

Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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Rev. Constantin Siarapis

Administrator



END OF SCHOOL YEAR PRAYER

O God of all beginnings and endings,
We praise and thank you for the gift of
this school year. It has been a time filled
with grace and blessings,
With challenges and opportunities, joys
and sorrows.

The days have passed quickly, O Lord.
The weeks, the months, the seasons, the
holidays and holy days,
The exams, vacations, breaks, and
assemblies, All have come forth from
your hand.

While we trust that your purposes have
always been at work each day,
Sometimes it has seemed difficult to
understand and appreciate
Just what you have been up to in our

school.

Give us the rest and refreshment we
need this summer.

Let our efforts of this past year bear fruit.
Bring all of our plans to a joyful
conclusion,
And bless us, according to your will,

With the fulfillment of our summer hopes
and dreams.

Watch over us in the weeks of rest
ahead,
And guide each day as you have done
this past year.
Help us return to school with a new spirit
and a new energy.

May we continue to grow
In age, wisdom, knowledge and grace
All the days of our lives.
Amen.

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



Have no fear

Fear - dispelling Faith

In today's readings, we are offered some excellent pointers in coping with our fears, not through logic or rationality, but through faith. Our ancestors in the faith have alluded to the universal human experience of fear both in the Old and the New Testament. Indeed the words *fear* and *afraid* appear in one form or another over 700 times in scriptural texts. In almost every instance, the coping mechanism recommended is the same - faith - faith that trusts in and hopes in God's power to save, to deliver and to protect.

As illustrated in today's first reading (Jer. 20:7,10-13), Jeremiah knew what it was to be afraid. Indeed his prophetic career was riddled with countless fearsome experiences. When called by God, he feared he was too young, he feared that he would not know what to say or how to speak to his contemporaries in God's name. He feared facing others with the truth of their sinfulness. He feared to speak

God's word. He feared not to speak it and when he did speak it, he feared the consequences.

Paul, in today's second reading (Rom. 5:12-15), cites the reason why believers need no longer fear sin and death, viz., because of the gracious gift of Jesus Christ in whose dying and rising all our fears can be sublimated through faith.

With today's gospel (Mt. 10:26-33) our attention turns once again to the often fearsome challenges of being ministers of the word. Like Jeremiah, Jesus' disciples were charged with speaking God's word of truth to their contemporaries and, like Jeremiah, they often bore the brunt of their contemporaries disdain. "Shooting the messenger" who bears an unpleasant or unwanted message is unfortunately the reaction of many when confronted with the challenge of the good news. Fully aware of the challenges they would face and the fears that those challenges would endanger, Jesus sent his disciples forth, telling them not to fear. Why? Because they are loved by God who sees all and cherishes the faithful.

That same assurance is extended to each of us who also believe, who are also called by God, gifted with grace and sent forth with a message to "proclaim from the housetops" (Mt. 10:27). The same assurance will see us through when we dare to jump headlong into the deep waters of discipleship.