

ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH

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

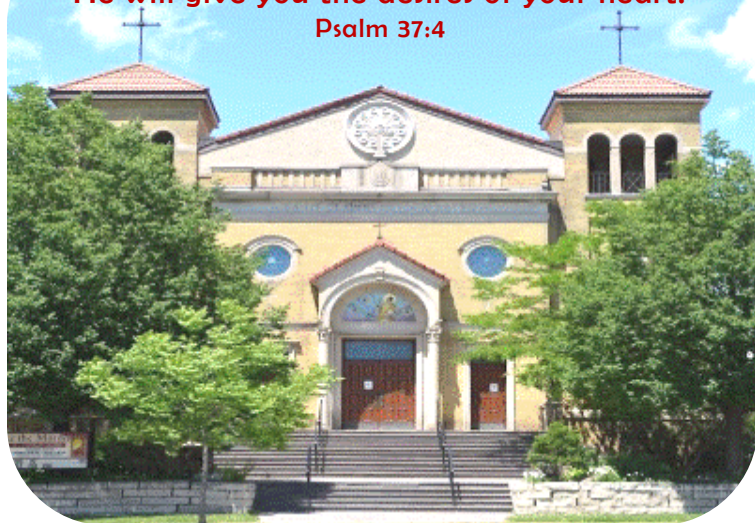
<https://stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org>

Tel No. 416-759-9359

MARCH 27, 2022 – LENT 4TH SUNDAY

Take delight in the Lord, and
He will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalms 37:4



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.

Please pick-up your 2022 envelopes at the back of the church.

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! 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, 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:

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Today's Gospel is the well-known story of the prodigal son who begged for his share of the family inheritance. He took his fortune to a far away place and quickly spent all he had on his personal pleasures. He was completely broke when a serious famine struck the area and he was forced to tend pigs, an occupation prohibited to Jewish people. As he tended the pigs, he hungered for their scraps and realized that his father's slaves lived better than he did. It was then that he decided to return home, not as a son, but as a hired hand. So happy was the man's father when he saw his son return that he celebrated with all sorts of signs of honor. The father's older son, however, was very displeased with the way his father treated his brother, claiming that he had always been there working like a slave for his father. Never once had the father celebrated with this son. The father explained that the older son had always been with him and obedient. It was cause to rejoice, however, that his other son had been lost but now was found.

REFLECTION FOR FAMILIES:

Parents try to divide the world into equal pieces for each of their children, but they know how very different each child can be. There are really no "one-size-fits-all" sets of expectations for families with more than one child. This Gospel helps us remember that we need to recognize the virtues of obedience and faithfulness, while we still love unconditionally and forgive the child who challenges us. Both brothers in this story considered themselves slaves—a feeling we work hard to prevent in our children.

BRINGING THE GOSPEL INTO YOUR FAMILY:

This parable about the prodigal son is a story about families and filled with emotion. Gather all your loose family photos and organize them into an album. (If you're lucky enough to be up to date, go through your photo albums.) As you arrange the photos, talk about your memory of that picture and the emotions that you associate with its circumstances. When you have finished, decide which emotion most characterizes your family. Are you pleased with this defining emotion or is this a good time to work on some changes?

DISCUSSION STARTERS:

1. One of the most selfish things I remember doing was when . . . What I learned from this experience was . . .
2. A time when someone welcomed me back occurred when .
3. The strongest experience I recall of unconditional love was ...

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MY SON WAS DEAD AND HAS COME TO LIFE AGAIN

Approaching the Mercy of God This Sunday we are invited to reflect on the beautiful parable of the prodigal son. This parable offers us an insight into the unfathomable depths of God's mercy. We are also given an example of the prodigal son to imitate. He teaches us that whenever we fall, we too need to recognize our sin, get up and approach our merciful and loving Father. However, we may at times find it difficult to accept just how generously God bestows His mercy on those who seek Him. We may have the notion that God is out to punish those who commit sin. However, there is one particularly beautiful line in the parable this Sunday that can help us ease those fears. It says that "while [the son] was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him." The beauty in this passage is that the father saw the son "while he was still far off." This means that he must've spent time each day looking out at the horizon, eagerly and lovingly waiting for his son to return. Not only does he see him, he then runs and embraces his son even though he was dirty and smelled like pigs. As stewards, we shouldn't fear approaching God for His mercy and forgiveness for He longs to grant it to us. Across the Archdiocese, every parish will host a Lenten Day of Reconciliation in which many priests will be available for the sacrament of Confession. Let us take advantage of this beautiful opportunity for healing and prepare ourselves for the Risen Lord at Easter. *Summary* This Sunday we are invited to reflect on the beautiful parable of the prodigal son which offers us an insight into the unfathomable depths of God's mercy. We are shown that whenever we fall, we too need to recognize our sin, get up and approach our merciful and loving Father. God longs to forgive us, so let us strive to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent to prepare ourselves for the Risen Lord at Easter.

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MARCH 27, 2022 – LENT 4TH SUNDAY



SATURDAY MARCH 26TH – SABATO

5:00 P.M. — + Clarence Towsley

SUNDAY MARCH 27TH – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. — + Chi Chong Hseih

10:00 A.M. — Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Tony Lamanna

Marino D'Attolico e defunti famiglia

Salvatore Porzio

Loenello Pecorari

Antonino Tuccitto

Vincenza Di Tacchio

Gaetano, Agata e Filippo Lopresti-Co'tantino

11:30 A.M. — + Margerita Alamis

1:00 P.M. — Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. — + Clarence Christian Pillai

MONDAY MARCH 28TH – LUNEDÌ

8:30 A.M. — + Gealdine Senewiratne

11:00 A.M. — + Francis Fobo

TUESDAY MARCH 29TH – MARTEDÌ

8:30 A.M. — + Steve Chung

11:00 A.M. — + Deceased members Griffith Family

WEDNESDAY MARCH 30TH – MERCOLEDÌ

8:30 A.M. — + Vicent Gaerlan

11:00 A.M. — Filian de Souza

THURSDAY MARCH 31ST – GIOVEDÌ

7:00 A.M. — + Deceased members Butcher Family

8:30 A.M. — + Silvia & Nino Fomaro

FRIDAY APRIL 1ST – VENERDÌ

8:30 A.M. — In Thanksgiving

7:00 P.M. — Family of Agnes Leung

SATURDAY APRIL 2ND – SABATO

8:30 A.M. — + Florence Pat Mancuso

10:00 A.M. — + Joe & Clara Anthony



Dear Padre

When I'm trying to pray, I can't stop thinking about my to-do list. How do I keep my mind from racing when I pray?



Most spiritual directors encourage a person to enter gently into solitude and prayer. Real conversation with any friend begins with warm acknowledgment of that friend's presence, so as you sit or kneel, acknowledge that you are in a sacred place and that God is present. Several techniques can help us find interior silence and solitude. Many people find it helps to sit in a comfortable position and pay close attention to their breathing. Taking slow, deep breaths relaxes our minds and hearts. When repeated, a sacred word like Jesus or Abba can focus our attention and help us let go of the distractions that can so easily crowd our consciousness.

Another technique is to take a few moments to find quiet, then read a passage from Scripture. Many people choose the Gospel passage of the day; others read a Gospel through from beginning to end by reading a short passage each day. Other excellent techniques to focus your praying include the Church traditions of lectio divina as well as the imaginative prayer method advocated by St. Ignatius.

True conversation goes both ways. One way God speaks to us is through the word. Reading Scripture as part of our conversation with God is a good way to be sure we don't do all the talking.

Fr. Michael Brehl, CSSR 2022 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO



VOCATION REFLECTION:

Like the forgiving father of Luke's Gospel, God welcomes us home in spite of our sinfulness, and calls us to a life of holiness. Where are you at home? Are you being called to a life as an ordained or a consecrated person? 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>

"Three things are necessary for the salvation of man: to know what he ought to believe; to know what he ought to desire; and to know what he ought to do."

-Saint Thomas Aquinas-

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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, 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, Alex Amizola.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT:

Is also known as Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word which means “rejoice” or “rejoicing.”



Other nuances of the word include joyfulness, gladness, cheerfulness, and happiness. This elated or jubilant mood is a striking one-day departure from the sombre, sorrowful, penitential tone of the other days of Lent. The word “Laetare” is taken from the first word of the Entrance Antiphon at Mass: “Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were mourning” (a translation of Isaiah 66:10). Certain exceptions from normal Lenten practice are permitted on Laetare Sunday: “In this Mass, the color violet or rose is used and the altar may be decorated with flowers” (Roman Missal, 106). Rose is the liturgical color for joy. Beautiful flowers bring joy to the heart. There are multiple reasons why the Fourth Sunday of Lent is cause for joy, the most important of which is the proximity of Easter. On Ash Wednesday Easter was a long way off, six and a half weeks, but on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Easter is only three weeks away, and as the greatest of all Christian feast draws ever nearer, joy increases. Joy is also on the upswing because the amount of time left with the rigors of the Lenten discipline, penitential practices like fasting, abstinence, and self-denial, is more than half over.



SHARELIFE This weekend is the first collection in our parish’s annual ShareLife Parish Campaign. The ShareLife mission of “living the Gospel by providing for those in need” is at the core of how we are called to live our lives as Christians.

Our parish goal this year is \$33,000. As we approach our collection, please reflect on your ability to contribute to our campaign this year.

With your help, as we emerge from the pandemic, ShareLife will continue to be there for the poor and marginalized in our community.

Please deposit your envelope in the collection basket. Thank you for supporting ShareLife!

“Vulnerable members of our community are relying on you and me to ensure ongoing access to the care they so desperately need. This is why it’s crucial we meet our parish campaign goal of \$13.8 million. Our goal can be met, but only if we each do our part.” – Cardinal Thomas Collins.

Please give generously on ShareLife Sunday during the special collection or at sharelife.org.

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL:

We are asking for your assistance as we decorate the church for Easter. We encourage you to make a donation of \$20.00 towards our Easter flowers in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving. Please call the parish office to provide the names of those you would like to remember.



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.



UPDATE ON THE UKRAINE: With almost 4 million Ukrainian refugees hosted in Poland, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, and Moldova, parishioners are asking pastors what can be done to assist refugees. The following is an overview of current and potential options to assist.

UKRAINIAN RELIEF FUND: In addition to praying for the situation, parishioners can contribute to the Ukrainian Relief Fund, which the Archdiocese has established to help suffering Ukrainians. Funds raised will be directed to ORAT and CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association). This fund will provide humanitarian aid and refugee resettlement support to Ukrainians. Parishioners are able to contribute online or through their parish donation, when they designate their donation to the [Ukrainian Relief Fund](http://UkrainianReliefFund.org).