

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

Christians love to sign themselves and others with the sign of the cross. I remember asking my parents for a blessing every night before going to bed and they would sign my forehead with the sign of the cross. I sort of did it out of habit and yet deep down I realized it was important because I would not have dreamt of omitting this from our evening ritual, except maybe in a fit of rebellion during my teens. I will never forget asking my dad for his blessing during his last visit. It was his last blessing I ever received. This custom of signing ourselves and others with the cross goes back to the early centuries of Christianity.

Every time we sign ourselves with the sign of the cross we place ourselves under the protection of the cross and we commit ourselves to Christ into whom we have been baptized.

Specific to your question, there is evidence that people signed themselves on the forehead and breast at the time of the gospel as early as the ninth century. By the eleventh century the signing at the time of the gospel also included the mouth.

Today's rubrics (prescriptions) for the celebration of the Eucharist as they are contained in the Roman Missal indicate that the person proclaiming the gospel is to say, "A reading from the holy Gospel according to..." Following that, he is to make the sign of the cross on the book, and then on his forehead, lips and breast, "which everyone else does as well." The meaning of this gesture may be summarized as follows: May the word of the Lord guide our thoughts, our speech, and all our actions.

We bless ourselves with the sign of the cross before we start praying the Rosary, when we start a journey be it by car or aeroplane, before an operation, when confessing our sins, baptizing, anointing a sick person, etc. When we bless ourselves with the sign of the cross we hope to be under God's protection. Make it a habit. Bless yourself everyday.

The
Season
of
Lent



St. Mary's Church

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

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

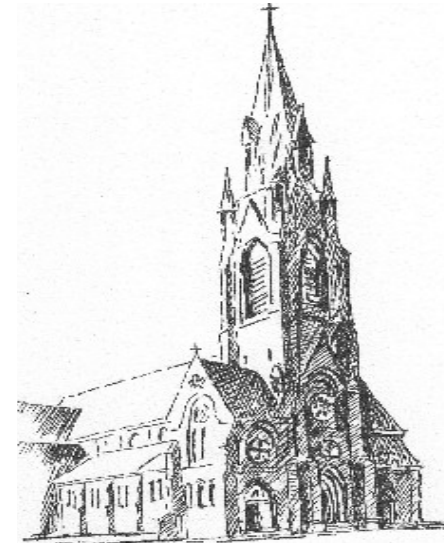
Volunteer Co-ordinator
Delia Medeiros (contact the parish)

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



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Website: stmarysbathurst.archtoronto.org

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

Via Sacra

Every Friday during Lent we will have the Via Sacra (Stations of the Cross) at 6:30 p.m.

ShareLife

Lent is a time to repent and be generous. Let us pray for all those in need during this Lent season.

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.



I Sunday of Lent

February 26, 2023

First Reading (Gen 2:7-9;3:1-7) Adam and Eve succumb to temptation and cause a rift between themselves and God.

Psalm: *Have mercy, O Lord, for we have sinned.*

Second Reading (Rom 5:12-19) By his obedience to God, Christ won back for us the gifts lost through the disobedience of Adam.

Gospel (Mt 4:1-11) Jesus was tempted by the devil, but unlike Adam and Eve, he did not succumb.

In the First Reading we have the story of the tempting of Adam and Eve, and in the Gospel the story of the tempting of Jesus. They are two very sophisticated stories, and are not meant to be taken literally. Jesus is the new Adam, who by his obedience restores for us the gifts lost by the disobedience of the first Adam. He is also the new Israel. Like the first Israel he too was tested in the desert. But whereas the first Israel was found wanting, Jesus remained faithful to God.

Day of Confession

Friday, March 24th, from 10:30 to 12:00 noon, and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Lift High the Cross

**Lift high the cross
The love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world
Adore His sacred name.**

Come, Christians, follow
Where our captain trod,
Your King victorious,
Christ, the Son of God.

Led on their way
By this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God
In conquering ranks combine.

Each newborn servant
Of the Crucified bears on the brow
The seal of Him who died.

I Will Sweep Away Your Transgressions

**I will sweep away your
transgressions like a cloud
And your sins will be
to me like a mist dissolved
So return to me, I will heal you,
for I love you.**

If you say to me: "Father I am blind"
If you say to me "I can't see."
I will be your light,
I'll restore your sight,
Place all your darkness in me.

If you say to me "I'm in prison Lord
Imprisoned by my fears."
Then I'll come to you,
I will comfort you,
Let me wipe away your tears.

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

**You satisfy the hungry heart
with gift of finest wheat,
Come give to us, O saving Lord,
the bread of life to eat.**

As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
They know and heed his voice;
So when You call Your family, Lord,
We follow and rejoice.

With joyful lips we sing to You,
Our praise and gratitude,
That You should count us worthy Lord,
To share this heavenly food.

The mystery of Your presence Lord,
No mortal tongue can tell;
Whom all the world cannot contain
Comes in our hearts to dwell.

You give yourself to us, O Lord,
Then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in Your name
In truth and charity.

Prayer of St. Francis

Make me a channel of Your peace
Where there is hatred, let me bring Your love
Where there is injury, Your pardon Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in You

Make me a channel of Your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness, ever joy

Oh Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Mass Intentions For The Week

Saturday, February 25th

5:00 pm. Manuel & António Faria—João Rodrigues—
Intention of Gerry Diomampo Guerra—Nino Stefanutti &
Angelina Avancini

Sunday, February 26th

8:30 am. Raimundo Soares, parents & in-laws

10:00 am. Community—Manuel Cordeiro Cabral—Santo
Cristo Association—Helena Neiva—António Pimentel—
Maria Olinda de Sousa

11:30 am. Angelo Medeiros & father—Ana Carvalho

1:00 pm. Manuel Pereira

Monday, February 27th

9:00 am. Intention of Filomena & Jamie Melo

6:00 pm. Maria José & António Medeiros & family

Tuesday, February 28th

9:00 am. António e Esmeralda & family

6:00 pm. Ildeberto Pimentel

Wednesday, March 1st

9:00 am. Souls in purgatory

6:00 pm. Henriqueta Rebelo

Thursday, March 2nd

9:00 pm. Souls in purgatory

6:00 pm. Bill Skora

Friday, March 3rd

9:00 am. Helena Neiva

6:00 pm. Ildeberto Camara

Saturday, March 4th

5:00 pm.