

# ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH

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

<https://stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org>

Tel No. 416-759-9359

**JANUARY 9, 2022 – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**



*St. Lawrence,  
Pray for Us*

## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS.

We are happy you decided to worship with us today. Please introduce yourself to one of the priests following Mass in the Gathering Area in the back of the church. If you would like information about registering as a new parish member, please call 416-759-9359 for a registration form; or [click here](#).

*Ways in which You can support Your Parish:*

**SUNDAY ENVELOPES:** A set of offering envelopes will be prepared for you to pick up at the parish office.  
**2022 envelopes available in the parish hall.**

**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.

**DONATE ON-LINE:** Alternately to donate online to St. Lawrence Martyr Parish, please [click here Archdiocese of Toronto](#) and select St. Lawrence Martyr Parish from the drop list.

*Thank you and GOD bless you!*



## **PARISH OFFICE and HOURS:**

Julia Di Paolo — Parish Secretary

Mon to Thurs: 9:15 AM — 12:00 PM

1:00 PM — 4:00 PM

Friday: 9:15 AM — 1:00 PM

Sunday: 9:15 AM — 1:00 PM

Closed on Saturday and Holidays

## **PASTORAL TEAM:**

Rev. Fr. Roy Farrell, *Pastor*

Rev. Fr. Anish Antony, *Associate Pastor*

Rev. Fr. Russell Asch, *Chaplain to the Faithful participating in the Extraordinary Rite of the Latin Mass*

## **SUNDAY MASSES:**

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm (English)

Sunday Mass : 8:30 am (English)

10:00 am (Italian)

11:30 am (English)

1:00 pm (Latin)

5:00 pm (English)

## **DAILY MASSES:**

English: 8:30 am Monday to Saturday

Latin: 11:00 am Monday to Wednesday

7:00 am Thursday

7:00 pm Friday

10:00 am Saturday

## **CONFESSIONS:**

Saturdays following the 8:30 am Mass

Saturdays 4:15 pm to 4:45 pm

Any time by request

## **PARISH GROUPS:**

We invite you to consider joining a parish group.

For more information, call the parish office.

## **FOR SACRAMENTS (BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, ANNOINTING of the SICK, RCIA, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS):**

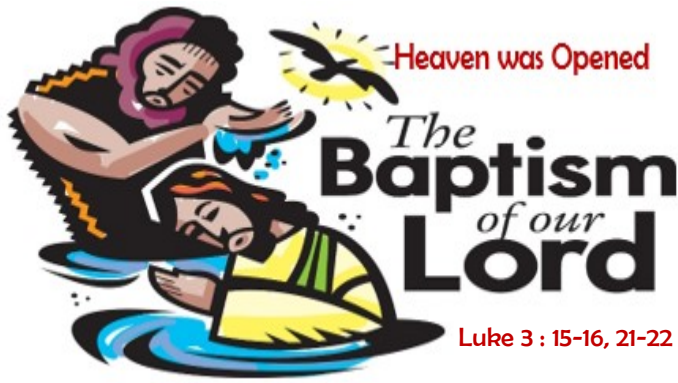
Please contact the parish office Tel No. 416-759-9359

## **PARISH SCHOOL:**

St. Lawrence Catholic School Tel No. 416-393-5264

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## **GOSPEL SUMMARY:**

Jesus came to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. At first John objected and said that it was he, John, who should be baptized by Jesus. Jesus indicated a future baptism when he responded to John saying that it was fitting for John to baptize Jesus. John acquiesced and at the conclusion of the baptism, the Spirit came down from heaven in the form of a dove and clearly announced Jesus as his son. God was pleased with His son.

## **REFLECTION FOR PARENTS:**

Most parents know what it means to be pleased with our children. Even when they do things that annoy, challenge, or disappoint us, we love our children. Although we experience some notion of unconditional love with our own children, it is difficult for us to grasp the magnitude of God's love for us, even when we annoy, challenge, or disappoint Him. Through our Baptism, we are members of God's family and will know the unconditional love of a parent.

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

Bring out pictures and memoirs of each person's Baptism—even the parents'. Recall each baptism and share memories of the day with one another. Continue by sharing ways you have each continued to grow as members of God's family.

## **DISCUSSION STARTERS:**

1. As a child of God, I know God is pleased with me because . . .
2. My own Baptism is important to me because . . .
3. One time I can recall that our family lived out our baptismal promises was when . . .

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## **STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

# JESUS BAPTISM AND US

*Becoming Role Models:* This Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The Catechism says that the sacrament of "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." Let us reflect on how Jesus' baptism can teach us more about our own baptism. Firstly, Jesus didn't need to get baptized because he was already without sin. However, in doing so, He became a model for how we should be baptized for the forgiveness of our sins. Similarly, as stewards we are called to be authentic models of the faith to others. When people see us, do they see what it means to be a disciple? We should be examples of how to live a holy and virtuous life so that others may be inspired by our lives of stewardship. Moreover, not only is it important to do good, but we must also consciously try to avoid anything that may scandal others. All of the baptized, especially stewards, represent Christ and the Church. If we perform actions that are negative or hurtful, people who observe us may be turned away from the faith. Of course, we are all human and are bound to make mistakes, but we should strive to avoid anything that may significantly hinder others from accepting the faith. Let us always turn to Jesus for help, our true model of holiness and stewardship.

*Summary:* As we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we should first realize that Jesus didn't need to be baptized but rather did so in order to give us an example to imitate. Similarly, as stewards we are called to be authentic models of the faith so that others can be inspired by our witness. Moreover, it is extremely important that we avoid anything that may scandal others because this could drive them away from the Church. Let us strive to be true models of the faith.

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## **SATURDAY JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO**

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

## **SUNDAY JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> – DOMENICA**

8:30 A.M. — + Martin Marrion

10:00 A.M. — Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia  
Maria e Angelo Baroni  
Maria e Vito Vitro  
Rosario Vella

Antonio Ciciretto  
Raffaela Addorisio  
Marco, Edda e defunti famiglie  
Carlevaris e Nevodini  
L'Anime Del Purgatorio

11:30 A.M. — In thanksgiving John Gomes

1:00 P.M. — Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. — + Jose Adriano Furtado

## **MONDAY JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> – LUNEDI**

8:30 A.M. — + Barbara Owen

11:00 A.M. — + Roger Furmanczyk

## **TUESDAY JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup> – MARTEDI**

8:30 A.M. — + Harold Cotton

11:00 A.M. — + Joseph Hoang Van Phuc

## **WEDNESDAY JANUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> – MERCOLEDI**

8:30 A.M. — Chantal Teckson

11:00 A.M. — Fr. Trevor Scott

## **THURSDAY JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> – GIOVEDI**

7:00 A.M. — The Skulski Family

8:30 A.M. — Maria Dal Gado

## **FRIDAY JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> – VENERDI**

8:30 A.M. — Raymonde How

7:00 P.M. — Gretchen Rodrigo-Eng

## **SATURDAY JANUARY 15<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO**

8:30 A.M. — + Francesco Ruberto

10:00 A.M. — + Maggie Lee

## Dear Padre

### Why did Jesus have to be baptized?



Did He have original sin like us or was there another reason to be baptized? Jesus is God and did not have original sin like us. He is like us in all things except sin. The baptisms John performed did not free people from their original sin. The people who came to John to be baptized were declaring that they were going to change their ways and reform their lives. They promised to turn away from sin and follow the commandments. The baptism of Jesus was different. When Jesus was baptized, God revealed who Jesus is and commissioned him to begin his mission on earth.

There were three significant components to Jesus' baptism. *First*, the skies opened above Jesus. The prophet Isaiah prayed that God would tear open the sky and come down to earth (Isaiah 63). This was a sign to the people that God was coming down to earth. A new era was beginning. God was no longer "locked up" in the heavens. *Second*, the Spirit of God, in the form of a dove, descended from the sky and hovered over Jesus and the water. This takes us back to the first moments of creation when the spirit of God hovered over the waters. The Spirit was a sign to the people that a new creation was being made. *Finally*, a voice declared that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus is the new Adam, who will begin the new creation.

Let us call the Holy Spirit to be within our hearts and send us forth, as Jesus was sent, to proclaim a new creation founded on the love and peace of our Savior.

*Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO*



### **VOCATION REFLECTION:**

As John the Baptist introduced the people of his time to Jesus a voice from heaven said, "You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased." Perhaps God is calling you to do the same in our time as a priest, deacon or religious. If He is, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)

Website <https://www.vocationstoronto.ca>

**You crown the Year with Your goodness and Your paths drip with abundance.**

*Psalms 65:11*



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## CHRIST'S BAPTISM FORESHADOWS OUR OWN:



Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit." John 3:5

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.



Special Prayers For Those In Need



## 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, Domingo Catolos, Marylou Gaerlan, Eileen and Mary Nicol, Betty Byrne, Verna Quinn, Luca Fitz-Charles, Pat Mancuso.

## Let's invoke our Parish Patron Saint everyday!

**A PRAYER TO ST. LAWRENCE:**  
**'HELP ME TREASURE THOSE WHOM OTHERS DISCARD'** *Feast Day, August 10*



Kind St. Lawrence,  
You cared for the material goods of the Church, while showing great love for those cast aside —  
Those in poverty and those who were sick, suffering, or forgotten.

These, you reminded the world, are the true treasures of the Church.

Guide my thoughts and prayers and actions  
So that I may treasure those whom others discard, and be a servant to those in need.

Help me to see the dignity in every person I encounter:  
to defend the defenseless,  
give voice to the voiceless,  
and seek justice for those treated unjustly.

Be with me as I seek to help the poor, and inflame my heart with love for all God's children. Amen.

**St. Lawrence pray to God for us.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM.** Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (*vitae spiritualis ianua*), 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: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word." (CCC 1213)

**WHAT IS THIS SACRAMENT CALLED?** This sacrament is called Baptism, after the central rite by which it is carried out: to baptize (Greek *baptizein*) means to "plunge" or "immerse"; the "plunge" into the water symbolizes the catechumen's burial into Christ's death, from which he rises up by resurrection with him, as "a new creature." (CCC 1214)

