

Stations of the Cross

The “Stations of the Cross”, also referred as “Way of the Cross”, “Via Crucis” or “Via Sacra” is a series of artistic sculptural representations depicting Christ carrying the cross to his crucifixion. Most churches have Stations of the Cross, generally placed along side walls of the nave.

When did we start having Stations of the Cross?

The pilgrims to Jerusalem loved to walk in the footsteps of Jesus to Calvary and, as early as the 5th century, at the monastery of Santo Stephano, in Bologna, Italy, a group of connected chapels was constructed with the intention of representing the most important shrines in Jerusalem.

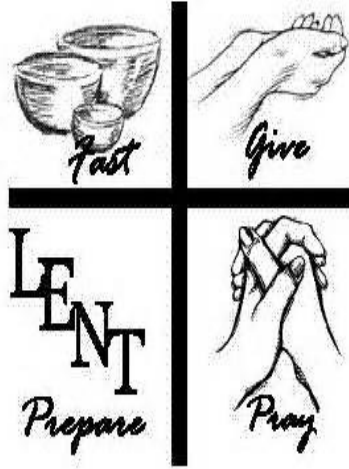
During the time of the crusades (1095-1270) it became quite popular for pilgrims to the Holy Land to “walk” the stations. In the following two centuries, after the Muslims recaptured the Holy Land, pilgrimages became too dangerous. So, throughout Europe, Stations of the Cross were erected as outdoor small chapels, so that pilgrims could “walk in the footsteps of Jesus”.

How many are the Stations of the Cross?

The number varied from 5 to 20 until the 18th century when Pope Clement XII fixed the number at 14, and that’s when they were allowed into the churches. In the 1960s, with the Second Vatican Council, it became popular to add a fifteenth Station representing the Resurrection of Jesus.

What is the real purpose of the Stations?

The main object of the Stations is to help the faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer, through meditation upon Christ’s suffering and death. We do the Stations in a spirit of reparation for the sufferings and the insults that Jesus endured during His Passion.



Stations of the Cross

We do the Stations of the Cross (bilingual) on Fridays after the 6:00 p.m. Mass.

ShareLife

Lent is a time to repent and be generous. Let us pray for all those in need during this Lent season. Our ShareLife collections for this year are on March 27th, April 24th and May 29th.

Day of Confession

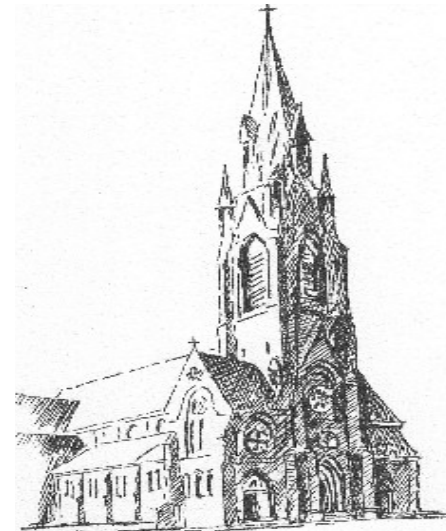
Our Lent Confessions are on Thursday, March 31st, and Friday, April 1st from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

First Communion Final Meeting

We will have one final meeting for the parents and children receiving their First Communion that could not attend our previous meetings. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 16th, at 7:00 p.m. in the church.

St. Mary's Church

Rev. Msgr. Fernando Couto (Pastor)
Rev. João Ferreira (Associate Pastor)



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OFFICE HOURS

Mon.– Fri. 8:30—12:00 and 1:00—4:00 pm

Sunday Masses

8:30 am Portuguese

10:00 am Portuguese

11:30 am English

1:00 pm English

Weekday Masses

Monday—Friday 9:00 am Portuguese

6:00 pm English

Saturday 5:00 pm English

6:30 pm Portuguese

Parish Council

Parish Finance Council

Legion of Mary

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
First Friday of Every Month at 5:00 p.m.

English Choir

Portuguese Choir

Ana da Silva 905-891-5444

Santo Cristo

Joey Teves 647-887-2804

Santo Cristo Band (Hall)

Marco Lima (President) 416-703-2231
416-818-5462

Santo Cristo Association

Please contact parish 416-703-2326

Espirito Santo

John & Lucy Silva 905-890-4771

Saint Vincent De Paul

416-247-8868

Volunteer Co-ordinator

Delia Medeiros (contact the parish)

Baptism—Sundays

Baptisms will be booked by appointment only

Marriages

Please contact the priest 12 months in advance

Confessions

Every day before Mass, except on Sunday

Schools

St. Mary Elementary 416-393-5205

Bishop Macdonell 416-393-5462



I Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022

Last Wednesday the Church invited us to embark on a journey, the journey of Lent, which is a journey towards Easter. We are a baptized people but haven't yet lived fully the life of a Christian. Lent calls us to a change of heart and a fuller living of the Gospel.

Psalm: *Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.*

All three readings are concerned with faithfulness to God. The First Reading describes the ceremony of the offering to God of the first fruits of the harvest. It was an occasion for the people to thank God, not only for the blessings of the harvest, but for all he had done for them in the past, and especially in the Exodus. The creed which the offerer recited is a summary of Israel's early history and humble origins. The readings of the following Sundays will focus on significant moments of that history. The Second Reading contains in its simplest form the Christian credo: Jesus is Lord; he died for our sins and was raised up for our justification. Obviously for this faith to be genuine, it must be professed not just with one's lips but also with one's life. Luke's account of the temptations follows closely that of Matthew, except that he deliberately changes the order of the last two temptations so that the series ends in Jerusalem. This is in keeping with his theological interest in the holy city.

This Day God Gives Me

This day God gives me, strength of high heaven
Sun and moon shining, flame in my hearth.
Flashing of lightning, wind in its swiftness,
Deeps of the ocean, firmness of earth.

This day God sends me,
strength as my steersman,
Might to uphold me, Wisdom as guide.
Your eyes are watchful, your ears are listening,
Your lips are speaking, Strength at my side.

God's way is my way, God's shield is round me,
God's host defends me, Saving from ill.
Angels of heaven, drive from me always,
All that would harm me, Stand by me still

Rising I thank You, Mighty and strong One,
King of creation, Giver of rest.
Firmly confessing Oneness of Godhead
Threeness of Persons, Trinity blest.

Hosea

Come back to me with all your heart,
Don't let fear keep us apart.
Trees do bend, though straight and tall,
So must we to others' call.

**Long have I waited for your
coming home to me
And living deeply our new life.**

The wilderness will lead you
To your heart where I will speak.
Integrity and justice
With tenderness you shall know.

You shall sleep secure with peace
Faithfulness will be your joy.

One Bread, One Body

**One bread, one body
One Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many
Throughout the earth
We are one body in this one Lord**

Gentile or Jew
Servant or free
Woman or man, no more

Many the gifts
Many the works
One in the Lord of all

Grain for the fields
Scattered and grown
Gathered to one, for all

Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace, How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
T'was blind but now I see

T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come.
T'was grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

Mass Intentions For This Week

Saturday, March 5

5:00pm: Souls in purgatory—Intention of Joe Arruda & Joshua Medeiros

6:30pm: Maria São José Faria, spouse and children—Deodato Pontes & parents

Sunday, March 6

8:30am: Francelina & Manuel Mendonça

10:00am: Community—José Luis & Maria Teresa Branco—Antônio Rodrigues Marcos—João Machado—Maria de Fátima da Silva—Rafael Ferreira & parents

11:30am:

1:00 pm: Glória Dâmaso, deceased family of Natália Dâmaso—Paulino, Ulysses & Dorotea Mamigo

Monday, March 7

9:00 am: World Peace

6:00 pm: Francisca Paiva & Alfredo Ponte Garcia

Tuesday, March 8

9:00 am: Praise to St. John of God

6:00 pm: Ermelinda Arruda

Wednesday, March 9

9:00 am: Maria da Conceição Lopes Abreu

6:00 pm: Parents of Odilia Soares

Thursday, March 10

9:00 am: Maria José Ledo, parents & in-laws

6:00 pm:

Friday, March 11

9:00 am: All souls in purgatory

6:00 pm: Intention of Marcus Ralph Guerra

Saturday, March 12

5:00 pm: Teófilo Ponte—Manuel Pereira

6:30 pm: