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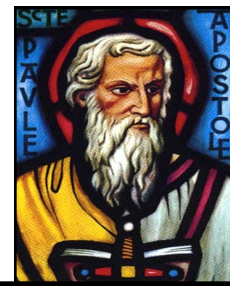
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# St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

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

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

## FEAST OF ST. PAUL'S SHIPWRECK

### 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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**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:** 4:30pm (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**  
 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 is mandatory.  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**  
 First Friday: 8:40am to 9:10am  
 Saturdays: 3:45pm to 4:15pm  
 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.



‘Once safely on shore, we found out that the island was called Malta. The islanders showed us extraordinary kindness’  
 - Acts 28:1-2

February 11, 2024

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, February 10**  
 4:30pm  
 • +Amante Camilleri & Lisa Bonello

**Sunday, February 11**  
 9:00am  
 • +Rita Caruana  
 10:30am  
 • +Joe & Doris Pirota  
 • +Joseph Farrugia  
 • +Emanuel Ellis  
 12:00 noon  
 • +Missa Pro Populo

**Monday, February 12**  
 • +Emanuel & Lourdes Degiorgio

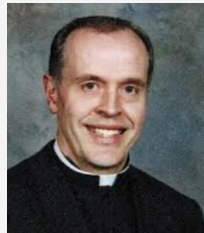
**Tuesday, February 13**  
 • +Freda Caruana & Rosalia Bertani

**Wednesday, January 14**  
 Ash Wednesday  
 • +Joyce & Janice Tonna

**Thursday, February 15**  
 • +Malgorzata Casnocha

**Friday, February 16**  
 • +Censina Gauci

## From our Pastor's Desk...



This weekend presents a unique opportunity for our parish to commemorate Malta's introduction to Christianity. The Acts of the Apostles describe in vivid detail that they would encounter an island and run aground there. Thankfully, they reached safety, only to find out that the island they had landed on was none other than Malta! The question we ask is: Does it fill you with a sense of pride in your Christian heritage? This event took place just twenty-seven years after Jesus ascended into his glory. In his providence and generous nature, Jesus blessed the Maltese people with a remarkable Apostle and Missionary. St. Paul's role was to spread the message of Christ - the message that God loves us and invites us into His kingdom. We should be grateful for this incredible occurrence! What could have been better news than this? A tiny island, practically unknown to many, receives the Good News that God has adopted the Maltese people as a part of his loving family.

February 10th is a significant day for the Maltese people. It represents the shift from darkness to light, symbolizing the Light of Christ. St. Paul played a crucial role in guiding the Maltese people towards Christianity, making him their hero both literally and figuratively. The Maltese people are deeply grateful to St. Paul for this extraordinary opportunity. The statement in the gospel of St. connects Malta, seen as a symbolic "rock" in the Mediterranean. Matthew: "And on this rock I will build my Church." Jesus wanted not only Peter but also strategically central Malta to be the nucleus of Christianity.

It is worth acknowledging that the previous generations of the Maltese people could embrace and accept the message of Christ, opening their hearts to Him. It is important for us to acknowledge and take pride in this. On certain occasions, Jesus would give instructions to his disciples to depart from a location if the people did not welcome them, resulting in occasional rejection. It is important to note and pay attention to this. However, the Maltese of St. Paul's time were different. They opened their hearts to Paul and listened attentively to his message. This led to a significant change, which we refer to as conversion. It was during this transformative moment that God blessed Malta. The Maltese are grateful to St. Paul for being such an effective messenger. As a Maltese-Canadian parish, St. Paul continues to be our father in faith. Returning to the initial question we asked earlier: Are we proud to be Christians? Does it have any significance for us two thousand years later? As we approach the weekend, let us take some time to reflect on St. Paul's Shipwreck, not only as a significant historical event but also in terms of its relevance to our present spiritual journey as individuals.

May St. Paul, the Apostle of Christ, continue to bless our parish, which is dedicated to him in such a fitting manner. May his blessings shower upon each one of us as we faithfully proclaim the Good News!  
Viva San Pawl Apostle!

**For the Feast of St. Paul, the Patron of Malta, this weekend will feature special readings.**

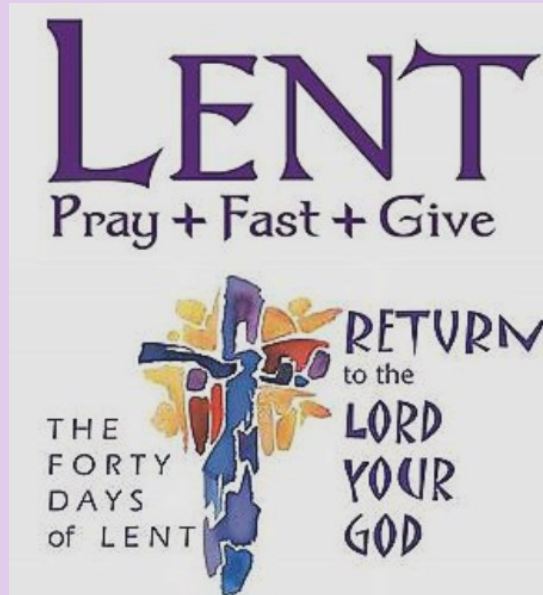
**The theme of today's liturgy, however, is Divine Providence.**

**In the First Reading**, from the book of Wisdom, we are told that it is God who protects Man in many dangers. Taking the deluge as an example, we read that "the hope of the world escaped on...a boat under your guidance and left the world a new generation to carry on humanity."

**The Responsorial psalm** is an extract from Psalm 106 (107) and sings of the dangers sailors face at sea. It is only God's providence that saves them, calms the sea and brings them safely to their destination.

**The Second reading** is from Chapter 27 of the Acts of the Apostles. It narrates the story of the terrifying storm that gripped the tiny vessel Paul and his companions were sailing in. The description of the storm contrasts with Paul's calm attitude because he had implicit faith in God's protection.

**The Gospel reading** from St. Mark tells the story of Jesus admonishing his eleven disciples for their lack of faith. He then instructed them to spread the gospel to all people across the world, baptizing those who embraced the message. After conveying these words, he ascended to heaven.



**LENT** is a time of fasting and feasting.

To fast from judging others; feast on Christ present in others.  
Fast from differences with others; feast on the unity with all life.

Fast from darkness; feast on light.

Fast from thoughts of illness; feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from hostility; feast on peacemaking.

Fast from words that damage others.

Feast on phrases that build up.

Fast from anger; feast on understanding.

Fast from worry; feast on trust in God's presence.

Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.

Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation and thanksgiving.

Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.

Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.

Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.

Fast from problems that overwhelm.

Feast on prayer that brings strength.

Lent is the 40-day season of preparation for Easter that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Thursday.

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics are obliged to fast and abstain from meat. Fasting means eating one full meal and two smaller meals that do not equal a full meal. Abstinence means refraining from eating meat or any food made from meat.

On all Fridays of Lent, Catholics are obliged to abstain from meat, or to perform some other act of charity or piety instead.

The law of fasting binds those who are 18 to 59 years old. The law of abstinence binds those who are 14 years and older.



### Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

**Mass times**

9:15 am and 6:30 pm



### Pancake Breakfast

Come join us on Shrove Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, following the 9:15 am Mass for pancake and sausages.

**SHROVE TUESDAY**

If you plan to attend this event, please sign your name on the sheets provided at the back of the church.

You are invited to bring your old palm branches from last year, as they will be used to make ashes that will be distributed this year during the Ash Wednesday services.



### STATIONS of the CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday during the seasons of Lent after the 9:15 am Mass.

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... 'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor -- He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you."

— St. Teresa of Calcutta