

## ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH

2210 LAWRENCE AVE E. SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO, M1P 2P9

<https://stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org>

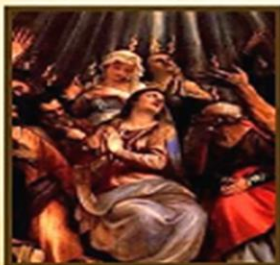
Tel No. 416-759-9359



### Did you know?



God came down on Mt Sinai in **fire and cloud** (Ex 24: 15-17). This happened **50 days** after the **Paschal Lambs** in Egypt were slain. After the worship of the golden calf, **3,000 Israelites** were put to death by **Moses, the leader** of the people and the **12 tribes**.



**Fifty days** after the true **Lamb of God**, (Christ) was sacrificed, the **Holy Spirit** came down to the disciples in **tongues of fire** and a **mighty wind** (Acts 2:1-4). **Peter** led the **12 apostles**, and **3,000 converts** were baptised that day.

(Acts 2:41).



Catholic Fortress

MAY 23, 2021 – PENTECOST SUNDAY

**ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH**  
**MAY 23, 2021 – PENTECOST SUNDAY**

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Dear Parishioners,

This Pentecost Sunday is far different for many churches from any other Pentecost Sunday in the past!

As churches across the nation and around the world are doing their best to determine proper ways to gather together, one thing is for sure and it is this: the Church of Jesus Christ is alive and well!



That first Pentecost Sunday happened over 2,000 years ago as the Holy Spirit was poured out on 120 believers who had gathered to receive the promised gift!

St. John explains, "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate to be with you forever the Spirit of truth. The world cannot receive Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you do know Him, for He abides with you and will be in you."

Most recognize this day as the Birthday of the Church as the Word of God was powerfully preached by Peter. Following this message, the Bible tells us that over 3,000 were added to the church in one day!

Peter, who had denied Christ three times had been changed both by the reality of the Resurrection as well as being filled with the power of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

We believe Pentecost is more than a "historical event" that is observed on an annual basis. The power of the Holy Spirit is available to every believer who will ask for this power from God to witness and live a life of victory.

Right from the very beginning the enemy tried his best to intimidate and eradicate the early Church, but persecution only served to propel the church forward in a greater way.

The Covid-19 virus has brought so many people to the realization that we can't live victorious lives on our own. We need the empowering and illuminating presence of the Holy Spirit as we continue to serve God now, and in the future!

We encourage you wherever you are today to worship God and welcome the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life!

Regards, *Father Roy Farrell*

**PENTECOST** marks the end of the Easter Season with the celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the infant Church. Although the work of the Holy Spirit had been evident before then, Pentecost marked his coming in a new and powerful way. The apostles were transformed from a small band of frightened followers into a bold and energized company prepared to take Jesus Christ to the whole world.

The Church is the Temple of the Holy Spirit, who guides and strengthens the Church. He comes to all the baptized, not only to the ordained. We have different roles and different gifts, yet all come from the same Spirit. They are not given for our own individual satisfaction but to be used to build up the whole Church.

As we celebrate the coming of the Spirit on Pentecost, let us ask for guidance as to what commitments of our talents and gifts we should make as faithful stewards, and then for the strength to fulfill what we've committed to.



**ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH**  
**MAY 23, 2021 – PENTECOST SUNDAY**

*Dear Padre*

*May 23, 2021*



***Why is there now a Mass honoring Mary  
after Pentecost?***

The eleven apostles and some women, including Mary the Mother of Jesus, were praying in the upper room when they were filled with the Holy Spirit, which descended upon them as a strong wind and as tongues of fire (see Acts 1:13-14; 2:1-13). This is the final time Mary's name appears in the New Testament. In Luke's Acts of the Apostles, the same Holy Spirit that overshadowed Mary at the annunciation in Luke 1:38 now comes upon her during Pentecost. "Just as the Incarnation of the Spirit had formed the physical body of Christ in her virginal womb, now in the upper room the same Spirit comes down to give life to the Mystical Body" (St. John Paul II, general audience. May 28, 1997). Thus, the Virgin Mary, full of grace and filled with the Holy Spirit, is both the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church. "Mary is the mother of the members of Christ, because with charity she cooperated in the rebirth of the faithful into the Church," wrote St. Augustine (354-430).

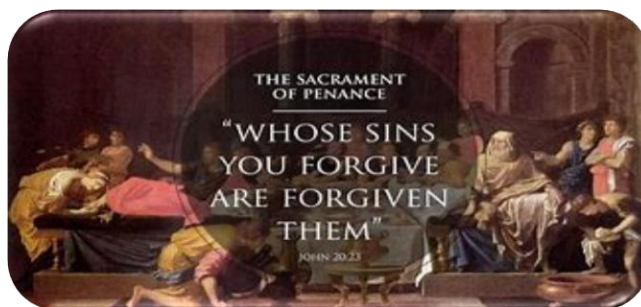
In 1975, The Roman Missal included a votive Mass honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary under her ancient title, Mother of the Church. However, in 2018, Pope Francis elevated this votive Mass to an annual obligatory memorial in the General Roman Calendar, observed on the Monday following Pentecost (also called Whit Monday). Mary is a model for the gifts of the Holy Spirit, exemplifying "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23).

**Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR**  
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To sign-up for Adoration please visit our [parish website](#).

**GOSPEL SUMMARY:**

There is much to be attentive to in today's short Gospel reading. First, Jesus appears to his disciples and says to them, "Peace be with you." Then he says, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He concludes by breathing on them the Holy Spirit, saying, "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." We see these three statements hinted at in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church: "Peace be with you"—the Sign of Peace; "As the Father has sent me, so I send you"—the Dismissal of the Mass; and "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, . . ."—the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.



**REFLECTION FOR PARENTS:**

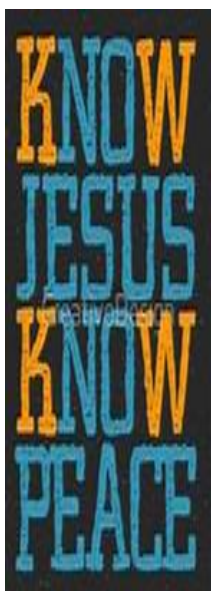
One of the greatest gifts we can give to our children and to our families is the gift of peace. Peace is a Fruit of the Holy Spirit, a visible sign to others that we are living under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and according to the laws and commands of God. Take time today to think about the gift of Christ's peace in your own life. Do you have the gift of Christ's peace? Do you need the gift of Christ's peace? Where are you called to take the gift of Christ's peace today?



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**MAY 23, 2021 – PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**BRINGING THE GOSPEL INTO YOUR FAMILY:**

On a piece of poster board or large drawing paper write the letters of the word peace vertically. Create a family Peace Acrostic by thinking of words and phrases that describe what people can do to share the gift of Christ's peace at home, at school, at work, and in the world. For example, the letter P could stand for, "Pray for world peace every day." Challenge family members to name as many words and phrases as they can think of. Post your Peace Acrostic in a place where all family members will see it and will be reminded to share the gift of Christ's peace with others.



**DISCUSSION STARTERS:**

1. To me, peace means...
2. One of the most peaceful people I know is... because...
3. One place where I really feel at peace is...

*Reprinted with permission from [www.FaithFirst.com](http://www.FaithFirst.com), a Web resource of RCL Benziger, Cincinnati OH*

**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 Matthews, Vanessa Melone, Rosemarie Sorbera, Amelia Barroso, Joey Bagnato, Alicia Alvares, Charlie Abreu, Bill Cook, Domingo Catolos.

**VOCATION REFLECTION:**

The confused and fear filled apostles were totally changed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as they became powerful and dynamic proclaimers of their faith in Jesus Christ. In today's Church God calls priests, religious and deacons to serve Him and to serve others especially by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. If you feel God may be calling you to this ministry, call **Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Director of Vocations**, Archdiocese of Toronto.

Tel No. 416-968-0997 Email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) Website <https://www.vocationstoronto.ca>

**MASSES - MESSE**



**SATURDAY MAY 22<sup>ND</sup> – SABATO**

5:00 P.M. – + Herbet & Emily Lobo

**SUNDAY MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> – DOMENICA**

8:30 A.M. – + Ronald Hoven

10:00 A.M. – Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

L'Intenzioni di Vito e Elisabetta Barbieri

Salvatore Porzio

Mike e Vito Cuoppolo

Maria D'Addario

Antonino Tuccitto

Luigina, Giovanni e Luigi De Rose

11:30 A.M. – + Manuel Dungca

1:00 P.M. – Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. – + Joyce Dwyer

**MONDAY MAY 24<sup>TH</sup> – LUNEDI**

8:30 A.M. – The St. Lawrence Clergy

11:00 A.M. – Fr. Edwin Gonsalves

**TUESDAY MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> – MARTEDI**

8:30 A.M. – + Sylia Milne

11:00 A.M. – Maria Georgina Jose

**WEDNESDAY MAY 26<sup>TH</sup> – MERCOLEDI**

8:30 A.M. – + Sylia Milne

11:00 A.M. – Theresa Burlton

**THURSDAY MAY 27<sup>TH</sup> – GIOVEDI**

7:00 A.M. – Laura Miceli

8:30 A.M. – + Sylia Milne

**FRIDAY MAY 28<sup>TH</sup> – VENERDI**

8:30 A.M. – + Sylia Milne

7:00 P.M. – Rodel Torres

**SATURDAY MAY 29<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO**

8:30 A.M. – + Sylia Milne

10:00 A.M. – Family of Agnes Leung

ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH  
MAY 23, 2021 – PENTECOST SUNDAY

How good and pleasant it is  
when God's people live together in unity!

-Psalm 133:1

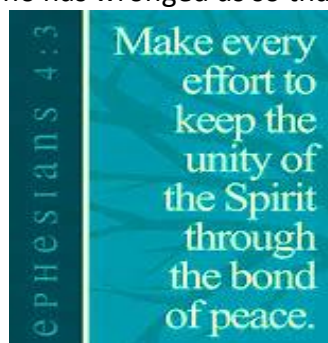


**Living in a Spirit of Unity:** The Holy Spirit is often times the least recognized person of the Trinity. He seems more mysterious to us and harder to grasp. However, on this great Feast of Pentecost, let us take some time to reflect on the Holy Spirit and how He unites all of us in the Church. St. Cyril of Alexandria, a doctor of the church, says “All of us who have received one and the same Spirit, that is, the Holy Spirit, are in a sense blended together with one another and with God.” There are two beautiful impacts of this statement.

Firstly, this means that all the baptized are bound together as one. How often do we perceive this sense of unity in our own parish? As stewards, we should strive to create a charitable and hospitable community for all of our parishioners. Let us go out of our way to meet one new family at the parish this week as a sign of this commitment to unity.

The second implication in St. Cyril's words is that this is not a mere human club or group. Rather, we are connected to one another “and with God.” Our unity is essentially rooted in God Himself. This elevates our community to one that is truly divine, and as a divine community, we should strive to eliminate all anger and unforgiveness that may exist between us. These vices run the risk of wearing away at the life and joy of our parish. Let us strive to make amends with anyone in the parish who has wronged us so that a spirit of stewardship may continue to flourish among us.

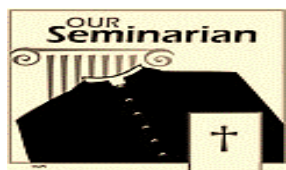
**Summary:** On this feast day of Pentecost let us reflect on the words of St. Cyril of Alexandria who says that those who've received the Holy Spirit are “in a sense blended together with one another and with God.” We are firstly connected to one another and so as stewards we should strive to create a charitable and hospitable community for all of our parishioners. Secondly, we are all connected with God, so we should strive to forgive those who've hurt us in order to foster a divine community free of all anger and resentment.





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**TWO SEMINARIANS** from St. Augustine's Seminary will be staying at the parish until the end of the summer. Like in past years we are accepting monetary donations to offset the cost for groceries. Due to the pandemic restrictions, we cannot accept cooked food, only non-perishable items.

**SILENCE, SOLITUDE, AND THE PRESENCE OF GOD** – In the first place, silence is a great means of acquiring the spirit of prayer, and of disposing the soul to converse continually with God. We rarely find a spiritual soul that speaks much. All souls of prayer are lovers of silence that is called the guardian of innocence, the shield against temptations, and the fountain of prayer. For by silence devotion is preserved, and in silence good thoughts spring up in the soul. St. Bernard says: "Silence and the absence of noise in a certain manner force the soul to think of God and of eternal goods." Hence, the saints fled to the mountains, to caves, and to deserts, in order to find this silence, and escape the tumults of the world. Oh, how great the blessings that silence brings to the soul! [Extracted from The True Spouse of Jesus Christ by St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori]

**WORDS TO PONDER:**

- **WE DON'T CHANGE THE MESSAGE; THE MESSAGE CHANGES US.**
- **WE'RE CALLED TO BE WITNESSES, NOT LAWYERS OR JUDGES.**
- **GOD HIMSELF DOESN'T PROPOSE TO JUDGE A MAN UNTIL HE IS DEAD. SO WHY SHOULD YOU?**
- **PEACE STARTS WITH A SMILE.**
- **DON'T WAIT FOR 6 STRONG MEN TO TAKE YOU TO CHURCH.**
- **HE WHO ANGERS YOU, CONTROLS YOU!**
- **THE TASK AHEAD OF US IS NEVER AS GREAT AS THE POWER BEHIND US.**
- **THE WILL OF GOD NEVER TAKES YOU TO WHERE THE GRACE OF GOD WILL NOT PROTECT YOU.**

**On Tuesday, May 11, 2021**, Pope Francis instituted the Lay Ministry of Catechist in his apostolic letter, "Antiquum Ministerium," which was issued motu proprio. To access the document and the accompanying press conference, please click the link below. The text contains a beautiful reminder of the history and important responsibility of the catechist in the Church's mission to evangelize.

DOCUMENT: <http://bit.ly/MinistryOfCatechist>

PRESS CONFERENCE: <http://bit.ly/CatechistPressConference>

**Webinar on Adult Faith Formation with Sr. Janet Schaeffler, OP**

The Church reminds us that adult faith formation is fundamental and essential. All catechists who work with adults are invited to attend an interactive webinar led by international author and speaker, Sr. Janet Schaeffler, OP on Sunday, June 6 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. In this webinar, "An Urgent Whisper: What About Us?" Sr. Janet will explore some simple – but substantial – things that parishes can do to support the questions, needs and hopes of adults during these difficult times ... and in our promising future.

There is no cost to attend, but we ask that you please register at: <http://bit.ly/AFFW-RegisterJun2021>.

If you have any questions, please contact Ella Okonkwo at: 416-934-3400 ext. 523 or email [formation@archtoronto.org](mailto:formation@archtoronto.org).

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**OFFERING A MASS IS A MEANINGFUL PART OF OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION:**

The Mass book for 2022 will be available on November 1, 2021. Please note the following changes in requesting a Mass. The following guidelines are meant to make the process of requesting an intention easy and fair to all parishioners.

Here are the guidelines:

- You may submit your Mass requests by email or drop it off in person to the parish office.
- We will accept up to 5 Masses per registered household. Of those, one may be for a Sunday Mass (including Saturday anticipated), and four for weekday Masses, and in the case of Latin Masses 5 weekday Masses since there are no Mass intentions permitted for Sunday Masses.
- A \$20 stipend, as determined by archdiocesan policy, is requested for each Mass intention.
- On April 1st 2022, parishioners may book 5 additional Masses per registered household for a total of 10 Masses per calendar year.



**ELEMENTARY REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2021:**

Children born in 2017, are eligible to attend Junior Kindergarten at St. Lawrence Martyr School in September 2021. The Elementary Student Online Application for Registration (S.O.A.R.) for enrolment September 2021 is now available. Due to current COVID-19 conditions all applications (including the upload of required documents) must be completed online at <https://soar.tcdsb.org/Login.aspx>. If you have any questions regarding registration, please leave a message on the school phone at 416 393 5264.

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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.



**SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES:**

A set of offering envelopes will be prepared for you to pick up at the parish office.

**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 (416-759-9359) for the way of giving that is right for you.

**TO DONATE ON-LINE:**

Alternately to donate to St. Lawrence Martyr Parish on-line, please [click here Archdiocese of Toronto](#) and select St. Lawrence Martyr Parish from the drop list.

**REGISTRATION OF NEW PARISHIONER:**

Please [click here](#).

