

# Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

16 Thorncliffe Park Drive, Toronto, ON M4H 1H4



Phone: 416-696-8427, Fax: 416-696-5287

Online: <http://www.stedithstein.ca>

Email: [bulletin@stedithstein.ca](mailto:bulletin@stedithstein.ca)

**Rev. Constantin Siarapis**

Administrator



## COVID-19 UPDATE:

The parish is open with full capacity now. Masses schedule is on the website

## TAX RECEIPTS

Tax Receipts for 2021 envelope users are ready for pickup in the parish office. If you didn't use envelopes last year there's still time to pick up a box for this year.

## ON STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for your generous support!

## During LENT

Today's first reading describes the offering of first fruits the people of Israel were to present to the Lord in thanksgiving for their deliverance from Egypt and the gift of the promised land. Is my offering at today's Mass an appropriate response to the many blessings the Lord has given me?

Last Sunday was the last Sunday the congregation sings "alleluia" until the believing community has undergone conversion and is ready to sing this chant with renewed meaning during the Easter vigil.

## HOLY SPIRIT LEAD ME...

Flowers are not used to decorate the altar or the area around it throughout the season.

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life-commitment God has prepared for you? If God is calling you:

Email: [vocations@vocations.ca](mailto:vocations@vocations.ca) or

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

Musical instruments are used only to give necessary support to singing, not for solo playing. "Glory to God" is omitted.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

- all by appointment only

## 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



## Fasting, Feasting, Offering

**Fasting from food and feasting on the presence of God are the two important spiritual exercises during Lent.** In between comes offering with almsgiving. This six-week long intense preparation for Jesus' saving death and resurrection can be considered to be a "time-out" in every calendar year.

**Sports enthusiasts know that a time-out can give athletes a chance: to regroup,** if the game plan is not meeting with the success they had hoped for; **to revise existing strategies,** to affirm the good efforts of the team; to re-centre the attention of the team on the desired goal; to add to the psychological burden of their opponents by slowing the action of the game and interrupting their momentum.

**As regards the time-out we call Lent, these six weeks similarly provide believers in Jesus with an opportunity for engaging in a variety of exercises, from rethinking their behaviour to regrouping their energies, from revising their spiritual strategies to affirming their good efforts, from slowing the pace of their daily lives to re-centering their focus on Christ and the gospel.** To put it another way, the annual Lenten time-out offers each of us a special opportunity for fasting and for feasting. Both of these spiritual exercises are featured in the

scripture selections of this Sunday.

**In today's first and second readings, we are invited to feast on the word of God describing the gift of salvation.** Paul reminds us that we are to appropriate God's saving gifts by faith... "believe in your heart and you will be saved... faith in the heart leads to justification" (Rom. 10:8-13). For his part, the author of Deuteronomy reminds us that our feasting is to be firmly founded in the remembering and retelling of our saving story. (Deut. 26:4-10).

Following the example offered by Jesus (Lk 4:1-13) fasting is to be embraced as a means to spiritual growth. **Along with praying, offering and almsgiving, fasting is to be an integral aspect of every believer's formation.**

### 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*

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

**Readings:**

1st Reading: Genesis 15.5-12, 17 -18

2nd reading: Philippians 3.17 , 4.1

Gospel: Luke 9.28b-36

## 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.*

