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Website: [www.saint-paul-maltese.com](http://www.saint-paul-maltese.com)

**Pastor:** Fr. Mario Micallef MSSP  
**Associate Pastor:** Fr. Ivano Burdian MSSP  
**Parish Secretary:** Mrs. Rita Apalit

**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**  
Wednesday: 7:00pm - 8:00pm

**SACRAMENTS**  
**Baptism:** Please contact the Rectory.  
Baptisms are held every Saturday 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, May 7**
- Angelo & Mario Tabone
  - Francesco & Mary Ann Tonna
  - Grace Sciberras
  - Michael Attard
  - Anthony Sultana (2nd Anniversary - Death)

- Sunday, May 8**  
**9:00am**
- Jane Farrugia
  - Joseph Aquilina
  - Patricia Nielsen & Maria DiMauro
- 10:30am**
- Enzo Gusman
  - Pauline Migliore

- 12:00 noon**
- Carmen Muscat
  - Anthony & Carmen Borg
  - Louis Borg

**Monday, May**  
• For the People of the Parish

**Tuesday, May 10**

**Wednesday, May 11**  
• Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass

**Thursday, May 12**  
• Eugenio Sturino

**Friday, May 13**  
• Francesco, Speranza & Joseph Fenech

MASS INTENTIONS



**May 8, 2022**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter - C**

# Pastor's thoughts ...



Mother's Day always offers me an opportunity to reflect on the miracle of life. A few visits to any maternity ward teach you that a healthy birth is not something to be taken for granted. Babies who are born sick, and babies who never manage to see the light outside the womb, are realities which I have witnessed much more often than I would have loved to. The mother's pain in these circumstances is something that, as a man, I know I cannot even imagine. From here I would like to salute those women for whom a day like today brings pain rather than joy.

After the miracle of birth something else happens that never ceases to amaze me.

Voice recognition! I am always amazed how, in a room full of crying new-born babies, a mother always manages to recognize the voice of her own child. And, vice-versa, the baby always seems to recognize the mother's voice when she calls, surrounded by a cacophony of sounds, voices and noises. I suspect that has something to do with the bond created during the previous nine months of great intimacy between mother and child.

There is something in the voice of a loved one which makes it different to any other voice in the whole world. I remember the episode when Mary of Magdala went to Jesus' tomb on the day of his resurrection. "Mary", he told her, and that's when she immediately recognized him. The bond of love between these two people was so great that no one pronounced that name like he did! It is the voice of the Beloved in the Song of Songs, easily recognizable from afar, "Listen! My beloved! Here he comes, leaping across the mountains, bounding over the hills!" (2:8). Similarly, Elisabeth's baby "leaps for joy" as soon as Mary's greeting reaches Elisabeth's ears! The voice of the loved one always brings joy, a smile on one's face.

In today's gospel Jesus refers to himself as a shepherd, and speaks of his relationship with his sheep. "My sheep hear my voice", he says. It is a loving, warm relationship which gives a sense of security to the beloved. "No one will snatch them out of my hand," he says. Very protective, too! Immediately another mother-image comes to mind: that of the chicken gathering her chicks under her protective wings, an image used by Jesus in other parts of the gospels.

"My sheep hear my voice". Jesus does not speak of listening to orders or commands. It is the simple, and yet profound, act of hearing which crosses boundaries and shortens distances. It evokes love and intimacy. It gives a sense of security, of "feeling good". The voice is a sound that reaches the heart before the mind starts making sense of the words spoken.

Unfortunately, far too often have we as Church mistaken the sound of this voice with orders! Our faith is not a religion of duties and obligations. It is a relationship of love. Like any other loving relationship, it can only grow with time, with presence, with listening to what is both spoken and unspoken.

A good question to ask myself during my prayer time this week is: how clearly do I hear my Shepherd's voice?

- Fr Mario



## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

... to all mothers of our Parish, and beyond. This weekend we pray in a special way for:

- all mothers who are still with us. May God continue to bless them and help them in all their needs;
- all mothers who have gone to eternal life. May God reward them with his wonderful presence in heaven. Until we meet again!
- all mothers/mothers-to-be who have lost their children/babies. May God give them the gift of His consolation and peace.

During this weekend we shall be praying in particular for all those mothers whose names have been put on the list last week. As promised, the stipends of those masses will be sent to the missions and the masses will be individually celebrated by our missionaries during the coming weeks.



## CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to **Grace and Joseph Tonna**, who are celebrating their **50th Anniversary**. With them, we thank God and keep them in our prayers. They will be receiving a special blessing during the 5:30 p.m. Mass this Saturday.

## HELLO ... GOODBYE

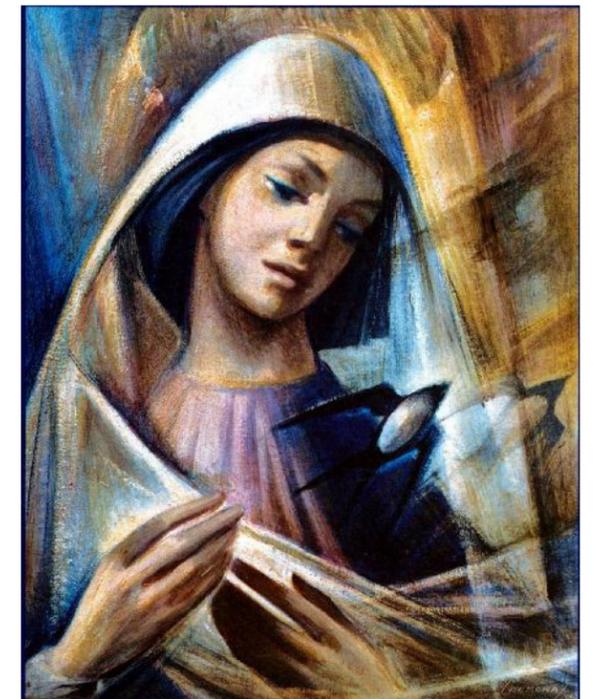
Fr Ivano will, hopefully, be back during the first week of June. Meanwhile, Fr Giovanni will be leaving us a few days after. We are having a **Parish Dinner, on JUNE 11th**, to welcome back Fr Ivano and farewell Fr Giovanni. Details will follow soon.

**KEEP THIS DATE FREE!**

## MOTHER OF THE IMMIGRANT

In our parish we are blessed to have the image of Our Lady, Mother of the Immigrant. This is an original painted in 1964 by the renowned artist E.V. (Emvin) Cremona.

**This Sunday we are celebrating Our Lady Mother of the Immigrant, during the 10:30 a.m. Mass.**



## VOCATIONS SUNDAY

Today we are invited to reflect on the meaning of God's call and to pray for vocations. Christ, the Good Shepherd, continues to lead his people through His Bishops, Priests and Deacons, Religious Sisters and Brothers.

Incidentally, it was on May 8th, 1898, when Joseph DePiro decided to abandon his legal studies to start studying for the priesthood.

