

## Stations of the Cross

During the time of the crusades (1095-1270), it became popular for pilgrims to the Holy Land to walk in the footsteps of Jesus to Calvary. In the next two centuries, after the Muslims recaptured the Holy Land, pilgrimages were too dangerous. A substitute pilgrimage, the Stations of the Cross, became a popular outdoor devotion throughout Europe during the Middle Ages. They represented critical events from Scripture or tradition of Jesus' journey to Calvary and varied in number from 5 to 20 until the 18<sup>th</sup> century when Pope Clement XII fixed the number to 14. In the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Stations of the Cross were allowed inside churches. That's when the Stations became a familiar feature in all Catholic churches. After the Second Vatican Council, in the 1960s, it became popular to add a fifteenth Station representing the Resurrection of Jesus.

## Sacred Triduum

Originally, there was no Holy Week. The Pascha (Páscoa) or Easter was celebrated in the context of a single day. It began with the sunset on the Sabbath evening and continued until dawn of Sunday, the first day of the week.

By the 5<sup>th</sup> century, the Paschal Mystery was extended to three days starting on Holy Thursday evening. With Constantine and the end of persecution of Christians, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, were all enforced as holy days. It was also a tradition that those in prison be pardoned. For the first three centuries the Easter Vigil was the only feast observed by all Christian communities. Easter is the oldest feast of the Church.

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## ShareLife

All over the world, Catholics donate to charities during Lent. Jesus said "whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do unto me." ShareLife agencies help people get on their feet in hard times, while respecting their dignity.

**Our first ShareLife collection will be taken on March 21 & 22 weekend.**

Later we will have another collection on April 26th and the final on May 31st.

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## First Confessions

All children receiving their First Communion will have their first Confession on Thursday, March 12th, at 7:00p.m.

All young adults receiving their Confirmation and wish to go for Confession, may also do so.



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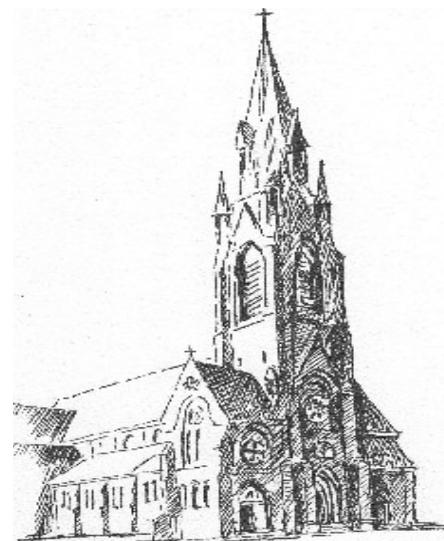
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## Day of Confessions

On Thursday, March 19th, from 10:30 to 12:00 noon, and 6:30 to 7:30 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

Legion of Mary

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of Every Month at 5:00 p.m.

English Choir

Portuguese Choir

Ana da Silva 905-891-5444

Santo Cristo

Joey Teves 647-887-2804

Santo Cristo Band (Hall)

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

Santo Cristo Association

Please contact the parish 416-703-2326

Espirito Santo

Afonso & Filomena Vieira 905-848-8571

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

Schools

St. Mary Elementary 416-393-5205

Bishop MacDonell 416-393-5462



## II Sunday of Lent

March 1, 2026

*First Reading (Gen 12:1-4)* This tells of the call of Abraham. Thanks to his faith in God the whole human race has been blessed.

**Psalm:** *Let your love be upon us, Lord, even as we hope in you.*

*Second Reading (2 Tim 1:8-10)* The power of God and the vision of immortality enable the Christian to face the sufferings which faithfulness to the Gospel inevitably brings.

*Gospel (Mt 4:1-11)* On Mount Tabor the three disciples get a glimpse of the glory of Jesus.

Each year on the second Sunday of Lent the Church puts before us the transfiguration of Jesus. His face shone and his clothes became dazzlingly white. We too can experience transfiguration. Virtue transfigures us. But sin disfigures us. Let us turn to the Lord for the help we need so that we can transfigure our lives by the practice of virtue.

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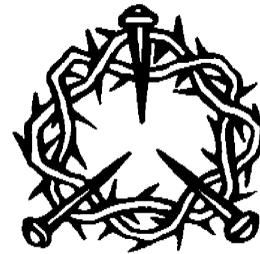
### Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent we will have the Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m.

### Jerusalem My Destiny

**I have fixed my eyes on your hills,  
Jerusalem, my Destiny!  
Though I cannot see the end for me,  
I cannot turn away.  
We have set our hearts for the way;  
this journey is our destiny.  
Let no one walk alone.  
The journey makes us one.**

Other spirits, lesser gods,  
have courted me with lies.  
Here among you I have found  
a truth that bids me rise.



### Stay With Me (Taize Hymn)

**Stay with me, remain here with me,  
watch and pray, watch and pray. (repeat)**

### Yahweh the Faithful One

**Yahweh's love will last forever  
His faithfulness till the end of time  
Yahweh is a loving God.  
Yahweh, the faithful one.**

Have no fear, for I am with you  
I will be your shield  
Go now and leave your homeland  
For I will give you a home

You shall be my chosen people  
and I will be your God  
I will bless your name forever  
And keep you from all harm

Look up and see the heavens  
And count the stars if you can.  
Your name will be even greater.  
Greater than all these stars

See now the land before you,  
rich with food and rain,  
No longer must you wander,  
For this will be your home.

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### 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

In His wisdom He strengthens us  
Like gold that's tested in fire  
Though the power of sin prevails  
Our God is there to save!

### Mass Intentions For The Week

**Saturday, February 28th**

**5:00 pm.** Manuel & António Faria—Manuel Pereira—  
Francelina Reis Silva—Maria Odete da Silva

**Sunday, March 1st**

**8:30 am.**

**10:00 am.** Community — José Luis & Maria Teresa Branco—Maria Armandina da Silva—Liliana Correia Vieira — Antonio Pimentel — Marilene Fernandes de Castro, souls in purgatory — António Correia—Parents, in -laws & deceased members of Maria Correia — Albertina Rosa Pires, Jose Marcelino Preto, Joao Ferreira—In Praise to the Immaculate Hearts of Jesus & Mary.

**11:30 am.** Maria Pacheco Amaral & Manuel Carvalho

**1:00 pm.**

**Monday, March 2nd**

**9:00 am.**

**6:00 pm.** Parents of Odilia Soares

**Tuesday, March 3rd**

**9:00 am.** Francelina Reis Silva

**6:00 pm.**

**Wednesday, March 4th**

**9:00 am.** Francelina Reis Silva

**6:00 pm.** Intention of Nesochi Chuba

**Thursday, March 5th**

**9:00 pm.** Intention of Jose Arruda & Joshua Medeiros

**6:00 pm.**

**Friday, March 6th**

**9:00 am.** Manuel Cordeiro & family

**6:00 pm.** Intention of Jose Arruda & Joshua Medeiros

**Saturday, March 7th**

**5:00 pm.** Adelino Cordeiro—Silvério & Mecilia Angeja