

Saint Edith Stein Roman Catholic Church

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Rev. Constantin Siarapis

Administrator



SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday (Vigil): 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:30am
11:30am



**You bring
love and hope
to young mothers
through ShareLife**

ShareLife Sunday is March 17.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Wednesday: 5:00pm
Friday: 5:00pm

REGISTRATION

New parishioners are always welcome! They are requested to register at the parish office

Many young women who are unexpectedly pregnant don't know where to turn for help. Through your support for ShareLife, our agencies ensure they have the resources they need to keep their education on track, provide their babies a healthy start, and create a bright future.

"I have no words to describe what it means to be a recipient of your generosity," shares Arielle, a grateful young mother you support through Vita Centre. "I have a better mental state now. I know that my baby is healthy because of it, too."

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



Jesus said to Nicodemus - God did not send the Son into the world to condemn it but to save it, through him.

Covenantal Journey

For the first three Sundays of Lent we have been hearing about the covenants that God established with Noah, Abraham and Moses. The covenant with Noah was simply an unconditional promise from God never again to flood the earth with waters that destroy all life. The covenant with Abraham was conditional but only between God and Abraham. By Abraham trusting and obeying God's command, God promised blessings on Abraham and his descendants. The covenant with Moses was also conditional. But this time not just between God and Moses. This covenantal promise to make Israel a holy and great nation was dependent upon the Israelite people following the Law that God gave to Moses in the form of the 10 commandments. **The covenantal promises evolve from unconditional to conditional, from one person to an entire nation.** Each successive covenant called Israel into a deeper and more committed relationship with God.

These readings during Lent reflect the historical journey between God and Israel. It is a journey each of us mirrors in our own Lenten journey with God. **As we journey in our covenantal**

relationship with God we too are called to a deeper and more committed relationship with God.

The readings for this fourth Sunday of Lent break from the pattern of discussing a specific covenant that God established with ancient Israel. The pattern is broken in order to highlight an important moment in Israel's historic covenantal journey with God. **Today's 1st reading (2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23) narrates the circumstances that led God to force Israel into Babylonian captivity in the 6th century B.C.** Israel had broken the terms of the Mosaic covenant that God established with her ancestors. Israel was no longer a holy and separate nation. While God sent Israel into Babylonian captivity, it was only for 70 years. Then God gave rise to the King Cyrus of the Persian Empire who released Israel from their Babylonian captors and returned Israel to her promised land.

As Paul tells us in his letter to the Ephesians (2nd reading, Ephesians 2:4-10), Israel had become "dead in our transgressions". But "God who is rich in mercy... brought us to life with Christ." **The story of Israel's journey with God is our story.** We too stumble on our journey with God and on our journey through Lent. But we are assured in the knowledge that "God loved the world that he gave his only Son" so that we would have "eternal life" (Gospel, John 3:14-21).

YEAR OF PRAYER

On January 21, 2024, Pope Francis inaugurated a Year of Prayer ahead of the 2025 Jubilee, calling on the faithful "to pray more fervently to prepare ourselves to live properly this grace-filled event and to experience the power of hope in God." The Year of Prayer, the Holy Father explained, is dedicated "to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world." For more information, please visit:

2024 - Year of Prayer.