

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



ON STEWARDSHIP

In today's second reading, St. Paul says, "For His sake I have forfeited everything; I have accounted all else rubbish so that Christ may be my wealth." Does my stewardship suggest that I could say the same?

LOOKING FOR FAME, FORTUNE?

What am I racing after in my life? Fame? Fortune? A life in Jesus? What is the prize I seek at the finish-line? If God is calling you, contact:

email_vocations@vocations.ca
www.vocationstoronto.ca

Palm Sunday

Nest Sunday is Palm Sunday. There will be a blessing of palms at all masses.

ShareLife agencies serve everyone

Today's Gospel shares the parable of the woman accused of adultery, a message of Our Lord's great love, forgiveness and respect for all people.

Likewise, ShareLife agencies are there to support the most vulnerable and marginalized members of our communities. ShareLife-funded social service agencies have an 'open intake policy' and provide help based on need—not on religion, lifestyle, gender or ethnicity.

Thank you for supporting ShareLife!

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.

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



"Let anyone of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone"

GOD OF ALL MERCIES

A 31-year-old Nigerian Muslim woman named Amina Lawal was sentenced to death by stoning eight years ago, because she had been found guilty of adultery. **Civil rights groups around the world were outraged at the sentence that Lawal should be buried up to her neck and then have stones hurled at her head until she was dead.** Under pressure from these groups, the judge declared that Amina Lawal's conviction was invalid because she was already pregnant when harsh Islamic Shariah law was implemented in her home province. When she heard the judge's decision, Lawal told a reporter from CNN: "I am happy. God is great and he has made this happen".

Almost two millennia ago, scribes and Pharisees brought before Jesus another woman caught in the act of adultery (Jn 8:1-11). They quoted the law and goaded him into offering his opinion on the matter. But rather than be pressured by their tactics, **Jesus simply appealed to the consciences of the woman's accusers.** Were they without sin? If the exact letter of the law were to be imposed on them would they fare any better than the sinful woman? Should they not remember the

mercies shown them by God and be grateful to be able to show similar mercy to a fellow sinner?

That day in the temple area, **Jesus did not give a briefing on the law but a lesson on the manner in which God deals lovingly, gently, patiently and with forgiveness with those who sin.** Whether the woman's accusers took to heart the lesson that was offered them that day, we cannot know. One by one, they drifted off, John tells us, starting with the elders.

As the climax of Lent approaches, both of these women teach us that our encounters with the God of all mercies preclude our taking up stones or pointing accusatory fingers at one another. Rather our gaze should be turned inward so we can recognize, admit and repent of our sins. Then the God of all mercies calls us to drop our stones, look away from ourselves and our sin and recognize God's gifts of freedom from slavery and sin (Is. 43:16-21, 1st reading) as well as the ultimate gift of knowing Jesus Christ and the power of his resurrection (Philippians 3:8-14, 2nd reading)

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.*

