

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?

HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL THE TRUTH

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Listen to what Jesus says: "When the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth." What is the 'truth' of your life? How can you best serve God? If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact: 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
www.vocationstoronto.ca

ON STEWARDSHIP

Today's psalm reminds us that we have been crowned with glory and honor and given rule over the works of God's hands. But we must be good stewards, for the Lord will surely hold us accountable for the use of those gifts!

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of the Eucharist once again, the basis for the dispensation from the Sunday obligation has dissipated and is no longer in effect.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.

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



Trinitarian Experience

As spring, slowly, moves into summer, a new season of the liturgical year is also beginning. Called Ordinary Time, this season is introduced on its first two Sundays by two feasts of dogma, that of the Trinity and that of the Eucharist. But, what is dogma and what does it have to do with the ever-changing seasons of our world and our lives? As defined by the church, dogma is a doctrine promulgated with the highest authority and solemnity. **Today, the praying assembly celebrates the dogma of the Trinity**, and in our celebrating, all present are invited to pass through dogma's gateway so as to be fully and freely immersed in the mystery of Trinity.

Through the centuries, many have attempted to explain the dogmas and enunciate the mystery of Trinity in a variety of ways. Some have offered symbols intended to elucidate the three-in-oneness of God. **An equilateral triangle, three interwoven circles, a trefoil, three fish formed into a circle, a shamrock – all have been held forth, at one time or another, as illustrations of Trinity.**

Only at the end of the fourth century did the early theologians formulate what would thereafter stand as the Trinitarian dogma: **“Father, Son and Holy Spirit are consubstantial, one Godhead, one power, one substance, of equal dignity and majesty, but in three perfect hypostases or persons”.** In

subsequent centuries, church Fathers, Doctors and mystics have attempted to explain the mystery and guide the faithful to a greater understanding of Trinity.

But understanding does not necessarily lead to contemplation, and **contemplation, as author Flannery O'Connor (1925-1964) suggested, is the only worthy response to the mystery we celebrate today.** It could be said that explanations are perhaps of less importance than experience. Our knowledge of God as Trinity is made possible by God, who has chosen to be revealed as Mother, Father, Son and Brother, and as living, loving Spirit. As parent, God has brought forth the created universe and even our very selves. As Son and Brother, Jesus has made known a God who hears our cries, who cares, who counts the hairs on our head and who loves so passionately as to become one of us, to suffer, for our sins, to die that we may live. As Spirit, God remains with and within us. These are the experiences of Trinity; these experiences become known in prayer, they are solidified and palpable through contemplation.

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.