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Sunday: 9:00am (English)

Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Every

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:30pm appointment)

Baptism: Please contact the oriests. Baptisms are held on the first Saturday of th month at 10:30am

#### First Friday: 8:40am to 9:10am

Saturdays: 4:45pm to 5:15pm Anytime by appointment.

#### Anointing of the Sick:

are reminded that this is not a sacrament that should be left for Sacrament for the sick, not just for the dying.

Contact the priests. Parishioners the last possible minute. It is a

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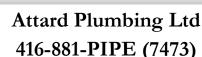
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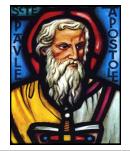
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#### Pastoral Team

Fr. Roy Francis Farrell Pastor

Deacon Raymond Frendo Permanent Deacon

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Daily morning Mass:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:15am (Maltese/English) Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am (English)

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

10:30am (Maltese/English) I 2:00pm (English)

Wednesday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

#### Secretary

Mrs. Rita Apalit

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Priest is always available by

#### SACRAMENTS

Marriages: Contact the priest one year in advance of the wedding. A marriage preparation course in mandatory.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation:

November 3, 2024

# St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

#### 3224 Dundas Street West. Toronto, Ontario M6P 2A3, Tel 416-767-7054 Email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

#### 31<sup>H</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Gospel Summary

In today's Gospel, the first part of Jesus' response to the scribe is taken from Deuteronomy 6:4-5. It is also the first part of the *Shema*, a very important section of the Torah that is recited by Jews in the morning and at night. This prayer is part of what is often written on pieces of parchment and placed in *mezuzahs*—or special containers—to be hung on the doorposts in the rooms in Jewish homes.

#### **Reflection for Parents**

Take some time to reflect on the first part of Jesus' response to the scribe. Consider whether you have put any other gods before the one true God—what people, things, attitudes, and behaviors are getting in the way of your relationship with God? What do you need to do in order to truly love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength?

#### **Bringing the Good News Into Your Family**

Work together to create a special container similar to a mezuzah. Decorate your container with crayons, markers, stickers, and embellishments that express faith and love. Invite each family member to choose a message from today's Gospel such as, "Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone!" or "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart" or "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Ask family members to write or draw their choices on parchment paper or on drawing paper. Have them place their messages in the special container. Place the container near the door your family most often uses. Explain that the container should encourage them to honor the Scripture passage they have written or drawn.

#### **Discussion Starters**

- 1. "The Lord our God is Lord alone!" means .
- 2. One way I can love God more is . . .
- 3. "Love your neighbor as yourself" means.
- 4. One way I love myself 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, November 2 4:30pm

All Souls Day

#### Sunday, November 3 9:00am

+Emanuel & James Magro

#### 10:30am

- +Benjamin Paul Haber
- +Doris Micallef
- + Deceased Members of the Camilleri Family

#### 12:00 noon

Missa Pro Populo

#### Monday, November 4

St. Chares Borromeo

+All Souls in Purgatory

#### Tuesday, November 5

+Cutajar & Zammit Family

#### Wednesday, November 6

+Mary Ann Debono

#### Thursday, November 7

+John Clark

## Friday, November 8

+Connie Gatt

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# From the Pastor...

As we step into the month of November, it is a profound time for us Catholics to remember our beloved deceased and reflect on the Church's teachings about life after death. This month is dedicated to praying for the souls in purgatory, aligning with the Catholic tradition of seeking to assist those who have departed from this world.

Why do we devote November to praying for the dead? The Church teaches that our prayers can help those in purgatory achieve the purification necessary to enter heaven. This belief is rooted in the understanding of the communion of saints, which emphasizes that the living and the dead are spiritually connected through Christ.

**The Practice of Going to the Cemetery:** Visiting the graves of loved ones is a tangible way of showing our love and respect for those who have passed. It serves as a reminder of our own mortality and the hope of resurrection. During November, many Catholics make it a point to visit cemeteries to pray for the souls of the faithful departed, reinforcing the bond between the living and the dead.

**Obtaining an Indulgence in November:** The Church offers the opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence for the souls in purgatory during this month. By visiting a cemetery and praying for the dead, alongside fulfilling the usual conditions (confession, communion, and prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father), we can obtain this indulgence. It is a beautiful act of mercy and love, helping to expedite the purification process for the deceased.

**Offering Masses for the Dead:** Catholics believe in the power of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass to benefit those in purgatory. By offering masses for the dead, we provide them with the spiritual graces needed for their journey towards heaven. It is an act of charity and solidarity, recognizing our responsibility to pray for those who have gone before us.

**Catholic Teaching on Purgatory:** Purgatory is a state of purification for those who have died in God's grace but still need to be purified from venial sins or have not fully atoned for past transgressions. The Church teaches that while purgatory is temporary, the purification process is essential for the soul's ultimate union with God. Our prayers, sacrifices, and masses can aid those in purgatory, bringing them closer to the joy of eternal life.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION** "You shall love The Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength ... You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." Love – that is what is at the core of our Christian stewardship. In response to God's love and goodness for us, we are inspired to love Him and our neighbour. Jesus isn't vague in his explanation on how we ought to love. Instead, he specifies in great detail that we are to love with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength. In essence, we are called to love with our entire lives. In order to love in this manner, it is essential to embrace a spirituality of stewardship. An authentic steward is called to offer the gifts of their time and talent to God and the Church. One way in which we can love through the gift of our time is through our dedication to prayer. We are woven out of time, so what we spend our time on greatly reflects what is most important to us. As stewards, we should set aside a portion of each day that is reserved solely for prayer. In regards to our talents, we can love others by sharing these gifts with our parish community through various ministries. For example, if we have an ability to sing, perhaps we can look to join a parish choir. Let us take some time to reflect on how we can better use our time and talents to love God and our neighbour with our entire lives.

Jesus teaches us that we are to love God and our neighbour with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength. In essence, we are called to love with our entire lives, which requires us to embrace a spirituality of stewardship. Let us take some time to reflect on how we can better use our time and talents to authentically and generously love Christ and the Church.

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.



- ◆ Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> All Saints Day & First Friday of the Month - Bilingual Mass at 9:15 am
- Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> All Souls Day Bilingual Mass at 9:15 am
- Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> Mass at Assumption Cemetery at 3:00 pm
- Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup> St. Therese of Lisieux Group will meet in St. Joseph's Room following morning Mass
- Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> English Mass at 6:30 pm to honour our loved ones who passed away this past year
- Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> Memorial Service at the Malta Band Club for deceased members at 3:00 pm
- Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> Memorial Service at the Melita Soccer Club for deceased members at 7:00 pm



Today we welcome Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services to our parish. Catholic Cemeteries are a vital part of the Catholic Church. Operated

under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Toronto, each Catholic cemetery and funeral home reflects our Catholic beliefs.

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#### **ALL SOULS CANDLES**

Special All Souls candles are available for purchase from the back of the church. These candles can be lit in memory of your loved ones or as a sign of your prayers for them.



# Deepening Our Participation in the Mass

The Mass is a profound encounter with Christ, a time when we come together as a community to worship and receive the Holy Eucharist. To fully participate, it helps to prepare our hearts and minds even before we enter the church. Start by reading the scripture readings before Mass begins. Reflect on them and find a word or phrase that stands out. Let this guide you through the week, offering spiritual nourishment and insight. Arriving early for Mass gives us a few moments of quiet reflection and allows us to ready ourselves to receive Christ. If there's any serious sin weighing on us, it's important to go to Confession. This sacrament cleanses our souls and prepares us to receive God's grace more fully. During Mass, our responses should be heartfelt. The words we say aloud should echo the devotion in our hearts. Participation isn't just about speaking the responses but truly engaging with the prayers and hymns. Remember, being a Christian is about continually encountering Christ—not just on Sundays but throughout the week. Regular prayer helps to nourish this relationship. There are many resources available on Catholic websites and in bookstores to support your spiritual journey. Additionally, participating in other sacraments, such as baptism, confirmation, and marriage, can deepen your faith and relationship with Christ. The Mass is a sacred and significant event in the life of a Catholic, and by actively participating and engaging in the various elements, we can truly experience the grace and presence of Christ in our lives. Let's make a conscious effort to deepen our participation in the Mass, embracing every opportunity to draw nearer to Christ.

Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 2nd.