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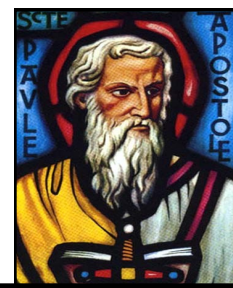
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Founded in 1987



# St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

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

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

## 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Gospel Summary

In this story, a man went away on a journey. He must have been very wealthy because he entrusted large portions of his money to three of his servants. The first two servants invested the money during the master's absence and it yielded great returns. The third servant, however, was fearful of investing (or some scholars say he was lazy). In either case, the servant buried the money he was given and returned the full amount to the master when he came home. The master was pleased with the investments of the first two servants, but was very upset with the third one. To those who have much, much more will be given. To those who have little, even that little will be taken away.

### Reflection for Families

God has given each one of us talents. Sometimes out of laziness or lack of ambition, or sometimes because we are afraid of failure or ridicule, we do not share our talents. The gospel today challenges us to take a risk and invest our gifts for the greater good of God's people. We do this ourselves as adults, but we must also try to help our children recognize their talents and use them in a productive way.

### Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Perhaps you keep a scrapbook for your children, or have a huge box of clippings, photos, projects, or programs that document their accomplishments. Go through these items together and affirm the gifts of each other. Talk about ways members of the family are using their gifts to build up the Kingdom of God. Brainstorm ideas of new ways you can use your gifts, or even look for gifts in each other not previously recognized.

### Discussion Starters

1. If God came today and asked to see what I had done with my talents, I would be able to show him...
2. The servant in the story who I am most like is...
3. Some other people I recognize in this gospel are...
4. The gift that God gave me that is hardest to risk is...

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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](http://stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org) or simply scan the QR code below.



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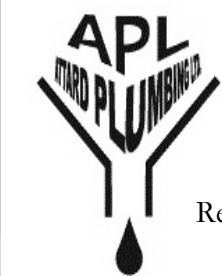
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### Pastoral Team

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)

**Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Every  
 Wednesday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### Secretary

Mrs. Rita Apalit  
**OFFICE HOURS (Trial)**  
 Sunday 10:00m - 1:00pm  
 (Church Foyer)  
 Monday 9:00am - 1:00pm  
 Tuesday 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 is mandatory.

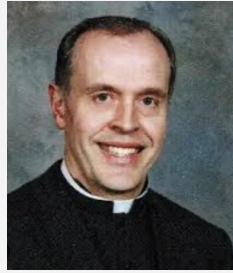
**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
 First Friday: 8:40am to 9:10am  
 Saturdays: 4:45pm to 5:15pm  
 Anytime by appointment.

### 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.

November 19, 2023

## From our Pastor's Desk...



Hard to believe that November is passing by so quickly and before we know it, it will be Christmas. I hope you are all enjoying this season of gratitude and anticipation. In this week's pastor corner, I want to highlight some upcoming events that you don't want to miss.

- On **December 8th**, we will have our annual **Christmas concert** beginning at **7:00 pm**. It will be a wonderful evening of music and joy, featuring our talented choir and musicians. Following the concert, we will have some cookies, hot chocolate, tea and coffee to warm up and socialize.
- On **December 10th**, at the **noon Mass**, there will be the **anointing of the sick**. This is a sacrament of healing and comfort for those who are suffering from any physical, mental, or spiritual illness. Following the noon Mass, there will be a **Christmas luncheon** for the seniors at the cost of **\$15.00**. The Malta Band Club will provide music for the occasion.
- On **December 16th**, there will be an **Advent retreat** led by Debbie Gove who is well known in our community. We will start with Mass at **9:30 am**, followed by a presentation until **12:00 pm**, and concluding with lunch. The theme of the retreat is "Journey of the Light: An Advent Retreat". It will be a time of reflection, prayer, and fellowship. If you plan to attend, you will need to sign up at the back of the church.

Our trip to St. Jacob's went well. Thankfully, the weather cooperated. We had a great time exploring the market and the village. I'm thinking of future trips. If you have any suggestions, please let me know. The special candles that I purchased for November went quickly. They were a beautiful way to remember our loved ones who have passed away. I will have to order more candles next year.

I hope you have a blessed week and I look forward to seeing you at Mass. Please keep me and our parish in your prayers. God bless you.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; enter into the joy of your master." These are the beautiful words that all of us long to hear after a life of following Christ. The parable of the talents is often seen as the classical parable on stewardship. Let us take some time reflecting on it more deeply today. Cardinal Collins comments on this parable in his Pastoral Letter on Stewardship\* saying, "As good stewards, we are meant to use God's gift fruitfully and creatively, so that with true gratitude for what we have received we may return God's gifts to Him with increase." The key word in that sentence is increase. Although the third slave did not waste or squander the talents or gifts he had received, the Master did not utter that beautiful phrase to him. The third slave did not work so as to create an increase of his goods. Stewardship always remains as an active way of life. If we want to hear those beautiful words at our judgement we must live in such a way that fully embraces the spirituality of stewardship. How well are we using our gifts for the glory of God and the Church? Let us not be passive in our service but seek ways to be used as an instrument of God. Let us start with prayer and move into acts of charity. We can serve in our parish community whether it be joining various ministries or helping people in need. This weekend let us renew our commitment to serving Christ.

"Well done, good and trustworthy slave; enter into the joy of your master" are the beautiful words that all of us long to hear after a life of following Christ. If we want to hear that spoken to us at our judgement we must live in such a way that fully embraces the spirituality of stewardship. Let us ask ourselves, how well are we using our gifts for the glory of God and the Church?

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

## ST. PAUL'S NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE Sunday, December 31, 2023 Doors open at 6:30 pm

Come ring in the New Year with your  
Church Family!!

\*\*\* Presenting an 8-Course Meal!\*\*\*

- ◆ Antipasto (including Seafood Salad)
  - ◆ Stracciatella Chicken Soup
  - ◆ Lasagna (Homemade Pasta)

ENTRÉE Roast Beef, Potatoes, Veggies

- ◆ Tossed Green Salad
  - ◆ Fruit

- ◆ Ice Cream Filled Crepes topped with Fruit Sauce
  - ◆ Assorted Pastries
  - ◆ Tea & Coffee

\* One bottle each Red & White wine on each table with free glass refills

- \* Champagne at Midnight
- \* Fruit Punch Fountain
- \* Door Prizes

Adults - \$75.00

Children (5 - 12 yrs. old) \$40.00

Children under 5 yrs. - free

For tickets contact Freda Mifsud  
at 416-762-1891

**\*\*Payments & Bookings must be made no later than December 26th\*\***

**2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are ready to be picked up from the back of the church. Please make sure that it is your box you are taking, **Some envelope numbers have changed**, therefore please double-check the name and address of the box you are taking.. May we take this opportunity to thank you for your continuous support for the parish, it is all very much appreciated.



## COFFEE SUNDAY

Coffee and Tea will be served after all Masses on **Sunday, November 19th** in the Lower Hall.

**VOCATION REFLECTION** What will you say when you meet God face to face? Better still, what will God say to you? Will you be able to answer that you served faithfully? Can you answer that now? 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](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)  
[www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

## Archdiocesan Consultation Underway

Share Your Ideas to assist with future planning!

Archbishop Francis Leo is inviting the Catholic community to share thoughts and ideas regarding future pastoral planning in the Archdiocese of Toronto. Feedback will help inform a renewed Pastoral Plan to be used in the years ahead. To learn more about the process, read the letter of invitation from the archbishop and complete the short survey by December 15, 2023, please visit: [www.archtoronto.org/consultation](http://www.archtoronto.org/consultation). Please take a few minutes to share your insights and ideas. Thank you for your collaboration in this archdiocesan initiative.

## VETCH - ĠULBIENA

A very beautiful Maltese Christmas tradition is that of decorating the statue of Baby Jesus, or the Nativity Scene, with vetch. According to ancient Maltese tradition, light deprived vetch seeds are grown over a period of a few weeks and placed next to the statue of the baby Jesus in the manger. Light deprived vetches grow white and stringy. This weekend you can buy your vetch seeds for \$5.00 per packet from the Church after Mass or from the Parish Office during office hours.

**The Sunday Missal** for the next Liturgical Year is now available. It's a good source to have the weekly Word of God with you for your personal prayer and reflection. You can pick them up from the Church or Parish Office during office hours. The cost per missal is \$5.00 The new liturgical year begins the weekend of December 2nd/3rd.

