

The Meaning of Marriage

Roman Catholics, Orthodox, Lutherans and Anglicans, call marriage a sacrament. All Christians think that a special blessing is given in marriage and that the couple is spiritually joined together. This idea comes from the story of Genesis (2:23-4): “ man leaves his father and mother and is united with his wife, and they become one”. And Jesus said “Man must not separate, then, what God has joined together” (Mark 10:9).

The Old Testament (The Hebrew Bible) called marriage a “seal upon the heart” as does the Orthodox custom of crowning: “Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts and a crown upon their heads”.

Marriage is first and foremost a relationship. And sexual activity is part of that deep relationship. Not every couple has children but most couples do and feel fulfilled in having them.

If you are contemplating on getting married and have any questions on how to go about it, we would be happy to assist you. Talk to one of our parish priests.

Needs of the Church in Canada

Next weekend we will have the Bishop’s collection which is intended to help the needs of the churches in Canada.

Parish Council

Our next Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday, October 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

Our Lady of Fatima Candlelight Procession

On Saturday, October 11th, our parish will be holding the annual candlelight procession around the perimeter of the church in honour of Our Lady of Fatima. The procession begins at 6:00 pm right after the 5:00 pm mass.

R.C.I.A.

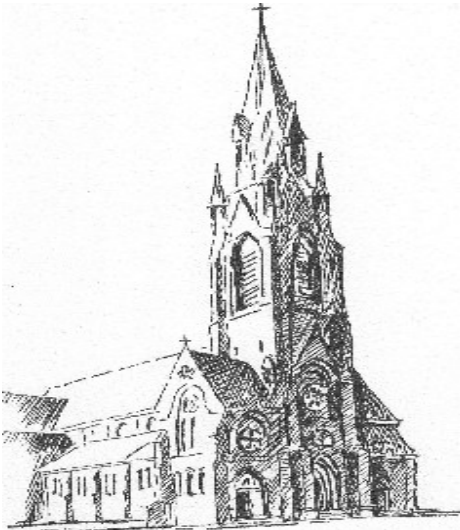
Meetings for adults that will be receiving the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation, begin on Saturday, October 25th following the 5:00 p.m. English Mass.

Sunday School

Sunday school classes in preparation for First Communion and Confirmation start on Sunday, October 26th. If you did not register your child yet, please do so at your earliest convenience. For more information, feel free to contact our parish office.

St. Mary's Church

Rev. Msgr. Fernando Couto (Pastor)
Rev. 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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
First Friday of Every Month at 5:00 p.m.

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) 416-703-2231
Paul Valerio (President) 647-998-5916

Santo Cristo Association
Please contact the parish 416-703-2326

Espirito Santo
Joao & Lilia Tavares 647-308-7556

Saint Vincent De Paul 416-247-8868

Volunteer Co-ordinator
Delia Medeiros (contact the 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

School
St. Mary Elementary 416-393-5205
Bishop Macdonell 416-393-5462



XXV Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21, 2025

Amos was a great champion of justice. He savagely assailed the oppression of the poor, as well as the judicial system which denied them any hope of obtaining justice. Our short reading is a good example. Here he depicts the greed of the wealthy, who can't wait for the holy days to be over so that they can get back to making money by dishonest practices. He condemns the separation of worship from the proper treatment of other people, especially the poor.

Psalm: Praise the Lord who lifts up the needy.

The Bible doesn't always give us examples to be imitated. At times it gives us examples to be learned from painfully. The servant in Jesus' story is one of these, brought forward to teach Christians the wise use of money. Here Jesus stresses the impossibility of any compromise between God and Mammon. For Luke, to use money wisely is to give it to the poor, and thus ensure one's eternal salvation.

Praise to the Lord, The Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear;
now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord,
above all things so wondrously reigning;
sheltering you under his wings,
and so gently sustaining!
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord,
who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with his love he befriends you.

Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath,
come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.

All That We Have

All that we have and all that we offer
Comes from a heart both frightened and free.
Take what we bring now and give what we need.
All done in his name.

Some would rely on their power,
Others put trust in their gold.
Some have only their Savior,
Whose faithfulness never grows old.

Sometimes the road may be lonesome,
Often we may lose our way;
Take courage and always remember
Love isn't just for a day.

The Cry of the Poor

**The Lord hears the cry of the poor
Blessed be the Lord.**

I will bless the Lord at all times
With praise ever in my mouth;
Let my soul glory in the Lord,
Who will hear the cry of the poor.

Let the lowly hear and be glad

The Lord listens to their plea
And to hearts broken God is near
Who will hear the cry of the poor

Every spirit crushed God will save;
will be ransom for their lives;
will be safe shelter for their fears,
and will hear the cry of the poor.

We proclaim your greatness, O God,
your praise ever in our mouth;
every face brightened in your light,
for you hear the cry of the poor.

Blest Be The Lord

**Blest be the Lord, blest be the Lord,
The God of mercy, the God who saves.
I shall not fear, the dark of night
Nor the arrow that flies by day.**

He will release me from the nets of all my foes,
He will protect me from their wicked hands.
Beneath the shadow of His wings I will rejoice
To find a dwelling place secure.

I need not shrink before the terrors of the night
Nor stand alone before the light of day.
No harm shall come to me,
no arrow strike me down,
No evil settle in my soul.

Mass Intentions For This Week

Saturday, September 20th

5:00 pm. Mariano Machado & in-laws—Maria da Aparecida & family

Sunday, September 21st

8:30 am. Parents & in-laws of José & Margarida Silva, souls in purgatory

10:00 am. Community—Maria de Fátima Tavares Melo—Jaime de Sousa—Joaquim Gonçalves—António & Eduarda Maria Aguiar & John Tapper

11:30 am.

1:00 pm.

Monday, September 22nd

9:00 am. Intention of Filomena & Jamie Melo

6:00 pm. Maria Leonilda & Miguel da Costa, Alda dos Santos Medeiros

Tuesday, September 23rd

9:00 am. Parents & in-laws of Sebastião Arruda
6:00 pm.

Wednesday, September 24th

9:00 am. Rosária Ferreira

6:00 pm. Lindaura & Jeremias Melo

Thursday, September 25th

9:00 am. Manuel Carreiro Cabral

6:00 pm. Deodato & Leontina Medeiros

Friday, September 26th

9:00 am. Ildeberto Camara

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

Saturday, September 27th

5:00 pm. Odilia & Michael Correia—António Gaspar — Manuel & António Faria — Gary Realejo—Fernando Pedrosa, parents & in-laws—50th Anniversary of Fernando & Maria Soledade Pontes