

# Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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**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.

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

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)

## 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



The Transfiguration

## A Place to Call Home

It is part of human being's dream to have "a place to call home". This Sunday's readings illumine and illustrate this aspect. In Genesis (15:5-12, 17-18) we see how **the promise of homeland changed Abraham's future** and outlook on life. In the transfiguration scene (Lk. 9:28b-36), we see Peter offering to pitch 3 tents to remain in that blessedness for ever. This natural instinct of having a home and homeland should guide us to the fact that we are "*citizens of heaven*". (2nd reading Phil. 3:17-4:1)

This inborn tendency of having the blessedness of that place we call home should help us today to focus a caring eye and offer a helping hand to those who do not enjoy the security either of a home or a homeland. **The recent natural calamities in Haiti and the man-made calamities in Sri Lanka and other countries are to rouse our feelings in this respect.** In its most recent survey, World Refugee Survey 2021, the U.S. Committee for Refugees in Washington D.C. certified that in the year 2020, more than **26.4 million people were forced to flee** their native lands due to war and persecution. This number has doubled since 2010 and is higher now than it has ever been. More than **48 million others have been internally displaced** i.e., they have been forced from their homes and made to walk

their countries' roads in search of a secure resting place. In addition to these refugees and otherwise displaced persons millions of others throughout the world are homeless. Of these millions, at least 15% are children and 19% of the urban homeless population are veterans.

Homelessness is, in effect, equivalent to having no identity. Without an address, the homeless person usually cannot get a job, receive social security or financial aid. HomeAid, an organization begun to assist the homeless, cites **a variety of causes of homelessness**, e.g. sudden job loss, catastrophic illness, spousal desertion, domestic violence, crisis pregnancies or a combination of these.

In light of these statistics, let us be attentive to Jesus who speaks to us through the needs of others. During these weeks of Lent, let our thoughts and actions be centered on the homeless, the displaced, refugees and all other companions on life's journey who are seeking a place to call home.

### 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.*

