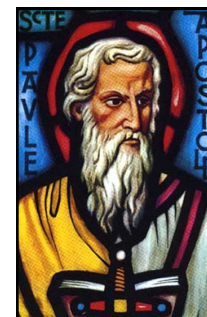


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St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

**3224 Dundas Street West,
 Toronto, Ontario M6P 2A3
 Tel 416-767-7054**

Email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Summary

Using a parable, Jesus got the Jewish leaders to admit their error. He described a vineyard owner (God) who sent slaves (prophets) to collect his share of the harvest from the tenants (Jewish leaders). But the tenants killed the slaves. The landowner sent more slaves, but the tenants killed them, too. Finally the owner sent his son (Jesus). Of course, they killed the son. Jesus summarized his point by telling the chief priests and elders that what they had rejected (their place in the kingdom) would now be given to the Gentiles.

Reflection for Families

God has given us a great harvest in our children. The harvest may not be perfect or a bumper crop in all ways, but nevertheless, the harvest is a precious gift from God. Like the greedy tenants, there are things in our lives that would take us away from our responsibilities to our children. What are the things we give in to and how have we justified their interference? Perhaps it is our job. Of course, we need to support our families, but is our lifestyle worth a trade-off in the amount of time we spend with our children? Do our friends, hobbies, ambitions sometimes get in the way of family time? Today's gospel challenges us to appreciate the fruits of our harvest.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Go through your child(ren)'s photos from the time they were born (or joined your family) until the present. Share memories and notice how they have grown in so many ways. Reflect together on how they are good fruit and what their gifts are. Share with one another how these gifts help bring about the Kingdom of God while we are still here on earth. Are there any changes family members can suggest for themselves that will further enrich the harvest? How can we be better fruits for the Kingdom of God?

Discussion Starters

1. I think this reading is really saying to me...
2. The greatest thing I have accomplished in my life is... I think (or don't think) God would agree with or like this great accomplishment because...
3. Sometimes I spend a lot of my energy on things that do not bring about the Kingdom of God, like...

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Visit Our Website!!

You can register for Sacraments, become a member of our parish community, get information on upcoming events, and much more. Visit our website at stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org or simply scan the QR code below.



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Pastoral Team
 Fr. Roy Francis Farrell
 Pastor
 Deacon Raymond Frendo
 Permanent Deacon

MASS SCHEDULE
Daily morning Mass:
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday
 9:15am (Maltese/English)
 Tuesday & Thursday
 9:15am (English)

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

Secretary
 Mrs. Rita Apalit

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

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

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 First Friday: 8:40am to 9:10am
 Saturdays: 4:45pm to 5:15pm
 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.

**October 8
 2023**

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 7
5:30pm
Our Lady of the Rosary
 • +Vincenza Darmanin

Sunday, October 8
9:00am
 • +Rita Caruana

10:30am
 • +Doris & George Borg
 • +Joseph Farrugia
 • +Doris Portelli
 • +All Souls in Purgatory

12:00 noon
 • Missa Pro Populo

Monday, October 9

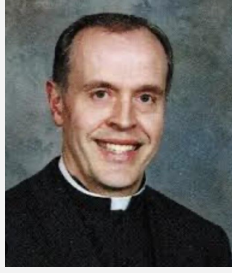
Tuesday, October 10

Wednesday, October 11

Thursday, October 12
 • +Eugenio Sturino, Mariano & Amalia Stellato

Friday, October 13
 • +Frank, Mary & Francis Buttigieg

From our Pastor's Desk...



I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for your support and prayers since I arrived at this parish on January 6th. It has been a blessing to serve you and to witness your faith and generosity.

When I met with the priest at the priest personnel office, he said, "Father, I have a mission for you." I had no idea what he meant by that. He then asked me to consider going to St. Paul's Church. I never hesitated. I had some previous connection with St. Paul's Church when I first arrived in Toronto. I joined a vocation group led by Fr.

Jimmy Zammit. Many of the participants were Maltese. That was my first introduction to St. Paul's and the Maltese culture. Over the years, I have forged close relationships with Maltese people and have always been struck by their giftedness and hospitality.

It is a real joy and pleasure to be in this parish. I am honoured and humbled to be your pastor. I look forward to celebrating my installation with you and to continuing our journey of faith together. I ask for your continued support and prayers, and I assure you of mine.

I want to thank the Social Committee from the bottom of my heart for putting on such a successful and enjoyable dinner and dance this past weekend. It was a fantastic night that raised \$4561.43 for our parish. I wish to acknowledge all who supported this parish event.

Your hard work and efforts were evident in every detail of the event, from the delicious food to the lively entertainment. The amazing dancers who showed off their skills and enthusiasm especially impressed me. Even Fr. Massino and the two seminarians joined in the fun and praised your dancing skills. While I admit to having two left feet, watching and cheering were a blast for me.

Your dedication to the parish is exemplary and your zest for life is contagious. You are a beautiful witness to the Catholic faith and to the spirit of community. Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents with us and for making this event a memorable one.

thank
you

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION "In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." These are the words from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians that we hear in today's second reading. Elsewhere in his letter to the Thessalonians he says "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." St. Paul is urging us to pray in all circumstances and at all times. But is it really feasible for us to pray at all times? While we may not be able to spend every moment praying in the chapel, we can still pray ceaselessly by offering up all of our acts as a prayer to God. St. Josemaria Escriva says that "You can be sure that it is through the circumstances of ordinary life, ordained or permitted by the infinite wisdom of divine Providence, that we come close to God ... To this I now add that your work too must become a personal prayer, that it must become a real conversation with Our Father in heaven" As stewards, we can pray and be in union with God through our professional work as well as our charitable works for the parish community. If we offer up these moments of work to God as a means to commune with Him, we will begin to live out St. Paul's exhortation to pray ceaselessly. Let us strive to never forget the dignity and value of our work as stewards of Christ.

In today's second reading St. Paul urges us to pray ceaselessly in all circumstances. While we may not be able to spend every moment in the chapel, we can still pray ceaselessly by offering up all of our acts as a prayer to God. Let us strive to intentionally realize the dignity of our professional work, and our work as stewards, as a means to be in communion with God.



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:

<https://stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org>

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

Alternatively, scan the appropriate QR code, which will enable you to register your child for the Sacrament online.

First Holy Communion



Confirmation



Welcome to St. Paul's! Whether you are new or just visiting, we are delighted to have you join us for worship every Sunday. If you would like to become a member of

our parish, please register on our website at <https://stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/parish-registration>, or fill out the form at the back of the church. Don't hesitate to introduce yourself to our parish staff and let us know how we can help you grow in your faith. We also invite you to get involved in any of our ministries. Just speak to Fr. Roy or contact the parish office for more information.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.
1 Chronicles 29:13

Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day as we bow our heads to pray, we give You thanks and praise Your glorious name. We thank You, Lord, for family and friends and all the blessings that come from above. We love You, Lord, in Jesus' Name, Amen.



Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your initiation into the Catholic Church? If so, we have a wonderful opportunity for you. This Saturday, October 7th, we began our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program. RCIA is a process of learning, growing, and sharing in the Catholic faith. It is designed for:

- Adults who were never baptized and want to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.
- Baptized Christians from other denominations who wish to join the Catholic Church and receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.
- Baptized Catholics who did not receive the sacraments of First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation and want to complete their initiation.

RCIA sessions will be held in the parish rectory on Saturdays from 9:15 am to 10:30 am. You will have the chance to explore the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church, ask questions, and deepen your relationship with God. You will also be accompanied by a sponsor, a practicing Catholic who will support you and guide you along the way.

If you are interested in attending these sessions, please speak to Fr. Roy or call the parish office for more information. We would love to welcome you into our faith community and journey with you towards the Easter Vigil, where you will receive the sacraments and become a full member of the Catholic Church.

We also encourage parishioners of St. Paul to invite friends, relatives, or neighbors who feel the desire to become Catholic. Our task as baptized members is to bring others to Christ by joining the church he set up for our salvation. Let us share the joy of the Gospel with those who are seeking the truth and the love of God.