

Saint Oscar Romero

Oscar Romero was a quiet bishop that, after the death of his friend father Rutilio Grande, became “a voice for the voiceless”. Romero became such a fearless and outspoken champion of justice that he was often denounced by his fellow bishops and disliked by many in Rome. He earned the hatred of the rich and powerful of El Salvador and ended being targeted for assassination – the first bishop slain at the altar since Thomas Becket in the twelfth century.

Let’s say that the church in El Salvador was not the first church to suffer persecution. The anomaly was that here the persecutors dared to call themselves Christians. Their victims did not die simply for clinging to the faith, but for clinging, like Jesus to the poor.

For bishop Romero, the church’s option for the poor is just not a matter of pastoral priorities, it was a defining characteristic of the Christian faith: “A church that does not unite itself to the poor in order to denounce from the place of the poor the injustice committed against them is not truly the Church of Jesus Christ, he wrote.

On another occasion he said: “On this point there is no possible neutrality. We either save the life of Salvadorans or we are accomplices in their death... We either believe in the God of life or we serve the idols of death”.

Romero wrote a letter to President Jimmy Carter appealing for a halt to further military assistance to the military junta. On March 23, 1980, the day before his death, he appealed directly to members of the military, calling them to refuse illegal orders:
“We are your people. The peasants you kill are your brothers and sisters. ...remember the voice of God. Thou Shall Not Kill. ...In the name of God, in the name of the tormented people whose cries rise up to heaven, I beseech, I beg you, I command you, stop the repression”. The next day, a single rifle shot was fired from the back of the chapel where he was saying Mass. Bishop Romero was struck in the heart and died within minutes.

Immediately the poor of Latin America acclaimed him a martyr and a saint.

World Mission Sunday

Today, we will take up the offerings towards the World Mission collection.

Sunday School

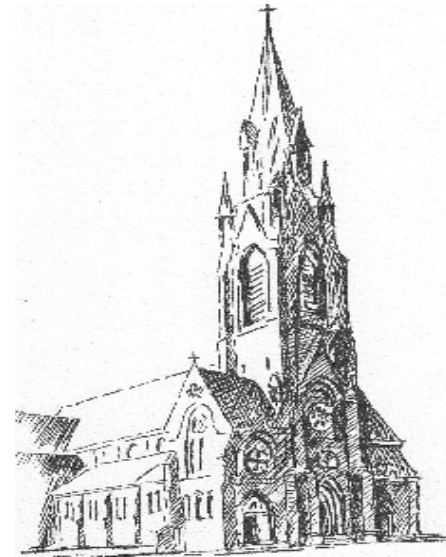
Our Sunday School (Catechism) starts Sunday, November 3rd. If you did not register your child, please do so at your earliest convenience. All registration forms must be accompanied by a copy of the child’s baptism certificate.

Catechism for Adults

All adults that wish to receive Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion, should contact the parish office. Catechism (R.C.I. A.) starts Saturday, November 9th at 6:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Church

Rev. Msgr. Fernando Couto (Pastor)
Rev. Fr. Benny Joseph (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

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



**Twenty Ninth Sunday
October 20, 2024**

The First Reading is an excerpt from Isaiah's fourth Servant Song. The Servant offers his life in atonement for the sins of his people. His death will be the beginning of glorification for him and a source of blessings for others.

Psalm: *Let your love be upon us, Lord, even as we hope in you.*

The letter to the Hebrews (Second Reading) tells us that in Jesus we have a High Priest who was tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. He has been through the mill, so to speak. Therefore, he can understand our struggles and help us.

In the Gospel we see how far the apostles are from this spirit of self sacrifice. James and John want the top places in Jesus' kingdom. Obviously they thought that his kingdom would be modeled on worldly kingdoms, where those in high places enjoy honour, power and glory. But Jesus tells them that his disciples are not to imitate the Gentiles, whose rulers lord over the people. In his kingdom, service is what makes one great.

Sing to the Mountains

**Sing to the mountains, sing to the sea.
Raise your voices, lift your hearts.
This is the day the Lord has made.
Let all the earth rejoice.**

I will give thanks to you, my Lord.
You have answered my plea.
You have saved my soul from death.
You are my strength and my song.

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us be glad and rejoice.
He has turned all death to life.
Sing of the glory of God.

Whatsoever You Do

**Whatsoever you
do to the least of my people
that you do unto me.**

When I was hungry, you gave me to eat;
When I was thirsty you gave me to drink.
Now enter into the home of my Father.

When I was weary, you helped me find rest;
When I was anxious, you calmed all my fears.
Now enter into the home of my Father.

When I was homeless, you opened your door;
When I was naked, you gave me your coat.
Now enter into the home of my Father.

Here I Am Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I have made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

**Here I am, Lord, is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord if You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them,
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Immaculate Mary

Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing.
You reign now in splendor with Jesus our King.

**Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!
Ave, Ave, Maria!**

In heaven the blessed your glory proclaim;
On earth we your children invoke your fair name.
[Refrain]

We pray for our Mother, the Church upon earth,
And bless, Holy Mary, the land of our birth.

Mass Intentions for this Week



Saturday, October 19th

5:00 pm. Mariano Machado, in-laws, St. Pope John Paul II—Nicasio Sr. Pardo—Maria da Conceição Vicente—João Luis Faria

Sunday, October 20th

8:30 am. Olivia, João e Fernando Machado—José Horácio Furtado

10:00am. Community—José, Fernanda, Albano & Mariano Camara—Maria de Fátima Melo—Jaime de Sousa—Angela Aguiar Medeiros—António José Braga

11:30 am. Ana Carvalho—Andrew Graham

1:00 pm. Beatriz Otilia de Medeiros—Berino Cabral—Luis Alfonso Burgos

Monday, October 21st

9:00 am. Adelino Marques Loureiro

6:00 pm. Manuel & Maria Couto & family

Tuesday, October 22nd

9:00 am. Odilia Correia

6:00 pm. Intention of José & Ashley Arruda

Wednesday, October 23rd

9:00 am. Joaquim Rodrigues & family

6:00 pm. Adelina & José Pacheco, praise to Santo Cristo

Thursday, October 24th

9:00 am. Rosária Ferreira

6:00 pm. Michael Pavão

Friday, October 25th

9:00 am. Souls in purgatory—Alfredo Machado

6:00 pm. José Manuel Oliveira Correia, intention of Lucia Correia

Saturday, October 26th

5:00 pm. Manuel & António Faria — João & Angelina Rodrigues