

St. Theresa's Parish

Shrine of the Little Flower

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Pastor: Rev. Fr. Bienvenido P. Ebcas

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Peter Lovrick

Secretary: Maria Ciela Sarmiento



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, May 3 (Private Mass)

Saints Philip and James

For the Unborn (*Sanctity of Life*)

Tuesday, May 4 (Livestreamed)

7:00 pm † Jo Caruso (*Vincenza Caruso*)

† Willie Paragas (*Belen Bayawa*)

Wednesday, May 5 (Livestreamed) **NEW**

8:00 am For the People

Thursday, May 6 (Private Mass)

† Juanito Villalon-Bonifacio (*Peter & Helen Quirke*)

Friday, May 7 (Livestreamed)

7:00 pm Special Intentions for Therese & Dave

Hallowati (*Mary Tisseverasinghe*)

† Jacinto de los Reyes, Jr. (*Jovit & Ivy*)

De los Reyes)

Saturday, May 8 ((Private Mass)

For All Parishioners, the sick and frontliners

Sunday, May 9 (Livestreamed)

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 am † Aeropagita Agorilla (*Claire Barozzo*)

† Janet Torino (*Margaret David*)

**PUBLIC MASSES ARE CANCELLED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE. MASS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT
TO CHANGE.**

**Thank you to the Sponsors
of this week's livestreaming of Mass**



Mary & Edward Cashel

Agnes Valdez & family

Confessions

By Appointment Only

Baptisms

Every Fourth Sunday of the month

Preparation Class – By appointment only

Weddings

Couples planning to be married should contact
the priest one year in advance.

A marriage preparation course is mandatory.

Parish Schools

St. Theresa's Shrine School – (416) 393-5248

St. John Henry Newman Catholic School (416) 393-5519

TCDSB – (416) 222-8282 ext. 5314

Archdiocese of Toronto

(416) 934-0606 • www.archtoronto.org

Parish Outreach

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

(416) 261-7498 ext. 4



Let Us Pray for Our Sick

Jacob Rumball, Stephen Callaghan,
Margaret David, Sophy McDonald, Bobby
Melchers, Gail MacEachern, Jolanta Mirkowski-Paszal,
Rene Romero, Jane Frias Eigo, Delio Pellicione, Pat
Savella, Elizabeth Callaghan, James Halder, Phyllis
Randolph, Karen Pinder, Jean & Caroline Maiden,
Karlos Ebcas, Danny Gomes

For the Dead

Jeffery and Nelson Dollete, Carmen Prezioso,

John King, Juanito Villalon-Bonifacio,

Emerson Villarante, Mary Bensics

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 2, 2021

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

Paul is accepted by the apostles at Jerusalem.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 22:26-27,28,30,31-32

The whole world shall praise the Lord.

Second Reading

1 John 3:18-24

God commands us to believe in Jesus Christ and to love one another.

Gospel Reading

John 15:1-8

Jesus teaches that he is the vine and that his disciples are the branches.

Family Connection

The goal of our life of prayer is to increase our awareness that Jesus lives with us always. Prayer is more than a dialogue with God; prayer is a lifting of our minds and hearts to God so that God might dwell and act within us and through us. The pinnacle of our life of prayer is our communion with Jesus in the Eucharist. Through this sacrament, we receive Jesus himself, and he remains with us. Our life of prayer and our union with Jesus will lead us to fruitful service to others.

Place a plant in your gathering space. Invite everyone to look at the plant, noting the connection between the plant and its leaves. Talk about the integral connection between all the parts of a healthy plant. Introduce today's Gospel by saying that Jesus talked about his relationship to his disciples using this metaphor. Read today's Gospel, John 15:1-8. Talk about the ways in which we are invited to relate to Jesus as his disciples today—prayer, Scripture, the Eucharist, and so on. When we do these things, Jesus promises to remain with us and to lead us to serve others well. Pray together that we will continue to be attentive and open to Jesus as he works in our lives today. Pray together the Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love.

ACT OF LOVE

O my God, I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul, because you are all good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those whom I have injured.

Amen.

Building His House: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fifth Sunday of Easter



The Appearance behind Locked Doors, Duccio, 1308-1311

By His death, Resurrection and Ascension, Jesus has gone ahead to prepare a place for us in His Father's house.

His Father's house is no longer a temple made by human hands. It is the spiritual house of the Church, built on the living stone of Christ's body.

As Peter interprets the Scriptures in today's Epistle, Jesus is the "stone" destined to be rejected by men but made the precious cornerstone of God's dwelling on earth (see [Psalm 118:22](#); [Isaiah 8:14](#); [28:16](#)).

Each of us is called to be a living stone in God's building (see [1 Corinthians 3:9, 16](#)). In this edifice of the Spirit, we are to be "holy priests" offering up "spiritual sacrifices"—all our prayer, work, and intentions—to God.

This is our lofty calling as Christians. This is why Christ led us out of the darkness of sin and death as Moses led the Israelites from bondage in Egypt.

God's covenant with Israel made them a royal and priestly people who were to announce His praises (see [Exodus 19:6](#)). By our faith in Christ's new covenant, we have been made heirs of this chosen race, called to glorify the Father in the temple of our bodies (see [1 Corinthians 6:19-20](#); [Romans 12:1](#)).

In today's First Reading, we see the spiritual house of the Church being built up, as the Apostles consecrate seven deacons so they can devote themselves more fully to the "ministry of the Word."

The Lord's Word is upright and all His works trustworthy, we sing in today's Psalm. So we can trust Jesus when He tells us never to be troubled, but to believe that His Word and works come from the Father. His Word continues its work in the world through the Church. We see its beginnings today in Jerusalem. It is destined to spread with influence and power (see [Acts 19:20](#)), and to become the imperishable seed by which every heart is born anew (see [1 Peter 1:23](#)).

(Breaking the Bread, stpaulcenter.com)

COMMUNION SERVICE DURING LOCKDOWN

Our parish will continue to livestream Mass on Sunday (10 am) on Tuesday (Mass at 7pm followed by Novena to St Therese), and Friday (Novena to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus starts at 6:45pm, followed by Mass at 7pm). Click <https://bit.ly/STP-Livestream> to join the Mass via online.

We continue to offer Communion Services for those who wish to receive Holy Communion. Registration is through **EventBrite** or by calling the parish office. **Click [here](#) to register:**

NEW SCHEDULE OF COMMUNION SERVICE

Saturday, 5:00 PM

Sunday, 11:30 AM & 12:30 PM

The Archdiocese of Toronto strongly encourages those who are at an increased risk of COVID-19 to stay at home. Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, continues his dispensation of the faithful's Sunday obligation at this time.



**ShareLife agencies need your support
during the pandemic**

Vita Centre is a ShareLife funded agency that provides support, education, and counselling for pregnant and parenting women in Peel.

"We give heartfelt thanks to all the heroes who donate to ShareLife. Your support makes it possible for vulnerable parents to have the supports and resources that allow their children and themselves to thrive."

– Tanya Pereira, Vita Centre

Thank you for supporting ShareLife!

Pope's prayer intention for May

The World of Finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

The Month of May is Dedicated to Mother Mary



The pious practice of honouring Mary during the month of May has been especially promoted by the Popes. As our mother she is an example of a committed "Yes" to the will of God. Because of the devotion to her many people ask her for help in the most difficult moments of their life as any child does with his mother.

The month of May is the time when spring is at the height of its beauty. Spring is also connected with nature renewing itself. In her way, Mary gave new life to the world when she gave birth to our saviour Jesus Christ. (Salt+Light)

We continue to pay tribute to our Blessed Mother Mary with flowers. The congregation is welcome to bring flowers for the month of May.

Beginning Wednesday, May 5th, Fr. Ben will celebrate Mass with Novena to our Mother of Perpetual Help.

For more information about offering of flowers and Novena to our Mother of Perpetual Help, please call the parish office.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation Postponed Until Further Notice

First Holy Communion, First Reconciliation and Confirmation are postponed until further notice. Online classes will continue as scheduled.

For the Confirmation program, there will be a second online parents' meeting on Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 10:30 am to discuss the next steps in our Confirmation program. Attendance is mandatory.

For parents of candidates, please check your emails regularly for updates from your Sacramental Preparation Coordinator. They will be updating you on next steps for your children's sacraments, including potential/future dates for First Reconciliation, Holy Communion.

Let us pray that this current surge of COVID-19 will be the last.

A New Pastoral Letter from Cardinal Collins: "Heart Speaks to Heart"

Since the beginning of 2021, our Pastor Fr. Ben Ebcas, Jr., has led our parish into a deeper appreciation of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. On April 28th, Cardinal Thomas Collins calls us to rediscover the depths of Jesus' divine love - a love that burns and aches for all - and let heart speak to Heart. Click the link below to read the Pastoral Letter from Cardinal Thomas Collins.

<http://bit.ly/News-HeartSpeaksToHeart>



"And so I am inviting all Catholics in this archdiocese, in all our families, religious communities, parishes, hospitals, schools, and institutions, to focus on the significance of this sign of the sacrificial and compassionate love of Christ, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and to make devotion to the Sacred Heart a vital part of our life of faith."

From Heart Speaks to Heart
A Pastoral Letter on the Sacred Heart of Jesus
by Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto



Heart of Jesus Meek and Mild

Heart of Jesus meek and mild,
Hear, oh hear thy feeble child,
When the tempest's most severe,
Heart of Jesus hear.

Sweetly we'll rest on thy Sacred Heart,
Never from Thee, oh, let us part,
Hear then thy loving children's pray'r,
Heart of Jesus hear.

Make me Jesus wholly thine,
Change this wayward heart of mine,
Lead me through this world so drear,
Heart of Jesus hear!

Sweetly we'll rest on thy Sacred Heart,
Never from Thee, oh, let us part,
Hear then thy loving children's pray'r,
Heart of Jesus hear.

When I draw my latest breath,
When my eyes shall close in death,
Then sweet Jesus be Thou near,
Heart of Jesus hear!

Sweetly we'll rest on thy Sacred Heart,
Never from Thee, oh, let us part,
Hear then thy loving children's pray'r,
Heart of Jesus hear.



**Catholic
Family Services**
of Toronto

Online Quick Access Single Session Counselling For Individuals, Couples & Families

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is now offering
Online Quick Access Single Sessions.

To arrange for a session, please email info@cfstoronto.com
or call 416 921-1163 or 416 222-0048. Leave us a message with your
name, email and phone number, and a staff person will contact you.

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is a Catholic Charities member agency supported by ShareLife.



**UR
GIFTED
to give!**

A series of short virtual talks for the youth,
young adults and the young at heart!
with Fr. Matt McCarthy
Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto

Join Fr. Matt every Saturday in May
as he shares how **YOU** can discover your gifts
and put them to use so as to give God
the most glory.

Learn how **YOU** can make the
greatest impact on the world around **YOU!**



May 1st, 12 p.m.
DISCOVERING YOUR GIFTS

May 8, 12 p.m.
THE PURPOSE OF GIVING

May 15, 12 p.m.
WOUNDEDNESS IS
NO OBSTACLE TO GIVING

May 22, 12 p.m.
LISTENING TO THE SPIRIT

Join us online!

www.ph500toronto.com

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Gifted to Give - Toronto 2021

