

Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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Rev. Constantin Siarapis

Administrator



COVID-19 UPDATE:

The parish is open with limited masses and restricted to about 80 people.

GIVE 100% TO GOD

What percentage does God ask of me as a good steward?

All of my heart, all of my soul, all of my mind, and all of my strength!

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

The Shepherds' Trust

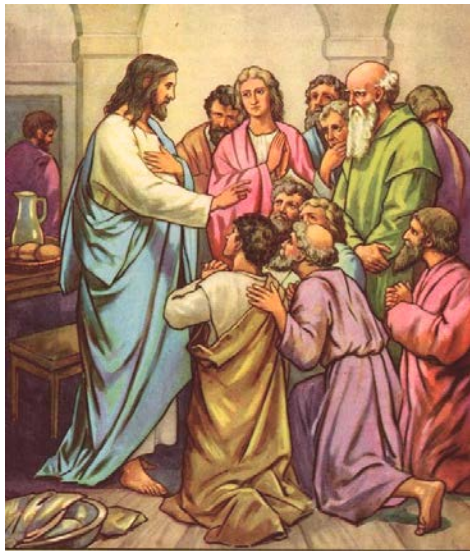
Would you like to support the important mission of The Shepherds' Trust through your estate?

Bequests to Shepherds' Trust are used to help elderly and disabled Priests live with dignity. For more information, please call the Development Office of the Archdiocese at 416-934-3411 or visit www.archtoronto.org/development

Love One's Neighbour As Oneself

"To love Him with all the heart and with all the understanding, and with all the strength" and "to love one's neighbour as oneself" are the greatest commandments. If you feel that God is calling you to serve Him as a priest, religious or deacon, call

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



"you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart"

Relationship First, Actions Second

Our Gospel today (Mk 12:28b-34) finds Jesus once again building on the established tradition of the Hebrew Scriptures. **The newness of Jesus' teaching, however, is revealed in the linking of love of God with the love of neighbour.** Because Jesus presents these as foundational commandments, there is no question that you cannot have one without the other. These two commandments were as much a challenge for the first hearers as they are for us today. So often, both in Jesus' days and our own, do much less important concerns override the needs of our brothers and sisters. The extension of compassion and love to the other human being gets thwarted by our preoccupation with trivial concerns.

We begin to unlock the depth of Jesus' words when we ponder what it means to love God. If asked, most of us today would readily answer that we love God. After all, participating in a regular celebration of the sacraments, finding time for prayer, trying to do the best we can, professing belief in the truths of our faith are most assuredly signs that we love God. Aren't they?

The answer unfortunately, is no. **Simply because we do the "right" things does not necessarily mean that we love God.** An individual can be motivated to do the "right" thing for many reasons other than love. We may be motivated by fear, self-interest and protection, a need to please someone else or to do what is right and good, or simply a feeling

that is what we are supposed to do. None of these motivations speak of love and none require an intimate, personal relationship with the God of our creation.

Love of God is something that goes far and deeper and becomes a matter of the heart. It is easy to look at the list of what is expected of a good religious person and complete the tasks. However focussing our lives around that principle serves only to leave us empty and basking in superficiality. There is no depth, conversion or change. Jesus saw the religious people of his day falling into this very trap and we continue to do the same. **In establishing these two great commandments, Jesus wants to push us to the limits and immerse us into a spirituality that places relationship first and proper deeds and actions second.**

Think of a significant relationship in your life; a spouse or significant other. Is it simply enough to do or say the right things in order for that relationship to deepen, grow and prosper? **Great, intimate human relationships are born when we move beyond simply doing and saying the right things to truly investing ourselves in the heart of another.** We come to this point when we find ourselves concerned more with the needs, desires and heart of another person than with our own.

Bl. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, when asked why she did what she did, replied because she loved God. To truly love God means to invest myself in the very heart, will and desire of God.

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.*

