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St. Paul the Apostle Church
Maltese-Canadian
Community Parish

3224 Dundas Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 2A3
416-767-7054

email: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org
 Website: www.stpaultheapostleto.archtoronto.org

Administrator: Fr. Ivano Burdian M SSP
Parish Secretary: Mrs. Rita Apalit

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS
 The Parish office will be closed from Tuesday, December 27th to Friday, December 30th.

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS
 Tuesday to Friday: 10:00 am to 5:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULES & OTHER ACTIVITIES

Weekday Morning Mass
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 9:15 am (Maltese)
 Tuesday & Thursday - 9:15 am (English)

First Friday of the Month:
 Mass in Maltese at 9.15 am,
 followed by Adoration & Benediction

Weekend Masses;
 Saturday 5:30 pm (English)
 Sunday: 9:00 am (English)
 10:30 am (Maltese)
 12:00 noon (English)

Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 No Adoration this Wednesday, December 28th. Weekly Adoration will resume on Wednesday, January 4 at 7:00pm

• **SACRAMENTS**

Baptism: Please contact the Rectory.
 Baptisms are held every 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month at 10:30am.

Marriages:
 Contact the priest at least one year in advance of the wedding.
 A marriage preparation course is required.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 Any day, by appointment; call the office.

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.



Mission Statement

We, the community of St Paul the Apostle, are a Maltese-Canadian personal Parish, founded on September 8, 1930, and administered by the Missionary Society of St Paul. We are a faith community reflecting the gospel values of Christ according to the teaching and tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. We serve the Maltese community, welcoming also other people from other nationalities. Our mission is to follow Christ by sharing our gifts of time, talent and treasure: by imitating Christ; and by giving witness to our faith through our everyday lives..

- Saturday, December 24**
8:00pm - Maltese
- Paul Delicata
- 12:00 midnight**
- Ricardo & Linda Apalit
 - Nenu Dingli
 - Rita Caruana
 - Sam Cassar
 - Francesca & Antonio Capizzano
 - Rosina & Salvatore Chiappetta

- Sunday, December 25**
9:00am
- Rita Caruana
- 10:30am**
- Emanuel, Carmela, Tessie & Joseph Psaila
 - Tony Axiak
 - Grace Bugeja
 - Charlie & Albert Taliana
 - Emmanuela Micallef
 - Joseph Bugeja
 - Natalino & Rosa Taliana

- 12:00 noon**
- Maria Fenech
 - Ricardo & Linda Apalit
 - Paul Delicata
 - John & Carmen Debono
 - Mario Capizzano

Monday, December 26

- Camilleri Family

Tuesday, December 27

- Doris Micallef

Wednesday, December 28

- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass
- Camilleri Family
- Enzo Gusman

Thursday, December 29

- Camilleri Family

Friday, December 30

MASS INTENTIONS

December 25, 2022
Nativity of our Lord - Year A

Sunday Reflection...

written by Teresa Whalen Lux

Think about some traditional depictions of the Nativity: Mary gazing adoringly at her baby who lies in a pristine manger; Joseph serenely standing guard; the stable animals keeping a respectful distance. Hmm. Somehow I doubt the first Christmas looked much like that. Mary especially would have been exhausted from the long trek to Bethlehem, the fruitless search for lodging and the anxious hours of labour in a cold, dark cave. Finally, after giving birth, she placed the newborn in a food trough, surrounded by smelly, noisy animals. Not quite the same picture, is it?

But what a great image to help us ponder the mystery of the Incarnation! John's Gospel tells us that in the birth of Jesus, we have seen God's glory. What the Nativity story shows us is that it's not in majesty and perfection that we see the glory of God, but in the chaos of the ordinary human life.

God doesn't wait for the perfect conditions to come to us. Rather, God is with us now in the messiest and darkest of situations: broken relationships, financial hardships, family tensions, grief over lost loved ones. At Christmas, we celebrate the God who comes to us as a light in our darkness. Our hearts filled with gratitude, we welcome that light into our lives today.

*Taken from the Living with Christ booklet
Vol. 28, Christmas Edition; page 24*



NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Due to the fact that the Missionary Society of St. Paul will no longer be active in the New Year here at St. Paul's, our present email address, stpaulmssp@gmail.com, will also become inactive in the new year. Please be advised that our new email address is: stpaultheapostleto@archtoronto.org

DONATIONS AND PAYMENTS

Because of the change of our email address, as of January 1, 2023, WE WILL NOT be able to accept e-transfers any longer. Those wishing to send donations or pay for Mass Offerings may do so by putting money in an envelope and dropping it in the offertory basket during Mass, dropping it off at the rectory during office hours, or by sending us a cheque. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and understanding.

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT!

We will be introducing our new Administrator, **Fr. Roy Farrell**, to the Parish Community in the near future. More information to follow.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24th
8:00 pm Mass in Maltese

11:15 Vigil in English which will include Christmas Carols and the Child's Message followed by Midnight Mass in English

Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25th
Masses as per Sunday Schedule

New Year's Eve: Saturday, December 31st
5:30 pm Mass in English

New Year's Day: Sunday, January 1st
Masses as per Sunday Schedule



2023 CALENDARS

As you all may know, our 2023 Calendars have arrived. Many parishioners have already taken the opportunity of obtaining a copy. Be sure to get yours before they are all gone! We request your cooperation, and ask that you take only one copy per household. You can obtain a copy from the back of the church or from the Parish Office

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE RESULTS

*And the
Winners
are...*

Thank you to all who purchased tickets for this year's Christmas Raffle, as all proceeds went to the Parish.

The prizes went to the following parishioners:

- 1st Prize - 9 pcs. Nativity Set - Rita Apalit
- 2nd Prize - Statue of Baby Jesus - Connie Gatt
- 3rd Prize - 1 pc. Nativity Set - Margaret Merceica

OFFICE CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday, December 27th to Friday, December 30th, and will re-open on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023.

*Frs. Ivano, Dominic and
Fr. Mario, wish you and
all your loved ones a
most Blessed and Happy
Christmas.*



Bookings are still available for our parish's New Year's Eve Dinner-Dance.

Apart from being served a 7-Course Meal, each table will have one bottle of red

wine and one bottle of white wine; and of course champagne at midnight will be served at midnight to celebrate the New Year!

You can purchase your tickets by contacting Freda at 416-762-1891. Prices are \$60.00 for Adults; \$25.00 for children 5-12 years old; and children 5 years and under are free. To reduce waste and unnecessary expenses, bookings and purchases must be made by Wednesday, December 28th.

Let's welcome 2023 together in a joyful and friendly manner, with good food, a good atmosphere, and good company, especially since this is the last New Year we will be celebrating with the MSSP Fathers.

2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

There are still some boxes of offertory envelopes that have not been picked up yet. Please make sure that it is your box, double check the address, as your number may have changed, especially those who have had an envelope number over 300 in the past. May we take this opportunity to thank you for your continuous support for the parish, it is all very much appreciated.

