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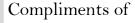
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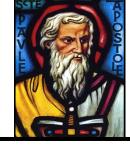
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Pastoral Team

Fr. Roy Francis Farrell
Pastor

Deacon Raymond Frendo Permanent Deacon

MASS SCHEDULE Daily morning Mass:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:I5am (Maltese/English) Tuesday & Thursday 9:I5am (English)

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 4:30pm (English)

Sunday: 9:00am (English) 10:30am (Maltese/English)

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

Secretary

Mrs. Rita Apalit

12:00pm (English)

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.

March 24, 2024

St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

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

Email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

PALM SUNDAY

Gospel Summary

Mark's account of the Passion is the shortest of the Gospel accounts and is known for its swift impact and drama. It begins with an unnamed woman pouring costly perfumed oil on Jesus' head and includes accounts of the Last Supper, Jesus and his disciples praying in Gethsemane, Jesus' arrest, his trial, Crucifixion, Death, and burial.

Reflection for Families

The Gospel story told today further unfolds in the liturgies of Holy Thursday evening and Good Friday. The Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Vigil/ Easter Sunday) is the Church's annual retreat time. It is a time to tell the story of the Paschal Mystery—the suffering, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The story is told through lavish use of song, Scripture, symbol, Sacrament, and procession. This is the holiest time of the entire Church year. How will your family spend these holiest of days? As Holy Week begins, make room on the family calendar for quiet and prayer together, and make time to attend the liturgies of the Triduum.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

If you are unable to attend your parish's celebration of the Triduum, gather your family and read aloud the appropriate portions of today's Gospel on Holy Thursday evening and on Good Friday. Sing a simple refrain or hymn such as "Jesus, Remember Me" and spend a few moments together in silent prayer.

Discussion Starters

Instead of responding to open-ended discussion questions today, invite family members to take part in a lengthier discussion on each of the days of the Triduum.

- 1. **On Holy Thursday:** On this night, Jesus gathered together his closest friends—his disciples—to share a special meal. If you were holding a special meal tonight, what friends would you invite and why? What foods would you serve? What would you talk about?
- 2. **On Good Friday:** On this day, Jesus suffered and died on the Cross out of love for us. What does it mean to you that he did this? Who are those suffering in the world, in your workplace, in your classroom, and in your family today? How can you ease their suffering?
- 3. **On Holy Saturday:** Jesus is in the tomb. His friends are trying to make sense of what has happened. They cannot see the coming of the Resurrection. Today is a day for waiting and for praying. For what are you waiting? For what do you wish to pray?

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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

<u>stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org</u> or simply scan the QR code below:



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 23

+Mary Ann Debono

Sunday, March 24 9:00am

Missa Pro Populo

10:30am

- +Mary Ann Debono
- +Tony Axiak
- +Natalino, Rosa & Anthony Taliana
- +Charlie & Albert Taliana
- +Silvana Dewe & Grace Bugeja
- +Emanuella Micallef & Joseph Bugeja
- +Nenu Dingli
- +Joseph Gauci
- +Alfred Saliba

12:00 noon

+Guza & Carmelo Vella

Monday, March 25

+Paul Delicata

Tuesday, March 26

• +Mary Ann Debono

Wednesday, March 27

+Doris Micallef

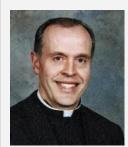
Thursday, March 28

Holy Thursday

Friday, March 29

Good Friday

From our Pastor's Desk...



Palm Sunday holds immense significance in the Christian tradition, and its observance serves as a powerful reminder of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Let's delve into the meaning and importance of this sacred day:

The Triumphal Entry:

Palm Sunday commemorates the moment when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, as prophesied in the Old Testament by Zechariah: "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a

colt, the foal of a donkey"

The people welcomed Him with great enthusiasm, waving palm branches and shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" and "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

However, the mood quickly shifted, as within a week, the same crowd would cry out for His crucifixion.

Symbolism and Meaning:

The donkey symbolizes humility and peace. Jesus intentionally chose this humble mode of transportation, contrasting with the expectation of a conquering king riding a warhorse.

The palm branches were a sign of victory and honor. The people hoped Jesus would overthrow Roman rule, but His mission was far greater—to conquer sin and death.

Palm Sunday reminds us that Jesus is the true King, not just of Jerusalem but of our hearts.

The Invitation to Follow:

As the liturgy begins, we hear the story of Jesus' triumphant entry. The invitation echoes through the ages: "Let us go forth in peace, proclaiming Jesus our Messiah."

This invitation extends beyond Palm Sunday—it encompasses the entire Holy Week. We are called to follow Jesus through His suffering, death, and resurrection.

The Tragedy and Deeper Meaning:

As Holy Week unfolds, the triumph of Palm Sunday transforms into tragedy. Jesus faces betrayal, arrest, trial, and crucifixion.

The daily readings, especially from the Old Testament "servant songs" in Isaiah, reveal God's plan. The suffering servant, unjustly persecuted, points to Jesus' sacrificial death for our salvation.

Jesus' closest disciples, despite their loyalty, will falter. Peter denies Him, and Judas betrays Him.

At the Last Supper, Jesus institutes the Eucharist, saying, "Do this in memory of me." This command echoes through centuries, connecting us to that sacred moment.

The Triduum:

The pinnacle of Holy Week lies in the "Triduum":

Holy Thursday: Commemorates the Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist.

Good Friday: Reflects on Jesus' crucifixion and sacrifice for our sins.

Easter Vigil: Celebrates His resurrection, victory over death, and the dawn of new life.

In these challenging times, we follow Jesus' path, meditating on His suffering and ultimate triumph.

As we commemorate Palm Sunday, let us answer the invitation: Will we follow Him, even when the road leads to the cross?

May we remember His sacrifice, celebrate His resurrection, and live in His memory.