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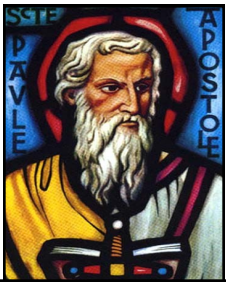
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Pastoral Team

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)

Sunday:

9:00am (English)
10:30am (Maltese/English)
12:00pm (English)

Weekly Adoration of the

Blessed Sacrament:

Every Wednesday 7pm - 8pm

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent after
9:15am Mass

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.

May 4, 2025

St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

3224 Dundas Street West,

Toronto, Ontario M6P 2A3, Tel 416-767-7054

Email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Gospel Summary

For the third time since his resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples. It seems that the disciples had returned to their former lives—those they had lived before they left to follow Jesus—because they were fishing in the Sea of Galilee. Jesus stood on the shore and called out to the men in the boat asking if they had caught anything. The disciples replied that they had caught nothing. Jesus then instructed them to cast their net on the right side of the boat. When they did, they had a huge catch of 153 fish. They knew from this sign that it was Jesus on the shore. When they came ashore, Jesus cooked their breakfast of fish. When they finished eating, Jesus asked Peter three times if Peter loved him. This was a great example of reconciliation because the opportunities for Peter to affirm his love of Jesus matched the same number of times he denied knowing him. It was then that Jesus commissioned Peter to care for the sheep in Jesus' flock.

Reflection for Families

As parents we know a great deal about caring for sheep in the flock. We work long, hard, and diligently to make sure that our children receive the physical, emotional, and spiritual care they require. We are challenged by this Gospel reading to move outside our immediate "flock" and care for all of God's children. Our own children will learn the essence of this Gospel when they see us reconcile with others and go outside our small worlds to help others.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Jesus invites us to follow him in the ordinary ways of our lives. An example of following Jesus can be seen in the reconciliation that transpired between Jesus and Peter. Out of paper, cut out some fish. On each paper fish invite every family member to put the name of someone they might need to reconcile with during this Easter season. You might even help one another decide on what action you will take.

Discussion Starters

1. One time when Jesus "filled my net" was when. . .
2. When Jesus asks me, "Do you love me?" I show my love by . . .
3. I help take care of Jesus' sheep by . . .

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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, May 3

4:30pm

- +Doris, Joseph & Catherine Micallef

Sunday, May 4

9:00am

- +Emanuel & James Magro

10:30am

- +Vic & Josephine Attard & Family
- +Joseph Farrugia
- +Carmen Cachia
- +Paolo Corapi

12:00 noon

- Missa Pro Populo

Monday, May 5

- Linda Czerniawski (birthday)

Tuesday, May 6

- +Frank & Gustav Grech

Wednesday, May 7

- For the people of the Parish

Thursday, May 8

- Fr. Roy's 26th year Anniversary of Priesthood Ordination

Friday, May 9

- +Joe Farrugia

2

From our Pastor's Desk...

As the Church dedicates the month of May to Mary, the Mother of God, it is a time for deep reflection on her role in salvation history and the power of prayer—especially the Rosary. This cherished devotion not only draws us closer to Mary but also to her Son, Jesus Christ, through a meditation on His life, death, and resurrection.

The story of Louis Pasteur, a brilliant scientist and devout Catholic, offers a touching testimony to the comfort and grace that the Rosary can bring. As he approached his final moments, he asked his doctor to tell his wife that he died reciting the Rosary. This simple yet profound act speaks to the peace and hope that Mary offers to those who entrust themselves to her intercession.

Sacred Scripture reveals the significance of prayer in the life of Mary. Following Jesus’ Ascension, the Blessed Mother gathered with the apostles in the upper room, praying fervently for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. Her unwavering faith and steadfast devotion remind us of the power of prayer in times of uncertainty and transition.

Mary’s role in salvation history is unparalleled. With a humble and courageous “yes” to God’s plan, she became the Mother of the Savior. Through her willingness to surrender to divine will, she changed the course of human history—bringing forth the light of Christ into a world in need of redemption. Her example continues to inspire generations of Christians to live lives of faith, love, and obedience to God’s will.

As her spiritual children, we look to Mary for guidance and encouragement. She calls us to be people of prayer, inviting us to deepen our relationship with her Son through the Rosary. This treasured devotion is more than a series of prayers—it is a journey through Scripture, leading us to meditate on the joyful, sorrowful, luminous, and glorious mysteries of Christ’s life. The Rosary is a gift that allows us to enter into the heart of the Gospel, strengthening our faith and drawing us ever closer to God.

The beauty of the Rosary lies in its simplicity and depth. It encompasses our most fundamental Catholic prayers—the Sign of the Cross, the Apostles’ Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be—yet it provides a profound opportunity to contemplate the life of Christ. When recited with reverence and focus, the Rosary becomes a powerful channel of grace, transforming hearts and minds through the mysteries of salvation.

Distractions will inevitably arise as we pray, but instead of becoming discouraged, we should turn to the Holy Spirit, asking for guidance and perseverance. When we entrust our prayers to Mary with complete trust in her intercession, we open ourselves to the abundant graces she longs to pour out upon us. As the first and most faithful disciple of Christ, she walks with us, leading us ever closer to her Son.

During this sacred month of May, let us renew our devotion to the Blessed Mother and embrace the Rosary as a source of strength, peace, and spiritual renewal. In honoring Mary, we deepen our love for Christ, allowing His presence to transform our lives through prayer and faith.

- Fr. Roy

A FLOWER FOR MOM

To pay tribute to our deceased mothers, during Mother's Day weekend, during the Sunday Masses this weekend, we will be recording their names. Volunteers will be available at the back of the church to assist.

Then, on the weekend of Mother's Day, flowers will be put next to the Remembrance Book placed in the sanctuary. The Remembrance Book will list all the names you would have provided.

STEWARDSHIP REFELCTION In the Gospel this Sunday we’re called to reflect on the rich and important exchange where Jesus asks Peter, “Do you love me?” Firstly, it is important to note the original translation of this passage. The first time Jesus asks Peter he uses the word “agape,” which is an unconditional, self-sacrificial love. The same type of love that Jesus has for us. However, in Peter’s response he uses the word “philia,” which is the love between friends. Although philia is still beautiful, it isn’t raised to the same heights of agape. This same exchange of agape and philia occurs the second time Jesus asks Peter. However, when Jesus asks the third time, it is He who uses the word philia, asking Peter if he can love Him as a friend. This is why it says Peter felt hurt, because it seemed like Jesus lowered the standard for the type of love Peter was called to. However, the beautiful reality is that Jesus instead understands and meets Peter at the level of love he’s currently comfortable with. Yet Jesus doesn’t desire Peter to remain at that level. He goes on to foretell the kind of death he would one day suffer, signifying that He would one day be able to love Jesus agape. Jesus does the same in the lives of all of His stewards. He desires all of us to love Him unconditionally, yet He meets us where we currently are and helps us to slowly advance in love. Let us always seek to love Christ and His Church and pray this simple prayer, “Jesus I love you, help me to love you more each day.”

When Jesus first asks Peter if he loves Him, he uses the term “agape,” signifying an unconditional love, to which Peter replies, “philia,” the love of friends. However, by the third time it is Jesus who asks Peter if he will love him philia, which, rather than an insult, is the beautiful reality that Jesus meets Peter where he currently is. So too in our lives, Jesus accepts the current level of love we’re comfortable with, but like Peter, He slowly desires and leads us to embrace a deeper way of loving Him and the Church.

Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.



**3rd Sunday of Easter
ShareLife Sunday
May 4, 2025**

Living the Gospel by providing for those in need.

On the second ShareLife Sunday, we call upon your compassionate hearts to support your vulnerable brothers and sisters in need. More people than ever are turning to our agencies for help. The kind-heartedness of ShareLife supporters like you enables access to essential programs and services, such as the treatment program and transitional housing at St. Michael’s Homes. For Jack, your support was transformative. After moving to start a physically demanding job, he suffered a knee injury which ultimately left him unemployed and addicted to pain medication. Thanks to your empathy, Jack had a safe space to overcome his addiction and gained the power to build himself back up.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.



St. Therese of the Child Jesus Group will meet on **Monday, May 5th at 10:00 am** in St. Joseph's Room.



VOCATION REFLECTION How am I being called to feed the lambs of Jesus? Could it be as an ordained or consecrated person?

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



A heartfelt **congratulations** to **Richard Cumbo** on receiving the Lieutenant Governor’s Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement. His tireless work

and steadfast devotion to heritage preservation are an inspiration to many. His contributions have enriched the cultural fabric of the community, ensuring that Maltese traditions and history remain vibrant for generations to come.

And to the **Maltese-Canadian Museum** and its dedicated volunteers—what an extraordinary recognition of your leadership and service! This award for Community Leadership is a testament to your unwavering efforts in preserving, educating, and celebrating Maltese culture in Ontario. Your commitment, driven by pure passion, exemplifies the very best of volunteerism, and the community is stronger because of your hard work.

Thank you for your invaluable contributions, your dedication, and your love for your heritage. Your work ensures that history remains alive and that future generations can take pride in their cultural identity. This achievement is truly well deserved! **Bravo!**