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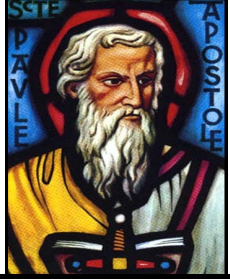
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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Gospel Summary

Three times in this Gospel passage Jesus says to his disciples, "Peace be with you." The first time, he appears to the disciples as they huddle behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. The second time, he breathes upon them the Holy Spirit and gives them the power to forgive sins. The third time, Jesus again appears to the disciples as they are gathered behind locked doors. "Peace be with you," he says to them.

Reflection for Parents

One of the best-loved Catholic prayers is the Prayer of Saint Francis. It begins with the familiar words, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace." As you think about your role in the workplace, in your community, and most especially in your home, where are your opportunities to be an instrument of Christ's peace? Can you offer a word of peace and healing to an upset child, an angry coworker, or a neighbor who has just received difficult news? Can you help end an argument or disagreement with a peaceful word or with a peaceful presence? As you go about your daily work and the routine of family life, echo Jesus' words in prayer: "Peace be with you." And join Saint Francis in praying, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Today's Gospel reading reminds us that Christ gave and continues to give the power to forgive sins to the Church through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. If your family was not able to celebrate this Sacrament during the season of Lent, today—the Second Sunday of Easter and the Sunday of Divine Mercy—is a wonderful day to celebrate it. Many churches make the Sacrament available on this special Sunday of the Easter season.

Discussion Starters

In place of discussion starter questions, invite family members to quiet themselves. Then ask them slowly to repeat Jesus' words, "Peace be with you," several times, aloud and together. Ask family members to think of those to whom they want to offer Christ's gift of peace. They may hold those names quietly in their hearts or speak them aloud. After a few moments, say together, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace." Conclude by offering spontaneous prayers for peace in the world, in the Church, in your community, and in your family.

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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, April 6

4:30pm

- +Deceased members of the Camilleri family

Sunday, April 7

Divine Mercy

9:00am

- +Rita Caruana
- +Theresa Massa, Philip & Maria Massa
- +John Sultana
- +Joseph & Carmen Gové
- +Joseph Farrugia
- +Joe & Apolonia Farrugia

12:00 noon

- +Frank Cini

Monday, April 8

The Annunciation of the Lord

- +All Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, April 9

- +Dirceu Teixeira

Wednesday, April 10

- +Rita Caruana

Thursday, April 11

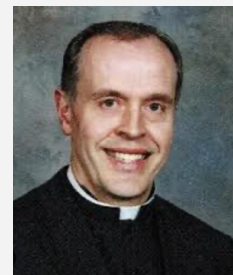
St. Stanislaus

- +Paul & Angela Saliba & family

Friday, April 12

- +Censina Gauci

From our Pastor's Desk...



It brings me immense joy to witness so many of you actively taking part in the Holy Week and Easter liturgies. Your presence and devotion have truly enriched our celebrations. As we bask in the spiritual high of this sacred season, let us strive to carry that flame forward into each Sunday. Attending Mass every Sunday is not just a tradition; it is a precept of the Church. Our faith calls us to gather as a community, to receive the Eucharist, and to be nourished by God's Word. It is in this communal worship that we find strength, solace, and renewal. The Church teaches we must approach Holy Communion in a state of grace. If we have deliberately missed Mass,

we should refrain from receiving the Eucharist until we have the opportunity for sacramental confession. Let us cherish this encounter with Christ and prepare our hearts accordingly.

This Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday. We commemorate the extraordinary promise given by Jesus to St. Faustina. He revealed that on this day, "all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened." Those who receive Holy Communion and confess their sins shall get complete forgiveness and remission of punishment. Divine Mercy Sunday offers a plenary indulgence—a full remission of temporal punishment because of sin. Let us embrace this incredible opportunity for spiritual renewal and share it with our loved ones.

Join us on Sunday afternoon, April 7th at 3 PM for a Holy Hour dedicated to Divine Mercy. We will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and confessions will start at 2:30 PM. May this day be a source of grace and mercy for all. In the words of St. Faustina, "All grace flows from mercy." Even in our darkest moments, God's mercy shines brighter. Open your heart, even if just a little, to receive His merciful grace, and watch as He transforms your life. May Divine Mercy Sunday be a beacon of hope and renewal for our parish and beyond.

We invite all parishioners to join us for a special Seder Meal on Saturday, 6pm on April 13th. This unique experience allows us to connect with our Jewish roots and deepen our understanding of the Passover tradition. Tickets are being sold for \$20, and we highly encourage you to join us. To reserve your ticket, please contact the parish office or inquire at the end of the weekend Masses.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION As we continue along in this season of Easter, we are invited to reflect on the lives of the early Christians. In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles we hear the wonderful account of them living in great unity and joy as they were "of one heart and soul." It says that "there was not a needy person among them" because everyone shared of their gifts for the good of the entire community. This is the perfect model of a community where stewardship reigns. A parish community built on stewardship is one in which every member is welcomed, involved and nourished. The parish should be seen as our second home. It is where we join together with our brothers and sisters in Christ so that we can love and serve God side by side. How well are we contributing to the building up of our community of stewardship? We must all play our own role in building up the Church. In the same way the early Christians offered all of themselves for the sake of the mission, we too should offer all of our gifts to the parish. We should spend time praying in the church and journeying with fellow parishioners through the joys and trials of their lives. Moreover, all of our talents and gifts should be offered up to the service of various ministries and apostolates within the parish. In this way, we will be able to echo the words from the first reading and joyfully proclaim: "There was not a needy person among them."

In the first reading we hear the wonderful account of the early Christians living a beautiful community of stewardship in which they were all "of one heart and soul." Likewise, in the same way the early Christians offered all of themselves for the sake of the Church, we too should offer the gifts of our time and talent to our parish community. In this way, we will be able to echo the words from the first reading and joyfully proclaim: "There was not a needy person among them."

Taken from excerpts of the Archdiocese of Toronto website.

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

REGULAR 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: 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.

April 7, 2024