunate to have received a second blessing, which is the incredible opportunity to offer our prayers for others. I came across these words the other day in my prayer book, "Nothing draws us closer to other people than praying for them." Requesting God's intervention in one's life is an incredible privilege that is difficult to express in words. Answered prayers bring unmatched joy.

Have you ever been when someone shared their troubles with you and you offered to pray for them? When was the last time this happened to you? My hunch is that it comes fairly often. It's a privilege and a responsibility.

We need to be persistent in our prayers. I try to keep a list of those for whom I am in prayer.

The list reminds me to pray specifically for them and track answered prayers.

As Catholics, we bring our prayers to Christ through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

On Tuesday, the church celebrates the memorial of the Queenship of Mary. It was proclaimed by Pope Pius XII in 1954. The Church gave us this memorial because people have continuously addressed prayers of petition and hymns of praise to Mary.

The Church turned to Mary, the Heavenly Queen, as a beacon of hope and safety in the destruction's wake of World War II. Christians have long held that God gave a special grace to the Blessed Virgin Mary. And when Christians reflected upon the special connection between a mother and a son, they acknowledged the supreme dignity of the Mother of God."

Let us humbly offer our petitions to Mary, the Queen of all creation, as we contemplate the privilege of prayer, relying on her intercession before her divine Son.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION Throughout the readings on this 20th Sunday in Ordinary time, we are reminded of the fact that God's love and mercy is for all of humanity, and it is not reserved just for a certain group of people. When God looks at humanity, He offers to each person an invitation to experience His love and mercy. When the Lord speaks to the prophet Isaiah in the first reading, the Lord tells Isaiah that even foreigners who join themselves to the Lord will be brought to God's holy mountain, or in other words to God's presence. This message seems to be different than what we encounter in today's Gospel, however when we look closer we see that the gospel further illustrates God's desire to bring mercy to all. Although Jesus seemed to be initially hesitant to do what the Canaanite woman asks, the woman demonstrates that she had faith in Jesus as the Son of God, who would be able to do what she asked even if Jesus did come to the Israelites first. When God invites all people to experience His love and mercy, there is one prerequisite, and that is faith in Jesus Christ. When Jesus seemed to turn away the woman who came to Him for her daughter's healing, Jesus tests her faith, and it was the woman's faith that healed her daughter. As we strive to live a life of stewardship, do we feel the same burden God feels, of wanting everyone to experience the love and mercy of God? When we go to Mass or speak to people in our lives, are we instruments of God's love reaching out to others, or do we hinder God's love to touch the lives of everyone we meet. Just as God wishes for everyone to be embraced by His love, God gives us the responsibility to bring people to him. As you reflect on this, God may place the name of people in your heart who may need the love and mercy of God. Let us reach out to these people, and invite them in some way, either to a bible study, or back to Mass if they haven't been in a long time. Let us be stewards of God's love.

God's love and mercy is for more than just Christians. It is extended to all of humanity for God loves all His creation. However, to truly be able to experience this love, we need to have faith in His Son, Jesus Christ, and through this faith we will be healed just as the Canaanite woman was healed in the Gospel. As stewards, we are called to be the hands of Christ, extending God's love and mercy to all.

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.

VOCATION REFLECTION "Woman, great is your faith!" It takes faith to hear God's call in our lives and sometimes it may not be what we expect. Is God calling you to life as priest, deacon, sister or brother?

Contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

CATECHISM CLASSES

Registrations for First Holy Communion and Confirmation classes are now open. Please take the appropriate form from the back of the church, or download it from our parish website: stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org



Please return completed forms to the parish office. Those who have register will receive all relevant information from our catechists.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

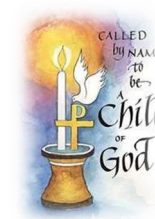


Thinking of becoming Catholic, or are you a Catholic in need of Holy Communion or Confirmation?

Registration is now open. If you are interested in joining the program, please contact the rectory during office hours, and speak with Fr. Roy. You may also email Fr. Roy at fr.roy@rogers.com

The **ARCHDIOCESAN MISSION COOPERATIVE PROGRAM** has a significant responsibility in linking the parishes within the Archdiocese of Toronto to the Catholic Church in other regions of the globe. Next weekend, our church will extend a warm welcome to Fr. Francis Salasiar, a Holy Cross priest from India who is currently serving as the pastor at St. Anne's Church. He will preach at all the Masses for the **weekend of August 26th and 27th**.

There will be a special collection on the weekend of September 2nd and 3rd. Envelopes will be provided. We kindly request that you consider giving generously to aid our fellow brothers and sisters who are in need. Thank you!



Last weekend we welcomed **Jasper John Robinson & Carter Lennox Robinson, Victoria Robin Kovacs, George Russell Debono and Lorenzo George Berardi**, who joined our Christian Community through the sacrament of Baptism.

We congratulate their families, and support them with our prayers, as they do their best to help their children grow into mature Christians.

During this past week we had the funeral of **Vincenza 'Jessie' Darmanin**.

As a community of faith, we keep her in our prayers so that God will give her eternal peace with Him.

We also continue to pray for her family and loved ones, to find consolation and peace in their hearts.

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light



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St Paul the Apostle Church

93rd Anniversary

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on
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Dance to the music of a DJ

Price: Adults - \$50 per person
Children (5-12) - \$20 per person
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at 416-762-1891

Bookings and payment must be made
by Sunday, September 24th.