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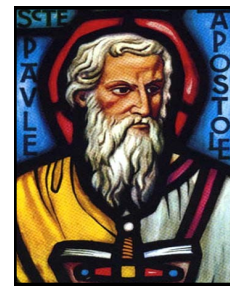
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 Deacon Raymond Frendo
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MASS SCHEDULE
Daily morning Mass:
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday
 9:15am (Maltese/English)
 Tuesday & Thursday
 9:15am (English)
Weekend Masses:
Saturday: 4:30pm (English)
Sunday:
 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: 3:45pm to 4:15pm
 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.

January 26, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gospel Summary
 The first part of today's Gospel introduces Luke's Gospel and Acts. Luke recalled for his readers that stories had been handed down by eye-witnesses and written down by others. He intended, however, to improve on the order of these earlier accounts. The lectionary moves us to another beginning and that is the beginning of Jesus' ministry. He had traveled throughout Galilee teaching in the synagogue. This day, he was in his home town of Nazareth where he unrolled a scroll and proclaimed the words of Isaiah. The Spirit of the Lord will come upon one who will free captives, favor the poor, and give sight to the blind. After Jesus rolled up the scroll, he told his listeners that those words had been fulfilled in him.

Reflection for Families
 Children are really all the things listed in what Jesus read from Isaiah. They are poor because they really depend on parents for their every material need. They are not free because they are too young and inexperienced to live on their own. While they're not completely blind, much of what they do see has been shaped by their parent's vision. When we think of all parents do for their children, it becomes clearer all that Jesus is for us.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family
 Who are the oppressed people in your community, neighborhood, or parish? Is there another family carrying a heavy burden right now? Reach out to that family in hospitality. Perhaps you could invite them over for an evening of cards or board games, or send them a "thinking-of-you" card. Be sure to keep them in our family's daily prayers.

Discussion Starters
 One thing I was really blind to once was ... The person who helped me see was ...
 2. One way I set captives free is by ...
 3. One way I could try harder to bring Good News to others is by ...

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 25
4:30pm
 • +Richard Bielecki

Sunday, January 26
9:00am
 • Missa Pro Populo

10:30am
 • +Mike Muscat
 • +George Pulo
 • +Joseph & Carmen Gové
 • +Joseph & Matilda Zammit
 • +Natalino, Rosa, Anthony, Charlie & Albert Taliana
 • +Joseph & Grace Bugeja
 • +Silvana Dewe & Emanuella Micallef
 • +Mary Seychell

12:00 noon
 • +Joe Sammut

Monday, January 27
 • +Doris, Joseph & Catherine Micallef

Tuesday, January 28
St. Thomas Aquinas
 • +Frank Grech & Carmen Moreira

Wednesday, January 29
 • +Mike Muscat

Thursday, January 30
 • +Zammit & Cutajar Families

Friday, January 31
St. John Bosco
 • +Frank Grech

From the Pastor...

In this week's reflection, I want to focus on the Jubilee Year of 2025 and how we can make the most of its spiritual benefits. Pope Francis has officially declared 2025 as a Jubilee Year, a time of great significance in the Catholic Church. The theme for this Jubilee Year is "Pilgrims of Hope," which invites us to embark on a journey towards hope and renewal in our faith. During this special year, we are called to reflect on our lives, deepen our relationship with God, seek forgiveness, and extend mercy to others. It is an opportunity for us to reconnect with our spiritual roots, experience personal transformation, and contribute to the betterment of our communities. To make the most of this Jubilee Year spiritually, we can engage in various practices that will enrich our faith and bring us closer to God. Some practical ways to live out this Jubilee Year include taking part in pilgrimage, engaging in acts of mercy and charity, attending spiritual retreats and conferences, studying Scripture, practicing regular prayer and reflection, and actively taking part in the sacraments. By embracing these opportunities, we can fully immerse ourselves in the spirit of the Jubilee Year and receive the abundant blessings and graces that it offers.

Practical Ideas

1. **Daily Prayer:** Set aside time each day for prayer and reflection. This can be a quiet moment in the morning, a family prayer at dinner, or a night prayer before bed.
2. **Acts of Mercy:** Perform acts of mercy such as visiting the sick, helping the poor, or volunteering in your community. These acts bring us closer to Christ and help spread His love.
3. **Attend Mass Regularly:** take part in Sunday Mass and other liturgical celebrations. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith.
4. **Read Scripture:** read and meditating on the Bible. Reflect on God's word and how it applies to your life.

Seek Reconciliation: Make use of the sacrament of reconciliation. Confess your sins and receive God's forgiveness.

Suggested Prayers

1. **Short Morning Prayer:** Lord, open my heart to Your love and grace today. Help me be a light to others."
2. **Short Evening Prayer:** God, thank You for the blessings of this day. Help me rest in Your peace tonight.

Prayer for Mercy: Merciful Father, grant me the grace to forgive others as You have forgiven me. Help me show mercy to those in need.

Obtaining a Plenary Indulgence

To obtain a plenary indulgence during the Jubilee Year, follow these steps:

1. **Receive the Sacraments:** Go to confession and receive Holy Communion.
2. **Pray for the Pope's Intentions:** Pray for the intentions of the Pope, which are often shared in church bulletins or online.
3. **Visit a Jubilee Church:** Visit one of the designated Jubilee Churches..

Perform Acts of Charity: Engage in acts of charity, such as helping the poor or visiting the sick.

Simple Explanation of Jubilee Year

The Jubilee Year is a special time in the Catholic Church when we celebrate God's mercy and forgiveness. It is a year-long pilgrimage of hope, where we seek to deepen our faith, receive God's grace, and share that grace with others¹. The Jubilee Year reminds us of the importance of forgiveness, reconciliation, and acts of mercy.

May this Jubilee Year be a time of spiritual renewal and growth for all of us. Let us walk together as Pilgrims of Hope, spreading the love and mercy of Christ to the world.

- Fr. Roy

UPDATE ON FUNDRAISING FOR OUR NEW HEATING SYSTEM

We are delighted to share that, thanks to your unwavering generosity and support, we have successfully raised **\$15,762.00** towards our new heating system. This incredible milestone is a testament to the strength and unity of our community, and we couldn't have achieved this without each one of you.

The completion of this project marks a significant improvement in our church facilities, ensuring a warm and comfortable environment for all our Masses and other gatherings, especially during the cold winter months. Your contributions have made a tangible difference, and we are deeply grateful for your kindness and dedication.

However, our journey doesn't end here. We are eager to keep the momentum! No amount is too small, and every contribution brings us closer to our goals. Together, we can achieve great things and build a stronger, more vibrant community.

Thank you once again for your generosity and commitment. Let's keep this spirit of giving alive and work towards a brighter future for our church.

VOCATION REFLECTION

You are the body of Christ; every one of you is a member of it. As a member of the body, we serve different roles. Are you willing to do your part?

If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

In today's second reading St. Paul teaches us a great lesson that can enrich our lives of stewardship. He says, "Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." We are made up of many different body parts that each have their own important and distinct role to play in order for the entire body to live. It is the same way in the Church. The Church is made up of many individuals who are all uniquely and wonderfully made. If we tried to change ourselves to become like someone else, we would be robbing the Church of our own unique contributions. St. Therese uses a beautiful image of a garden to express the importance of embracing who God made us to be. She says, "The splendor of the rose and the whiteness of the lily do not rob the little violet of its scent nor the daisy of its simple charm. If every tiny flower wanted to be a rose, spring would lose its loveliness." In our lives of stewardship, these different types of flowers represent how all of us have our own unique set of gifts from God. When we recognize that we each have our own strengths, we are less likely to compare ourselves to others and we begin to rid ourselves of envy and pride. We all have a role to play in our parish communities. Let us gratefully acknowledge the unique gifts God has given us and seek ways to offer them back to the Church.

In today's second reading, St. Paul tells us that just as the body is made up of many individual parts, so too the church is made up of many individual disciples, all of which have an important role to play. We each have a unique set of gifts and talents that God has bestowed only on us. Let us gratefully acknowledge these unique gifts us and seek ways to offer them back to the Church.

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.

MARRIAGE SUNDAY On the second Sunday of February each year, the Archdiocese of Toronto celebrates **Marriage Sunday**. In 2025, it will be celebrated on the weekend of February 8/9. This occasion highlights the importance of the institution of marriage rooted in faith, affirms couples who strengthen our faith community through their witness, and complements World Marriage Sunday celebrations that take place across North America.

Parishes and the lay faithful are called upon to affirm the sacrament of Matrimony and to honour married couples in the community. We are also grateful to those who assist couples as they prepare for marriage and to those engaged in marriage enrichment programs or lay movements to support the sacrament of Matrimony.

As part of Marriage Sunday 2025 celebrations, Bishop Ivan Camilleri will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2025. The Mass will take place **at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 9, 2025 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto)**. All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment.

All are welcome to attend. Couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversary in 2025 may register for reserved seating. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via [livestream Mass](#). The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m.

Registration and other important information can be found at www.archtoronto.org/