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St. Paul the Apostle Church
Maltese-Canadian
Community Parish
3224 Dundas Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6P 2A3
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email: stpaulmssp@gmail.com
Website: 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, April 30

- Emmanuel Sammut
- Zarb & Buttigieg Families

Sunday, May 1

- 9:00am**
- For the People of the Parish

10:30am

- Joseph Gauci
- Frank Micallef

12:00 noon

- Doris Bartolo
- Emmanuel Sammut

Monday, May 2

- Ann Muscat

Tuesday, May 3

- Doris Micallef
- Theresa Massa

Wednesday, May 4

- Our Lady of the Immigrant Perpetual Mass

Thursday, May 5

- Nina & Carmena Schembri
- Frances & Concillia Grech
- Charles Micallef

Friday, May 6

- Antonia Micallef

MASS INTENTIONS



May 1, 2022
3rd Sunday of Easter - C

Pastor's thoughts ...



Peter ... the Rock. We all remember the day when Jesus had appointed Simon-Peter as head of his little group of followers. "On this rock I will build my Church", Jesus had told him. It is the same Peter who would, then, tell Jesus that even if all the others would have abandoned him, he would never do it. And then, we know what happened. In the moment of truth, Peter abandoned both Jesus and his little group. "I don't even know him, no idea what you're talking about", he told the girl during the passion narrative.

Three years before this, Peter had been personally called by Jesus. "Follow me," Jesus had told him, "and I will make you a fisher of men". Upon that invitation, Peter had immediately abandoned his nets, and his family's business, to follow this master. That was

the last time Peter had been fishing. Now, after Jesus' death, it seems that everything is lost. Indeed, they were three beautiful years, but now it's back to normal. "I'm going fishing", Peter tells his friends in today's gospel. And the others follow suit.

It is within this context of sadness and disillusion that Jesus comes to visit these men. To make matters worse, these master fishermen seem to have even lost the touch of their trade. Having been fishing all night, they caught nothing. Being so engrossed in their self-pity, they could not recognize Jesus when he approached them.

What Jesus does on this occasion is simply beautiful. First, he forces the disciples to be in touch with their own weakness, simply by stating the obvious: "you have caught nothing, have you?". Then he gives them a hand, by asking them to cast the nets again. This time the catch is extraordinary! He also prepares breakfast for them while they are doing this. Here they understand that it is Jesus. Only Jesus can show so much care towards people who had abandoned him when he needed them most! And after breakfast we have what is probably one of the most beautiful and tender scenes in the gospels.

Jesus and Peter find some time to be alone on the beach. Jesus puts a simple, and yet very loaded, question to Peter: Do you love me? And then he repeats it for another couple of times. For three times, Peter answers in the affirmative, but we could tell that by the third time he gets a little bit nervous. Surely, his triple-denial was still very vivid in his mind, and we can only imagine the sense of guilt and shame experienced in that moment. Still, Jesus wanted to assure Peter that, in spite of the latter's sin, nothing has changed in their relationship. "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep" Jesus tells Peter. No reference to the past. As far as Jesus is concerned, Simon Peter is still going to be the leader of the group, the rock on which everything is to hold. If anything, his moment of weakness would eventually serve him to better understand the weak and wounded sheep within the flock, those who would need more care. Compassion had to be a distinctive mark of this rock.

"Do you love me?". This is the question we are invited to ponder during these coming days. The question is not whether I have been good, or whether I have made mistakes. Do I sincerely love Him? The rest will follow.

- Fr Mario



MOTHER'S DAY

Next Sunday, May 8, we celebrate Mother's Day. During all Masses of the weekend we thank God for the gift of motherhood, and in particular for the gift of our mothers. We pray for all mothers—those who are still alive, so that God will continue to help and bless them, and those who have died so that the Risen Lord gives them the gift of eternal rest with Him in heaven.

For those who would like to offer a Mass for their mother, we are taking down names during this weekend, and a list with all the names will be put up next week. We shall pray for all these mothers during our Masses next weekend, and then each Mass intention will be offered during the year by our missionaries. Stipend for these Masses is \$10.00. You can also leave your intention during the week at the office.

**** Also next Sunday we shall be celebrating Our Lady Mother of the Immigrant, during the 10:30am Mass.**



SHARE LIFE



This weekend we have the second collection in our parish's ShareLife campaign. We are fortunate to have ShareLife-funded agencies that reach out to the marginalized in our communities, especially so during the pandemic.

"ShareLife is the way the rubber hits the road. This is how we validate the legitimacy and integrity of our Christian life: not by the words we speak, but by the love we share, in practical ways. That's what we do with ShareLife." – Cardinal Thomas Collins

FIRST FRIDAY

Remember: this coming Friday is the First Friday of the month. We shall have a short moment of adoration and benediction after the 9:15am Mass.

THANK YOU

*** As advised earlier, the Mission Group has been overwhelmed by your generosity in the latest drive to send useful stuff to **Bishop Giovanni's diocese of Huancane**, in Peru. A good number of helpers gave a hand to sort out and pack everything. Hopefully the container will be on its way during this coming week.

*** During the year we keep accepting non-perishable food-stuff (no clothes, please!) which we give to **Good Shepherd Ministries**. On the Church notice-board, there is a recent thank-you letter from them to the parish.



CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

This week is **Catholic Education Week**. We give thanks for the gift of publicly funded Catholic Education in our province. Catholic schools foster supportive communities where young people can experience the joy of God's love and understand the Christian mission in the world. Together, our parishes, educators and families sow the seeds of faith with the next generation of Catholics, challenging them to live as joyful and faithful disciples. To affirm your support of Catholic education and sign-up for email updates, visit: www.togetherinfaith.ca.

WELCOME!

This weekend we welcome **Emily Zahra** who joins our Christian Community through the sacrament of Baptism. While congratulating her and her family, we accompany her with our prayers as she begins her journey to become a mature adult Christian.

REST IN PEACE

Sophie Yurkewich, whose funeral we celebrated during this past week. We pray for her, that the Resurrected Lord may give her eternal rest with Him, and for her loved ones, that God may gift them with his peace and consolation.