

## Saint Peter Claver (1581-1654)

A native of Spain, young Jesuit Peter Claver left his homeland forever in 1610 to be a missionary in the colonies of the New World. He sailed into Cartagena (now in Colombia) a rich port city in the Caribbean.

In Cartagena, he was ordained a priest in 1615. By this time, the slave trade had been established in the America's for nearly 100 years and Cartagena was a chief center for it. Ten thousand slaves poured into the port each year after crossing the Atlantic from West Africa under conditions so foul and inhuman that an estimated one-third of the passengers died in transit.

Peter Claver's predecessor, Jesuit Father Alfonso de Sandoval, also from Spain, had devoted himself to the service of the slaves for 40 years before Claver arrived to continue his work, declaring himself "the slave of the Negroes forever".

As soon as a slave ship entered port, Peter Claver moved into its infested hold to minister to the ill-treated and miserable passengers who then would be herded out of the ship like chained animals and shut up in nearby yards to be gazed at by the crowds. He offered them medicines, food, bread, brandy, lemons and other fruits.

His apostolate extended beyond his care for slaves. In time, he became a moral force, indeed, the apostle of Cartagena. He preached in the city square, gave missions to sailors and traders. After four years of sickness, he died on September 8, 1654. In 1888, he was canonized by Pope Leo XIII.

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### Sunday School

All children receiving their First Communion and all young adults receiving Confirmation must register in order to attend Sunday classes.

Registration is open throughout the entire month of September; a baptism certificate must be presented. For more information, please contact the parish office.

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### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Adults wishing to do their Confirmation or receive Holy Communion can contact the parish office for information.

All adults willing to become Catholics should introduce themselves until the end of October and register in our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) program.

# St. Mary's Church

**Rev. Msgr. Fernando Couto (Pastor)**

**Rev. Fr. Benny Joseph (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 647-308-7556

**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

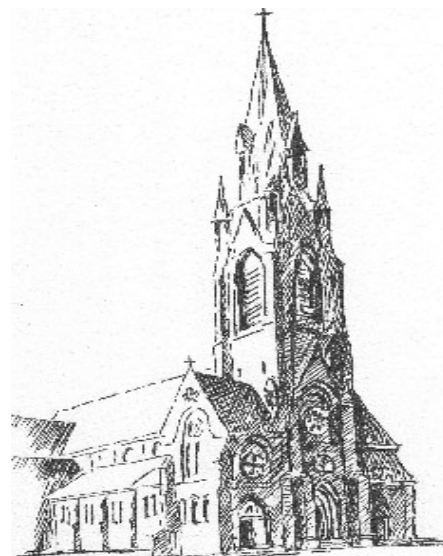
**Confessions**

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**

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

**Email: stmaryschurch2@rogers.com**

**Website: 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

#### **Weekday Masses**

Monday—Friday 9:00 am Portuguese

6:00 pm English

Saturday 5:00 pm English



## Twenty Third Sunday

September 8, 2024

*First Reading (Is 35:4-7)* The prophet urges the people to take courage, because God is coming to save his people.

**Psalm: Praise the Lord, O my soul!**

*Second Reading (Jam 2:1-5)* Class distinction should have no place among Christians.

*Gospel (Mark 7:31-37)* Jesus cures a Gentile man who is deaf and has a speech impediment. The faith-response of the Gentiles contrasts sharply with that of many of his own people.

In Mark's mind Jesus was fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah, "The ears of the deaf will be unsealed, and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy" (First Reading). In other words, Jesus is the one who brings salvation to Israel. This miracle is the only cure in the Gospels that is described as taking place gradually.

Mark saw it as an illustration of growth in faith. It is what happens to every Christian at Baptism. Christ touches our ear so that we can hear his word, and touches our tongues so that we can profess our faith. Hence, we too can say, "He has done all things well; he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak."

### 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

Rise, O children, from your sleep;  
Your Savior now has come  
He has turned your sorrow to joy  
And filled your soul with song.



### 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.

### You Are Mine

I will come to you in the silence  
I will lift you from all your fear  
You will hear My voice  
I claim you as My choice  
Be still, and know I am near

I am hope for all who are hopeless  
I am eyes for all who long to see  
In the shadows of the night,  
I will be your light  
Come and rest in Me

**Do not be afraid, I am with you  
I have called you each by name  
Come and follow Me  
I will bring you home  
I love you and you are mine**

I am strength for all the despairing  
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame  
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free  
And all will know My name

### Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch; like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

### Mass Intentions For The Week

#### Saturday, September 7th

**5:00 pm.** Teodelinda Ortins—Joaquim & Herminia Inácio

#### Sunday, September 8th

**8:30 am.** Parents & in-laws of José & Margarida da Silva, souls in purgatory

**10:00am.** Community—Hermano & Leonilde Arruda—José Dias Faria, parents, brother & in-laws—Maria dos Anjos Medeiros Faria—Antônio Correia—Joaquim de Brito, parents & in-laws

**11:30 am.** Thanksgiving to the Holy Trinity

**1:00 pm.** Luis Augusto Ribeiro Raposo—Thanksgiving to Santo Cristo—Intention of Ndeye-Astou Diara—Luis Alfonso Burgos—Paulino Mamigo, Masarie Berdida, Maria Porcha Chan

#### Monday, September 9th

**9:00 am.** Ermelinda Arruda

**6:00 pm.** Parens, siblings and nephews of Henriqueta & José Rebelo

#### Tuesday, September 10th

**9:00 am.** Maria da Gloria Campos

**6:00 pm.** Souls in purgatory

#### Wednesday, September 11th

**9:00 am.** Praise to St. Francis of Assisi

**6:00 pm.** Intention of Filomena & Jamie Melo

#### Thursday, September 12th

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

**6:00 pm.** Nelson de Melo

#### Friday, September 13th

**9:00 am.** Manuel Calmeira

**6:00 pm.** Ildeberto Camara

#### Saturday, September 14th

**5:00 pm.** Souls in purgatory—Toni Sousa—Maria Venilde Tavares