

EASTER DATE

Have you ever wondered why Easter is not like Christmas? Easter can fall anywhere between March 22 and April 25. Or, did you ever ask yourself why the Eastern Orthodox churches celebrate Easter on a different day?

To answer these questions we have to go back to the early church fathers who wished to keep the observance of Easter in correlation to the Jewish Passover. Because the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus happened after the Passover, they wanted Easter to always be celebrated right after Passover. It is a link we don't wish to break with Judaism.

In the early church there was a bit of controversy. And the controversy became a high priority on the agenda at the Council of Nicaea called by Emperor Constantine in 325. At the Council it was decided that Easter should be celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox (when the day equals the night). This movable feast can occur on any Sunday from March 23 to April 25.

Historically Western churches (mostly Greek and Russian) used the Gregorian calendar to calculate the date of Easter and Eastern Orthodox churches used the Julian calendar. This complicates the matter due to the inaccuracy of the Julian calendar, and the 13 days that have accrued since the Ecumenical Council of Nicaea in 325.

When in 1997 we proposed to the Orthodox churches to celebrate with us, they were very unwilling, fearing that the Western churches were trying to impose their practices on them. The Greek island of Syros, whose population is divided almost equally between Catholics and Orthodox, is one of the few places where the two Churches share a common date for Easter, with Catholics accepting the Orthodox date a practice helping considerably in maintaining good relations between the two Christian communities.

Blessed Sacrament Adoration & Holy Week

Blessed Sacrament Adoration, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, April 11, 12 & 13th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday, April 14th, Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8:00 p.m. (English-Portuguese).

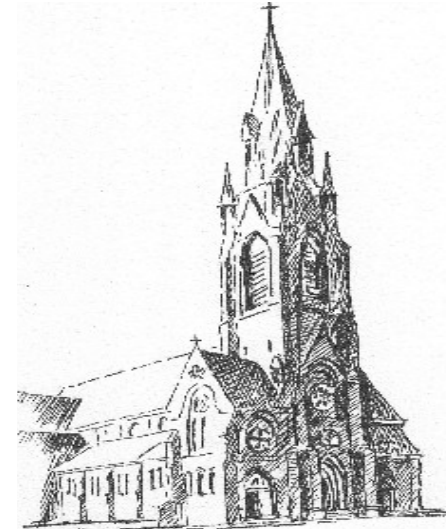
Good Friday, April 15th, Passion of Our Lord at 1:00 p.m. in English and 3:00 p.m. in Portuguese. Via Sacra at 7:00 p.m. English/Portuguese.

Holy Saturday, April 16th, Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00 p.m. (English-Portuguese) with adult baptisms.

Easter Sunday, April 17th, Mass schedule: 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. in Portuguese, 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m. in English.

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) 416-703-2231
Marco Lima (President) 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



V Sunday of Lent

April 3, 2022

The First Reading contains a message of hope addressed to the Jewish exiles in Babylon. There will be a new exodus, so glorious that it will put the great events of the first exodus in the shade. And all of this will happen because God is faithful to his people.

Psalm: *The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

This prepares us for the Gospel. Christians see the radically new thing that God has done for us, in and through Jesus. Specifically we see God's love and compassion in Jesus' treatment of a sinful woman. The story is taken from John, but it resembles the style of Luke. It's an 'entrapment' story which sought to show Jesus' wisdom in besting his adversaries.

The aim of the Scribes and Pharisees was to set a snare for Jesus. If he pardoned the woman, he could be accused of encouraging people to break the law of Moses. If he agreed that she should be stoned, he would lose his name for mercy. But Jesus turned the tables on her accusers by suggesting that they look at their own sins.

Masks

When in the church, we still recommend masks to be used, during masses, baptisms, weddings and funerals. Thank you!

Glory and Praise to Our God

**Glory and praise to our God
Who alone gives light to our days
Many are the blessings He bears
To those who trust in His ways.**

We the daughters and sons of Him
Who built the valleys and plains
Praise the wonders our God has done
In every heart that sings.

In His wisdom He strengthens us
Like gold that's tested in fire
Though the power of sin prevails
Our God is there to save.

All That We Have

**All that we have and all that we offer
Comes from a heart
both frightened and free.
Take what we bring now
and give what we need,
All done in his name.**

Some would rely on their power,
Others put trust in their gold.
Some have only their Savior,
Whose faithfulness never grows old.

Sometimes the road may be lonesome,
Often we may lose our way;
Take courage and always remember
Love isn't just for a day.

Sometimes when troubles are many,
Life can seem empty, it's true,
But look at the life of the Master,
Who lovingly suffered for you.

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 Thursday, April 21st, at 7:00 p.m. in the church.



How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God,
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works
Thy Hand hath made,
I see the stars,
I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout
the universe displayed,

**Then sings my soul,
my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul,
my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!**

When Christ shall come,
with shouts of acclamation,
And take me home,
what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim,
"My God, how great Thou art!"

Mass Intentions For This Week

Saturday, April 2

5:00 pm. António Rodrigues Marcos—Maria dos Anjos Cabral da Silva

6:30 pm. António Aguiar & Eduarda Maria da Ponte Aguiar

Sunday, April 3

8:30 am. Nelissa da Mota

10:00 am. Community—José Luis & Maria Teresa Branco

11:30 am. José Medeiros & in-laws

1:00 pm.

Monday, April 4

9:00 am. Mario Gomes Ferreira, family intentions & world peace

6:00 pm. Praise to Santo Cristo

Tuesday, April 5

9:00 am. Maria Rosa & José Couto, parents, in-laws, family & souls in purgatory

6:00 pm. Ermelinda Arruda

Wednesday, April 6

9:00 am. Praise to St. Apolonia

6:00 pm.

Thursday, April 7

9:00 am. José Calmeira, spouse & children

6:00 pm. Cousins of Rosa Mota

Friday, April 8

9:00 am. Vittorio & Attilia Bettio

6:00 pm.

Saturday, April 9

5:00 pm. Souls in purgatory

6:30 pm. Maria Ana Freitas—João Manuel Pereira de Estrela—Joaquim Ferreira, spouse & children