

Stations of the Cross

The “Stations of the Cross”, also referred as “Way of the Cross”, “Via Crucis” or “Via Sacra” is a series of artistic sculptural representations depicting Christ carrying the cross to his crucifixion. Most churches have Stations of the Cross, generally placed along side walls of the nave.

When did we start having Stations of the Cross?

The pilgrims to Jerusalem loved to walk in the footsteps of Jesus to Calvary and, as early as the 5th century, at the monastery of Santo Stephano, in Bologna, Italy, a group of connected chapels was constructed with the intention of representing the most important shrines in Jerusalem.

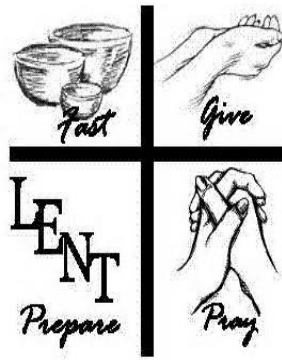
During the time of the crusades (1095-1270) it became quite popular for pilgrims to the Holy Land to “walk” the stations. In the following two centuries, after the Muslims recaptured the Holy Land, pilgrimages became too dangerous. So, throughout Europe, Stations of the Cross were erected as outdoor small chapels, so that pilgrims could “walk in the footsteps of Jesus”.

How many are the Stations of the Cross?

The number varied from 5 to 20 until the 18th century when Pope Clement XII fixed the number at 14, and that’s when they were allowed into the churches. In the 1960s, with the Second Vatican Council, it became popular to add a fifteenth Station representing the Resurrection of Jesus.

What is the real purpose of the Stations?

The main object of the Stations is to help the faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer, through meditation upon Christ’s suffering and death. We do the Stations in a spirit of reparation for the sufferings and the insults that Jesus endured during His Passion.



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

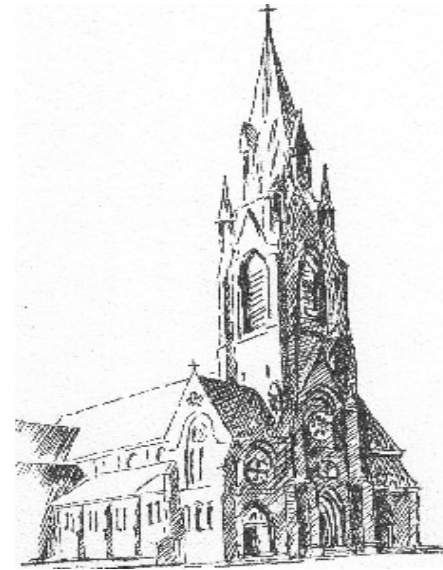
Confessions

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

Stations of the Cross



We do the Stations of the Cross (bilingual) on Fridays after the 6:00 p.m. Mass.

ShareLife

On Ash Wednesday, we have started another season of Lent.

As we often give thanks to God for our food, we cannot forget those of who go hungry many times.

So around the world Catholics donate to Share Lent, which in our Archdiocese we call Share Life.

This weekend, our seminarian Daniel Beugré will speak to us about Share Life.

Our ShareLife collections for this year will take place on March 23rd, April 27th and June 8th. Please be generous.





I Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

Last Wednesday the Church invited us to embark on a journey, the journey of Lent, which is a journey towards Easter. We are a baptized people but haven't yet lived fully the life of a Christian. Lent calls us to a change of heart and a fuller living of the Gospel.

Psalm: *Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.*

All three readings are concerned with faithfulness to God. The First Reading describes the ceremony of the offering to God of the first fruits of the harvest. It was an occasion for the people to thank God, not only for the blessings of the harvest, but for all he had done for them in the past, and especially in the Exodus. The creed which the offerer recited is a summary of Israel's early history and humble origins. The readings of the following Sundays will focus on significant moments of that history. The Second Reading contains in its simplest form the Christian credo: Jesus is Lord; he died for our sins and was raised up for our justification. Obviously for this faith to be genuine, it must be professed not just with one's lips but also with one's life. Luke's account of the temptations follows closely that of Matthew, except that he deliberately changes the order of the last two temptations so that the series ends in Jerusalem. This is in keeping with his theological interest in the holy city.

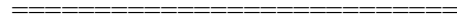
The Glory of These Forty Days

The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise,
for Christ, by whom all things were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw
the loving God who gave the law.
And to Elijah, fasting, came
the steed and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
delivered from the lion's might.
And John, the Savior's friend, became
the herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant, O God, that we may, too,
return in fast and prayer to you.
Our spirits strengthen with your grace,
and give us joy to see your face.



Be Not Afraid

You shall cross the barren desert
But you shall not die of thirst
You shall wander far in safety
Though you do not know the way
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
And all will understand
You shall see the face of God and live.

**Be not afraid
I go before you always
Come follow me
And I will give you rest**

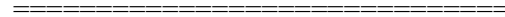
Be With Me, Lord

**Be with me Lord when I am in trouble
Be with me Lord I pray.**

You who dwell in the shelter
of the Lord most high
Who abide in the shadow of our God
Say to the Lord my refuge and fortress
My God in whom I trust

No evil shall befall you
No pain come near
For the angels stand close by your side
Guarding you always and bearing you gently
Watching over your life

Those who cling to the Lord
Live secure in God's Love, lifted high
Those who trust in God's name
Call on the Lord, who will never forsake you
God will bring you salvation and joy.



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, March 8

5:00pm: Luis Augusto Ribeiro Raposo—Souls in purgatory—Alda Medeiros—José Jacinto Medeiros, Lindaura & Jeremias Melo—Silvério & Mercília Angeja—António & Maria de Lourdes Barros, Maria Lobo & Maria do Carmo de Barros—Alda Jacob

Sunday, March 9

8:30am: Parents, in-laws of José & Margarida Silva, souls in purgatory—Manuel & Natália Raposo

10:00am: Community—Maria Armandina da Silva—José Louro & José Eiras

11:30am: Arlindo, Ilda & Richard Vicente—Ignacio Tan Sr.—Louisa Lobo—Maria Severina Teixeira—Francisco Alvarez — José e Deolinda Rego, Nancy Fernandes, Jeremias Pereira, Adelino e Maria Romeiro, José Tavares

1:00 pm:

Monday, March 10

9:00 am: Manuel Bettencourt Medina

6:00 pm: Ildeberto Camara

Tuesday, March 11

9:00 am: Intention of Marcus Rafael Guerra

6:00 pm: Manuel & Maria Couto & family

Wednesday, March 12

9:00 am: Souls in purgatory

6:00 pm: Deodato & Leontina Medeiros, parents & in-laws

Thursday, March 13

9:00 am: Souls in purgatory

6:00 pm: Nelson de Melo

Friday, March 14

9:00 am: Uncles of Rosa Mota

6:00 pm: Ermelinda Arruda—Jaime Rodrigues Rego

Saturday, March 15

5:00 pm: Ana Cabral—Parents & siblings of Maria Andrade