

# Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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**Rev. Constantin Siarapis**

Administrator



## 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.

### 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](http://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.

Visit: [archtoronto.org/covid19](http://archtoronto.org/covid19) for

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

## ON VOCATIONS

Before the Ascension, Jesus tells His Apostles not to leave Jerusalem - to wait - to pray for the Holy Spirit to show them God's will for their future. Where is the Holy Spirit leading you? If you feel that you are being led to a Church vocation, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)

[www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

## ON STEWARDSHIP

Jesus ascended into heaven, blessing His disciples and promising that they would soon receive the power of the Holy Spirit. We who have received that promised gift of the Spirit are now empowered to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth — to use our time and talents to spread the good news of salvation.



## Ascension and Salvation

Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord. Jesus, who rose from the dead as the conqueror of sin and death is now returning to the glory that was His from all eternity. With the mystery of our salvation having come full circle, it may seem like the end of the story. However, and as today's feast reminds us, it is the beginning of a new chapter in the story of our salvation.

God's willingness to be personally and fully involved with the world is shown in the incarnation of Jesus, in mandating the continuance of his mission, Jesus required a similarly incarnational involvement from his followers. "Go", says Jesus, in today's gospel (Mk 16:15-20) "into *all* the world and proclaim the good news to the *whole* creation". In today's second reading, (Eph. 4:1-13) Paul reminds us that ours is a mission intended to fill the universe in all its parts. Therefore, when the question of the two white-clad men is repeated in our hearing today, ("**Why do you stand here looking up at the skies**" Acts 1:11), that question should serve as an impetus toward: (1) helping us to shed the urge for un-involvement;(2) avoiding a wait-and-see attitude, and (3) in compelling our direct and devoted incarnational involvement with the world. We live now "between-the-times", i.e.,

between the first and final coming of Jesus. We can call it "church-time"; this is the time of salt-and-light-involvement with the work of Christ in the world.

**In celebrating the ascension of Jesus today, we are not celebrating the completion of His mission, but the continuance of our own.** As first established by Jesus, ours is a mission of salvation that has been affirmed as existential, i.e., of this world, and eschatological, i.e. of the world to come. Existentially, salvation involves justice, i.e., actions geared toward the reform of the oppressive forces and structures in society; eschatologically, salvation is also geared toward the permanent union of humankind with God. Since salvation is liberation, the feast of ascension should inspire us to involve ourselves in the problems of the needy.

### 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/](http://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](http://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.*

