

## The Hebrews and the Church

To understand the history of the Church, we must take a look at the history of the people among whom the Church began: the people of Israel.

Sometime in the second century B.C. called Abram, the Hebrew patriarch, out of Ur Kasdim, in Chaldea (the marshlands around the Tigre and Euphrates rivers) in Mesopotamia.

He is the first historical figure in the Bible and the first person to be called a Hebrew, which means a wanderer or nomad (like present day Bedouins).

Abram, later called Abraham (“friend of God”) believed in one God while the rest of the world worshiped many gods. Thus, “Abraham stood on one side, and the rest of the world stood on the other side”.

Around 1500 B.C. some Hebrew tribes became slaves in Egypt. Then in 1200 B.C., God raised up a great man named Moses and sent him to free the Hebrew slaves. Again they wandered in the desert for 40 years before they reached the land of Cannan. In this time in the desert God made a covenant with them and gave them the Ten Commandments.

For over 1000 years B.C., after king David, the people of Israel existed as a nation. Many times during these years, they forgot their covenant with Yahweh by cheating, neglecting the poor, or even worshiping the gods of their neighbours. Yahweh raised up prophets to call the people to remember the covenant. One of them named Isaiah dreamed of a king greater than David who would come and save his people. This saviour came to be called the Messiah, or in Greek, the Christ, which means the “anointed one”. And with Christ, we have the New Testament and the Church. As for the Church, one could say that it started as Jewish but then became Christian with the conversion of the gentiles.

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### Needs of the Church In Canada (Bishop’s Collection)

Today we will have the annual collection that will be taken up for the needs of the Canadian Church. We would like to thank you for your ongoing and continuous generosity.

### Catechism/Sunday School Registration

We are still accepting registrations for First Communion and Confirmation throughout this month. Any registrations received after Oct. 22nd will not be accepted.

### Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation

Next Sunday, Oct. 1st, we will have our first collection dedicated to the Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation.



# St. Mary's Church

Rev. Msgr. Fernando Couto (Pastor)

Rev. Fr. Andre de Lima (Associate Pastor)

Parish Council

Parish Finance Council

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of Every Month at 5:00 p.m.

English Choir

Susan Taylor 416-277-6291

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

Jose & Margarida Silva 905-873-1908

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

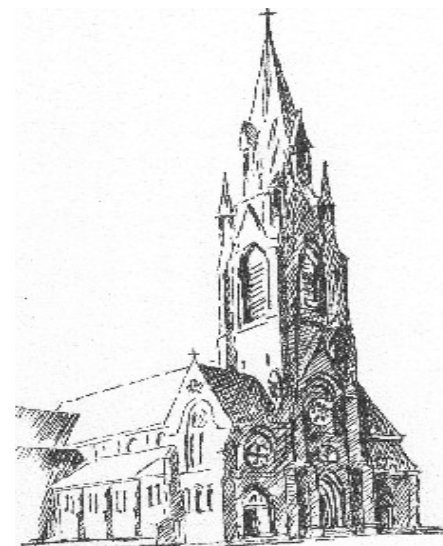
Confessions

Every day before Mass, except on Sunday

Schools

St. Mary Elementary 416-393-5205

Bishop Macdonell 416-393-5462



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Toronto, On. M6J 3P8

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### OFFICE HOURS

Mon.– Fri. 8:30—12:00 and 1:00—4:00

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### 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



## XXV Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 24, 2023

**First Reading: (Isaiah 55,6-9)** As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are God's ways above our ways.

**Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is near to all who call on him.**

**Second Reading: (Philippians 1,20-24,27)** Writing from prison, Paul is thinking of his death, and longing for complete union with Christ.

**Gospel (Matthew 20,1-16)** The First Reading states, 'God's ways are not our ways, God's thoughts are not our thoughts'. Just how vast is the difference between God's ways and our ways, between God's thoughts and our thoughts, is illustrated in the Gospel. God's generosity utterly transcends human generosity. The parable of the workers in the vineyard was aimed at the Pharisees. These legalistically minded men were critical of Jesus faces up to his critics, and shows them what God is like: God is generous and full of compassion for the poor and the outcast. In that respect the parable is similar to that of the prodigal son.

## 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.

Every moment of every day,  
Our God is waiting to save.  
Always ready to seek the lost,  
To answer those who pray.

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## 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 Saviour,  
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.

## I Am the Bread of Life

I am the bread of life,  
You who come to me shall not hunger,  
And who believe in me shall not thirst,  
No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.

**And I will raise you up,  
And I will raise you up,  
And I will raise you up on the last day.**

The bread that I will give  
is my flesh for the life of the world,  
And if you eat of this bread,  
you shall live forever,  
you shall live forever.

Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man,  
And drink of His blood,  
And drink of His blood,  
You shall not have life within you.

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## Blest Are They

Blest are they, the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of God.  
Blest are they, full of sorrow,  
they shall be consoled.

**Rejoice and be glad!  
Blessed are you; holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad!  
Yours is the Kingdom of God!**

Blest are they, the lowly ones;  
they shall inherit the earth.  
Blest are they, who hunger and thirst;  
they shall have their fill.

## Mass Intentions for this Week

### **Saturday, 23rd September**

**5:00 pm.** Mariano Machado & in-laws—Mary Celmira Delgado & Alida Rita Delgado—Manuel & Ana Faria—Leonel Moniz Cabral, parents, in-laws & family members—João Rodrigues

### **Sunday, 24th September**

**8:30 am.** Raimundo Soares & deceased family  
**10:00 am.** Community-Assoc. de Santo Cristo—Maria Fatima Melo—Fernando Pedrosa, parents & in-laws—José Nina & parents—Anniversary of Lilia e João Tavares

**11:30 am.** Arlindo, Ilda & Richard Vicente—Ana Carvalho—José Medeiros & parents—Liberta Costa—Eduarda Moço  
**1:00 pm** Gloria Damaso & deceased family

### **Monday, 25th September**

**9:00 am.** Rosaria Ferreira  
**6:00 pm.** Ermelinda Arruda

### **Tuesday, 26th September**

**9:00 am.** Maria da Conceição de Melo Garcia & souls in purgatory  
**6:00 pm.** Antonio Gaspar

### **Wednesday, 27th September**

**9:00 am.** Lindaura e Jeremias Melo  
**6:00 pm.** Parents & siblings of Odilia Correia

### **Thursday, 28th September**

**9:00 am.** Maria Ramos  
**6:00 pm.** Veronica Franco

### **Friday, 29th September**

**9:00 am.** Arcanjos Gabriel, Rafael e Miguel & souls in purgatory  
**6:00 pm.** Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary & Archangels

### **Saturday, 30th September**

**5:00 pm.** Maria Isabel Pimentel Medeiros