

# Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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**Rev. Constantin Siarapis**

Administrator



## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

**St. Edith Stein Parish is celebrating 50 years serving the Thorncliffe community.**

Did you know over 700 baptisms have been performed by 36 different priests over the years?

### COME HOLY SPIRIT

"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love." We pray that some of our parishioners hear the call. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact:

**Fr. Matt McCarthy, Vocation Director,  
Archdiocese of Toronto  
416-968-0997**

**email: [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)  
[www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)**

### ON STEWARDSHIP

One miracle of Pentecost was that, despite their diversity, each listener heard God's word in his or her own language. The meaning for stewardship is that, by sharing the gifts poured out on us by the Holy Spirit, we will be empowered to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters, whatever they may be.

### Sunday Mass Obligation

Given that most of the health and safety restrictions in our parishes are no longer in place and the faithful are able to attend the celebration of the Eucharist once again, the basis for the dispensation from the Sunday obligation has dissipated and is no longer in effect.

The Church does not obligate people to do the impossible. If individuals, based on their conscience, cannot attend Mass for a grave reason, including a great vulnerability to COVID-19 or because they are self-isolating to limit the spread of illness, then they are excused from their Sunday obligation, as the law of the Church allows.

### 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:

<b>St. Anselm</b>	<b>416-393-5243</b>
<b>Holy Cross</b>	<b>416-393-5242</b>
<b>Canadian Martyrs</b>	<b>416-393-5251</b>
<b>St. John XXIII</b>	<b>416-429-4000</b>



“... all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.”

## Wind and Fire

Anyone who has had the experience of being in a typhoon or hurricane knows the fright and awe it can inspire, as well as the strength it can wield. The phenomenon of fire is the same way. Each year, uncontrolled blazes sweep across acres of many countries, leaving behind scars of ash and ruin as reminders of their devastating power. These natural phenomena can strike dread into the human heart-so **it may seem surprising and even a little strange that these two forces, wind and fire, are the symbols of the Spirit, the symbols of the feast of Pentecost.**

As the praying assembly will hear in today's first reading from Acts (2:1-11) those first believers in Jesus had gathered in one place (probably the Upper Room) to wait and pray. While the “wind” came gently to the disciples through the breath of Jesus at Easter, it came forcefully upon the community at Pentecost (Acts). Could it be the same wind that swept across the dark waters on the very first of all mornings (Genesis 1)? **Then, as now, the wind was blowing with life; a new creation was coming forth.** Then. It was the creation of an ordered universe and the creation of humankind by God's own breath (Genesis 2:7). Now at Easter and at Pentecost (Acts) it is the creation of **a community ready to go public with the good news of salvation** and God's gift of forgiveness for a

waiting, needy world.

Tongues of fire were also sent to ignite the church's mission of proclamation. All present, regardless of their varying backgrounds and different languages – every one understood. **Wind and fire signalled that the role of the church was to gather together all things in heaven and on earth into a unity of mutual respect and understanding in Christ.** This unity, explains David Knight, is not a uniformity that negates or destroys the richness of diversity. It is a unity of Spirit that brought into being a diverse and pluralistic first-century church.

According to the measure that the wind and fire of the Spirit remain active in the 21st century church, we will continue to promote unity, understanding and peace between different races and genders, between different ethnic groups, between people divided by different beliefs and ideologies. **The wind and fire of Pentecost, suggested Henri Nouwen in his book “Jesus, A Gospel”, lift the whole mystery of salvation out of its particularities** and form it into something inclusive of all peoples, all countries, all seasons, all eras.

## 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*

## Sunday Mass Obligation

On March 13, 2020, Cardinal Collins issued a communication to the faithful of this archdiocese indicating that it was necessary to cancel public celebrations of the Eucharist on the coming Sunday, stating: "For this weekend and any other which may be required, I grant the faithful dispensation from their Sunday obligation."

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After two years of COVID-19 restrictions, many have been deprived of the opportunity to attend Mass and to receive the most Holy Eucharist and all of us have missed the opportunity to experience community, including members of our parishes. As we come to the celebration of Pentecost this weekend, we invite and encourage the faithful to return to the practice of attending Mass in-person.

### Spiritual 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.