

Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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Rev. Constantin Siarapis

Administrator



BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Next week is Palm Sunday. Masses will be at the usual times. There will be a blessing of palms at all masses next weekend.

FOR GOD'S GLORY

When Jesus heard about the illness of His friend, Lazarus, He responded, "This illness is not to end in death; rather it is for God's glory, that through it the Son of God may be glorified." Every aspect of our lives — our gifts as well as our sufferings — can, if surrendered to Christ, lead to blessing for others and ourselves.

This weekend is ShareLife Sunday



ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection for our parish's annual campaign. In the words of Cardinal Collins:

"Vulnerable members of our community are relying on you and me to ensure ongoing access to the care they so desperately need. This is why it's crucial we meet our parish campaign goal. Our goal can be met, but only if we each do our part."

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

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



I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live"

Come Out and Go Free!

This week, the readings focus on the promise of life after death. The prophet Ezekiel (37:12-14) reminds us that it is by the very Spirit Of God that we will be called forth to rise from our graves and live. Similarly, Paul in his letter to the Romans (8:8-11) assures us that the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead also lives in us. **The presence of this Spirit transforms us**, such that we are no longer bound by the flesh but are freed to live new lives in Christ.

As a sign of the power of the Spirit of God at work in Him, Jesus, in today's Gospel (Jn 11:1-45) raises Lazarus to life. This sign, the last of seven signs in the fourth gospel, affirms, by way of illustration, the declaration of Jesus, "I am the resurrection and the life: Whoever believes in me, though he should die, will come to life and whoever is alive and believes in me will never die." (25-26). In his

capacity as one who was much loved by Jesus, **Lazarus is a paradigm of every beloved believer**. Therefore, just as Jesus called loudly to Lazarus to "Come out", so also does Jesus summon each of us to recognize whatever we have allowed to entomb us in death and to "come out" so as to allow ourselves to be "untied" by his grace and "go free".

"Come out", says Jesus, from the tomb of self-sufficiency wherein you do not admit of your need for God and for one another. "Come out", says Jesus, from the tomb of preoccupation with yourself and open your eyes to the needs of others around.

"Come out", says Jesus, from the secret safety of the tomb of uninvolvedness and dare to challenge the injustices in this world.

"Come out", says Jesus, from the grave of melancholy and despair and be glad in the blessings that are yours.

"Come out", says Jesus, from under the pile of unfounded fears that have become a virtual burial place; untie yourself from all unnecessary concerns and find new courage and freedom in me.