

Saint Damien of Molokai (1840-1889)

When Joseph de Veuster was born in Tremelo, Belgium, in 1840, few people in Europe had any firsthand knowledge of leprosy (Hansen’s disease). By the time he died at the age of forty-nine, people all over the world knew about the disease because of him.

Forced to quit school at age thirteen to work on the family farm, six years later Joseph entered the Congregation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary, taking the name of a fourth century physician and martyr. When his brother Pamphile, a priest in the same congregation, fell ill and unable to go to the Hawaiian Islands as assigned, Damien quickly volunteered in his place. In 1864 Damien was ordained a priest in Honolulu and assigned to the Island of Hawaii.

In 1873 Damien went to the Hawaiian government’s colony on the island of Molokai, set up seven years earlier, and volunteered to remain there permanently, caring for the people’s physical, medical and spiritual needs.

Soon the settlement had new houses and a new church, school and orphanage. Morale improved considerably. A few years later he succeeded in getting the Franciscan Sisters of Syracuse to help staff the colony in Kalaupapa.

In 1885 Damien contracted Hansen’s disease and died of its complications.

When he was canonized, in October 11, 2009, Pope Benedict said: “Not without fear and loathing, Father Damien made the choice to go to the island of Molokai in the service of lepers who were there, abandoned by all. So he exposed himself to the disease of which they suffered. With them he felt at home. The servant of the Word became a suffering servant, leper with the lepers”.

First Communion

Today, May 4th at 1:00 p.m. our children attending St. Mary’s School will receive their First Holy Communion. Congratulations to all children and their families.

ShareLife

Last weekend we had our second ShareLife collection, we received a total of \$5,110.00. Thank you for your generosity. If you were not able to make your donation towards ShareLife, you may do so at any time.

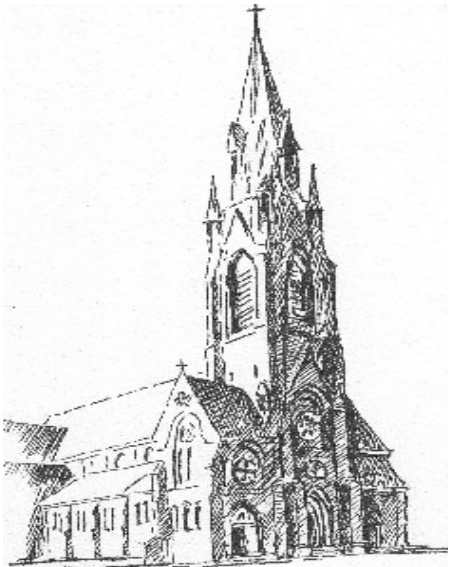


Santo Cristo Festival

Our annual Santo Cristo festival will be on the weekend of May 24/25th. Saturday, May 24th, procession at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 25th, procession at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome.

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

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



III Sunday of Easter May 4, 2025

The First Reading tells of the opposition the apostles encountered from the Jewish authorities. Persecution did not come as a surprise: Jesus had predicted it. It became an opportunity for the apostles to bear witness to him. They refused to be silenced.

Psalm: *I will extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up.*

The miraculous catch of fish symbolizes the mission of the apostles to be ‘fishers of men’.

The large catch shows how successful the disciples can be with Jesus’ help. The meal symbolizes the Eucharistic meal in which Jesus is present among them and feeds them. Peter, who three times denied his Master, is now given three chances to profess his love, and then is given a mandate to care for the Lord’s flock. In giving authority to the man who dined him, Jesus wanted to show that he was establishing his Church not on human strength, but on his own love and faithfulness.

We Come To Your Table

Gentle Jesus, risen Lord,
We come to your table.
With our hearts so full of joy
We come to your table.

**We come, we come we come to your table.
We come, we come we come to your table.**

Bringing gifts of all we are,
We come to your table,
Gifts of life and love and joy
We come to your table. (chorus)

In your body we find life
We come to your table.
Life you give for us to share.
We come to your table. (chorus)



**Alleluia, Alleluia,
Give Thanks To the Risen Lord**

**Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the Risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name!**

Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
He is the King of creation.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth
Jesus has died and has risen!

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, who 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 words to them
Whom shall I send?

Sing A New Song

**Sing a new song unto the Lord;
let your song be sung from mountains high.
Sing a new song unto the Lord,
singing alleluia.**

Yahweh's people dance for joy.
O come before the Lord.
And play for him on glad tambourines,
and let your trumpet sound.

Rise, O children, from your sleep;
your Savior now has come.
He has turned your sorrow to joy,
and filled your soul with song.

Mass Intentions For This Week

Saturday, May 3

5:00 pm.

Sunday, May 4

8:30 am. Olivia, João e Fernando Machado—Manuel e Rosa Matias e filhos

10:00 am. Community—António Correia—José Luis e Maria Teresa Branco—Liliana Correia Vieira—Libério e Conceição Ledo—Leonardo Brasil, António e Maria José, intenção de Ana Maria—José e Gabriel Teves—Maria Dolores Anceriz

11:30 am. Fernando Coutinho—Molly McGuirk—Manuel Fernandez Perez, Guadalupe Armando Munoz Badillo

1:00 pm. Jimmy Silva

Monday, May 5

9:00 am. Intenção de Fátima Medeiros—José Manuel Correia

6:00 pm. Ildeberto Camara

Tuesday, May 6

9:00 am. Almas do purgatório

6:00 pm. Louvor a São José e Nossa Senhora

Wednesday, May 7

9:00 am. Alda dos Santos e José Jacinto Medeiros

6:00 pm. Adriana Pascoal

Thursday, May 8

9:00 am. Ermelinda Arruda

6:00 pm. Luis Augusto Ribeiro Raposo

Friday, May 9

9:00 am. Louvor ao Santo Cristo e Nossa Senhora

6:00 pm. Manuel e Maria Couto e família

Saturday, May 10

5:00 pm. Souls in purgatory—Rosa Picão