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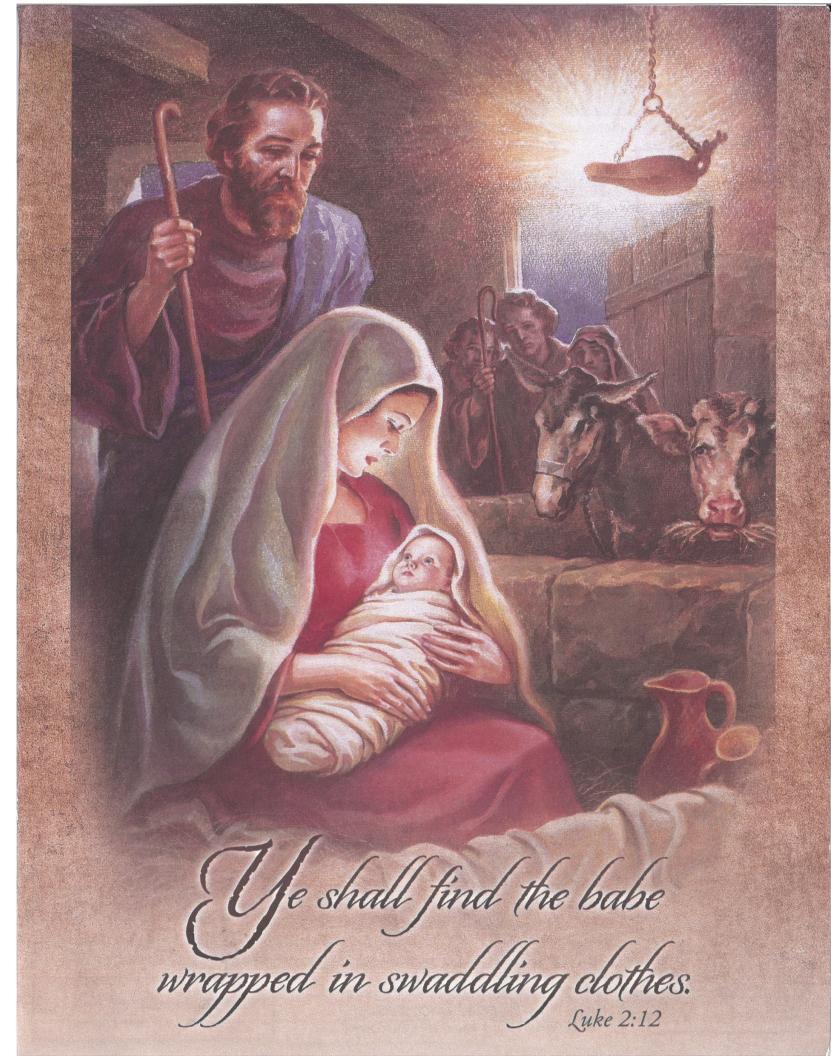
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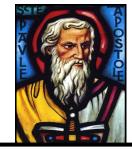
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Pastoral Team

Fr. Roy Francis Farrell

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 - I: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 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.

St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

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

Email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gospel Summary

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will conceive and bear a son and name him Jesus. Mary does not understand how this can be, and the angel explains that the Holy Spirit will come upon her and "the power of the Most High will overshadow [her]." Gabriel then tells Mary that Elizabeth, too, will bear a son, emphasizing that "nothing will be impossible for God." Mary replies, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."

Reflection for Parents

As Christmas nears, what seems most impossible to you? Does it seem impossible that all the gifts will be bought, wrapped, and under the tree in time for Christmas morning? Does it seem impossible that you will have time to complete the preparations for and cooking of the Christmas meal? Does it seem impossible that family members will get along? Take time to talk to the Lord about these seeming impossibilities. Quietly repeat the promise of the angel Gabriel, "nothing will be impossible for God."

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Continue the above reflection with your family members. Light the four candles of the Advent wreath and invite each family member to name something that seems impossible—perhaps a difficult task or deadline—that he or she must take care of by Christmas Day. Then pray together the words of the angel Gabriel; "Nothing will be impossible for God." Support and encourage each other in the days between today and Christmas Day.

Discussion Starters

- 1. If the angel Gabriel came to me and told me the things he told Mary, I would . . .
- 2. Like Mary, I know the Lord is with me because.
- 3. As Christmas nears, I . . .

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Visit Our Websitel

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, December 23 5:30pm

- +Mary Wilson
- +Fr. Karm Borg

Sunday, December 24 9:00am

• +Nenu Dingli

10:30am

- +Emanuel Cutajar
- +Rita Zammit
- +Tony Axiak
- +Cory, Joseph & Bigeni Family
- +Paul Delicata

12:00 noon

- +Salvina & Paul Ballucci
- +Maria Fenech
- +Suzanne Camilleri

Monday, December 25

 +Emanuel, Carmela, Tessie & Joseph Psaila

12:00 noon

+Paul Delicata

Tuesday, December 26

+Frank & Leonard Camilleri

Wednesday, December 27

+Doris Micallef

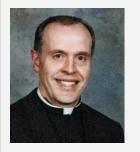
Thursday, December 28

+Carmel & Carmen Piscopo

Friday, December 29

+Nona & Lawrence Facciol

From our Pastor's Desk...



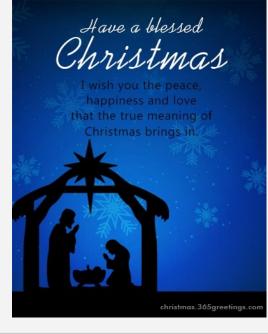
As we celebrate the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us remember the true meaning of Christmas: God's love for us and our love for one another. Christmas is a time to rejoice in our faith, to share our gifts and talents, and to express our gratitude for all the blessings we have received.

We thank you for your generous support of our parish during this past year. Your prayers, donations, and participation in our activities have made a difference in our community. We appreciate your commitment and dedication to our parish family.

We wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the peace and joy of Christ fill your hearts and homes. We pray that your Christmas gatherings will be harmonious and joyful. If there is any need for reconciliation, we hope you will find the courage and grace to forgive and heal. Remember that the church is always here to support you and accompany you in your journey of faith.

Upon leaving the church after our Christmas Masses, you will find a calendar and a Christmas letter from me. Several years ago, I initiated the practice of writing a Christmas letter, and I am delighted to uphold this tradition here at St. Paul's.





STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: As we approach Christmas the church encourages us to reflect on the Annunciation. The Annunciation can be seen as the singular event that changed the world for it is during this episode that Mary consents to God's will and Christ is conceived within her. As stewards striving to follow Jesus, we can learn a great deal from prayerfully imitating Mary in our own lives. Mary had an incredible faith and trust in God to be able to accept His will for her life. It is important to note that Mary wasn't told how her life would precisely unfold. She didn't know she would give birth in a manger, or about her flight to Egypt, or that Jesus would go missing in the temple or that she would stand by as He was crucified. Instead, all she knew was that she would conceive the Son of God. Many times we seek to know God's entire will for our lives but we can learn from Mary to readily say yes to the current step of the plan that He is calling us to and, like Mary, ponder God's will in our hearts by spending time in prayer). As stewards, God too is calling us to a very specific and important mission. St. John Henry Newman says that we should all recognize that "God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission." We can live out this mission by being stewards of our time and talents for our communities, our parish and the entire Church. Let us seek Mary's intercession and trust in the Lord's call for our lives and readily follow Him.

The Annunciation can be seen as the singular event that changed the world for it is during this episode that Mary consents to God's will and Christ is conceived within her. Many times we seek to know God's entire will for our lives but we can learn from Mary to readily and prayerfully say yes to the current step of the mission that He is calling us to. We can live out this mission by being stewards of our time and talents for our communities, our parish and the entire Church.

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese Website.