

# St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

# 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, October 12 4:30pm

• +Vincenza Darmanin

#### Sunday, October 13 9:00am

• +Missa Pro Populo

#### 10:30am

- +Terese & Paul Calleja
- Intentions of Charles & Maria & Families
- +Pauline & Antonio Migliore

#### 12:00 noon

+Carmelo & Guza Vella

## Monday, October 14

+Auxibus & Burns Alexander

## **Tuesday**, October 15

- St. Teresa of Jesus
- +Edward Rajendran & Cosmas Alfred DeFry

# Wednesday, October 16

+Judith Saunders

# Thursday, October 17

- St. Ignatius of Antioch
- +Eugenio Sturino, Amalia, Mariano & Adelina Stellato

#### Friday, October 18 St. Luke

No Morning Mass



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On behalf of the Parish Staff, I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving Weekend! Thanksgiving Day arose and still remains a civil holiday. It is not surprising that many more people attend worship services on this day. Like our ancestors who paused during their busy and hard lives to give thanks to God for their sustenance, we also pause during our very busy lives to give thanks for the many blessings we have received. This day reminds us that giving thanks arises from all circumstances in life. Gratitude is a relational virtue—it reminds us that we always live in union with others.

Historical Significance and Modern Observance: Thanksgiving Day has deep historical roots, originating as a harvest festival. The tradition dates back to the early settlers who celebrated their first successful harvest with a feast, giving thanks for their survival and the help they received from the Native Americans. Today, Thanksgiving remains a civil holiday, celebrated with family gatherings, feasts, and expressions of gratitude. It is a time when many people attend worship services, reflecting on the blessings they have received throughout the year.

**The Importance of Pausing to Give Thanks:** In our fast-paced, modern lives, it is easy to get caught up in daily routines and forget to appreciate the good things we have. Thanksgiving serves as a reminder to pause and reflect on our blessings. Just as our ancestors took time out of their hard lives to give thanks, we too should take a moment to acknowledge the positive aspects of our lives, no matter how small they may seem. This act of pausing and reflecting can bring a sense of peace and contentment.

Gratitude in All Circumstances: Thanksgiving teaches us that gratitude should not be limited to times of abundance. True gratitude arises from all circumstances in life, whether we are experiencing joy or facing challenges. By cultivating a habit of gratitude, we can find something to be thankful for even in difficult times. This perspective helps us build resilience and maintain a positive outlook.

Gratitude as a Relational Virtue: Gratitude is more than just a personal feeling; it is a relational virtue that connects us with others. When we express gratitude, we acknowledge the contributions and support of those around us. This recognition strengthens our relationships and fosters a sense of community. By being grateful, we remind ourselves that we are not alone and that we live in union with others.

A Prayer for Thanksgiving Let us pray this prayer when we gather with our families this weekend:

Father all powerful, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite. On Thanksgiving Day, we come before you with gratitude for your kindness: open our hearts to concern for our neighbor, so that we may share your gifts in loving service. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Fr. Roy

## **GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRY THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE**

Help provide meals for the homeless and at-risk individuals in our community.

The most needed items are:

- Tuna & Canned Meat
- Coffee & Tea Bags
- Soup & Stews
- Condiments ( soy sauce, barbeque sauce, ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard)
- Peanut Butter & Jams
- Canned Tomatoes, Corn & Vegetables
- Beans & Chickpeas
- Pasta Sauce
- Granola Bas & Pancake Mix

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** This Thanksgiving weekend provides us the perfect opportunity to reflect on our lives and our commitment to stewardship. Let us consider the following passage from Cardinal Collins' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship\*. "Deep stewardship begins with gratitude and ends with accountability. Stewardship is sometimes called 'the attitude of gratitude.' We recognize gratefully that everything in life is a gift of God ... If each of us is profoundly aware that all is gift, then we are freed from possessiveness, and can be good stewards of what has been entrusted to us in life, sharing generously." Before we can generously share our time and talents with the parish community we must first realize that they are gifts from God. There are many fruitful practices we can adopt to help us cultivate this deeper sense of gratitude. Firstly, we must always remember that life itself is a beautiful gift. We can try to begin each day while we still lie in bed to simply say "thank you Lord for blessing me with another day." We will then be able to have a greater appreciation for our time on earth and work towards making better use of our lives. Additionally, this weekend when we have our family Thanksgiving dinner, perhaps we can go around the table and have each person say what they are thankful for this past year. Let us challenge ourselves to go deep and truly examine all of the blessings God has bestowed on our lives that we so often take for granted. Let us grow in our stewardship this weekend as we foster an "attitude of gratitude." This Thanksgiving Weekend let us ponder the following words from Cardinal Collin's Pastoral Letter on Stewardship. "Deep stewardship begins with gratitude and ends with accountability. Stewardship is sometimes called 'the attitude of gratitude.' We recognize gratefully that everything in life is a gift of God ... If each of us is profoundly aware that all is gift, then we are freed from possessiveness, and can be good stewards of what has been entrusted to us in life, sharing generously." - Thomas Cardinal Collins Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.

# DAY TRIP TO LONDON, ONTARIO on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18<sup>™</sup>

\$70.00 per person (Buffet Lunch included)

Departure from St. Paul's Church at 8:30 am Arrival to St. Paul's at approximately 7:00 pm

Our visit to London, Ontario will include:

- Mass
- Meet with members of the Maltese Canadian Club in London
- Lunch
- Tour of the Surrounding Area
- Free Time/Shopping.

For bookings or to get more information, please call the parish office at 416-767-7054.



100,000 people in Toronto are expected to turn to food charities for the first time in 2024. Through our parish's support, ShareLife, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of

Toronto, and a generous anonymous donor are committing \$750,000 to fund food banks and meal programs throughout the Archdiocese. Reaching our parish campaign goal will help to make these grants possible. We have currently raised \$15,425.00 towards our suggested goal of \$16,000.00.

Please help combat hunger at sharelife.org/donate or by giving at our parish using a ShareLife envelope Thank you for your compassion.

<b>CATECHISM CLASSES</b> Registrations for First Holy Communion and Confirmation classes open. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered on Saturday, May 3rd during the 4:30 evening Mass, and First Holy
Confirmation classes open. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered on Saturday, May
Communion on Sunday, May 26th during the 12 noon Mass.
Please take the appropriate form from the back of the church, or download it from our parish website:
www.stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org Alternatively, you can scan the appropriate QR code below that will take you directly to the registration form. You may drop off completed forms to the parish office, or send them via email to stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org Those who register will receive all relevant information from our catechists.
First Holy Communion Confirmation
Next Sunday, October 20th, is <b>WORLD MISSION</b> <b>SUNDAY</b> . On this day we remember in a special way, and thank God for, the many people (lay people, priests, Religious sisters and brothers) who leave all their comforts to bring God's message of love to others around the world. Many of them live in poor and difficult situations. Envelopes can be found with this bulletin or at the back of the church. <b>PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY</b>