

Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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Rev. Constantin Siarapis

Administrator



Visit:

archtoronto.org/covid19

- **Links to watch daily mass**
- **how to support your parish priest**
- **spiritual resources**
- **public health resources**

MASSES CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Sadly, it is not possible for our parish to remain open at this time in a way that is safe and able to control the restricted number of people permitted in the building.

While I recognize it is not a substitute for attending Mass in person, I encourage you to view online/livestream/televised Masses. A full list is available at www.archtoronto.org.

We recognize these measures are extremely challenging. I am also so incredibly grateful for the efforts of our heroic volunteers who have been faithfully welcoming parishioners and cleaning the church between services, ensuring that we can operate safely and responsibly. Your selflessness and generosity is inspiring!

So many of the faithful rely on the reception of the sacraments and our churches to find solace, peace and support during this period of pandemic. Despite these new restrictions, we will make every effort to continue our outreach to you. We also ask that you find opportunities to assist those who are vulnerable or alone among us.

We will continue to update you as the situation evolves through the parish website.

We pray that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy. May God continue to bless you now and always!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

By appointment

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

By appointment

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

By appointment

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND HOLY COMMUNION

Have your health care team page a Catholic priest if you have a family member in hospital needing anointing of the sick.

Communion to those homebound is suspended at this time.

For information on Catholic education in our community or to reach your local school board trustee, contact the Toronto Catholic District School Board at 416-222-8282 or www.tcdsb.org.

Schools in the area:

St. Anselm 416-393-5243

Holy Cross 416-393-5242

Canadian Martyrs 416-393-5251

St. John XXIII 416-429-4000



"Temptation of Christ"

Reform and Believe

Keeping the joy of resurrection in focus, let us begin our Lenten journey. The gospel of this First Sunday of Lent (Mk.1:12-15) presents before us two of the bywords that dictate the atmosphere of Lent: reform (or repent) and believe. This is the programme for the season; this sets the tenor for the life of the committed disciple of Jesus.

"To reform" means to recognize the evil in our lives and to turn our back on it. It means to face up to sin in our lives and to turn away from it. For example, we are aware of **selfishness** that puts our comfort ahead of others' needs. We are aware of **pride** that keeps us from admitting our faults. We are aware of **laziness** that keeps us from helping others. "To reform" means to face up to these evil tendencies in our lives and to do something about them.

Besides reforming our lives, Jesus tells us to **"believe in the gospel"**. This means to believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that He came to save us. It means to seek out Jesus, especially in the sacrament of Reconciliation, and to receive from Him forgiveness and healing. Author Kilian McDonnell says, "No man will celebrate the mystery of Christ in joy if he does not first recognize in sorrow that he is a sinner." Today's gospel invitation touches on both of those important points. It invites us to admit we are sinners, and to turn to Jesus for salvation.

Today's gospel invitation makes a perfect introduction to Lent. Down through the centuries

Christians have found the season of Lent to be a time of special grace, especially for reforming one's life. **If we are looking for a special way to celebrate Lent this year, we could do no better than to use it as an opportunity to rediscover the peace and power of the sacrament of Reconciliation.** For in this Sacrament we do what Jesus invites us to do in today's gospel. We acknowledge our sinfulness and accept Him as our personal saviour.

STEWARDSHIP

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the Sacrament of Baptism... that people place their gifts, their resources — their selves — at God's service in and through the Church."

31st Annual Ordinandi (virtual) Dinner - Tuesday, March 2 at 7 p.m.

Each year thousands have gathered to meet and honour our ordinandi from St. Augustine's Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Seminary who, with God's grace, will be ordained to the priesthood in that year.

This year, due to the pandemic, this event will be held online. This gives everyone the opportunity to join in.

There is no cost to join & view this event.

Share this unique opportunity to meet these fine men and hear about their unique faith journeys that led them to this most noble commitment.

The event is sponsored by the Serra Foundation of Canada and the six Serra Clubs of the Archdiocese of Toronto.

On **Tuesday, March 2, 2021 @ 7pm** go to the Archdiocese of Toronto YouTube channel:

<https://youtube.com/archtoronto>



Resources during the pandemic

Visit www.archtoronto.org/ for links daily masses including:

1. **Daily Mass from Loretto Abbey** (also broadcast on TV)
2. **Daily Mass, Rosary and Regina Caeli with Cardinal Collins** live from St. Michael's <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live> **Cathedral Basilica**
7:30am Mon.-Sat.
10:00am Sunday
3. **ASL Mass Livestream** from the International Catholic Deaf Association, Canadian Section
4. Covid-19 resources: www.archtoronto.org/covid19

Spiritual Communion

During the pandemic we are unable to physically take part in communion. Spiritual Communion is a way to be united with Christ when we cannot physically receive the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist.

St. Alphonsus Liguori's Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Pope's prayer to Virgin Mary for protection

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us.

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

