

# 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

## ON STEWARDSHIP

In today's first reading, we hear Samuel respond eagerly, "Here I am!" each time the Lord calls him. May we, too, be listening for the call of God in our lives and be ready to say like the psalmist, "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."

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## ENVELOPES FOR 2024

For those supporting the parish through the use of weekly offering envelopes... the new boxes are available in the parish office.

Please ensure that you recycle all left over envelopes from previous years (don't use them as spares esp. if you have a new number).

Note that the first envelope labelled "INITIAL OFFERING" is meant to help defray the costs of providing the envelopes. Please put your full mailing address on the first few envelopes.

In order to reduce the cost all unclaimed boxes will be reissued to new parishioners after the end of January.

### 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](http://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



“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening”  
Samuel 3:9

### Call and Response

God's call can come to us at any moment, in any place and in any circumstance. Samuel's dramatic call to service, as narrated in today's first reading (1 Sam. 3:3b-10,19) is an example of that. Just as Eli mentored Samuel on his way, so may **we need assistance in understanding and responding to God's call.**

In the 2nd reading (1Cor.6:13-15,17-20) Paul talks about some of the responsibilities inherent in the privilege of Christian vocation. Called by God, and baptized into the life of Jesus and the church, believers thereby become temples where the Holy Spirit comes to take up permanent residence. **The privilege of becoming a sacred place, a sacred person, requires that the believer live accordingly.**

The Gospel (Jn:35-42) gives us the vocation experiences of the first disciples. Those who are called by God are called to a life of seeking and searching for God's will and God's ways. Those willing to risk and venture into the unknown will, however, find a home in Him. Notice how the evangelist describes the evolution of a vocation. (1) Someone points the way (John the Baptist witnesses to Jesus); (2) the motives of those called are questioned (“what are you looking for?”); (3) those called admit of their desire for belonging (“Rabbi, where do you stay?”); (4) **the challenge of commitment is issued (“come and see”);** (5) in their

response to that challenge, those called also accept to live accordingly to a new reality (“your name will be Peter”) and within the embrace of a new relationship (“they stayed with him”); (6) having become aware of the gracious gift of vocation those called then reach out to share the joy of that experience with others (“he sought out his brother to tell him, we have found the Messiah”)

In our individual and communal mindsets, we regard the vocations of prophets, apostles, priests, nuns, etc. as special calls. Prompted by the renewal of the Second Vatican Council, we have come to understand that the gift of vocation is an experience afforded by God, not just to a special few, but to all. **Indeed all are called by God, all are invited to respond to God** and to make their entire life's work a necessary and integral part of their response to God.

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## VOCATIONS...

A good vocation prayer to say every day from the time we are young until we are in our golden years is found in today's first Scripture reading: “Speak Lord, for your servant is listening”. Just try it with sincerity, starting today and, if you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call

**Fr. Chris Lemieux,  
Vocation Director,  
Archdiocese of Toronto  
416-968-0997  
email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)  
www.vocationstoronto.ca**

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## What gifts have I brought to... the newborn Saviour?

Christmas and New Year celebrations are over at St. Edith Stein Church for another year. We thank all our parishioners for a beautiful celebration of the Christmas season. For all of you who were involved in any way in the Christmas preparation we thank you. For everyone who did that little bit extra we assure you it made all the difference. Again a big thanks to all our parishioners. You certainly make a difference. God bless you always.