

EASTER DATE

Have you ever wondered why Easter is not like Christmas? Easter can fall anywhere between March 22 and April 25. Or, did you ever ask yourself why the Eastern Orthodox churches celebrate Easter on a different day?

To answer these questions we have to go back to the early church fathers who wished to keep the observance of Easter in correlation to the Jewish Passover. Because the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus happened after the Passover, they wanted Easter to always be celebrated right after Passover. It is a link we don't wish to break with Judaism.

In the early church there was a bit of controversy. And the controversy became a high priority on the agenda at the Council of Nicaea called by Emperor Constantine in 325. At the Council it was decided that Easter should be celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox (when the day equals the night). This movable feast can occur on any Sunday from March 23 to April 25.

Historically Western churches (mostly Greek and Russian) used the Gregorian calendar to calculate the date of Easter and Eastern Orthodox churches used the Julian calendar. This complicates the matter due to the inaccuracy of the Julian calendar, and the 13 days that have accrued since the Ecumenical Council of Nicaea in 325.

When in 1997 we proposed to the Orthodox churches to celebrate with us, they were very unwilling, fearing that the Western churches were trying to impose their practices on them. The Greek island of Syros, whose population is divided almost equally between Catholics and Orthodox, is one of the few places where the two Churches share a common date for Easter, with Catholics accepting the Orthodox date a practice helping considerably in maintaining good relations between the two Christian communities.

Blessed Sacrament Adoration & Holy Week

Blessed Sacrament Adoration, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, April 13, 14 & 15th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday, April 17th, Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8:00 p.m. (English-Portuguese).

Good Friday, April 18th, Passion of Our Lord at 1:00 p.m. in English and 3:00 p.m. in Portuguese. Via Sacra at 7:00 p.m. English/Portuguese.

Holy Saturday, April 19th, Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00 p.m. (English-Portuguese) with adult baptisms.

Easter Sunday, April 20th, Mass schedule: 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. in Portuguese, 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m. in English.

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

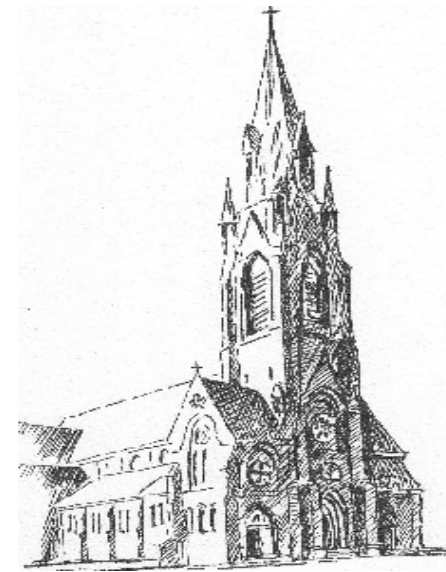
Confessions

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

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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



V Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

The First Reading contains a message of hope addressed to the Jewish exiles in Babylon. There will be a new exodus, so glorious that it will put the great events of the first exodus in the shade. And all of this will happen because God is faithful to his people.

Psalm: *The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

This prepares us for the Gospel. Christians see the radically new thing that God has done for us, in and through Jesus. Specifically we see God's love and compassion in Jesus' treatment of a sinful woman. The story is taken from John, but it resembles the style of Luke. It's an 'entrapment' story which sought to show Jesus' wisdom in besting his adversaries.

The aim of the Scribes and Pharisees was to set a snare for Jesus. If he pardoned the woman, he could be accused of encouraging people to break the law of Moses. If he agreed that she should be stoned, he would lose his name for mercy. But Jesus turned the tables on her accusers by suggesting that they look at their own sins.

Day of Confessions

Wednesday, April 9th, from 10:30 to 12:00 noon and 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

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.

No more harm on the mountain of God:
swords into plowshares.
Free us, O Lord, from hardness of heart.



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.

Father I Have Sinned

Father I have sinned,
help me find my way.
Remember not my sins,
just let me hear you say:

**I forgive you, I love you
You are mine, take my hand.
Go in peace, sin no more,
Beloved one.**

Father I have turned,
my back and walked away
Depended on my strength
and lived life my own way

Father I have closed,
my heart to those in need.
Thought only of myself,
a victim of my greed.

Father I have loved,
if love's the word to use.
I've played so many games,
they've left me so confused.

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!

Mass Intentions For This Week



Saturday, April 5

5:00pm:

Sunday, April 6

8:30am: Olivia, João & Fernando Machado

10:00am: Community—José Luis & Maria Teresa Branco—Liliana Correia Vieira—Maria Armandina da Silva—Souls in purgatory—Gil Maiato—Paulo Rijo—Intention of Artur Rocha—Teresinha Garcia—Maria Dolores Anceriz

11:30am: Arlindo, Ilda & Richard Vicente—Andrew Brose

1:00 pm:

Monday, April 7

9:00 am: Ermelinda Arruda

6:00 pm: Intention of Filomena & Jamie Melo

Tuesday, April 8

9:00 am: Souls in purgatory

6:00 pm: Luis Augusto Ribeiro Raposo

Wednesday, April 9

9:00 am:

6:00 pm: Alfredo & Maria da Conceição de Melo Garcia & souls in purgatory

Thursday, April 10

9:00 am: Artur Amarelo

6:00 pm: Manuel & Maria Couto & family

Friday, April 11

9:00 am: Souls in purgatory

6:00 pm: Second promise of the Holy Spirit

Saturday, April 12

5:00 pm: Souls in purgatory—Alda Medeiros—José Jacinto Medeiros, Lindaura & Jeremias Melo—Antônio & Maria de Lourdes Barros, Maria Lobo, Maria do Carmo de Barros—Tony Fernandes & family