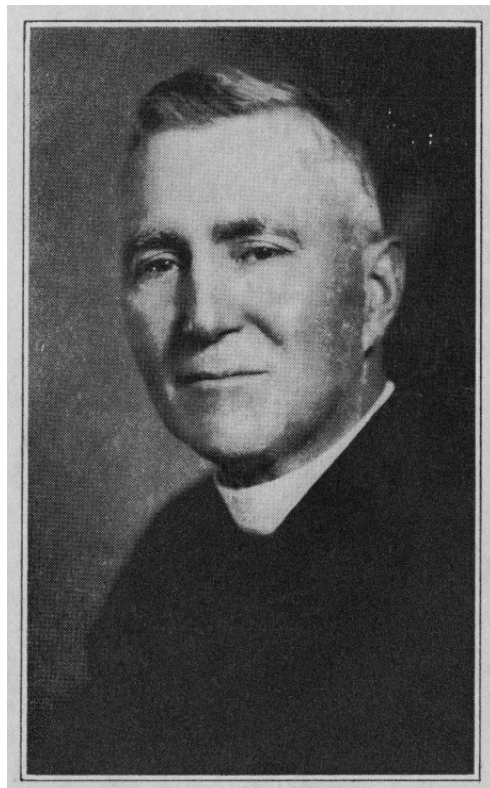


1913	Less than a dozen Catholics reside in the area known as Lansing (now Willowdale), Father Edward Kelly ministers to them as a mission (extension) of Richmond Hill.
1922	The first mass is celebrated at Lansing, in the house of John Fitzpatrick on Harlandale Avenue.
1923	The first Church in Lansing is built on Spring Garden Avenue.
1926	A schoolhouse opens at the Church in Easter 1926, this later becomes St. Edward school.
1942	The first Church is named St. Edward the Confessor Church in honour of the man who built it. It is officially established as a parish by Archbishop McGuigan. Father Francis J. Flanagan is appointed as pastor of this new parish.
1952-1953	Father Flanagan begins construction on a larger Church to accommodate a growing number of people. The first mass is celebrated at the new Church in June 1953.

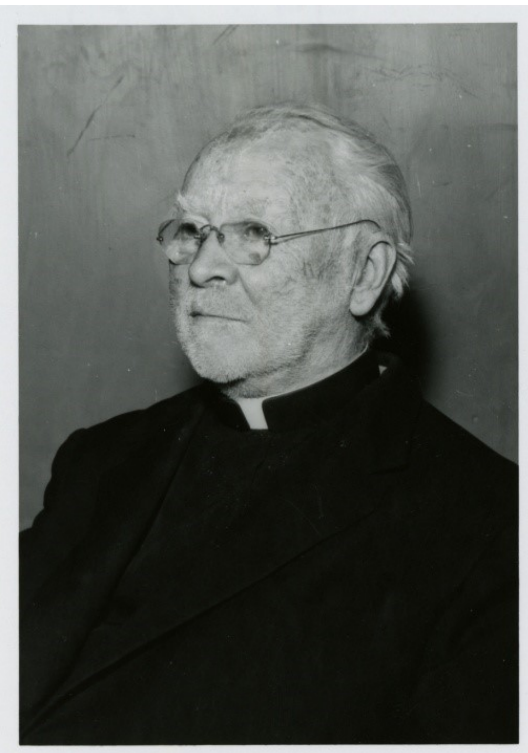
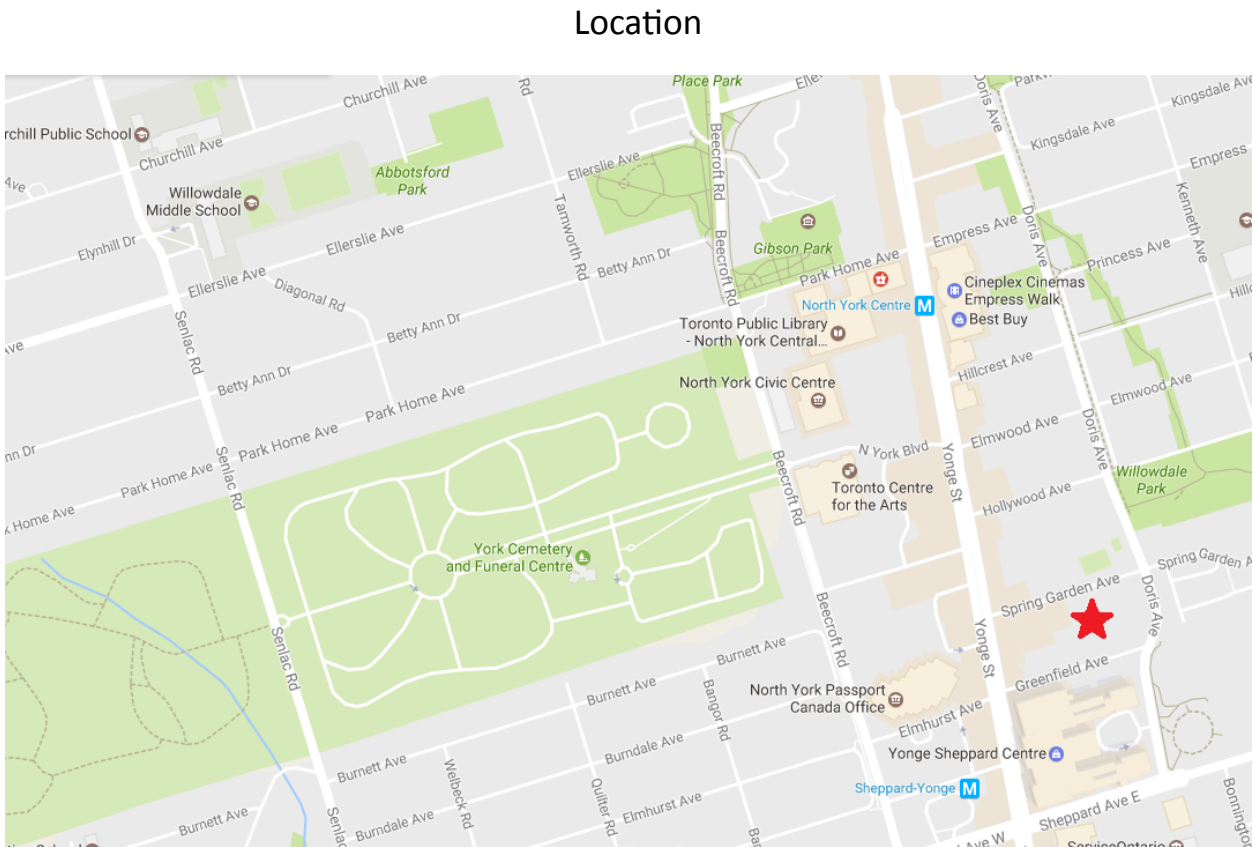


Reverend Father Edward J. Kelly
(1876 – 1937)

- Born May 31, 1876 in Toronto
- Trained as a priest in Montreal, Quebec
- Ordained at St. Michael's Cathedral on December 27, 1905
- Appointed pastor of St. Mary Immaculate Parish, Richmond Hill, in 1918
- Began saying mass in Lansing (Willowdale) in 1922
- Built a Church on his personal property on Spring Garden Avenue in 1923
- In gratitude the parishioners chose a Patron Saint who shared his name
- Died in 1937 and buried at Regina Cleri Cemetery in Scarborough

The First Church by the Numbers

Total Cost: \$32,000.00 (approx. \$457,149.35 today)
Seating Capacity: 125
Official Blessing: April 15, 1923 by Right Reverend H.D. Whelan (95 years ago!)



Reverend Father Francis J. Flanagan
(1888 – 1964, pastor 1942 to 1956)

- Born May 23, 1888 in Toronto
- Ordained at St. Michael's Cathedral on May 29, 1920
- Appointed Superintendent of Schools for Toronto in 1922
- Spent much of his early priesthood far north in Midland and Beaverton
- Moved into the city as the first pastor of St. Edward the Confessor parish, appointed by Archbishop McGuigan
- As the community grew he decided to expand the Church, purchasing a new property in 1952 and completing the second Church in 1953
- Retired in 1956 and died in 1964



The interior of the first Church



Sod-turning for the second Church



Sod-turning for the second Church



First Communion class standing in front of the original Church



Fr. Flanagan turning the sod for the second Church