

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Wednesday: 5:00pm

Friday: 5:00pm

REGISTRATION

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

CREATED FOR GOOD WORKS

St. Paul reminds us that we are "created in Christ Jesus for good works".

If you think God's plan for you could be a vocation in His Church, contact:
Vocations @ 416-968-0997,
Email vocations@vocations.ca
www.vocationstoronto.ca

This weekend is

**ShareLife
Sunday**



ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection for our parish's annual campaign.

Every day, young people in our community need a helping hand due to homelessness, trafficking, or violence. ShareLife agencies ensure the safety of youth fleeing violent homes and provide them a supportive place to stay. This is all made possible thanks to amazing people like you who choose to support ShareLife. **We thank you for your kindness and generosity.**

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



**If a grain of wheat dies
it bears much fruit.**

Unless Wheat Dies

Today's scriptural texts give us a few images to feed our faith. **In the Gospel (Jn 12:20-33), Jesus will offer the image of the grain of wheat falling to earth to die so as to produce much fruit.** Anyone who has ever planted a seed can envision its seeming lifelessness as it is buried in the earth. But after a certain time a green sprout appears, announcing life where once there seemed to be only death. This surprising announcement of life also provides an apt image for Jesus who, as an obedient Son, suffered, died and was buried so as to become the source of our life and salvation (Hebrews 5:7-9, 2nd reading).

The dying seed image is also complemented by the Gospel's second image, that of the Son of Man being lifted up in suffering and in glory and thereby drawing all of sinful humankind to himself and to God. In today's 1st reading (Jer. 31:31-34), the prophet Jeremiah describes the drawing together and reconciliation of God and sinners in terms of a new and everlasting covenant. Where once the covenants between God and Israel evoked images of sacrificial animal, sprinkled blood, and stone tablets, the new covenant would, insisted Jeremiah, be written in the hearts of the faithful people by a loving God. Six centuries after this covenant was promised, it was realised

through Jesus' sacrificial death and continues to bind to God all who believe.

These images teach us that we must be willing to die to our own will if we wish to bear fruit for God. Concretely what does all this mean for us in everyday life? Consider some possibilities. Suppose our marriage is falling apart and we need outside help but are too proud to ask for it. Dying to our own will means dying to our pride and asking for help. Or suppose close friends tell us we are developing a drinking problem but we keep denying it, in spite of mounting evidence. Dying to our will means admitting our problem and seeking medical help. Suppose a friend or a family member has hurt us in some way and we are holding a grudge against him or her. Dying to our will means forgiving that person from the heart and treating him or her with love once again. Dying to our will is not easy. Even Jesus didn't find it easy to agree to do whatever his Father wanted him to do. But he trusted God and put himself in his hands. The good news in today's readings is that we can do the same.

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.

ON STEWARDSHIP

If anyone would serve me," says Jesus in today's Gospel, "let him follow me; where I am, there will my servant be." In what way is Jesus inviting me to follow Him? What service is He asking of me?
See John 12:26