

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday commemorates the triumphant arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem, as the Prince of Peace, an event mentioned in all four canonical Gospels.

Palm Sunday celebrates the time that Jesus entered Jerusalem with his disciples. His followers believed that he was fulfilling prophecies in the Old Testament by arriving on the back of a donkey. So they laid out their coats and threw palm leaves on the road in front of Him. Thus was the kind of welcome normally reserved for a king.

The fact that Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem is full of symbolism. In the Eastern tradition a donkey is an animal of peace, versus a horse, which was the animal that a king rode when he went to war. "See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9).

In the Russian Orthodox Church, Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic Church, Polish and various other Eastern European countries, they use pussy willows instead of palms since the latter are not easy to find that far north.

In many parts of the world palms are hard to find and substitute traditions have arisen. In the South Indian state of Kerala, flowers are strewn about into the sanctuary on Palm Sunday during the reading of the Gospel. In Syro-Malabar Catholic Churches, palm leaves are blessed before being used in Palm Sunday processions.

In the Philippines they like to re-enact Jesus triumphal entry astride a donkey (the humenta) with the congregants bearing ornately woven "palaspas" (palm branches) which later are taken home and placed on altars or above the doorways and windows.

In countries like Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece, Palestine, Lebanon etc. palm leaves are used along with olive branches and the priest uses an olive branch to splash holy water on the faithful.



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
Artur Rocha 647-624-7113

Santo Cristo Band (Hall) 416-703-2231
Paul Valerio (President) 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

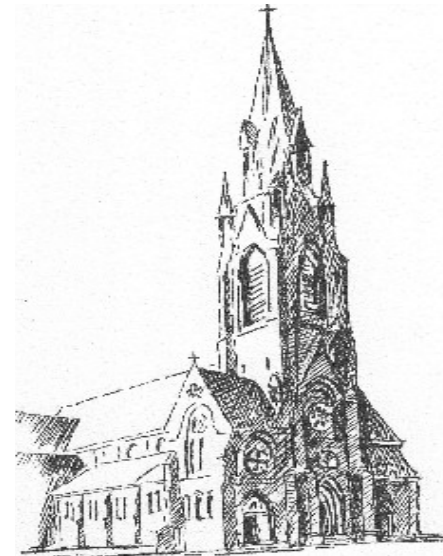
Volunteer Co-ordinator
Delia Medeiros (contact the parish)

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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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

Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8:00 p.m. (English-Portuguese).

Good Friday

Passion of Our Lord at 1:00 p.m. in English and 3:00 p.m. in Portuguese.

Via Sacra/Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. English/Portuguese.

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 p.m. (English-Portuguese) with adult baptisms.

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday, the Mass schedule is 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. in Portuguese and 11:30 a.m., 1:00 pm. in English.





Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024

First Reading (Is. 50,4-7) The prophet suffers in carrying his mission, but is sustained by the firm belief that God will not abandon him.

Psalm: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Second Reading (Phil 2,6-11) Because Jesus took on himself our human condition, and accepted death on a cross, the Father has raised him up and made him Lord of heaven and earth.

The final act in the drama of Jesus has come. The Son of Man must suffer many things. In his account of the Passion, Mark stresses the crude trial and shocking details of Jesus’ suffering. He has Jesus die in total isolation—deserted by his disciples, taunted by his enemies, derided by those who hung him, and, worst of all, thinking that he is abandoned by God.

The rending of the curtain of the temple signifies that the privilege of Israel has ended; henceforth access to the divine presence is open to all. The reply to the question which has dominated Mark’s Gospel (Who, then, is this?) is found in the words of the centurion: “Truly, this man was the Son of God.”

ShareLife

Last weekend, we had our first ShareLife collection that gave us a total of \$6,920.00. Thank you for your generosity.

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 the Master trod,
our 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.

Jesus, Remember Me

Jesus, remember me
when you come into your Kingdom,
Jesus, remember me
when you come into your Kingdom.

*Jesús, recuerda me cuando entres en tu Reino,
Jesús, recuerda me cuando entres en tu Reino.*

Blessed Sacrament Adoration

To mark the beginning of Holy Week, the church will be opened for adoration Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 3:00-6:00 pm.

Good Friday Collection

Good Friday, there will be a Pontifical collection for the Holy Land in support of Christian communities, the work of the Holy Land, the upkeep of the Holy Sites and the formation of future priests.

Jerusalem My Destiny

**I have fixed my eyes on your hills,
Jerusalem, my Destiny!
Though I cannot see the end for me,
I cannot turn away.
We have set our hearts for the way;
this journey is our destiny.
Let no one walk alone.**

The journey makes us one.
Other spirits, lesser gods,
have courted me with lies.
Here among you I have found
a truth that bids me rise.

See, I leave the past behind;
a new land calls to me.
Here among you now I find
a glimpse of what might be.

In my thirst, you let me drink
the waters of your life,
Here among you I have met,
the Savior, Jesus Christ.

Were You There

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

**Oh, sometimes it causes me
to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when
they crucified my Lord?**

Were you there when
they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when
they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, March 23

5:00 p.m. João Rodrigues & in-laws—Manuel & António Faria—Tony Fernandes—Irene Coelho—Mecilia & Silvério Angeja

Sunday, March 24

8:30 am. Manuel Moniz & Natália Raposo

10:00 am. Community—Santo Cristo Association—Luis & Conceição Soares—Manuel & Cecilia Medeiros, Maria Otilia & José Manuel Sousa, Angelina Aguiar, Manuel & Natividade Sousa, José Pacheco—António da Costa Ferreira & family—Abel Ferreira, parents, in-laws & family—Gil Maiato—Anna Mondello Pimentel—Maria Cabral & José Carreiro—Manuel Carreiro Cabral—Maria Isabel, parents & in-laws—Teresinha Garcia

11:30 a.m. Alex Rodriguez—Ana Carvalho—Intention of Mavis Parasini—Luis Alfonso Burgos

1:00 pm. Manuel Inácio, Maria Amaral, children & grandson—Praise to Santo Cristo—Luis Cabral—Titus Rajakaruna

Monday, March 25

9:00 am. Souls in purgatory—Thanksgiving to Mary Mother of God—Intention of Filomena & Victoria Melo

6:00 p.m. Almas do purgatório

Tuesday, March 26

9:00 am. Nancy, Ricardo & Horácio Costa, souls in purgatory

6:00 p.m. In honour of God the Father Almighty

Wednesday, March 27

9:00 am. Hildeberto Pimentel

6:00 p.m. Odilia Correia

Holy Thursday, March 28

8:00 pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper (English-Portuguese)

Good Friday, March 29

Passion of Our Lord at 1:00 p.m. English

3:00 p.m. Portuguese

Via Sacra

7:00 p.m. English/Portuguese

Holy Saturday, March 30

Easter Vigil Mass 8:00 p.m. (English-Portuguese)

Easter Sunday, March 31

8:30 am. / 10:00 am. Portuguese

11:30 am. / 1:00 pm. English