

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

During the first four centuries there was no uniformity in the Initiation Ritual. Generally, the newly baptized were welcomed by the bishop as they stepped out of the waters of baptism, who then would lay hands on them, or simply extend his hands over them.

Their forehead was anointed with perfumed oil, they would receive a ritual kiss of peace and then would be led to the Eucharistic table. That's how it was done in Rome in the year 215.

As time went by Confirmation became associated with the coming of the Holy Spirit and, by the time the Church gained her religious freedom in the early 4th century things really changed again. Local churches began to baptize infants as soon as possible after birth. This was done by the priests. The special anointing, still known as Chrismation by the Eastern Orthodox Churches, was postponed until the bishop was able to visit those particular parish communities. By the 5th century the bishops anointing on the forehead, in the form of a cross, became known in the West as "Confirmation".

Between the 9th and 13th century it was understood that the purpose of Confirmation was to strengthen the faith of the baptized person.

Until modern times Confirmation was celebrated before receiving the Eucharist. At the beginning of the 20th century it became popular to receive Holy Communion at an earlier age. This practice was highly encouraged by pope Pius X in 1910.

Presently Confirmation is understood as the Sacrament of Christian Maturity, received in the mid to late teens, at a time when candidates can maturely make a commitment to their Baptism.

First Communion Meeting

On Wednesday, March 1st, there will be a meeting for all the children that will be receiving their First Communion after Easter.

The meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. in the church. All children must be present.

Confirmation

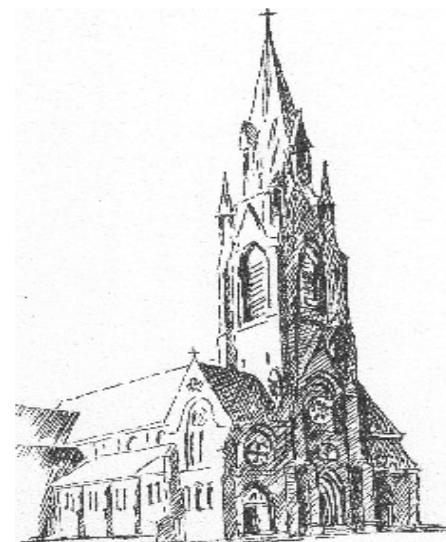
On Wednesday, March 8th, there will be a meeting for all the Confirmation candidates. The meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. in the church. All candidates must attend the meeting.

World Day of the Sick

The ministry of Jesus to the sick is central to the life of the Church. On February 11th (Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes) we are reminded that the service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. More than ever we recognize the great effort of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers.

St. Mary's Church

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



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OFFICE HOURS

Mon.– Fri. 8:30—12:00 and 1:00—4:00

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

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)

Paul Valerio (President) 416-703-2231
647-998-5916

Santo Cristo Association

Please contact the parish 416-703-2326

Espirito Santo

Afonso & Filomena Vieira 905-848-8571

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 in Ordinary Time

February 5, 2023

First Reading (Is 58:7-10) Genuine worship of God is shown forth in the practice of justice and in concern for the poor and the needy.

Second Reading (1 Cor 2:1-5) The success of the Gospel doesn't depend on human cleverness but on the power of God.

Psalm: *Light rises in the darkness for the upright.*

Gospel (Mt 5:13-16) Christ's disciples are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

In the ancient world, salt was one of the most important necessities of life, especially for preserving and seasoning food. So too was light for obvious reasons. We shouldn't turn salt and light into allegories. They are just images.

Both images are making the same point: Jesus' disciples have a vital role to play in the world through their good deeds. When the disciples stop witnessing through their deeds, they become as useless as salt that has lost its taste or a lamp that doesn't give light.

Lord Jesus, Of You I Will Sing

Lord Jesus, of you I will sing as I journey,
I'll tell all my brothers about you wherever I go:
You alone are man's life
and his peace and his love.
Lord Jesus, of you I will sing as I journey.

Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
May the earth and the sea
and the sky join my song.
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.

As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
To carry your cross
and to share all your burdens and tears.
For you saved me by giving
your body and blood.
As long as I live, Jesus make me your servant.

Christ Be Our Light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to You.
Make us Your own, Your holy people
Light for the world to see.

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in Your church gathered today.**

Longing for peace, our world is troubled
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone
Give them hearts for love alone
Who will speak my word to them
Whom shall I send?

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

**Then sings my soul, my saviour God, to thee
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my saviour God, to thee
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!**

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 4th

5:00 pm. Mariampillai & Jessie Edward—Teófilo Ponte—Ilda & Manuel Amaral

Sunday, February 5th

8:30 am. Nelissa da Mota

10:00 am. Community—José Luis & Maria Teresa Branco—Judy da Silva, Sister Rosa Vieira Brum—José Maiato, souls in purgatory—Abel Braga Ferreira—José de Amaral, Maria Bolarinho—José Medeiros & parents

11:30 am. Chaminda Dias, Titus Rajakaruna, Sandra Fernandes

1:00 pm. Praise to Santo Cristo & Our Lady of Fátima—Thanksgiving intention of Maria Faria

Monday, February 6th

9:00 am. Mario Gomes Ferreira, family intentions, for the sick

6:00 pm. Souls in purgatory

Tuesday, February 7th

9:00 am. Manuel de Amorim

6:00 pm. Sacred Heart of Jesus

Wednesday, February 8th

9:00 am. Ermelinda Arruda

6:00 pm. Tomas & Maria Oliveira

Thursday, February 9th

9:00 pm. António Cordeiro & family

6:00 pm. Deodato & Leontina Medeiros

Friday, February 10th

9:00 am. Souls in purgatory

6:00 pm. Miguel Medeiros, parents, in-laws, siblings & family

Saturday, February 11th

5:00 pm. Mariannina Mariconda—Lenea Maria Rocha