

Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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Pope urges Catholics to pray the rosary in May for end to COVID-19 pandemic

After more than a year, and with the world still in the grips of the pandemic, the Pope and the Church around the world are once again leading the way in imploring God for an end to the suffering which so many people are forced to bear.

Please join Pope Francis in praying the rosary in May.

COVID-19 UPDATE:

Masses are cancelled until further notice.

Visit: archtoronto.org/covid19 for

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

ON VOCATIONS

The greatest love story that ever happened: God's continuing love for His people. All God asks is "Love one another as I have loved you". The world really needs to see people who are trying to love others with all their hearts. Priests, religious and deacons can be excellent examples of this love. If you are willing to answer God's call,

Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. email vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

ON STEWARDSHIP

Jesus' commandment is that His disciples love one another, even to the point of laying down their lives, if necessary. What gifts of myself — my skills and talents, my time and resources — will best demonstrate my love for God's 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



Three Kinds of Giving

Love involves three kinds of giving: self-giving, forgiving and thanksgiving.

In today's gospel Jesus says, "Love one another as I love you". And again he says, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends". It has been pointed out that when all is said and done, love boils down to the question of giving. It's a question of self-giving. It's a question of forgiving. And it is a question of thanksgiving

Once a political dignitary when he was returning to his hotel suite saw two street children huddled together in the doorway of a vacant building. The boy was about twelve and the other was a girl of about four, obviously his sister. The boy had taken off his coat and had put it around his little sister's shoulders. And he had taken his wool cap and put it around her feet. It was a picture he never forgot as long as he lived. The story dramatizes the self-giving type of love.

Let's now see how love is also a question of forgiving. Forgiveness has to be a part of every love relationship, precisely because we are human. Being human, we sin against one another and hurt one another – even members of our own family. And for that reason, fathers must be ready to forgive sons. Sons must be ready to forgive fathers. Mothers must be ready to forgive daughters and daughters must be ready to forgive mothers. Brothers must be ready to forgive sisters and sisters must be ready to forgive brothers. And friends must be ready to forgive friends. And they must be ready to do this not seven times, but as Jesus said,

"seventy times seven times". How often we say the Lord's Prayer, especially the words, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." And how often we say them on Sunday but fail to practice them the rest of the week, even within our own family. We forget that Jesus himself said: "If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions". Mt. 6.14-15 and so besides self-giving, love also involves forgiving.

The third kind of giving that love involves is thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is especially important when it comes to our love for God. The one thing everyone is capable of giving God is thanks. When we have nothing else to give to God, we can still give our thanks. When the news of the end of the First World War came, people took off to drink and celebrate. But Helen Hayes one of the finest actresses of Hollywood, headed for St. Patrick's Cathedral to offer up a prayer of thanks to the Lord. She thought she alone would be there, but when she reached the Cathedral it was so packed that she couldn't get inside. She was forced to offer her prayers on the steps that morning.

Prayer In Time Of COVID

Gracious God,
you who are the author of all life, and who desire the well-being of all people, during these dark days of COVID-19, increase in us, respect and reverence for all human life.

Grant restored health to the sick, comfort and hope to the dying, strength to family members, friends, relatives, clergy and volunteers, renewed energy to hospital workers, PSWs, nurses and doctors, and perseverance to all in the health care professions.

Grant wisdom to scientists for the development of effective and moral vaccines, discernment and right judgment for legislators, aid to the discouraged, poor and vulnerable, courage and justice for front-line workers, and keep always in our minds the vision of the true common good of all the world.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

*Bishop Robert Kasun CSB
Auxiliary Bishop Central Region
Archdiocese of Toronto*

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.*

