

New Year Greetings!

We often hear the words "Hindsight is 20/20," but I want to share these words with you today; "2020 is Hindsight".

I've been waiting to share those words for many months as the year 2020 held challenges we have never seen before. Individuals, families, churches, businesses, and governments worldwide have been impacted due to the Global Pandemic.



I don't want to be a "downer," but I think it is essential to give a

reminder that simply because the calendar has now flipped to a New Year doesn't mean all our troubles are behind us. I have little doubt that 2021 will still hold many situations that will require us to look to God for answers.

As we forge ahead into 2021, isn't it good to know that we serve a God who never changes? Hebrews 13:8 says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

While this past year may have left a few scars along the way in all our lives, I pray that we do not dwell on those things. May we have the strength to look back and learn, but look forward and be inspired!

The Apostle Paul saw this as vital to continual growth in God. In his letter to the Philippians, he said: "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

As we look forward to 2021, experience tells us that we have no idea all the New Year will hold. Yet, we can also rest assured that the same God who brought us through this past year will continue to be there for us "if" we reach out to Him.

There's a beautiful old song that has a line like this: "Many things about tomorrow I don't seem to understand, but I know who holds tomorrow and I know who holds my hand."

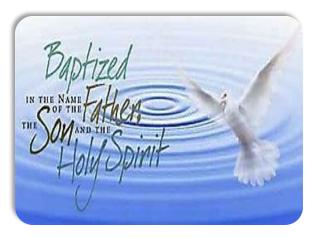


2020 is Hindsight!

Now, on to 2021! May it be a year that we ALL grow closer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Blessings in Christ,

Father Roy Farrell



### CHRIST'S BAPTISM FORESHADOWS OUR OWN:

At first glance, the Baptism of the Lord might seem an odd feast. Since the Catholic Church teaches that the Sacrament of Baptism is necessary for the remission of sins, particularly Original Sin, why was Christ baptized? After all, He was born without Original Sin, and He lived His entire life without sinning. Therefore, He had no need of the sacrament, as we do.

In submitting Himself humbly to the baptism of St. John the Baptist, however, Christ provided the example for the rest of us. If even He should be baptized, though He had no need of it, how much more should the rest of us be

thankful for this sacrament, which frees us from the darkness of sin and incorporates us into the Church, the life of Christ on earth! His Baptism, therefore, was necessary--not for Him, but for us.

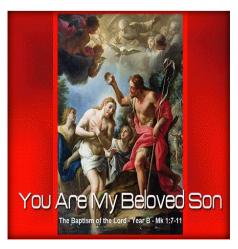
Many of the Fathers of the Church, as well as the medieval Scholastics, saw Christ's Baptism as the institution of the sacrament. His Flesh blessed the water, and the descent of the Holy Spirit (in the form of a dove) and the voice of God the Father announcing that this was His Son, in Whom He was well pleased, marked the beginning of Christ's public ministry.

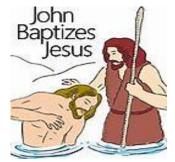
### GOSPEL: Mark 1.7-11:

John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

In his preaching he proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."





### **GOSPEL SUMMARY:**

Most of Mark's accounts of the events in Jesus' life are short and to the point. The account of Jesus' Baptism given in today's Gospel illustrates this. In a few brief sentences Mark tells of the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. The brevity of the final verse of the passage makes it unclear whether Jesus alone heard the voice that came from the heavens, or if everyone who witnessed his Baptism heard the same. What is clear from the words is the special relationship Jesus had with God the Father.

## MASSES - MESSE

### SATURDAY JANUARY 9YH - SABATO

5:00 P.M. – + Tom Farrell & + Ron St. Pierre

### SUNDAY JANUARY 10TH - DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. – + Deceased of the Amizola Family 10:00 A.M. – Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia Rosario Vella Mike e Vito Cuoppolo Mariangela e Vito Vitro Marco, Edda e defunti famiglie Carlevaris e Nevodini L'Anime Del Purgatorio 11:30 A.M. – + Angelo & Maria Baroni

1:00 P.M. – Pro Populo 5:00 P.M. – + Bernadette Penney

### MONDAY JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup> - LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. – Peter Riseborough 11:00 A.M. – Fr. Russell Asch

### TUESDAY JANUARY 12TH - MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. – Angel Imginus 11:00 A.M. – + Holy Souls In Purgatory

### WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13TH - MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. – Jasmine Ibe Refundo 11:00 A.M. – In Thanksgiving

## THURSDAY JANUARY 14TH- GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. – Anna Miceli 8:30 A.M. – + Hilda Ong-Eng

### FRIDAY JANUARY 15TH- VENERDI

8:30 A.M. – + Hilda Ong-Eng 7:00 P.M. – + Deceased members of the Griffith Family

## SATURDAY JANUARY 16TH - SABATO

8:30 A.M. – + Holy Souls In Purgatory 10:00 A.M. – + Deceased Members of the Guenette Family

## **REFLECTION FOR PARENTS:**



The final words of today's Gospel are wonderful words for us to bestow upon our children. Who is not encouraged by the reminder that they are a beloved son or daughter?

What child, at any age, does not long to hear from a parent, "With you I am well pleased?" Today is a good day to think about how often you take the time to lavish words of love and praise upon your child. Take time to be still and let your heavenly Father lavish those same words of love and praise upon you.

### **BRINGING THE GOSPEL INTO YOUR FAMILY:**

Set out pictures, candles, white garments, and other reminders of the Baptisms of family members. Recall the celebrations. Remind



your family that the promises made at Baptism include: being taught to practice our faith, keeping God's Commandments, and loving God and neighbor. Talk about how family members are living out these baptismal promises today.

## **DISCUSSION STARTERS:**



 My favorite part of the celebration of Baptism is . . . because...
One of the baptismal promises I need to work harder at is . . .

3. Someone who makes me feel special and loved is . . .

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### FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Please remember in your prayers: those who are sick and for those who love and minister to them –John Miceli, Gianna Ramzi, Francisco William, Stephanie Solomon, Antonio Sorbera, Bill Mattews, Vanessa Melone, Rosemarie Sorbera,



Amelia Barroso, Joey Bagnato, Alicia Alvares, Charlie Abreu.



#### **VOCATION REFLECTION:**

As John the Baptist introduced the people of his time to Jesus "a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'" Perhaps God is calling you to do the same in our time as a priest, deacon, or religious.

If God is calling you, contact: **Fr. Matthew McCarthy** Vocation Director Archdiocese of Toronto. Tel No. 416-968-0997 Email <u>vocations@archtoronto.org</u> Website https://www.vocationstoronto.ca/

#### PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL:

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and the snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the



Dear Padre



January 10, 2021

## My fiancée was baptized in the Lutheran Church. If she becomes Catholic, will she be baptized again?

A person can be validly baptized only once, whether in or out of the Catholic Church. Catholics believe three things are necessary for a valid baptism: baptizing in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; flowing water; and the intention of the "minister" to baptize using the form (words of the Trinitarian formula) and matter (flowing water) needed for a valid baptism.

Orthodox and most Protestant baptisms are recognized by the Catholic Church. However, the Catholic Church does not recognize as valid baptisms performed by Christian communities that don't believe in the Trinity—Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons, for example. These communities may use the same matter (flowing water), but they don't have the same form (Trinitarian formula) or intention in their baptism.

If your fiancée decides to become Catholic, she will need to attend Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults sessions, make her first Communion and reconciliation, and be confirmed, but she has al ready been validly baptized and will not need to be baptized again..

— Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSsR –

evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION:

Living out our Baptismal Mission This Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River. On this feast day we are invited to reflect on the meaning and importance of our own baptism as well. St. Gregory of Nazianzus beautifully expresses that "Baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift." But why is baptism so important? The Catechism states that "Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission" (CCC 1213). Baptism gives us our identity as beloved children of God as well as anoints us for mission. This baptismal mission can be readily lived out through our commitment to stewardship.



As stewards, we are called to gratefully recognize that our time and talents are gifts from God and then strive to generously offer them back to Christ within our parish community. One concrete resolution we can adopt this New Year is to look into the various ministries at the parish and see which one allows us to best offer our gifts. If we currently do not take part in any parish groups, let us remember that it is never too late to start. Let us recommit

to our baptismal call of stewardship and joyfully serve Christ and His Church.

**Summary:** As we celebrate Jesus ` baptism we are also called to reflect on our own baptism which gave us our identity as beloved children of God as well as anointed us for mission. We can live out this mission by gratefully recognizing that our time and talents are gifts from God and then striving to generously offer them back to Christ within our parish community. This New Year, let us look into the various ministries at the parish and see which one allows us to best offer our gifts as true stewards.

For your ongoing support of our parish, (including those for the St. Vincent de Paul) may be dropped off in person when the church is open for private prayer or sent through the mail.



## PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING:

This new way of supporting the church is now being offered in our parish and many of our parishioners may find this method practical and convenient. Please call the parish office if this way of giving is right for you.

## DONATE NOW:

Alternately we ask you to consider your support of the parish by or single or monthly donations through the "Donate now" button at <u>www.archtoronto.org</u> or at <u>stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org</u>.

## TO DONATE BY CREDIT CARD (Donate Now)

Go to St. Lawrence Website or Click this link > <u>https://stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org/</u> At the top right-hand of the page, find the hand (donate now) and click

## ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR PARISH, SCARBOROUGH



This will take you to the Archdiocese of Toronto page  $\rightarrow$  Click the button "click here to donate" Next page is Where is your Parish?  $\rightarrow$  select "Durham and Scarborough" Next page is Donation page. Please complete the form.

For Parish  $\rightarrow$  click the arrow down, select "St. Lawrence Martyr Parish, Scarborough" After completing the form > click the button "Donate Now"

We will continue to update you as the situation evolves through our parish website. We pray that you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy.

May God continue to bless you now and always!

## ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR PARISH

2210 Lawrence Ave. East, Scarborough, ON M1P 2P9 Phone: 416-759-9359 FAX: 416-759-6725

http://stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org E-mail: stlawrence.archtoronto@rogers.com

#### Parish Groups

We invite you to consider joining a parish group. For more information, please call 416-759-9359.

- Altar Servers
- Extraordinary Ministers of n Communion
- Lectors
- Choir 5:00 pm English Mass
- Choir 10:00 am Italian Mass
- Choir 11:30 am English Mass

Ushers 

- St. Lawrence Women's Group...1st Sunday of every month after 8:30 am Mass
- St. Vincent de Paul Society (Helpline 416-410-3589) 2nd and 4th Monday of each month
- The Craft Group...every Tuesday after 8:30 am Mass
- Knights of Columbus...3rd Monday of every month at 7:30 pm
- Legion of Mary ... every Tuesday at 7pm
- Marian Movement for Priests...every Wednesday following 8:30 am Mass
- Youth Group...2nd and last Saturday of the month at 2 pm
- Charismatic Prayer Meeting Friday Night at 7:00pm

Parish Office

Julia Di Paolo....Parish Secretary

Office Hours			
Mon to Thurs: 9:15 am -12:00 pm			
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm			
Friday9:15 am - 1:00 pm			
Sunday9:30 am - 1:00 pm			
Closed on Saturday and holidays			
Orario Di Ufficio			
Dal Lun al Gio: 9:15 am-12:00pm			
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm			
Venerdi9:15 am - 1:00pm			
Domenica9:30 am - 1:00 pm			
Sabato e giorni di festa: Ufficio			
Chiuso			



#### Pastoral Team

Rev. Fr. Roy Farrell.	Pastor of St. Lawrence Martyr
	Associate Pastor of St. Lawrence Martyr
Rev. Fr. Russell Asch	Chaplain to the Faithful participating in the
	Extraordinary Rite of the Latin Mass

Confessions						
Saturdays						
Saturday		.4:15	to 4:4	45 pm		
Any time by	y request					
Confessioni						

Sabato dopo la messa dale 8:30am

Sabato..... 4:15 alle 4:45 pm

Qualsiasi altro giorno a richiesta dei

Sunday Masses (Messe Domenicali)						
Sat. Vigil (Sabato)	5:00 pm	English	(Inglese)			
Sunday (Domenica)	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm	English Italian English Latin English	(Inglese) (Italiano) (Inglese) (Latino) (Inglese)			

Daily Masses	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
(Giorni Feriali)	(Lun)	(Mar)	(Mer)	(Gio)	(Ven)	(Sab)
	e) 8:30 am o) 11:00 am					

\* Weekday Latin Masses subject to change due to funeral or absence of priest. Latin Masses are of the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite, according to the 1962 Missal. \* Messe nei giomi feriali latino sono soggetti a variazioni a causa di funerale o assenza del sacerdote. Messe latine sono della forma straordinaria del Rito Romano, secondo il Messale del 1962.

#### Eucharistic Holy Hours

- Sunday Evenings: 4:00 pm 5:00 pm
- First Fridays: 7:15 am 8:15 am, 9:15 am 6:30 pm, 8:00 pm 4:00 am
- For Baptism, Marriage and Sacrament of the Sick: Please contact the parish office at 416-759-9359
- Parish School: St. Lawrence Catholic School

2216 Lawrence Ave. East, Scarborough, ON Tel.: 416-393-5264

Devotions

fedeli.

- Rosary: 8:00 am Monday through Saturday
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help: 8:25 am Wednesdays
- Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Mon. after the 8:30am Mass (Oct May) Novena to St. Anthony of Padua: For thirteen Tuesdays in preparation for the Feast

of St. Anthony

#### BAPTISMS

Baptism takes place on the Second Sunday of each month. Pre-baptism instructions are provided to parents and sponsors who must be practicing Catholics. Contact parish office for details.

#### MARRIAGES

Contact the parish priest at least one year in advance of the marriage. Engaged couples must attend a marriage preparation course offered by the Archdiocese. Please contact the parish office for more details. FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS Please contact parish office for details

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) Please contact parish office for details.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR SHUT-INS Please contact parish office to arrange a visit.



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