

Baptism

Baptism is a “birth” into the Christian community and, in this way, it is as solemn and important as birth itself. We need to have faith and we need to practice our faith, to really understand and appreciate it. It is not something else to “get done”. We don’t baptize because it is a tradition.

Can a priest refuse to baptize my baby? For pastoral reasons a priest may delay a baptism but if he follows the Church guidelines he should never deny it. And if he is “one of those”, please don’t take it too personal... just ask another priest. At St. Mary’s we can always talk about it and find a way to help.

My baby was baptized at birth because of illness. Can he be baptized again?
No. Baptism can not be repeated. We can not become what we already are. However it is desirable that you have a celebration in the church, with godparents, and share in the prayers and blessings which are part of the baptismal ceremony.

Who can be a godparent? For obvious reasons only practicing Roman Catholics can be godparents. Although one of the godparents who is a member of another Christian community may stand as a Christian witness.

An unbeliever or a person that says to be Catholic but does not practice, cannot be a godparent. We cannot take the “god” out of “godparent”. Before baptism parents and godparents have to declare their faith. It’s all part of the package. One should never stand in front of a church full of people and make promises that one has no intention of keeping.

In the Early Church, baptism was mostly for adults, but with the rapid growth of Christianity around the third and fourth centuries, the practice of baptizing infants became very common. However, times have changed. We live now in a secular age and the need for adult baptism is back (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Adults wanting to join the Church do it at the Easter Vigil. After being properly instructed, they are baptized, confirmed and make their first Communion. For them there is no need for godparents, only a sponsor, and again practicing is part of the package.

To the Elderly of our Community

It is very important for the elderly people of our community to carry their name, address and the telephone number of a family member with them in case of an emergency. Please make sure you have it on you at any time you leave the house.

First Communion and Confirmation Meeting

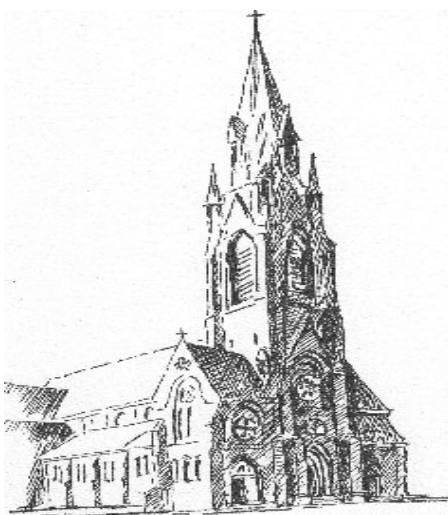
On Wednesday, February 4th we will have a meeting with all the parents and the children receiving their First Communion. The meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the church

On Thursday, February 5th we will have the meeting with all the parents and young adults receiving their Confirmation. The meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the church.



St. Mary's Church

Rev. 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)
Marco Lima (President) 416-703-2231
416-818-5462
- Santo Cristo Association
Please contact the parish 416-703-2326
- Espirito Santo
Kevin & Christina Cordeiro 647-218-1601
- 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



IV Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 1, 2026

First Reading (Zeph 2:3;3:12-13) The prophet holds out hope of salvation for those who seek God, and who practice integrity and humility.

Second Reading (1 Cor 1:26-31) God chooses the poor, the weak, and the lowly, people who are conscious of their limitations, and who therefore rely on God rather than on themselves.

Psalm: *Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.*

Gospel (Mt 5:1-12) We see the values Christ preached and lived—values he wishes to see in his followers.

In these readings it is not starvation and misery that are being blessed these are evil things. What is being blessed is reliance on God. Only God can fill our emptiness, only God can satisfy the hunger of our hearts. Those who put their trust in human things will be disappointed. Those who put their trust in God will not be disappointed. God becomes the champion of the poor, the weak, and the lowly, who practice integrity and humility.

Our Lady of Lourdes

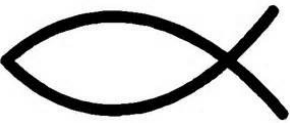
Wednesday, February 11th, is Our Lady of Lourdes day. It is also known as “World day of the Sick”. Let us pray for all the sick and for their caregivers.

All the Ends of the Earth

**All the ends of the earth,
all you creatures of the sea,
lift up your eyes
to the wonders of the Lord.
For the Lord of the earth,
the master of the sea,
has come with justice for the world.**

Break into song at the deeds of the Lord,
the wonders God has done in ev'ry age.

Heaven and earth shall rejoice in his might
ev'ry heart ev'ry nation call him Lord.



Earthen Vessels

**We hold a treasure, not made of gold,
In earthen vessels, wealth untold,
One treasure only: the Lord, the Christ,
In earthen vessels.**

Light has shone in our darkness:
God has shown in our heart,
With the light of the glory
of Jesus, the Lord.

He has chosen the lowly,
who are small in this world;
In his weakness is glory,
in Jesus the Lord.

We Are the Light of the World

Blessed are they who are poor in spirit,
Theirs is the kingdom of God.
Bless us, O Lord, make us poor in spirit;
Bless us, O Lord, our God

**We are the light of the world;
may our light shine before all,
that they may see the good that we do,
and give glory to God.**

Blessed are they who are meek and humble,
They will inherit the earth
Bless us, O Lord, make us meek and humble;
Bless us, O Lord, our God

Blessed are they who will mourn in sorrow,
They will be comforted
Bless us, O Lord, when we share their sorrow;
Bless us, O Lord, our God.

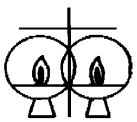
Bless those who hunger and thirst for justice,
They will be satisfied.
Bless us, O Lord, hear our cry for justice;
Bless us, O Lord, our God

Blest Are They

Blest are they, the poor in Spirit
Theirs is the kingdom of God
Blest are they, full of sorrow
They shall be consoled

**Rejoice and be glad
Blessed are you, holy are you
Rejoice and be glad
Yours is the kingdom of God.**

Blest are they, the lowly ones
They shall inherit the Earth
Blest are they, who hunger and thirst
They shall have their fill.



MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions For This Week

Saturday, January 31st

5:00 pm. Abel Macedo

Sunday, February 1st

8:30 am. Praise to the Holy Spirit, St. Jude & St. Therese

10:00am. Community—José Luis & Maria Teresa Branco—Maria Armandina da Silva—Liliana Correia Vieira—Silvina Augusta, spouse, sons and in-laws—Intenção de Nelson Prado

11:30 am. Jaime Rodrigues Rego, Manuela Lopes Fernandes, Wanda & Jozef Siembida

1:00 pm.

Monday, February 2nd

9:00 am. José Maiato & family

6:00 pm.

Tuesday, February 3rd

9:00 am. Msgr. Eduardo Resendes, all priests living and deceased

6:00 pm.

Wednesday, February 4th

9:00 am. Intention of Nesochi Chuba

6:00 pm. Ronces Beleno

Thursday, February 5th

9:00 am.

6:00 am. Maria & Tomas Oliveira

Friday, February 6th

9:00 am.

6:00 pm.

Saturday, February 7th

5:00 pm. Jesus Christ Vicar on earth, intentions of Ilhoan family—Bernardete Oliveira Alcacia Falcão