

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

PRAYER before Christmas Dinner



Leader: Lord Jesus, in the peace of this season our spirits are joyful: with the beasts and angels, the shepherds and stars, with Mary and Joseph we sing God's praise. By your coming may the hungry be filled with good things, and may our table and home be blessed.

All: Bless us O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty through Christ our Lord. 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



Celebrate God’s Presence

Every year we celebrate Christmas. In every Christmas we celebrate the presence of God. How should we celebrate this wonderful gift of God's presence in Christmas 2011? This Sunday's readings give us certain models.

The first reading from 2nd Samuel narrates David’s model of celebrating the gift of God’s presence.

He wanted to build a temple for the Lord. But God intervened through the prophet Nathan and told him to wait. Constructing a temple at that time might cause confusion and misunderstanding among people regarding the real nature and purpose of the God's gift of presence. Because people were used to the ever available presence of God through the mobile tent and tabernacle with them. That is to say, they had always the experience of God being with them wherever they went. It was almost like the experience of God in their hearts. If building a temple undermines the concept of God's ever-available presence in the hearts, David was not doing a service to God. So he was asked to wait even though the temple would have helped to unify the people in some respects.

In the second reading, we see Paul speaking about the mystery revealed to him. Though the gift of God's presence was first given to the Jews, in God's total plan it was to embrace the Gentiles too. In other words, **God’s gift of presence was meant for all people on earth.** And so the Jews had to take their eyes from Jerusalem's temple and look for God's presence in the hearts of all people. A shift from temple to hearts.

In the Gospel we find Luke depicting Mary as the model in welcoming God’s presence. She accepts and activates the word in spite of her doubts. When she said 'Yes', the power of God overshadowed her and made her a new creation and through her the whole creation became new

Paul II helped us to celebrate this gift of God's presence in us through his grace-filled papacy. In declaring a Year of the Eucharist and adding a new set of mysteries to the rosary, the Pope further was inviting us to treasure God's presence and reach out to people as Mary our mother did. Is our church an “upper room” for us to reach out to people? Does the gift of God's presence unite us through our worship in the church and motivate us to embrace the needy?

“LET IT BE DONE TO ME”

In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's “Yes” — “I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say.” — that the promise finds fulfillment.

PRAY TO KNOW GOD’S WILL

From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life and she said “Yes!”...and so the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God's Will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world.

If God is calling you contact:

**Fr. Matt McCarthy, Vocation Director,
Archdiocese of Toronto
416-968-0997**

**Email: vocations@archtoronto.org
www.vocationstoronto.ca**

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Christmas season celebrates the birth of the Lord Jesus and the ways he manifested the presence of God among us. For the Church, only the Easter celebration of the Lord's death and rising is more important than the Christmas season.



**This season, check this list.
Maybe even twice.**