ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH 2210 LAWRENCE AVE E. SCARBOROUGH , ONTARIO, M1P 2P9

https://stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org

Tel No. 416-759-9359

MARCH 13, 2022 - LENT 2ND SUNDAY





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 <u>click here</u>.

Ways in which You can support Your Parish:

<u>SUNDAY ENVELOPES</u>: A set of offering envelopes will be prepared for you to pick up at the parish office.

Please pick-up your 2022 envelopes in the parish hall.

<u>PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING</u>: 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 <u>click here Archdiocese</u> <u>of Toronto</u> and select St. Lawrence Martyr Parish from the drop list.

Thank you! GOD bless you for your support and generosity.

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 K. Antony CFIC, *Associate Pastor* Rev. Fr. Russell Asch, *Chaplain to the Faithful participating in the Extraordinary Rite of the Latin Mass* Mr. Daniel Lee, *Seminarian*

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, ANNOINT-ING 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:

Peter, James and John went with Jesus to pray on a mountain top. The disciples witnessed what we call the transfiguration where Jesus' face became radiant and his clothes dazzling white. Along with Jesus stood Moses and Elijah. The disciples had no idea what was happening and Peter, in his ignorance, suggested that they erect three tents to commemorate the event. As though to correct Peter's misunderstanding, a voice came from the cloud naming Jesus as his son and telling the disciples to listen to him. There was not to be confusion about Moses or Elijah being equal to Jesus nor should Peter have tried to assume control of a holy happening, but rather listen to this holy one.

REFLECTION FOR FAMILIES:

Parents and older siblings are often in a privileged situation to see a radiant look on a joyful child's face. Maybe it's how they light up when special company arrives, or maybe the look of delight at a special gift or surprise. What kind of transfigurations have you seen this week either in the faces of children, friends, coworkers, or even in yourself?

BRINGING THE GOSPEL INTO YOUR FAMILY:

Share places where you have seen change, perhaps in your family and home, school, work place, neighborhood or community. Suggest ways that these changes are transforming for you and others. Jesus marked the end of an ancient age and the beginning of something new. How are the changes you see like the end of something old and the beginning of something new? How are you involved in that change? How are you part of the change Jesus brings?

DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- 1. God spoke from a cloud at the Transfiguration. I believe we still hear his voice in...
- 2. The Transfiguration was a preview of heaven. I believe heaven will be...
- 3. One of the changes I am making in my own life during this Lenten season is...

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Ascending and Descending the Mountain very Second Sunday of Lent the Church invites us to reflect on the account of the Transfiguration of Christ. This passage describes how Jesus went up a mountain with Peter, James and John, and was transfigured before them, revealing His divine glory. The apostles, although wanting to stay upon the mountain, are brought back down into the real world. These two movements, of ascent and descent, are critical in the lives of stewards.

F irstly, we too are invited to ascend the heights of mountain-top spiritual experiences. To ascend the mountain is to take some time away from the noise of the world to experience the glory and majesty of Christ. Sometimes this involves large mountains such as attending retreats or conferences. However, we can also ascend the mountain every time we turn to prayer and build up our relationship with God. All these moments are essential in keeping our faith alive and active.

owever, this is where the second aspect of descent becomes so important. Unless we are called to live as a brother or sister in a contemplative religious order, we are not called to always remain tucked away in retreats or prayer. Instead, we are called to be strengthened through our mountain top experiences so that we will have the grace to go out into the world and spread the Gospel. This Lent, let us take some time to be nourished on the mountain so that we will be all the more ready to proclaim the Good News.

Summary: Just as the apostles were invited to ascend the mountain for the Lord's transfiguration, we too are called to ascend our own mountains. We can do this whenever we take some time away from the noise of the world so that we may experience the glory and majesty of Christ in prayer. We are then called to descend the mountain and use the grace of our mountain - top experiences to spread the Gospel in the world.

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SATURDAY MARCH 12TH – SABATO

5:00 P.M. — + Howard Steinman

SUNDAY MARCH 13TH – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. - + Therese & Bemaldo Endaya

- 10:00 A.M. Intenzioni di Vito e Elisabetta Barbieri Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia - Rosario Vella Maria e Saverio Vitro - Vito e Mike Cuoppolo Vincenza Di Tacchio - Vincenza e Giuseppe Ciraco e defunti famiglia - Maria e Giuseppe Doria Carmelo Colangelo - Angelo Lamanna e defunti famiglia Rocco Racioppo e defunti famiglia Giuseppe Lamanna e defunti famiglia Marco, Edda e defunti famiglie Carlevaris e Nevodini L'Anime Del Purgatorio
- 11:30 A.M.— + Pat Mancso

1:00 P.M. — Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. — + Manuel Dungca

MONDAY MARCH 14TH – LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. — + Deceased of the Longo & Russo Family 11:00 A.M. — + Sydney De Souza

TUESDAY MARCH 15Th – MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. — + Tony, Maria e Felice Tersigni 11:00 A.M. — Ryan Uy

WEDNESDAY MARCH 16TH- MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. — Carlo Laplana 11:00 A.M. — + Josephine Mar

THURSDAY MARCH 17TH- GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. — Teresa & Allan Vida 8:30 A.M. — + Geraldine Senewiratne

FRIDAY MARCH 18TH – VENERDI

8:30 A.M. — + Maria & Ambrogio La Rosa 7:00 P.M. — Aaron Fernandes

SATURDAY MARCH 19TH – SABATO

8:30 A.M. — In Thanksgiving 10:00 A.M. — Pro Populo

Dear Padre



What is the rationale for believing in God?

hile Scripture tells us in story form how God created heaven, earth, and humanity, science tells how he has really done so: from a Big Bang of unharnessed energy; to the formation of Earth and the universe; to the evolution of life; and finally, to us! Creation's unfolding is like a magnificent symphony formed from nothing by a powerful, omniscient composer. This "musical score" of evolution rises and falls, inexorably leading to its culmination-intelligent beings who can ponder the beauty end awe of God's creation. The odds are totally against an accumulation of "lucky breaks" that make creation possible: our Earth being in a narrow habitable zone, neither too near nor too far from the sun; the appearance of oxygenating plants, allowing us to breathe; a dinosaur-destroying asteroid collision permitting mammals—and eventually us-to evolve. How could all of that be accidental?

ndeed, multitudes have dedicated their lives tb God's existence. For more than two millennia, our Church has taught about a loving God in the person of Jesus Christ. Not only do we learn Jesus' teachings regarding God's compassion, forgiveness, and the promises of eternal life, but we see that compassion and forgiveness at work in today's ministry.

A loving relationship with anyone is impossible without trust and faith. So it is with God. We must entrust ourselves to him, opening ourselves to knowing and loving him. For this reason, belief in God is always a grace, a gift freely given from God, which we ask for ourselves.

Fr. Gary Lauenstein , CSsR 2022 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO



VOCATION REFLECTION:

Peter, John and James had a mountaintop experience with Jesus by witnessing His transfiguration. We too can have a mountaintop experience when we open

our minds and hearts to following God's Will for our lives. If God is calling you, to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email vocations@ archtoronto.org

Website https://www.vocationstoronto.ca

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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, Francisco William, Stephanie Solomon, Antonio Sorbera, Bill Mattews, Vanessa Melone, Rose-

marie Sorbera, Amelia Barroso, Joey Bagnato, Alicia Alvares, Charlie Abreu, Domingo Catolos, Marylou Gaerlan, Eileen and Mary Nicol, Betty Byrne, Verna Quinn, Luca Fitz-Charles.

FATHER, YOU called Saint Lawrence to serve you by Love, and Crowned His Life with Glorious Martyrdom. Help us to be like Him in loving YOU and doing YOUR work. Amen.

St. Lawrence pray to God for us.

SAINT LOURENCE PRAY FOR US



G od Wants to Forgive You: Let Confession Bring You Fully Home This Lent. One of the more overlooked facts from the parable of the Prodigal Son is that after the younger brother has wasted all his inheritance, he knows his father is merciful. He counts on that mercy, but does not presume upon it; he only expects his father to bring him on as a servant. He does not expect to be brought back as a son. He is aware of the gravity of his sin against his father and against God.

What the son finds is a mercy far greater than what he rightfully expects. His father is so overjoyed at his son's return that the boy scarcely gets his apology out before the father restores him to the family.

But this parable is not only about the younger son. Scripture tells us that the parable is directed to the scribes and Pharisees who scorn Jesus for eating with and consorting with tax collectors and sinners.

The second focus of the story is the older brother. He does not share in his father's disposition of mercy. He holds his brother in so much contempt that he refers to him as "your son" and not "my brother." The father is saddened that for a son who has "done everything you ever asked" has not taken on his father's quality of mercy. The older son is no more like his father at the end of the story than the younger son is like his father at the beginning of the story. The parable ends open-ended: will the older son adopt the attitude of the mercy of his father, or will he be the one separated from his father?

All of us sin. All of us fall short of the mark. Maybe we are wasteful with our freedom as was the younger son, or we have failed to take on the attitude of the Father as the older son. Recalling where Jesus tells us "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect," we fall just as short through a lack of mercy and charity as does the person who squanders their freedom on a sinful life.

Our Church has become a Church of long Communion lines, and short (if existent at all) Confession lines. We want the benefits of being God's children while we reject the duties of being God's children. It is easy to justify our own sin while easily condemning the sins of another. As the weekend Gospel reminded us, we court eternal disaster in doing so.

We have a merciful Father who wants to forgive. Jesus knows how we are hard-wired and knows what we need, hence, he leaves us the Sacrament of Confession to give us the concrete way of experiencing what the younger son experiences at the hands of his father.

Don't let this Lent pass by without making it to confession. Allow the mercy of the Father to bring you fully home, so that you may share fully in both the duties and benefits of being His child. *-www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/lent-*

Our parish's first ShareLife collection will be held in two weeks, on the weekend of March 27th.



Our parish goal campaign is \$45,000.

In today's second reading, St. Paul exhorts us to follow the example of the life of Jesus Christ. Our annual ShareLife campaign calls us as Christians to show our love to our brothers and sisters in this season of almsgiving.

This year, we are encouraging you to make your donation online via the parish website or at sharelife.org. Monthly Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) is a convenient way to spread your ShareLife contribution throughout the year. Simply fill out the form on a ShareLife pew envelope, include a void cheque, and then give it to the parish office or drop it in the offertory basket at any time. Contact ShareLife at slife@archtoronto.org.