

THE CHURCH

What does “Church” mean? It means an assembly of people, a believing community. The New Testament calls the Church the Body of Christ because it is made up of people trying to carry on the work and teaching of Jesus. “Church” comes from the Greek word “ekklesia”.

In the Nicene Creed the Church is described as *one, holy, catholic and apostolic*.

Catholic means universal or worldwide.

Apostolic means it is based on the teachings of the apostles.

Today, Christians are divided into many denominations, but when Christianity first began there was only one Church.

In the beginning local communities were led by elders, sometimes called overseers. These people were later known as *presbyters* (priests) and *episkopos* (bishops). In the large cities there were seniors bishops.

Today there are 2.19 billion Christians in the world, half of them being Roman Catholic. The bishop of Rome, right from the beginning, was given special respect, and was called *Papa*, from Latin meaning father. Pope Francis is the 266th pope of the Catholic Church.

Outside of Rome there were also some important bishops in the ancient cities of Alexandria, Jerusalem, Constantinople and Antioch.

After a while, however, various groups started separating from the main Church. A major split came in the eleventh century when the Western and the Eastern sections of the Church separated from each other. The Eastern churches became known as the Orthodox Churches.

Five hundred years later there was also a major split in the Western Church (Roman Catholic) when the Protestant Churches, protesting against the corruptions of the medieval Church, no longer accepted the Pope as their leader. This is known as the Reformation.

Protestant churches also divided spawning many offshoots such as the Baptist Church, the Methodist Church, etc.

Santo Cristo Festival

Next Weekend we will have the Santo Cristo Festival. This festival was first celebrated in our Church in 1966. All are welcome.

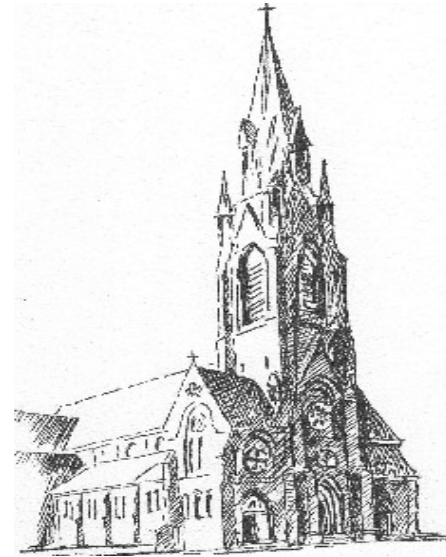
**Saturday, May 4th: Procession at 5:30 p.m. with Mass following.
We will not have the 5:00 p.m. Mass.**

Sunday, May 5th: Mass at 1:00 p.m. Procession at 3:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Church

Rev. Msgr. Fernando Couto (Pastor)

Rev. Fr. Andre de Lima (Associate Pastor)



588 Adelaide St. W.

Toronto, On. M6J 3P8

Tel: 416-703-2326 Fax: 416-703-4196

Email: stmaryschurch2@rogers.com

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

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)

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



5th Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

First Reading (Acts 9:26-31) This tells us about some of the trials Paul endured after his conversion. This First Reading tells how, three years after his conversion, Paul to Jerusalem. In spite of being introduced by Barnabas, such was the hostility he encountered that he had to be smuggled out of the city. The fact that Paul took all these trial in his stride shows the depth of his faith in Jesus.

Psalm: Lord, from you comes my praise in the great congregation.

*Second Reading (1Jn 3:18-24)*The Second Reading tells us what we have to do in order to be at rights with God. We have to believe in his Son, Jesus, and live one another as he told us. Active charity is what distinguishes true Christians form those who are such in name only.

Gospel (Jn 15:1-8) In the Gospel we have the lovely image of the vine and the branches. Here Jesus stresses the unity that exists between him and his disciples. Vine and branches need each other. The vine cannot bear fruit without the branches. And the branches can have no life if separated from the vine. The branches need to be pruned (by trials) in order to be fruitful.

ShareLife

Today, we will be taking up our second ShareLife collection.

We thank you in advance for your generosity.

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



Alleluia Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

**Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the Risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to His name!**

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen.

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."

"I am the resurrection, I am the life.
If you believe in me, even though you die,
you shall live forever."

Sing A New Song

**Sing a new song unto the Lord
let your song be sung from mountains high.
Sing a new song unto the Lord,
singing alleluia.**

Yahweh's people dance for joy.
O come before the Lord.
And play for him on glad tambourines,
and let your trumpet sound.

Saturday, April 27

5:00 p.m. Manuel & António Faria—Laurinda Tavares de Jesus

Sunday, April 28

8:30 am. Osvaldo Terceira & Julie Lopes
10:00 am. Community—Santo Cristo Association—Gilberto Gouveia — 50th Anniversary of Agostinho & Carminda Ramos, family intentions, parents & in-laws—Manuel Bolarinho
11:30 am. Ana Carvalho—José Soares—Molly McGuirk
1:00 pm. Manuel Inácio, Maria Amaral, children & grandson—Juliana Valencia Lim

Monday, April 29

9:00 am.
6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 30

9:00 am.
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 1

9:00 am. Praise to St. Joseph the Worker
6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 2

9:00 am.
6:00 p.m.

Friday, May 3

9:00 am.
6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 4

5:30 p.m. Procession—Mass

Sunday, May 5

8:30 am. Nelissa da Mota
10:00 am. Community—Conceição e Libério Ledo—Henrique Sebastião—José Luis & Maria Teresa Branco—José, Henriqueta & John Rebelo—José Carlos Silva, Manuel Pereira—Manuel & Rosa de Jesus Couto—Abel Ferreira, parents, in-laws & family—António José Braga & parents—Intentions of José & Maria Pereira
11:30 am. Parents of Odilia Soares—Natália Dâmaso
1:00 pm. Santo Cristo Feast Mass—Procession