

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES - ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO
ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CEMETERY

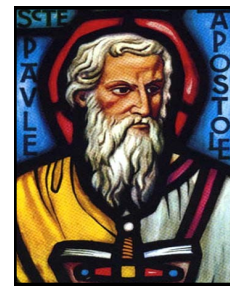
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St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

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

Email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gospel Summary

The Pharisees and scribes in today's Gospel reading were eager to point out the religious traditions that some of the disciples were breaking. Jesus chided them, pointing out that they were more concerned with keeping the traditions than they were with keeping God's laws. Jesus explained that what is most important is what comes from within a person, and from a person's heart.

Reflection for Parents

A story passed on by a Native American father to his son describes the torment of two wolves living inside the father's head. One wolf was evil and vicious. The other was kind and loving. When the son questioned his father about which wolf reacted in certain situations, the father explained that it was whichever wolf he fed.

Reread verses 21-23 from today's Gospel. Reflect on whether you are feeding any of the attitudes or behaviors listed. Invite God to create a new heart in you and to give you a right spirit. Think about what you can do to feed your heart and spirit so that they grow in generosity, goodness, purity, truth, and faithfulness.

Bringing the Good News Into Your Family

Prepare together several cutout hearts from red construction paper. Write on the hearts, "You have a good heart!" Gather the hearts in a basket, and place the basket on your family prayer table.

Talk with your family about ways you know that a person has a good heart. For example, if a family member takes time to help mom fold laundry without being asked to do so, that family member has a good heart. If another family member donates his or her change to the parish's ministry to the poor, that person has a good heart.

Invite family members to give a heart to each person they see doing a "good heart" action at home in the coming week. At the end of the week, you may wish to see who has collected the most hearts and to give that person a small prize or a special treat.

Discussion Starters

1. A family rule I find hard to follow is... because...
2. A family rule I think is important to follow is... because...
3. Someone I know who has a good heart 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.



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 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.

September 1, 2024

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 31

4:30pm
 • +Joyce & Janice Tonna

Sunday, September 1

9:00am
 • +Charles, Mary & Joseph Sammut

10:30am
 • +George Pulo

12:00 noon
 • Missa Pro Populo

Monday, September 2

Labour Day Holiday
 • +Emanuel Psaila

Tuesday, September 3

St. Gregory the Great
 • +Doris Micallef

Wednesday, September 4

• +Cutajar/Zammit Family

Thursday, September 5

• +Gino & Angelina Sturino

Friday, September 6

First Friday
 • +Deceased members of the Camilleri Family



On this Labour Day weekend, let us reflect on its spiritual meaning. God created human beings to work and take care of His creation. Work is not a result of the Fall or punishment for sin, but rather a fundamental part of our design. It is through work that we participate in God's ongoing work of creation and stewardship. Just as God worked to bring order and beauty to the world, we are called to work diligently and responsibly in our own spheres of influence. Whether we are tending a garden, managing a business, teaching, or serving others, our work is a way to honor God and contribute to the flourishing of society. It is a privilege and a responsibility to use our talents and skills to make a positive impact in the world.

This cultural mandate calls for stewardship and responsible management of the earth and its resources. It encompasses not only the physical aspect of caring for the environment but also the development of society and culture. As humans, we have the capacity to innovate, create, and build civilizations. We are called to use our abilities to improve the world around us, whether through technological advancements, scientific discoveries, artistic expressions, or social progress. This mandate also implies a responsibility to protect and preserve the natural world, recognizing that it is a gift from God that sustains us and future generations. It calls us to be mindful of our actions and their impact on the planet, promoting sustainability and ecological balance. Ultimately, fulfilling this purpose allows us to participate in God's ongoing work of creation and contribute to the flourishing of all life on earth.⁴ Work is honorable – it is a gift, not a curse. All professions and all kinds of work, assuming that they are legal and biblically ethical, are honorable before the Lord. There is no dichotomy between sacred and secular work. All work brings glory to God and a potential source of fulfillment, if it is done to God's glory.

Work was not intended to be a burden or a punishment. In fact, God designed work to bring fulfillment and satisfaction to human beings. Even before the Fall, when sin entered the world, God gave man work as a means of purpose and enjoyment. Ecclesiastes 2:24-25 emphasizes the significance of finding satisfaction in one's work, highlighting that it is a gift from God. It reminds us that without God, we could not sustain ourselves or experience the joy that work can bring. Therefore, work is not merely a means of survival, but also a means of finding purpose and fulfillment in life.

In our work, we can be a witness to the reality of Christ and the difference he makes in the lives of his followers. Through our actions, words, and attitudes, we can show a supernatural approach to work that sets us apart from the world. Whether it is through our integrity, kindness, or perseverance, we have the chance to show others the transformative power of Christ in our lives. This witness can have a profound impact on those around us, leading them to seek a relationship with God themselves.

Work is not just a temporary endeavor, but a lifetime mission. As Genesis 3:19 reminds us, we work as long as we live. This includes both paid and volunteer work. Retirement should not be seen as the end of meaningful work, but rather an opportunity to pursue different avenues of service. Our vocations, whether in the workplace or in other areas of life, are meant to be carried out throughout our entire lives. They are not just a means to an end, but a way for us to contribute to the betterment of society and the advancement of God's kingdom.

As we approach this holiday weekend, let us remember the significance of our work and the impact it can have on others. May we strive to be a witness to the reality of Christ, both in our words and actions. And may we embrace our lifetime mission, finding fulfillment and purpose in the work we do, whether in our careers or in other areas of service.

Wishing you a blessed, refreshing, and fulfilling holiday with your friends and loved ones today.

- Fr. Roy



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: The Pharisees were devout Jewish men. They diligently followed the laws of Moses and the traditions of the elders which were passed on to them, and yet in the Gospel we see them being rebuked for being the hypocrites that Isaiah prophesized about. Although the Pharisees followed the law, Jesus sees their heart and saw that their actions did not come from a place of loving God and his law, but of pride and self-reliance. He tells the crowd "Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." In our desire for holiness, it can be easy to be caught up with the externals. As we participate more fully in the work of stewardship, it can be a temptation to share our time and talent because of the praise that we receive from the parishioners or pastor, and feel dejected when that praise does not come. Yet as Jesus reminds us in the gospel, our actions alone aren't what makes us holy, but it is what comes from within. As St Paul says in the second reading, "be doers of the word and not hearers only." When we truly listen and allow God's word to take root in our hearts, we undergo conversion and our actions that come from this conversion will be out of love and gratitude for God. As we listen to God's word, let us pray that we can allow it to take root in our hearts and transform us, producing within us fruits which we can share with those around us. Let us remember the words of St. Paul in the second reading, that every perfect gift comes from God. The gifts that we have come from the Lord, and we should share them out of gratitude for Him. Let us take time this week to evaluate the work that we do towards building up the kingdom of God, and ensure that all that we do is a labour of love, responding to the generous gifts God has given us and not out of selfish desires to be noticed.

To follow the law means nothing if not done out of love, for as Jesus says in the Gospel, that the things that come out from within are what defile the person. It can be easy for us in the work of stewardship to no longer share our time and talent out of love, but selfish motives as the Pharisees were doing in the Gospel. Let us always keep in mind that the gifts that we have are from the Lord, and that we share them out of gratitude for God who blesses us.

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.



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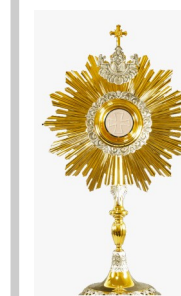
CONSIDER BECOMING A LITURGY TEACHERS AND/OR CATECHIST.

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.



The next **ST. THERESE PRAYER GROUP MEETING** will be held on Monday, September 9th following the 9:15 morning Mass.



This coming Friday, **September 6th is the First Friday of the month.** Mass is at 9:15 followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by some time of adoration and benediction at 12:00 noon.

VOCATION REFLECTION Our second Scripture reading reminds us that "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father ...". God's gifts should prompt a response of gratitude, which should be the basis of our daily lives.

If you feel God is offering you the gift of priesthood, religious life or diaconate, and you wish to respond generously, trusting in God, call **Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.**

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