

St. Edward the Confessor

September 8, 2019
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Second Sunday in the Season of Creation

Throughout the month of September and culminating with the Feast of St Francis of Assisi we celebrate the Season of Creation. For five Sundays we focus different aspects of creation: forest, land, oceans and rivers, flora and fauna, climate, animals and the whole cosmos.

In recent years the Season of Creation has become both international and ecumenical. On September 2 Pope Francis made his first official statement promoting the Season of Creation. The key messages from Pope Francis included:

*We are called to protect creation – and we are missing the mark.

*The Season of Creation is a time for prayer in nature.

*This is a time to reflect on our lifestyles. Let's change and adopt simpler and more respectful lifestyles.

Welcome to Father Jessie

We received a letter in August from the Archdiocese of Montreal that officially appointed Father Jessie Dimafilis as our **priest-in-charge** for the next three years.

We welcome Father Jessie to our faith community and look forward to a long and fruitful relationship.

In the coming months we should expect Father Jessie to celebrate Mass with us at least two Sundays a month with visiting priests being with us for the other Sundays. Father Jessie is about to start a vacation that has been in the planning for a long time, well before his appointment here at St Edwards, so we will have more visiting priests through the month of October than normal. We will settle into a more normal routine in November.

Prayers for Father Ernie

Father Ernie remains in the Lakeshore Hospital. Thank you to all who have visited him in the past weeks. He is waiting to be placed in the St Anne's Hospital. He is still in need of our constant prayers.

Welcome to Jerome

We welcome Jerome de los Santos as our piano accompanist for our Masses this year. He has been with us through the summer months so he is no longer a stranger to us. Anyone wanting to join our choir can talk to either Jerome or Brian Callaghan

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy will get into full swing next Sunday. Children of elementary school are welcome to participate.

Saturday 5.00 PM Mass

Regrettably we will no longer have a 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday evening. Communities similar in size to us across Montreal have only one weekend Mass. Hopefully this decision will help to bring our entire community closer together.

Welcome to Rev Steven Gilliam

This is certainly a time of new beginnings for the Christian community of St John's and St Edward's. We join with our friends at St John's in welcoming their new minister, Rev Steve Gilliam. He will be splitting his ministry time equally between St John's and Dorval-Strathmore United Church. Today is his first Sunday at St John's.

A Christian prayer in union with creation by Pope Francis

Father, we praise you with all your creatures.
They came forth from your all-powerful hand;
they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender love. Praise be to you!

Son of God, Jesus,
through you all things were made.
You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother, you became part of this earth,
and you gazed upon this world with human eyes. Today you are alive in every creature
in your risen glory.
Praise be to you!

Holy Spirit, by your light
you guide this world towards the Father's love and accompany creation as it groans in
travail. You also dwell in our hearts
and you inspire us to do what is good. Praise be to you!

Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love, teach us to contemplate you
in the beauty of the universe,
for all things speak of you.
Awaken our praise and thankfulness
for every being that you have made.
Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined
to everything that is.

God of love, show us our place in this world
as channels of your love
for all the creatures of this earth,
for not one of them is forgotten in your sight. Enlighten those who possess power and
money
that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in
which we live.

The poor and the earth are crying out.
O Lord, seize us with your power and light,
help us to protect all life,
to prepare for a better future,
for the coming of your Kingdom
of justice, peace, love and beauty.