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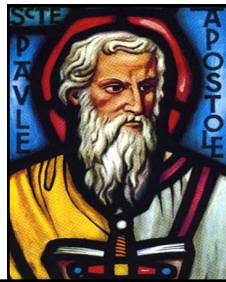
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**Pastoral Team**

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 25, 2025**

# St. Paul the Apostle Maltese-Canadian Parish

**3224 Dundas Street West,**

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

Email: [stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org](mailto:stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org)

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### Gospel Summary

In this Gospel, Jesus prepared his disciples for his return to God. Jesus promised them that the Holy Spirit would live within them and provide strength and courage. The Spirit would always be available to help them as a counselor and advocate. Through the Spirit, they would recall the words and teachings of Jesus and even come to understand these things in a way that they could not before. In addition the disciples would receive peace from the Spirit. The peace of the Spirit would be a “shalom” kind of peace which provided a special inner serenity.

### Reflection for Families

This reading is especially helpful when parents have to explain death to their children. Jesus told his disciples that if they truly loved him, they would be happy that he was going to be with his Father. While the words are sometimes hard, even for us as we face a loss through death, our faith lets us know that Jesus and our loved ones are truly happy in a way we can't fully understand. Jesus offered the Spirit to the disciples because he knew the days ahead would be hard for them. It is that same Spirit that helps us and our families when we face hard days following a death. The greatest news in this reading is that Jesus will be back for us!

### Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would be with us in the world until he returned for us. Take a look in your parish bulletin, local newspaper, or at school, work, or in your neighborhood and list as many examples as you can where you see the Holy Spirit at work in the world. If you notice someone on your list who needs to be reminded that the Spirit is active in their lives, call or visit them and let Jesus' presence be seen through you.

### Discussion Starters

1. This week I saw the Holy Spirit's presence in . . .
2. One time I know the Holy Spirit was really guiding me was when . . .
3. It helps me to know that Jesus is coming back for us especially when I think about . . .

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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](http://stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org) or simply scan the QR code below.



## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, May 24**

**4:30pm**

- +Deceased members of the Grech & Schembri Families

**Sunday, May 25**

**9:00am**

- +Veronica Micallef

**10:30am**

- +Emanuel Cutajar
- +Natalino, Rosa, Anthony
- +Charlie & Albert Taliana
- +Joseph & Grace Bugeja
- +Silvana Dewe & Emanuella Micallef
- +John & Anthony Sultana

**12:00 noon**

- +Frank Cini

**Monday, May 26**

*St. Philip Neri*

- +All Souls in Purgatory

**Tuesday, May 27**

- +Doris, Joseph & Catherine Micallef

**Wednesday, May 28**

- +Emanuel Grech

**Thursday, May 29**

*The Ascension of the Lord*

- +Frank & Gustav Grech

**Friday, May 30**

- +Zammit & Cutajar Families



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## From our Pastor’s Desk...

This past Sunday, many of us witnessed a historic moment—the **inauguration of Pope Leo XIV**. It was a beautiful and deeply symbolic Mass, reminding us of the sacred duty entrusted to the Holy Father as the Vicar of Christ. As Pope Leo XIV begins his papacy, let us take a moment to reflect on the significance of his mission and the responsibility he carries in leading the Church.

The Pope’s role is not merely administrative; he is a shepherd guiding the faithful, a voice of unity, and a beacon of hope in a world that often feels divided. His inaugural Mass was attended by thousands, including world leaders, religious figures, and pilgrims from across the globe. His homily emphasized the importance of unity within the Church and the call to be a “leaven of harmony for humanity.” This message is one we must take to heart—praying not only for Pope Leo XIV but also for the Church as a whole, that it may continue to be a source of peace and reconciliation in our world.

Let us **pray for our new Pope**, that he may be strengthened in wisdom, courage, and faith as he leads the Church forward. May his words inspire us to deepen our own commitment to Christ and to live out the Gospel with love and humility.

### First Holy Communion: A Sacred Encounter with Christ

This weekend, we celebrate a truly special occasion—**First Holy Communion**. For the children receiving this sacrament, it is a moment of profound grace, marking the beginning of their journey in the Eucharistic life. As they approach the altar for the first time, they receive Christ in the most intimate way possible, becoming one with Him in the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. Each time we receive Holy Communion, we are invited into a deeper relationship with Christ, nourished by His presence and strengthened in our spiritual journey. However, it is essential that we approach the Eucharist with reverence and a heart prepared to receive Him. The Church teaches that we must be in a **state of grace**, free from serious sin, when receiving Holy Communion. This is a reminder of the importance of regular confession, self-examination, and a sincere desire to grow in holiness.

Let us **pray for the children** receiving their First Holy Communion, that they may always cherish this sacred gift and remain close to Christ throughout their lives. May their faith be nurtured by their families and strengthened by the community, so that they may grow into faithful disciples of Christ.

At the same time, let us reflect on our own reception of the Eucharist. Do we approach the altar with hearts full of gratitude and reverence? Do we take time to prepare ourselves spiritually, ensuring that we are in a state of grace? May this weekend’s celebration serve as a reminder to all of us of the incredible gift we receive in the Eucharist and the responsibility that comes with it.

### The Bus Trip to St. Paul’s Basilica: Building Community Through Pilgrimage

On **Thursday, June 5th**, we embark on a special journey—a bus trip to **St. Paul’s Basilica**. Pilgrimages, whether near or far, hold a unique place in the life of the Church. They are moments of reflection, renewal, and communal bonding. Traveling together as a faith community allows us to step away from our daily routines and immerse ourselves in prayer, fellowship, and shared experiences.

Bus trips like these are more than just logistical arrangements; they are opportunities to **build community**. As we travel together, we share conversations, laughter, and moments of reflection. We strengthen our bonds as brothers and sisters in Christ, supporting one another in faith and friendship. These journeys remind us that we are not alone in our spiritual walk—we are part of a larger family, united in Christ.

For me, this trip holds particular significance, as it will be my **last bus trip before I move**. Transitions can be bittersweet, filled with both excitement and uncertainty. As I prepare for my new assignment, I ask for your prayers—that God may guide me in this next chapter of my ministry, and that I may continue to serve His people with love and dedication.

Let us **pray for this journey**, that it may be a time of grace and renewal for all who participate. May our visit to St. Paul’s Basilica deepen our faith and remind us of the beauty of pilgrimage. And as we travel together, may we be reminded of the importance of community—the friendships we form, the faith we share, and the love that binds us together as members of Christ’s Church.

May God bless each of us as we walk this journey of faith together. Let us remain united in prayer, strengthened by the Eucharist, and committed to building a Church that reflects the love and mercy of Christ.

- Fr. Roy

### STEWARDSHIP REFELCTION

The life of the Christian disciple is one that should be filled with great peace. However, peace does not mean the absence of difficulties or trials. Rather, true peace is living in joy despite the turbulences we may experience. We’re reminded in the Gospel that we can only receive this peace from Jesus. He tells us, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.” How does the world give peace? The world tells us that if we have lots of money in the bank, the fancy car, the extravagant house and the perfect looks, then we will be at peace. It promotes peace as something that is achieved through exterior possessions or circumstances. However, what does the world offer us when difficulties arise? How does the world teach peace in the midst of tough financial situations or an unfavourable medical diagnoses? This is where the peace of Christ triumphs. We can achieve a sense of interior peace despite the exterior sufferings when we fix our minds on things that are heavenly. We can always draw great strength from realizing our identity as beloved children of God. God loves us. This reality alone has the profound effect of easing the greatest of crosses. St. Teresa of Avila says “Let nothing perturb you, nothing frighten you. All things pass. God does not change. Patience achieves everything.” God is always faithful towards us. The next time we’re in a moment that threatens to rob us of our peace, let us take a deep breath, call to mind the smiling gaze of Christ towards us, and pray, “Jesus I love you.”

Jesus tell us “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.” The world promotes peace as something that is achieved through exterior possessions or circumstances yet it offers no remedy for times of great trial. On the other hand, with Jesus, the next time we’re in a moment that threatens to rob us of our peace, let us take a deep breath, call to mind the smiling gaze of Christ towards us, and pray, “Jesus I love you.”

*Taken from excerpts from the Archdiocese of Toronto website.*

 **6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**May 25, 2025**

### Your love can help others thrive

Mental health challenges can impact anyone, whether you're personally navigating them or supporting someone who is. These struggles transcend age and circumstance. Brenda was weighed down by shame, having battled anxiety and depression for decades. Through your support, she found a new perspective at a Catholic Family Services agency funded by ShareLife, where counselling lifted her up and allowed her to see her own worth. **Your compassion is instrumental in helping others see themselves as God sees them: loving, important, and enough.** Thank you for living the Gospel by helping relieve the pain of those facing silent battles.

Thus far we have raised **\$7,280.00** toward our goal of **\$18,500.00**. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate).

### WELCOME

High Commissioner, Mark Pace, will be visiting our parish on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> during the 10:30 am Mass. While in Toronto, Mark will visit the Malta Bake Shop and the Melita Soccer Club, and will attend the Anniversary Dinner of the Malta Band Club on May 31."

### VOCATION REFLECTION

Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him and we will come to Him. How will I respond to that love? Am I being called to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life?

If God is calling you contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

[vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)      [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)



### POPE’S PASTORAL WORKS

Next weekend, May 31st/June 1st, there will be a special collection for the Pope’s Pastoral Works. The Papal Charities collection allows the Pope to contribute to various charitable causes around the world, particularly toward aiding the victims of war, famine and natural disasters. Envelopes are included with this bulletin, and can also be found at the back of the church.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

The award-winning Maltese-Canadian Museum, along with over 150 other organizations, will be participating in "Doors Open Toronto" this weekend of May 24th and 25th.

A variety of events will take place at the museum throughout the weekend. Opening hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Admission is free.**