

Can a Catholic be cremated?

For many centuries the Church insisted that Catholics follow only the manner of Christ's burial by either entombing or burying the body.

However, since 1963, the Church declared that cremation can be an alternative to burial, since cremation does not deny the Christian doctrine of the soul's immortality nor the resurrection of the body.

As Catholics we see the body as a temple of the Holy Spirit and the Church prefers that cremation be carried out only after the actual body was present at the funeral Mass.

Since 1997, the Congregation for Divine Worship approved cremation as an acceptable practice for Catholics and allows for the cremated remains to be present at a funeral Mass, provided that they are reverently buried or afterwards entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium.

This means we should not keep the ashes on display at home on the mantle or put away in a bank vault. This precludes the scattering of remains in public parks, on mountain tops, along highways or divided amongst friends and family members.

There is a spiritual and emotional benefit when the cremated remains are laid to rest in a proper place for burial. It gives the bereaved a place to focus remembrance and to pray for the deceased.

While 35 per cent of burials for Ontario Catholics fall into the cremation category, it's far below the average of 60 per cent who chose cremation in the rest of Ontario. And the numbers are even higher in provinces like Quebec and British Columbia.

World Mission Collection

Last weekend we had the World Mission collection, which gave us a total of \$1,205.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Insurance

Our church insurance went up once again. In 2022 we paid \$41,420.03 and on 2023 the cost was \$48,254.06. This year went up again and now we had to pay \$51,027.91.

We practically end up paying \$1,000.00 per week. We are aware that we have several very old buildings that are expensive to maintain. Taking into account our weekly collections which are around \$3,500.00, to cover snow cleaning, heating costs, salaries and everything else, we ask and appreciate all your help.

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

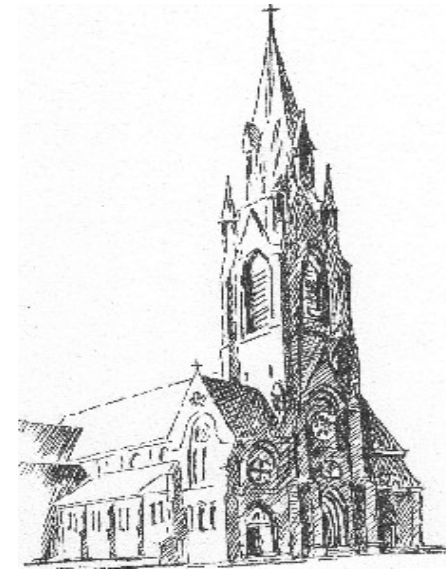
Confessions

Every day **before** Mass, except on Sunday

Schools

St. Mary Elementary 416-393-5205

Bishop Macdonell 416-393-5462



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



Thirty-First Sunday

November 3, 2024

Today's Scripture readings remind us of one of the greatest truths in the Bible, namely, that there are really only two commandments. The first is to love God, and the second is to love our neighbour.

Psalm: *I love you, O Lord, my strength.*

By rabbinical count, "the Law" consisted of some 613 commandments. The Scribe's question as to which commandment was the greatest was one frequently discussed among the rabbis. Jesus was asked to name one, but responded by naming two. Both are found in the Old Testament; the first in Deuteronomy 6:4 (First Reading), the second in Leviticus 19:18.

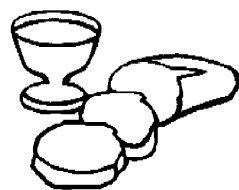
What Jesus did was to put the two together, thus emphasizing the essential relatedness of them. No rabbi had previously done this. The emphasis on love became for Christians the identifying characteristic of their religion.

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.



Whatever You Do

**Whatever 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.

On Eagles' Wings

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord
Who abide in His shadow for life
Say to the Lord, "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"

**And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of His hand**

The snare of the fowler will never capture you
And famine will bring you no fear
Under His wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield

You need not fear the terror of the night
Nor the arrow that flies by day
Though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come

For to His angels He's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways
Upon their hands they will bear you up
Lest you dash your foot against a stone

They'll Know We Are Christians

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

**And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand;
And together we'll spread the news
that God is in our land.

Mass Intentions for this Week

Saturday, November 2nd

9:00 am.

12:00 pm.

5:00 pm.

Sunday, November 3rd

8:30 am. Nelissa da Mota

10:00 am. Community—Henrique Sebastião—José Luis & Maria Teresa Branco—José, Henriqueta & John Rebelo—Souls in purgatory—José Carlos Silva & Manuel Pereira—Deceased family of Idalina Furtado—António Correia—Manuel & Maria de Sousa, Humberto Moniz Pereira—Olivia & Ernesto Costa—Abel Ferreira, parents, in-laws & family—Virginio Raposo & Manuel Herminio

11:30 am. Intention of Olga Medeiros—Teresa Brum—Valsa Fernadez—Alfredo Castro—Jaime Torralba—Manuel Laurentino & Maria dos Anjos Silva, parents, in-laws & family

1:00 pm.

Monday, November 4th

9:00 am. Odilia Correia

6:00 pm. Souls in purgatory

Tuesday, November 5th

9:00 am. José Medeiros & parents

6:00 pm. Arlete & Marco Quintal

Wednesday, November 6th

9:00 am. Souls in purgatory

6:00 pm. Rogelio Gatbonton

Thursday, November 7th

9:00 am. Intention of Martinho Rodrigues

6:00 pm. Luis Augusto Ribeiro Raposo

Friday, November 8th

9:00 am. Family of Carlos & Ermelinda Arruda

6:00 pm. Maria José, António Medeiros & family

Saturday, November 9th

5:00 pm. Souls in purgatory—Lindaura Medeiros—Henrique Raposo, Maria José Barbosa, Michael, Frank & Bernice Jenkowski