

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES - ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO
ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CEMETERY

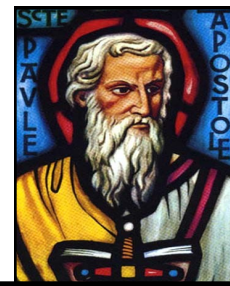
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St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

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

Email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Gospel Summary

In today's Gospel, Peter, James, and John—often described as the inner circle of disciples—went with Jesus to a high mountain. (In the Bible, mountains are often places of Divine Revelation.) The three are so overcome by what they see, hear, and experience that they do not know what to do or say. They simply know that they have witnessed something powerful. Jesus instructed them to tell no one of what they had seen, and they did indeed keep the matter to themselves. This is the opposite of what the leper in the Gospel just two Sundays ago did. He told everyone what happened to him!

Reflection for Parents

At the end of each episode of the television series "Blue Bloods," the family gathers around the table for Sunday dinner. No matter the difficulties or discouragements of the week, the ritual of the Sunday meal is honored. At the end of one particularly difficult week the grandfather encourages the family by saying, "I see the light of God in this family." Perhaps that is a description of the transfiguration, the glory of God, as it is revealed in daily family life. Today take time to think about where you have seen God's glory shine in your family, and in the lives of each of your family members.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Take your family for a fifteen-minute walk through your neighborhood today. Enjoy the sun, the clouds, the breeze, the sights, and the sounds of the day. Afterward, gather at your kitchen or dining table for a special Sunday meal and talk about all the ways you saw the glory of God revealed in nature today.

Discussion Starters

1. The most beautiful thing I have ever seen is _____.
2. One way I can listen to God's voice this Lent is _____.
3. Someone I know who needs to see the glory of God is _____ because _____.

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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, February 24
4:30pm

- +Eva Bielecki

Sunday, February 25
9:00am

- Missa Pro Populo

10:30am

- +Mary & Fred Saliba
- +Natalino, Rosa & Anthony Taliana
- +Charles & Anthony Taliana
- +Sylvana Dewe & Grace Bugeja
- +Emanuella Micallef & Joseph Bugeja
- +Paul Delicata
- +Tony Axiak

12:00 noon

- +Francesca & Antonio Capizzano

Monday, February 26

- +Maria Sultana

Tuesday, February 27

- +Doris Micallef

Wednesday, January 28

- +Mary Ann Debono

Thursday, February 29

- +Mary Ann Debono

Friday, March 1

- +Hilda Nugara & Cosmar De Fry

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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 7pm - 8pm

Stations of the Cross
 Every Friday during Lent after
 9:15am Mass

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

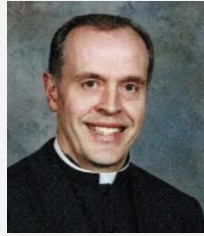
Marriages: Contact the priest
 one year in advance of the
 wedding. A marriage preparation
 course is mandatory.

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.

February 18, 2024

From our Pastor's Desk...



As we continue our journey to Easter, Christ invites us to deepen our relationship with him and to follow his example of love and service. Lent is a time of grace, a time to renew our commitment to God and to our brothers and sisters in need.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1438) tells us that Lent is a time that is “particularly appropriate for spiritual exercises, penitential liturgies, pilgrimages as signs of penance, voluntary self-denial such as fasting and almsgiving, and fraternal sharing (charitable and missionary works).” These practices help us grow in holiness, to purify our hearts, and to

express our solidarity with the poor and the suffering.

As a parish community, we have many opportunities to live out these practices during Lent. I encourage you to take part in the following activities:

SPIRITUAL

- Pray the Stations of the Cross on Friday's after the 9:15 am Mass
- Pray over the Sunday Gospels of Lent
- Practice hospitality this Lent by inviting the elect or catechumens to come to dinner.
- Perform an act of mercy, especially an unexpected one, every day of Lent.

PENITENTIAL

- Pray night prayer with an examination of conscience and the Confiteor from Sunday Mass
- Pray the Lord's Prayer every morning of Lent
- Take part in the sacrament of penance.
- Increase your level of participation in the Sunday Eucharist, which is a source of reconciliation.

PILGRIMAGES

- Each week of Lent, visit a place that holds some spiritual significance for you or your community.
 - ◊ Once there, say a prayer for peace and reconciliation.
- Visit an elderly or homebound relative or friend. Set a goal to learn something about their faith life.
- Visit the graveside of a loved one. Once there, say a prayer and ask your loved one to pray for you.
- Pray in front of the tabernacle in church.

SELF-DENIAL

- Donate some canned goods to be given to the Good Shepherd.
- Abstain from meat on Wednesdays as well as Fridays in Lent, or give up some other food for Lent.
- Give up your turn (to sit in front, to choose something, to stay in bed, not to do a chore) in favor of someone else.

Lent comes and goes so quickly every year that we may miss out on the spiritual graces that the Lord is offering us. Let us not waste this precious time, but rather use it to grow closer to Christ and to one another. May this Lent be a time of blessing and renewal for all of us.

LENTEN RETREAT

Voices of Lent

with Deb Gové

Saturday, March 16th

Mass at 9:30 am
Retreat: 10 am to 12 noon
followed by lunch

If you are interested in attending, please write your name on the sheets that are provided at the back of the church

ShareLife

**ShareLife
Sunday is
March 17.**

**Our parish goal for this year's campaign is
\$16,000.00**

Through your kindness, over 40 Catholic organizations and social service agencies can help marginalized members of our community. No one is turned away due to inability to pay. This is all possible through your support.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.



Fr. Massimo Buttigieg will be at our parish to hear confessions on Thursday, March 21st between 6:00 and 7:00 pm.

VOCATION REFLECTION Lent: the springtime of the soul...is a time to make a new covenant with God, develop new signs of our relationship with our Creator. Go into your own desert and discover what God is asking of you. If you think God could be calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call **Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.**

vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca



This coming Friday, **March 1st is the First Friday of the month.** Mass is at 9:15 followed by the Stations of the Cross.

We will then have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by some time of adoration and benediction at 12:00 noon.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION Following Christ is hard. This is a simple reality that anyone who has sought to be a disciple has quickly learned. In a culture that is increasingly secular, living out the Gospel can lead to many trials. Even as stewards we can often face many difficulties and sufferings from striving to offer all of our gifts to God. These sufferings could come from setbacks or failures in ministry or mocking and persecutions from our peers. All of these things can cause us to lose hope and tempt us to stop fighting for Christ. This is where St. Paul's beautiful letter to the Romans can help bring us tremendous consolation. St. Paul boldly proclaims, "If God is for us, who is against us?" He encourages us to place all our hope in God despite the challenges we face. He goes on to say "Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." This is the lifeline that we must firmly hold onto if we wish to keep our head above water in the midst of an ocean of suffering. To know that we will always remain in the love of Christ is to know that Christ will bring us through any problem we face. When our life of stewardship becomes difficult, let us take a moment to simply pray: "I love you Jesus, help me to be more aware of your love for me."

In a culture that is increasingly secular, living out the Gospel and practicing stewardship can lead to many trials that may tempt us to give up our pursuit of holiness. In times like this we can find great consolation in the words of St. Paul who says that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. When our life of stewardship becomes difficult, let us take a moment to simply pray: "I love you Jesus, help me to be more aware of your love for me."

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.

Lenten Mission

*Taking Time out to Listen, Reflect, Pray,
and be Spiritually Nourished*

with Deacon Raymond Frendo

Wednesday, March 20th & Thursday, March 21st

Mass at 7:00 pm followed by the Sermon

Friday, March 22nd Mass at 7:00 with the Sermon within the Mass

Concluding with Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows