

## MARTYRS OF ROME

Saint Peter and Saint Paul did not die alone in the great martyrdom under Nero in the year 64. There were other victims of his savagery, and their deaths are linked with those of Peter and Paul in history and in the calendar of the Church.

In July of 64, a great fire devastated Rome. It began near the Great Circus, one of the great shopping districts of Rome, spreading quickly and raging for six days. Many buildings were demolished to contain it, but the inferno eventually burst out again in the garden of the prefect of the Praetorian Guard. When it finally died down, two thirds of Rome had been destroyed.

There was a rumour that the emperor himself had set the fire aflame, and, as the rumour grew, Nero grew fearful that the rumour might be believed and Christians were accused of setting the fire. Although most people did not believe the accusation, Christians were nonetheless rounded up and Nero took particular delight in finding barbaric ways to put them to death.

The Roman historian Tacitus wrote: “Nero provided his garden for the spectacle, and exhibit displays in the Circus, at which he mingled with the crowd... Despite their guilt as Christians... the victims were pitied. For it was felt that they were being sacrificed to one man’s brutality rather than to the national interest.”

It was the first great Roman persecution of Christians, and such persecutions would continue, with various forms of ferocity, for the next 250 years, ending with the Peace of Constantine in 312. But, like all such martyrdoms, the “blood of martyrs became the seed of Christians.”

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### Holy Spirit Festival

From the Holy Spirit Festival we received for the repairs and maintenance of the church a total of \$55,358.00.

We would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication.

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### Fr. Benny Joseph

Next weekend we welcome Fr. Benny Joseph as our new Associate Pastor. Fr. Benny is a native of India, and worked for many years in Brasil.

We look forward for his ministry here at St. Mary’s.

# St. Mary's Church

Rev. Msgr. Fernando Couto (Pastor)

Rev. Fr. Andre de Lima (Associate Pastor)

Parish Council

Parish Finance Council

English Choir

Susan Taylor 416-531-0503

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

Contact the Parish 416-703-2326

Espirito Santo

João & Lilia Tavares 905-558-0244

St. Vincent de Paul

416-247-8868

Volunteer Co-Ordinator

Delia Medeiros (Please contact parish)

Baptism—Sundays

Baptisms will be booked by appointment only

Marriages

Please contact the priest *12 months* in advance

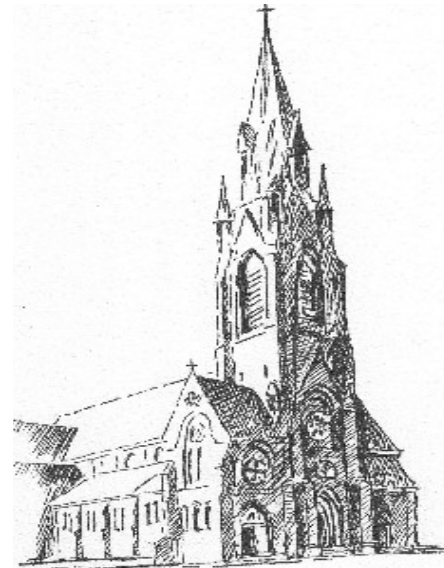
Confessions

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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Website: [stmarysbathurst.archtoronto.org](http://stmarysbathurst.archtoronto.org)

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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

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### Weekday Masses

Monday—Friday 9:00 am Portuguese

6:00 pm English

Saturday 5:00 pm English



**Twelfth Sunday  
June 23, 2024**

**First Reading (Job 38:1.8-11)** God alone has mastery over the sea.

**Second Reading (2 Cor 5:14-17)** Christ showed his love for us by dying for us. We are to imitate that love.

**Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord; his steadfast love endures forever.**

**Gospel (Mk 4:35-41)** By calming a storm Jesus shows his divine power and his care for his disciples.

In today's gospel Mark follows the section on the parables with four miraculous actions of Jesus. The first of these was the calming of the storm. In the Bible the calming of a storm is a characteristic sign of divine power, because the sea and the wind are seen as forces of evil and chaos which only God can control. But the storm can also stand for the trials and tribulations which the righteous suffer, and from which only the power of God can save them.

When the apostles got caught in a storm they turned to Jesus for help and found it. From time to time we too get caught in storms. Our storms usually take the form of trials of one kind or another. We must know how to turn to the Lord, and trust that he will see us through the storm.

**Gather Your People**

**Gather your people, O Lord.  
Gather your people, O Lord.  
One bread, one body, one spirit of love.  
Gather your people, O Lord.**

Draw us forth to the table of life:  
brothers and sisters,  
each of us called to walk in your light.

We are parts of the body of Christ,  
needing each other,  
each of the gifts the Spirit provides.

No more harm on the mountain of God:  
swords into plowshares.  
Free us, O Lord, from hardness of heart.



**Give Thanks**

Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks because He's given  
Jesus Christ His Son. (2x)

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich,  
Because of what the Lord has done for us."(2x)

Give thanks.

**Taste and See**

**Taste and see, taste and see  
the goodness of the Lord.  
Oh, taste and see, taste and see  
the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.**

I will bless the Lord at all times.  
Praise shall always be on my lips;  
my soul shall glory in the Lord;  
for God has been so good to me.

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us all praise God's name.  
I called the Lord, who answered me;  
from all my troubles I was set free.

Worship the Lord, all you people.  
You'll want for nothing if you ask.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good;  
in God we need put all our trust.

**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.

**Mass Intentions for this Week**

**Saturday, June 22nd**

**5:00 pm.** Mariano Machado — João Rodrigues & siblings—Manuel & António Faria—Gilbert & Sarah Sandrelli

**Sunday, June 23rd**

**8:30 am.** Osvaldo Terceira

**10:00am.** Community—Maria de Fátima Melo—Maria Rosa

**11:30 am.** Arlindo, Ilda & Richard Vicente — José & Angelo Medeiros—Ana Carvalho—Cicvaric family—Bertina Monteiro

**1:00 pm.** Luis Alfonso Burgos — Intention of Bert, Jenneth & Patria Rosal

**Monday, June 24th**

**9:00 am.** Intention of Filomena & Jeanine Melo

**6:00 pm.** Guilherme Melo

**Tuesday, June 25th**

**9:00 am.** Souls in purgatory

**6:00 pm.** Mike Botelho Pavão

**Wednesday, June 26th**

**9:00 am.** João Luis, Teresa & Irene Loureiro

**6:00 pm.** Intention of Lucia Correia

**Thursday, June 27th**

**9:00 am.** Vittorio & Attilia Bettio

**6:00 pm.** Rogelio Gatbonton

**Friday, June 28th**

**9:00 am.** Manuel dos Santos & Cecilia Freitas

**6:00 pm.** Odilia Correia

**Saturday, June 29th**

**5:00 pm.**