

Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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Rev. Constantin Siarapis

Administrator



COVID-19 UPDATE:

**The parish is open at full capacity now.
Mass schedule is on the website**

Serra Prayer for Vocations

The 4th Sunday of Easter is designated as "Good Shepherd Sunday" and the "World Day of Prayer for Vocations". Take a minute out of your weekend to pray for vocations:

O God, Who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech You, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Saint Joseph her spouse, Saint Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of labourers for Your church, fellow labourers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.
Amen.

AM I BEING CALLED?

On this Good Shepherd Sunday we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life, especially for our diocese, that God will raise up good shepherds in our midst. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact

Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto

416-968-0997

email: vocations@archtoronto.org

www.vocationstoronto.ca

IN THE SERVICE OF GOD...

Paul and Barnabas encountered both violent rejection and joyful acceptance of the message that they preached. We, too, may meet with mixed reactions when we use our gifts in the service of God. But, the Gospel assures us, the reward for those who follow faithfully is eternal life.

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



Tracking the Movement of the Spirit

One of the advantages of tracking hurricanes is the possibility of preparedness; knowledge of the storm's path and power allows those in close proximity to travel a predetermined escape route to safety. **A very different type of "tracking" is set before the praying assembly today.** We, the 21st century disciples of Jesus, are invited to track how the great and powerful breath of the Spirit moved the church's mission slowly but surely beyond Judah to the rest of the then known world. The inevitable spread of the Gospel and the amazing growth of the church in apostolic times prove tiny beginnings can result in astonishing ends.

In the 1st reading (Acts 13:14, 43-52) we see Paul Barnabas and others working diligently to bring the good news to all of Jesus' sheep (Gospel, John 10:27-30). **We shall follow their movements when they are met with welcome as well as when their best efforts are rejected.** We shall marvel as the universal embrace of the Gospel reaches out to gentiles as well as Jews. We shall learn what it means to persevere despite persecution and we will be challenged to ask ourselves, if we see any reflection of those first evangelizers in our own efforts for the sake of the Gospel.

Do we rejoice as they did at the very thought of proclaiming the good news and witnessing to its truth, justice and love? Can we set aside, as they did, our preconceptions, our racial biases, our penchant for judging the worthiness or not of others? Can we persist in embracing Gospel values and in living lives that will necessarily contribute to our lack of popularity within the current culture.

As we reconnect at this time each year with those who have gone before us in the faith and **as we track their efforts and measure ourselves against the standards they set, we are also to be encouraged, as they were, by the visions of John the Seer (Revelation, 2nd reading for Easter 4,5,6).** To those first evangelizers and to us, John's visions hold out the hope that when, at last, our lives have been spent in service of the Gospel, we shall find a lasting home with God and Jesus and all those who have gone before us, tracking the path plotted by the Spirit, wherever, whenever and however it may lead.

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](https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/liveCathedralBasilica)
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.*

