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ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CEMETERY

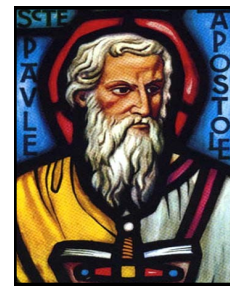
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St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

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

Email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gospel Summary

In today's Gospel, Jesus' followers reach a point on the journey where it is time to make a decision. Do they believe in Jesus and in what he has said? Should they continue to follow him? Or is it time to walk away and to return to their former way of living? Many are unable to accept Jesus' words and choose to no longer accompany him. When Jesus asks the Twelve if they also want to leave, Peter answers, "Master, to whom shall we go?"

Reflection for Parents

Imagine that you are with the Twelve and the other followers of Jesus today. Where do you find yourself on the road? Do you believe in Jesus and in his Word? Do you choose to follow him? Or are there points on the road where you slip into a former way of living—into old habits, behaviors, and attitudes that are not becoming of a disciple of Christ? Take some quiet time to think about your level of discipleship. Is it whole-hearted, half-hearted, or barely evident to your family and to others? Commit yourself today to continuing to follow the Master, the Holy One of God.

Bringing the Good News Into Your Family

Help each family member trace his or her footprint onto a piece of construction paper. Cut out the footprints. Have each family member write his or her name on one side of the footprint. Then pass the footprints around and ask other family members to write down ways they see the footprint owner following Jesus. Adults and older children can help younger children do this too. After everyone has contributed to each family member's footprint, invite family members to read what has been written on their footprints. Pray that those in your family will always be faithful followers of Jesus.

Discussion Starters

1. A time when it was hard for me to follow Jesus was when . . .
2. I want to follow Jesus because . . .
3. One way our family can follow Jesus more closely is . . .

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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, August 24

- 4:30pm**
- +Mary Fiorelli
- 9:00am**
- +Missa Pro Populo

10:30am

- +George Pulo
- +Tony Axiak
- +Paul Delicata
- +Natalino, Rosie & Anthony Taliana
- +Charlie & Albert Taliana
- +Silvana Dewe & Grace Bugeja
- +Emanuella Micallef & Joseph Bugeja

12:00 noon

- +Suzanne Camilleri

Monday, August 26

- +Jane Farrugia

Tuesday, August 27

- St. Monica*
- +Doris Micallef

Wednesday, August 28

- St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*
- +Emanuel Grech

Thursday, August 29

- The Passion of St. John the Baptist*
- +Sunny & Bridget Fernando

Friday, August 30

- +Emanuel Grech

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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: 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.

August 25, 2024



Volunteering in our parish is not only a way to give back to our community, but it also allows us to strengthen our sense of belonging and connection with one another. From assisting with community events and fundraisers to providing support to those in need, there are numerous opportunities for individuals to get involved. Whether you have a few hours to spare each month or can dedicate more time, there is a role for everyone. Volunteering not only benefits those we serve, but it also enriches our own lives by fostering personal growth, building new skills, and creating lasting friendships. So as we gear up for September and resume our regular activities, let us remember the

power of volunteering and the positive impact it can have on our parish and beyond. Let's make a difference together!

Volunteering in parish ministries is a wonderful way to contribute to your faith community and make a positive impact. Here are some interesting reasons why parishioners should consider volunteering:

Greater Purpose: Volunteering at your church provides a sense of purpose. By serving, you can directly impact someone's life for eternity. It's in the local church where people can experience transformation and redemption.

Broader Perspective: Serving others allows you to focus beyond yourself. It shifts your attention to larger issues and the needs of others, fostering empathy and compassion.

Lifelong Friendships: Volunteering creates unique bonds. When you serve alongside others, you build lasting friendships. These connections enrich your life and provide a sense of community.

Healthier Self-Image: Contributing to meaningful causes boosts self-esteem. Knowing that your efforts matter and make a difference enhances your overall well-being.

Helping Others: Volunteering relieves suffering, benefits the under-resourced, and meets the needs of marginalized individuals. It brings hope and improves lives.

Generosity: Church volunteers give sacrificially of their time and talent. This generosity often leads to financial giving as well.

There are many ways to get involved and share your gifts at St. Paul the Apostle Church. Whether you are young or old, there is a place for you to contribute and make a difference. If you have a passion for music, consider joining the choir or offering your musical talents during Mass. If you have a knack for organizing events, you can volunteer to help plan and coordinate parish activities. For those who enjoy working with children, there are opportunities to assist in First Communion and Confirmation classes or assist with children's liturgy. If you have a talent for public speaking or teaching, you can inquire about becoming a lector or catechist. No matter your interests or abilities, there is a role for you to play in building up our faith community. Reach out to Fr. Roy or any of the dedicated volunteers at the parish who will be more than happy to guide you in finding the perfect way to get involved.

Let's come together and make St. Paul the Apostle Church a vibrant and thriving community of faith.

- Fr. Roy

VOCATION REFLECTION Jesus has given us His Body to eat and His Blood to drink so as to nourish us on our journey towards the Kingdom. May we be faithful to Him on our journey as married, single, ordained or consecrated persons.

If God is 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

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: The Gospel today concludes Jesus' teaching on the Bread of Life, and we see many disciples who were with Jesus beginning to leave because they were unable to accept Jesus' words. Jesus' teaching was difficult to accept, and instead of softening the gravity of his words to keep everyone around, Jesus says "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father." Jesus knew that following him is a difficult task. Only those who are chosen by the Father, and willing to take up the hardships that come with belief in Christ can follow Jesus to the end. The crowd slowly begins to dwindle, from five thousand disciples down to the twelve, who Jesus turns and asks if they also will leave. Peter responds with a beautiful confession of faith, saying "Lord to whom shall we go, you have the words of eternal life." What differentiated the twelve Apostles from the disciples was simply trust. The teaching of Jesus would have been just as difficult for the twelve to grapple with, however they believed that Jesus was truly the son of God. Their trust in the person of Jesus, the man who they've spent all this time with, and the man who performed these miracles in their midst, wasn't wavered because of the unbelief of the crowds. The decision to follow and trust in Jesus is completely in our hands. As in the first reading of Joshua, when the Israelites approached the promised land, they had the option to go back to where they came from, for the road of a Christian is not easy. Before them was great obstacles, yet behind them was an easy life. When we are faced with a similar decision, how do we respond? It has become increasingly difficult to be authentically Christian in a world which is not. To be able to truly live out our calling as stewards, we must know Jesus and trust him. The best way to know Jesus is through his word. Let us spend time this week immersed in the scripture, getting to know our Lord.

To follow Jesus is not an easy decision to take, and one that can only be done through the grace bestowed on us through Jesus. When the crowds dispersed in the Gospel, the Apostles did not leave but instead proclaimed Jesus as the Lord who has the words of eternal life, a proclamation that came from trust and knowledge of Jesus the person. As we make the decision to be stewards, let us get to know Christ more intimately especially through the Word of God, which gives us life.

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.



**DO YOU ENJOY
WORKING WITH
CHILDREN AND
YOUTHS?**

CONSIDER BECOMING A LITURGY TEACHERS AND/OR CATECHIST.

We anticipate that classes in preparation for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation will begin in the Fall, while Children's Liturgy presently takes place every Sunday morning during the 9:00 Mass.

If you are interested in volunteering, or would like more information, you may contact the parish office at 416-767-7054.

Save the Date!!

Our Annual Parish Anniversary Dinner-Dance will be held on Saturday, September 28th.
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW.



EWTN, the world's largest Catholic TV Network, invites parishioners to the EWTN Family Celebration on Saturday, September 7, 2024 at the Delta Hotels Toronto Airport and Conference Centre at 655 Dixon Rd, Toronto, Canada. This a FREE one-day, in-person event where attendees can meet and hear from Fr. Chris Alar, Fr. Raymond de Souza, Johnette Williams, and EWTN hosts and clergy, be part of a live television audience, attend Confession, Adoration and the Holy Mass celebrated by Archbishop Emeritus, Cardinal Thomas Collins. "Stand Firm in the Faith!" is this year's theme.

REGISTER NOW at
www.ewtn.com/familycelebration
or call 437-986-3986.

Please share with your family and friends, especially those in Toronto, Canada