

## ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH

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

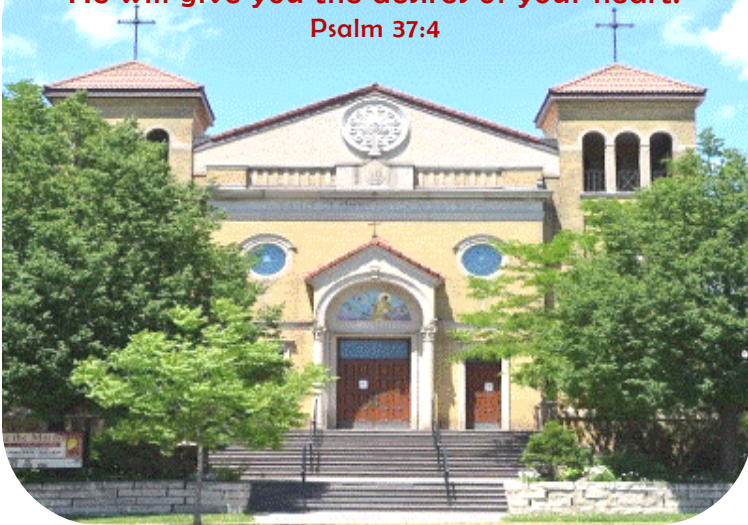
<https://stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org>

Tel No. 416-759-9359

APRIL 17, 2022 – SOLEMNITY OF EASTER

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.

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



He is Risen

"Do not abandon  
yourselves to despair.

We are the Easter people  
and hallelujah is our

song."

—St. Pope John Paul II—



Wishing you a blessed Easter!

# ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH

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## A PASTOR'S EASTER MESSAGE TO THE FAMILIES OF ST. LAWRENCE THE MARTYR PARISH

It is hard to believe that I am writing my 11th and final Easter message at St. Lawrence the Martyr Church. This time of year, is a special time to savor the depth of God's love and to savor Easter Peace.

Easter Sunday is a day of unparalleled significance. It is the solemnity of all solemnities. This is the day Christ our brother broke the chains of death and rose in triumph from the tomb.

As we come to the beautiful time of the year, I want to remind you that the same power that raised Christ from the dead is available to us today.

*The Bible tells us in Romans 8:11, "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit that dwells in you."*

I believe this life given to us is not only eternal life, but it is also life for NOW! We are truly living in very challenging days as so many seek power and use all means of force and manipulation to obtain it.

*Yet, Jesus said the following: Matthew 20:26, "Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant."*

Think of it. The most amazing person to ever live on the face of this earth was Jesus Christ. He did nothing to force Himself on anyone, yet people willingly follow His teaching and example down through the ages and continue today.

He laid His life down willingly so that you and I would have the example of willing sacrifice and love for others.

We have seen the evils of "wars and rumors of wars" happening today as untold thousands of people have been displaced from one country to another. While that is another kind of "power" that will one day be dealt with by a just Judge, there is little doubt this kind of power produces anything but disdain and hatred for the oppressor.

Jesus came that we might have life and that it would be abundant life! We may not have all the answers of "why" on this earth, but we do know that Jesus understands the beginning to the end. He is Alpha and Omega!

*1 Corinthians 15:54, "So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."*

Without the Resurrection, we have nothing, but with the power of the Resurrection, the Christian will ultimately prevail and overcome!

As Catholic Christians, the focus of Easter is expressed most fully in the celebration of the Eucharist. The Mass is the greatest prayer, the supreme experience we have of being brought in contact with the Lord's saving work on Good Friday and Easter. May Christ in the Eucharist always have special meaning in your lives. On behalf of the pastoral staff, I wish you and your families a peace-filled Easter. Blessings in Christ! **Father Roy**

## EASTER MESSAGE TO THE ITALIAN COMMUNITY

*"Lo uccisero mettendolo in croce, ma Dio lo ha fatto risorgere il terzo giorno e ha voluto che si facesse vedere non a tutto il popolo, ma a noi, scelti da Dio come testimoni..." (At 10,39-40).*

Questa è la "buona notizia" di oggi. Perché Gesù è risorto. È giorno di festa e di speranza. Di annuncio profetico e di dono a tutti coloro che umilmente sono alla ricerca, quante volte disperata!, di un senso alla vita.

Per Maria di Magdala "era ancora buio", ancorché fosse "la mattina presto", quando partì per andare alla tomba di Gesù. Possiamo immaginarne l'angoscia, noi tutti che, in vari modi e in varie circostanze, l'abbiamo sperimentata. E sappiamo pure che nella maggior parte dei casi questa condizione è legata all'assenza di qualcosa o di qualcuno.

Quante coppie e quante famiglie sperimentano questa assenza! Per molte, forse, Gesù non è mai entrato, realmente ed esistenzialmente, nella loro vita, allo stesso modo in cui le loro stesse relazioni di coppia e di famiglia sono rimaste a livello superficiale. Ma siamo in buona compagnia.

La risurrezione interessa ognuno di noi, come straordinaria esperienza interiore, come sorgente di una luce di senso, come capacità di cercare, impegnati a fondo sulla terra, le cose del cielo, lasciando tutto quanto ci blocca: parole vuote, lusso, cose inutili. Ma questa non è un'esperienza emotiva.

Questo ci obbliga ad accompagnarci con il Dio che soffre con l'umanità, crocifisso con lui, e la cui gloria non sarà piena fino a quando un solo uomo e una sola donna soffriranno a causa di altri uomini o di altre donne.

Noi vediamo già ora la gloria di Dio risorto, riflessa sul volto di ogni Cristo che soffre e che viene liberato.

Questa è la nostra speranza. Questo è il giorno di Cristo Signore. Buona Pasqua! **Father Anish**





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## GOSPEL SUMMARY:

On Friday afternoon when Jesus died, the women had not been able to finish the customary preparation for burial. The Sabbath began at sundown on Friday, so Mary of Magdala hurried to the tomb Sunday morning to complete her task. She found the tomb empty. Certain that Jesus' body had been stolen, she ran back to get the other disciples. Peter and the other disciple also found an empty tomb but with Jesus' clothing rolled neatly and placed where his body had been. The disciples still didn't understand about the resurrection and Mary wept. As she cried, two angels appeared asking why she was crying. She then saw a gardener and asked him where the body might be. When he called her by name, Mary immediately recognized Jesus.

## REFLECTION FOR FAMILIES:

Most parents have discovered by now that things aren't always as they seem. A poured out bottle of laundry detergent wasn't really mischievous behavior, but rather an attempt to surprise you with a generous gift of service. Or secret whispers are not an attempt to hide some wrongdoing but rather an effort to plan a surprise for you. Things weren't as they seemed to Mary Magdalene either that first Easter morning. Our errors in perception often work to remind us that God's plan is not always obvious, but that we are challenged to trust in the promise of the resurrection.

## BRINGING THE GOSPEL INTO YOUR FAMILY:

Place symbols of Easter such as lighted candles, eggs, and lilies on your dinner table today. Discuss how these items might have become symbols for Easter. What do they suggest to us about the gospel story we read today? How can we be symbols of the Easter message to each other and those outside our family?

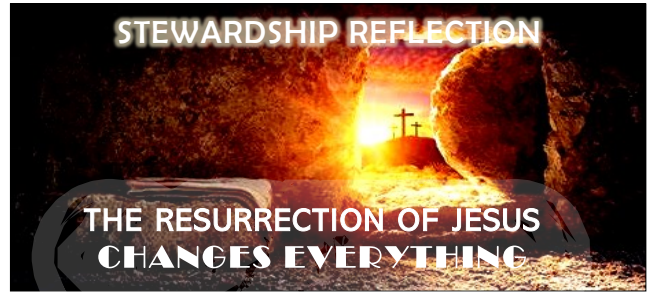
## DISCUSSION STARTERS:

1. The symbol that means the most to me at Easter is.. because
2. Mary Magdalene recognized Jesus' voice when he called her name. One time I know Jesus called my name when...
3. I will share the Good News of Easter this week by . . .

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



**EASTER MEAL PRAYER:** God of glory, the eyes of all turn to you as we celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death. Bless us and this food of our first Easter meal. May we who gather at the Lord's Table continue to celebrate the joy of his resurrection and be admitted finally to his heavenly banquet. Grant this through Christ our Lord.



*The Paradox of the Cross* Alleluia, He is Risen! Today is the Sunday of Sundays, the Solemnity of Solemnities. Today is the day Christ broke through the chains of sin and death and triumphantly rose from the dead, winning for us our salvation. As Christians, we are an Easter people and we are called to live in the joy and peace of the Risen Christ. Let us take a moment to reflect on how Easter can profoundly impact our daily lives. By human standards, the crucifixion was an utter humiliating defeat. It was the end of the story for the person of Jesus and His followers. Jesus would just be remembered as the influential and charismatic preacher that went too far by claiming to be God. All hope was seemingly lost. Yet, this is the paradox of the cross. The cross, the weapon of torture and death, becomes the very means of life and salvation. It was the necessary step in order for the resurrection. There simply is no Easter Sunday without a Good Friday. This is the beautiful truth of our faith. The famous Portuguese proverb says that "God writes straight with crooked lines." When all seems lost and broken, God can use these situations to bring about great blessings. As stewards, let us not be discouraged when we face crosses and trials in life or our ministry. If God was able to bring about the resurrection out of the crucifixion, just imagine the great deeds He will bring through our crosses. So let us rejoice on this Easter Sunday and thank God for the gift of His resurrection. *Summary* The beautiful truth of our faith is that God was able to bring about the greatest good of the resurrection through the seemingly utter defeat of the crucifixion. The famous Portuguese proverb says that "God writes straight with crooked lines." As stewards, let us not be discouraged when we face crosses and trials but instead trust that God will transform these difficulties into many little Easter mornings.

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## HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO

8:00 P.M. — - For All Our Parishioners

## EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup> – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. — For All Our Parishioners

10:00 A.M. — Per Tutti I Nostri Parrocchiani

11:30 A.M. — For All Our Parishioners

1:00 P.M. — Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. — NO MASS

## MONDAY APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> – LUNEDÌ

8:30 A.M. — + Herbert & Emily Lobo

11:00 A.M. — + William Joyce

## TUESDAY APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> – MARTEDÌ

8:30 A.M. — + Anne De Souza

11:00 A.M. — Creg & Aghi Clovis

## WEDNESDAY APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup> – MERCOLEDÌ

8:30 A.M. — + Pietro Fugaccia

11:00 A.M. — + Chrissie Ameresekere

## THURSDAY APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> – GIOVEDÌ SANTO

7:00 A.M. — + Irene De Souza

8:30 A.M. — + Mariangela & Vito Vitro

## FRIDAY APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup> – VENERDÌ SANTO

8:30 A.M. — + Antonio e Vito Palumbo

7:00 P.M. — + William Joyce Jr.

## SATURDAY APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup> – SABATO SANTO

8:30 A.M. — + Hector Luna

10:00 A.M. — Patty Burlton

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY — APRIL 24TH HOLY HOUR  
AT 3 PM. CONFESSIONS WILL BEGIN AT 2: 30 PM.**



### FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL:

Please remember in your prayers: those who are sick and for those who love and minister to them — Francisco William, Stephanie Solomon, Antonio Sorbera, Bill

Mattews, Vanessa Melone, Rosemarie Sorbera, Amelia Barroso, Alicia Alvares, Charlie Abreu, Domingo Catolos, Eileen and Mary Nicol, Betty Byrne, Verna Quinn, Alex and Denise Amizola.

## Dear Padre

The Church says unless you're baptized, you will not enter heaven. So how was the unbaptized good thief able to enter paradise?



Jesus was crucified with two thieves. One taunted Jesus, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us." The other, rebuking him, said Jesus had done nothing criminal adding, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied to him, saying, "Today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:39-40, 42-43).

When the good thief rebuked the other, how did he know Jesus had done nothing wrong or that Jesus was going to his kingdom when he died? Scripture provides no background on the good thief to suggest he was baptized, but he's evidently familiar with Jesus' reputation before the crucifixion.

Regardless, even to his dying breath, Jesus desired for all a conversion experience with our compassionate God. God desires salvation for everyone. However, "God has bound salvation to the sacrament of baptism, but he himself is not bound by his sacraments" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1257). So while the typical way of salvation is through baptism, our merciful God can also give baptismal grace without the sacrament being conferred! For example, when unbaptized infants die, we have "hope that God will save [them] when we have not been able to do for them what we would have wished to do, namely, to baptize them" (2007 Vatican Commission, "The Hope of Salvation for Infants Who Die Without Being Baptized," 103).

*Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR 2022 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO*



### VOCATION REFLECTION:

The Lord is risen, it is true! Through our baptism He calls us to proclaim new life to the world. Pray for those who herald the Good News as priests, deacons and religious brothers and sisters? If God is calling you 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>



Thank you for supporting ShareLife! The next ShareLife Sunday collection is May 1. We have raised \$8,423 toward our goal of \$33,000.