

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

WorshipSafe

Health & Safety Protocols

As Catholics, the source and summit of our spiritual life is participation in the Eucharist. The faithful have not been able to experience this reality since December 2020 in Toronto and Peel.

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Thank you once again to all those who engaged in respectful dialogue with their elected Member of Provincial Parliament. May God continue to bless you now and always.

Please check the website as we update our mass times throughout the pandemic.

This week's mass times are:

Saturday Vigil:	5:00 PM,
Sunday:	8:30 AM,
	11:30 AM,
Wed. & Fri.	5:00pm

Admittance on a first come basis and limited to the first 24 people.

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



**If a grain of wheat dies
it bears much fruit.**

Unless Wheat Dies

Today's scriptural texts give us a few images to feed our faith. **In the Gospel (Jn 12:20-33), Jesus will offer the image of the grain of wheat falling to earth to die so as to produce much fruit.** Anyone who has ever planted a seed can envision its seeming lifelessness as it is buried in the earth. But after a certain time a green sprout appears, announcing life where once there seemed to be only death. This surprising announcement of life also provides an apt image for Jesus who, as an obedient Son, suffered, died and was buried so as to become the source of our life and salvation (Hebrews 5:7-9, 2nd reading).

The dying seed image is also complemented by the Gospel's second image, that of the Son of Man being lifted up in suffering and in glory and thereby drawing all of sinful humankind to himself and to God. In today's 1st reading (Jer 31:31-34), the prophet Jeremiah describes the drawing together and reconciliation of God and sinners in terms of a new and everlasting covenant. Where once the covenants between God and Israel evoked images of sacrificial animal, sprinkled blood, and stone tablets, the new covenant would, insisted Jeremiah, be written in the hearts of the faithful people by a loving God. Six centuries after this covenant was promised, it was realised through Jesus' sacrificial death and continues to bind to God all who believe.

These images teach us that we must be willing to die to our own will if we wish to bear fruit for God. Concretely what does all this mean for us in everyday life? Consider some possibilities. Suppose our

marriage is falling apart and we need outside help but are too proud to ask for it. Dying to our own will means dying to our pride and asking for help. Or suppose close friends tell us we are developing a drinking problem but we keep denying it, in spite of mounting evidence. Dying to our will means admitting our problem and seeking medical help. Suppose a friend or a family member has hurt us in some way and we are holding a grudge against him or her. Dying to our will means forgiving that person from the heart and treating him or her with love once again. Dying to our will is not easy. Even Jesus didn't find it easy to agree to do whatever his Father wanted him to do. But he trusted God and put himself in his hands. The good news in today's readings is that we can do the same.

ON STEWARDSHIP

If anyone would serve me," says Jesus in today's Gospel, "let him follow me; where I am, there will my servant be." In what way is Jesus inviting *me* to follow Him? What service is He asking of me?

See John 12:26

CREATED FOR GOOD WORKS

St. Paul reminds us that we are "created in Christ Jesus for good works".

**If you think God's plan for you
could be a vocation in His Church, contact:
Vocations @ 416-968-0997,
Email vocations@vocations.ca
www.vocationstoronto.ca**

SCRIPTURAL READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Readings:

1st Reading: Isaiah 50.4-7

2nd reading: Philippians 2.6-11

Gospel: Mark 14.1 – 15.47

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 and Rosary with Cardinal Collins** live from St. Michael's
<https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/liveCathedral 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. When viewing mass online say this prayer at the time of communion.

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.

