

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

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

COVID-19 UPDATE:

**Masses are cancelled
until further notice.**

ON STEWARDSHIP

To be good stewards we must be good shepherds, willing to lay down our lives for those committed to our care, not mere hired hands who run off, "leaving the sheep to be snatched and scattered by the wolf." See *John 10:12*

Support vocations through ShareLife

When you support ShareLife, you help educate our future priests.

Your gift to ShareLife is investing in our Church's future by supporting 54 seminarians at St. Augustine's Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary in the current academic year.



Administrator or Pastor?

Today's readings grace us with the assurance that we are God's very dear and beloved children (1Jn 3:1-2) and that **Jesus**, by whose name we are being saved (Acts 4:7-12) **is our good and caring shepherd**. Though the images of shepherds and sheep may not immediately appeal to us, they are deeply ingrained in our biblical tradition. The ancient Israelites practiced a herding economy. Abel was a shepherd, as were Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Rachel, Moses and David. Sheep and other herded animals provided the nomadic tribe with its staple foods and with raw materials for clothing and shelter. When the nomadic tribes got settled and as they evolved into monarchies the image of the shepherd was appropriated as the model for a good ruler.

Given the intimate and lifelong relationship that the ancient shepherds and their sheep shared, this image is an apt one for describing the bond between Christ and the Christian. However, it is this very provident, protective, selfless and enduring intimacy that challenges

contemporary ministers who are called to shepherd or pastor God's people. Jesus in today's gospel (Jn 10:11-18) alludes to this challenge when he compares the shepherding style of the good shepherd with that of the hired hand. Whereas the good shepherd would lay down his life for the sheep, hired hand runs away at the first sign of danger.

Neither is a mere administrator a true pastor. Today's gospel also offers a challenge in this regard. Whereas an administrator may be able to take charge, to manage, and organize things in the most efficient way, it is the pastor who realizes that all those skills are to be understood as secondary and subordinate to personal piety and selfless service to the needs of others, particularly the lost, the sick and the needy. Those who would serve God and others as shepherds and pastors should, suggests Roland Faley, mirror Christ in his availability and sense of service even when it is inconvenient.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

The Office of Vocations is asking the faithful to pray for vocations in a special way through Sunday, April 25.

All your prayers would be most welcomed, but the Office of Vocations has suggested the following prayer:

God, Who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech You through the intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, Saint Joseph, her spouse, Saint Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of labourers for your Church, fellow labourers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.



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.*

