

## On Receiving Holy Communion

The Tabernacle, is a focal point in a Catholic Church. On it, The Blessed Sacrament (the Body of Christ), is kept for adoration and distribution to the sick. When passing in front of the Blessed Sacrament, we should always show respect, genuflect or bow our heads.



In the days when very few people used to receive holy communion, it was easy for the priest to give the Body of Christ to faithful all by himself. After the Second Vatican Council the faithful has been highly encouraged to receive communion every time when they attend Mass, or even better, when they participate in the Mass. We celebrate the Eucharist as a community, presided by the priest celebrant that says to the congregation: “Pray brothers and sisters that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.”

Extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist may help the priest distributing the holy communion. Special care must always be taken to ensure that the host is consumed by the communicant in the presence of the minister, so that no one goes away carrying the Eucharist in his or her hand. No one is permitted to return to his seat carrying the host.

If one does not receive holy communion but wishes to receive a blessing, is mostly welcomed to do so.

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## ShareLife

ShareLife-funded agencies help hundreds of people deal with the challenges of life.

Every year we have three collections. Our first ShareLife collection will take place next weekend of March 22-23rd. We thank you in advance for your generosity.



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## Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent following the 6:00 p.m. Mass.

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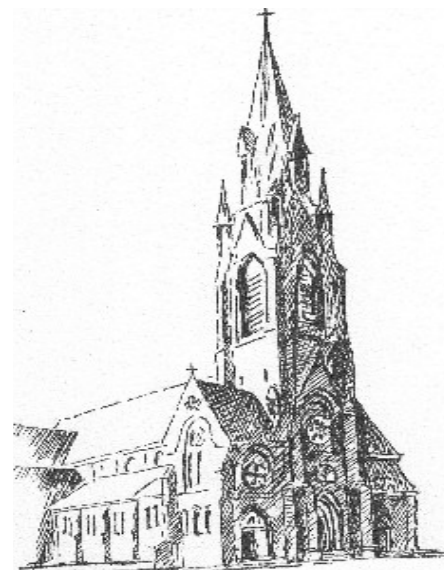
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## Lent Confessions

Our Lenten Confessions will be held on Wednesday, April 9th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

# St. Mary's Church

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



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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

## 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



## II Sunday of Lent

March 16, 2025

**First Reading (Gen 15:5-12.17-18)** The First Reading tells of God's promise to Abraham that he would have numerous descendants, and that those descendants would possess the land of Canaan. As a pledge of his fidelity God made a solemn covenant with him.

**Psalm: The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

**Second Reading (Phil 3:17-4:1)** Paul urges his converts to remain faithful to Christ, and promises them that one day they will share in his glory.

**Gospel (Lk 9:28-36)** We hear Luke's version of the transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor. The chief significance of the Tabor experience was for Jesus himself, and this is what Luke emphasizes. The incident was meant to confirm him in the course he had taken. It comforted him to know that the road he was traveling was marked by the feet of prophets such as Moses and Elijah. The transfiguration also benefited the apostles. It prepared them for the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, the Messiah.

### Parish Council

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 27th at 7:00 p.m.

### You Are the Voice

**You are the voice of the living God,  
calling us now to live in your love;  
to be children of God once again!**

Praise for the light that shines through the night,  
from darkness to light, from death to new life,  
and praise to the morning that brings forth the sun,  
to open our eyes to the Lord,  
to open our eyes to the Lord!

Praise for the water that springs from the sea,  
the seed that gives life to all believe,  
God's love overflowing, our hearts know the joy  
to be daughters and sons of the Lord,  
to be daughters and sons of the Lord!

Praise for the singing and praise for the dance,  
with new heart and voice, all raise the song  
of praise to creation; all heaven and earth,  
come sing of the Glory of God,  
come sing of the Glory of God!

### Hosea

Come back to me with all your heart,  
Don't let fear keep us apart.  
Trees do bend, though straight and tall,  
So must we to others' call.

**Long have I waited  
for your coming home to me  
And living deeply our new life.**

The wilderness will lead you  
To your heart where I will speak.  
Integrity and justice  
With tenderness you shall know.

You shall sleep secure with peace  
Faithfulness will be your joy.

### I Will Sweep Away Your Transgressions

**I will sweep away  
your transgressions like a cloud  
and your sins will be to me  
like a mist dissolved  
so return to me  
I will heal you for I love you**

If you say to me, "Father I am blind."  
If you say to me, "I can't see."  
I will be your light; I'll restore your sight  
place all your darkness in me.

if you say to me "I'm in prison, Lord,  
imprisoned by my fears."  
then I'll come to you, I will comfort you  
Let me wipe away your tears.

If you say to me, "I am lame and poor,  
I need to be healed and set free.  
I have sinned, O Lord; I am sorry, Lord.  
I need you to live in me."

### Though the Mountains may Fall

Though the mountains may fall  
and the hills turn to dust  
yet the love of the Lord will stand  
as a shelter for all who will call on His name  
sing the praise and the glory of God

Could the Lord ever leave you?  
could the Lord forget his love?  
though a mother forsake her child,  
He will not abandon you

Should you turn and forsake Him  
He will gently call your name  
should you wander away from Him  
He will always take you back

### Mass Intentions For This Week

#### Saturday, March 15

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

#### Sunday, March 16

**8:30am:**

**10:00am:** Community—Maria da Conceição Santos Lousada—David José Oliveira Araujo—Jaime de Sousa—Claudia Boaventura — Judy da Silva — José Correia, spouse, parents, in-laws & souls in purgatory—Parents of Odilia Soares—Adriano Pereira Camara

**11:30am:** Angelo & José Medeiros, parents & aunts—Nada Dean—Zoltan Kugler—Philomena Mei Ling Cheong

**1:00 pm:**

#### Monday, March 17

**9:00 am:** Manuel de Amaral Morgado

**6:00 pm:** Sara & Isidoro Pacheco

#### Tuesday, March 18

**9:00 am:** Intention of Inês, Luis & Danny Rodrigues & family

**6:00 pm:** Artur, Maria & Luisa Cabral

#### Wednesday, March 19

**9:00 am:** Praise to St. Joseph

**6:00 pm:** Praise to St. Joseph

#### Thursday, March 20

**9:00 am:** Liberal Paul Silva

**6:00 pm:** Second Promise of the Holy Spirit

#### Friday, March 21

**9:00 am:** Intention of José Carlos Arruda & Joshua Medeiros

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

#### Saturday, March 22

**5:00 pm:** Mariano Machado & in-laws—Manuel & António Faria—Adelino Cordeiro