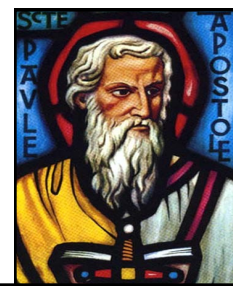


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SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

Gospel Summary

On this final Sunday of the Church year, the feast of Christ the King, we learn most definitely how our lives will be measured. They will be measured by the love we show. Whenever we offer a drink of water to the thirsty, food to the hungry, clothing to the naked, or whenever we visit the sick or imprisoned, or take in the stranger, we show our love to God. Through our actions toward the poor, vulnerable, estranged and discouraged we show our love of God. If we ignore these people, we also ignore God.

Reflection for Families

It is easy to see the meaning of this gospel through our actions toward our children. Never in true thirst or hunger would we deny them. If they were sick or cold we would take care of them ourselves or see to it that someone helped us. It's taking this gospel to the next level that will help our children see the meaning of love through our example. Not only will they witness love through our loving actions toward others, but there will be many opportunities along the way to have our children share in these actions of love.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Through our parishes, schools, and communities, there are a number of opportunities for adults to demonstrate God's love - not through some sense of obligation, but from a genuine love of others. Most of these opportunities allow for the whole family to participate. For example, adults may make communion calls to someone who is homebound. Often these folks eagerly welcome the sight of a child or if that's not possible, children can make care cards to be delivered at the call. Think of one way as a family you might carry out at least one of the actions of the gospel.

Discussion Starters

1. There was a time I recall being moved completely by love to help another person when...
2. The hardest part about this gospel passage for me is...
3. I was one of "the least" and someone helped me out of love. I remember feeling...

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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.



Mass Intentions

**Saturday, November 25
 5:30pm**

- +Paul Delicata

**Sunday, November 26
 9:00am**

- +Rita Caruana

10:30am

- +Natalino, Rosa & Anthony Taliana
- +Charlie & Albert Taliana
- +Silvana Dewe & Grace Bugeja
- +Emanuela Micallef & Joseph Bugeja
- +Tony Axiak
- +Frances Saliba Caira
- +George Portelli

12:00 noon

- +Helen Camilleri, Connie & Leonard Camilleri

Monday, November 27

- +Doris Micallef

Tuesday, November 28

- +All Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, November 29

- +All Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, November 30

St. Andrew, Apostle

- +Vincent & Philippa Bartolo

Friday, December 1

- +Maria & Philip Massa

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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 10:00am - 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.

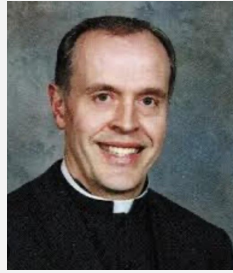
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 First Friday: 8:40am to 9:10am
 Saturdays: 4:45pm to 5:15pm
 Anytime by appointment.

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 26, 2023

From our Pastor's Desk...



In this week's pastor's reflection, I want to highlight the significance of today's solemnity. It was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 with the intention of impacting the laity. In his encyclical, the Pope emphasized that by meditating on these truths, the faithful will gain strength and courage to live according to the true Christian ideal. Jesus Christ has been given all power in heaven and on earth, and all people, redeemed by his precious blood, are under his dominion. Therefore, every aspect of our lives should be subject to his reign. Our minds should fully accept and believe in revealed truths and Christ's teachings. Our wills should obey God's laws and

commandments. Our hearts should reject worldly desires and prioritize our love for God above all else. And even our bodies and members should be used as tools for the inner sanctification of our souls, as instruments of righteousness for God.

On this final Sunday of the liturgical year, we celebrate Christ the King. Jesus is always the King of the Universe, but is He also the king of our lives? Let's reflect on how we can enthrone Jesus in our hearts through our commitment to stewardship.

Kings receive the finest things to showcase their importance. If we want to make Jesus our King, He deserves our very best. We can do this by offering Christ the "first fruits" of our time in prayer. When we set aside time for prayer every day, we show the importance of God in our lives. We become loving and faithful servants who long to be in His presence.

Let's not fit prayer in after all our other commitments. Instead, let's schedule the rest of our day around our prayer time to give our King the best we can. Once we enthrone Jesus as King of our lives, we can serve Him as we would an earthly king.

But what kind of service does our Divine King desire? He desires the service of charity and sacrifice. St. Rose of Lima said, "When we serve the poor and the sick, we serve Jesus. We must not fail to help our neighbors because in them we serve Jesus."

As stewards, let's use our gifts to serve our fellow parishioners and, in turn, serve the King of kings. In summary, on this solemnity of Christ the King, let's reflect on how we can enthrone Jesus in our hearts through our commitment to stewardship. First, let's let God rule in our lives by giving Him the "first fruits" of our time in prayer. Then, let's use our gifts to serve our fellow parishioners and serve the King of kings.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION On this feast day of Christ the King we hear the account of the judgement of the nations where Christ will separate the sheep and the goats. Jesus clearly outlines what criteria He is looking for in order to determine which side we fall into. This criteria boils down into love and stewardship. Jesus says "just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me." He beautifully teaches us that when we serve the hungry, the stranger, the naked, the sick or the poor, we are not solely serving humans. Rather, we are serving Jesus Himself. This is the extraordinary call of all stewards. We are called to share our time and gifts with those around us and in doing so, display charity towards God Himself. Cardinal Collins in his Pastoral Letter on Stewardship* says that "we can use our time in this life to be selfish, or to be generous to others. The blessed used their time here to care for those in need. That is true stewardship, and we are called to do likewise." Let us take some time today to ask ourselves, how well are we living up to this call of serving the "least of these brothers and sisters" in our own parish community. There are many ways in which we can all contribute, how are we playing our part for Christ?

Jesus says in the Gospel today that "just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me." He beautifully teaches us that when we serve the hungry, the stranger, the naked, the sick or the poor, we are not solely serving humans but Christ Himself. Let us take some time today to ask ourselves, how well are we living up to this call of serving the "least of these brothers and sisters" in our own parish community.

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: CHANGE IN VIGIL MASS SCHEDULE

We are writing to inform you of a significant change in our vigil mass schedule that will take effect from **Saturday, January 6th, 2024**. The vigil mass that used to be at **5:30 PM** will now be at **4:30 PM**. This change will last for **six months**, after which we will evaluate its impact and feedback.

This decision was made after a careful deliberation by the parish council, who weighed the pros and cons of such a change. The main reasons for this change are:

- To enable those who walk to church to feel more safe and comfortable, as it will not be so dark when the mass is finished.
- To provide an opportunity for people who have later gatherings or commitments to attend mass and then to go to their function.
- To align with the daylight saving time and the seasonal changes in the weather and daylight.

We understand that this change may cause some inconvenience or adjustment for some of you, and we appreciate your understanding and cooperation. We hope that this change will benefit our parish community and enhance our worship experience.

If you have any questions or concerns about this change, please feel free to contact us.

Archdiocesan Consultation Underway

– your assistance is requested!

Our archbishop, the Most Rev. Francis Leo, is inviting Catholics throughout the archdiocese to share their key priorities to help inform and guide an updated Pastoral Plan. To participate in the consultation, visit:

www.archtoronto.org/consultation to complete a brief survey by December 15, 2023, where you can offer your suggestions and insights.

The process should take just a few minutes and we ask that you complete the short survey as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing from the Catholic community throughout the archdiocese. Thank you in advance for sharing your insights, ideas and discernment.



Our **Annual Christmas Concert** is going to be held on Friday, December 8th at 7:00 in the evening. Following the concert, we will have some cookies, hot chocolate, coffee and tea to enjoy with good company.

Offering 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.

The **annual Anointing of the Sick Mass followed by the Seniors' Christmas Luncheon** hosted by the Maltese Canadian Federation and Lehen Malta, will take place on Sunday, December 10th at the 12:00 Mass.



Tickets are \$15.00 per person, and can be obtained from the Parish office during office hours, or by contacting Joe Sherri at 416-571-3944 or Paul Portelli at 416-830-0198.

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 available at a cost of \$5.00 each. It's a good source to have the weekly Word of God with you for your personal prayer and reflection. The new liturgical year begins the weekend of December 2nd/3rd. Pick up your copy from the Church or Parish Office during office hours.

