

St. Lawrence Martyr Church

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

Tel No. 416-759-9359 / Fax No. 416-759-6725

Email: stlawrencemartyr@archtoronto.org

Website: stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org

PASTORAL TEAM:

Rev. Fr. Thomas Lim

Pastor

Rev. Fr. Anish K. Antony C.F.I.C.

Associate Pastor

Rev. Fr. Russell Asch

**Chaplain to the Faithful participating in
the Extraordinary Rite of the Latin Mass**

Julia Di Paolo - **Secretary**

PARISH OFFICE AND HOURS:

Mon to Thurs: 9:15 AM — 12:00 PM

1:00 PM — 4:00 PM

Friday: 9:15 AM — 2:00 PM

Sunday: 9:15 AM — 1:00 PM

Closed on Saturday and Holidays

DEVOTIONS:

Holy Rosary: before Mass

Divine Mercy: Friday after Mass

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Wednesday

Novena to Our Lady of Miraculous Medal:

Every Monday, October - May

Novena to St. Anthony de Padua:

13 Tuesdays (March - June 13)

Eucharistic Adoration:

Monday - Thursday: 9am-12pm (Chapel)

Every Friday: 9am - 7pm (Church)

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

For assistance call 416-410-3589

PARISH SCHOOL:

St. Lawrence Catholic School 416-393-5264

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

(or by appointment)

BAPTISM:

Visit our website or call the Parish Office for more information.

MARRIAGE:

Couples must contact the Pastor ONE YEAR in advance. Marriage Preparation Course is required. Visit our website for more information.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK:

If one of your loved ones would like to receive this Sacrament, please contact the Parish Office.

COMMUNION OF THE SICK:

Visitation and/or Holy Communion for the sick upon request.

A warm Welcome to New Parishioners!

*Please fill out a parish registration form found in the foyer of the Church,
and kindly introduce yourself to the Pastor.*

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – NOVEMBER 27TH, 2022



In each year of the three-year cycle the Advent Sunday gospel-readings have the same pattern: the first is about the final Coming of Christ. In the second John the Baptist is preparing a community of repentance to welcome Jesus' mission. In the third John the Baptist points out Jesus as the Messiah.

On the fourth Sunday we look to Mary, preparing for the birth of her Son. In this Sunday's reading about the Second Coming the accent is the same as in the Pauline letter: a pressing and urgent need to take action without delay. The Second Coming will be sudden and unexpected, and will seem as random as the threat of one taken, one left, or as a thief in the night when no protective preparations have been made. We do not even know whether the final confrontation, when each of us is brought face to face with the awesome presence of God, will be a unique event for each of us at death, or whether it will be a group event, as in Matthew's parable of the sheep and goats sent to right and left. There is no time in eternity, no waiting-room! It will not be as any human mind can envisage it.

Questo testo non fa parte di quelli che si scelgono deliberatamente per trovarvi un conforto e risollevarsi il morale. Eppure la Chiesa mette un tale ostacolo all'inizio dell'anno liturgico. Si tratta di abbandonare il trantran, le abitudini, le usanze, di convertirsi e ripartire da zero. Al di là della gioiosa novella del Vangelo che annuncia la venuta redentrice di Dio, si dimentica e si respinge facilmente l'eventualità del giudizio, anche se non la si contesta assolutamente "in teoria". È il pericolo che corrono i discepoli di tutte le epoche. Se non si aspetta ogni giorno la sentenza di Dio, non si tarda a vivere come se non esistesse giudizio. Di fronte ad una tale minaccia, nessuno può prendere come scusa lo stile di vita "degli altri": nessuno può trincerarsi dietro agli altri per sottrarsi al pericolo di essere dimenticato dal Signore. Salvezza e giudizio sono affini uno all'altro, ci scuotono nel bel mezzo della nostra vita: sia nel momento delle grandi catastrofi (la grande inondazione è qui evocata) sia nel corso del lavoro quotidiano nei campi o in casa. Uno è preso, trova scampo, è salvato; un altro è abbandonato. Ma non essere tratti d'impiccio non dipende chiaramente dal beneplacito degli altri. È l'uomo stesso che ha nelle sue mani la propria salvezza o la propria perdizione. Ecco perché, come spesso nel Vangelo, questo brano si conclude con un appello alla vigilanza.

Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26TH – SABATO

5:00 P.M. + Angela e Giuseppe Morra

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 27TH – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. - Reg & Georgette Bedard

10:00 A.M. - Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia Paonessa

Tony Lamanna - Antonio Savella

Marino D'Attolico e defunti famiglia

Salvatore Porzio - Angelo Ciciretto

Leonello Pecorari - Antonino Tuccitto

Vincenza Di Tacchio - Luigi, Lucia, Vito e Sabino

Di Tacchio - Michele, Antonietta e Carmela Lamanna

Giuseppe e Maria Doria - Angelina e Corrado Rabbito

11:30 A.M. + Nazar Da Silva

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. + Felix Remedios

MONDAY NOVEMBER 28TH – LUNEDÌ

8:30 A.M. + Jules De Souza

11:00 A.M. - Marlene Tulagan & Kate De Leon

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 29TH – MARTEDÌ

8:30 A.M. + Hector Luna

11:00 A.M. - The Leung Family

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 30TH – MERCOLEDÌ

8:30 A.M. + Nazar Da Silva

11:00 A.M. + Deceased F&F Maria Georgina Jose

THURSDAY DECEMBER 1ST – GIOVEDÌ

7:00 A.M. - Fr. Roy Farrell

8:30 A.M. - Charles Bagasan

FRIDAY DECEMBER 2ND – VENERDÌ

8:30 A.M. - In Thanksgiving

7:00 P.M. - Family of Agnes Leung

SATURDAY DECEMBER 3RD – SABATO

8:30 A.M. - Fr. Roy Farrell

10:00 P.M. - Daniel Torres



Weekly Offertory

Last Week's Collection: \$4,903.25

All Souls: \$5,144.00

Thank you for your generosity!

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – NOVEMBER 27TH, 2022



Dear Friends in Christ, last week during our class break, a seminarian asked me a series of rather astute questions. Joseph queried: "Father, why are there so many priests today who show very little passion in their ministry? They come across as somewhat cold, tired and indifferent. Do you think that this was something that gradually occurred over time? Or was this something that they had from the very beginning of their ministry?" Wow! How do I respond to such rather sobering observations - ones that perhaps some, or many of you, who are reading these words also have noticed in your interactions with priests?

While there are undoubtedly many explanations that can be offered, I responded by saying that in many cases it simply had to do with love, or a lack thereof! What did I mean by this? The temptation for so many priests (myself included!) is to be so consumed with the demands of our ministries that we overlook the most important task at hand, the need to continually grow in our intimate relationship and love with the Lord. The tiny spark of God's love, which burned within us on the day of our Ordination, often faces the continual danger of being snuffed out. In the process of giving ourselves to others, we neglect to care for the "parish of our own soul." In failing to be nourished and replenished by the wellspring of Love, our human love eventually becomes arid and dies within us. And so, we come across as being cold, tired, indifferent...

What is true for priests, however, is true for everyone else too! Every person - whether he/she is married, a religious or consecrated soul, or a single person - can be so focused on living the demands of his/her vocation that he/she neglects to grow in his/her relationship and love with Christ; in time, love simply dies!

In her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, touches upon how love is the *sine qua non* for all vocations; that is, without it, it cannot be! Reflecting on St. Paul's words to the Corinth community, "Set your desires on the greater gifts. And I will now show you the way which surpasses all others" (1 Cor 12:31), Theresa came to the following profound conclusion: *"For the Apostle insists that the greater gifts are nothing at all without love and that this same love is surely the best path leading directly to God.... Love appeared to me to be the hinge for my vocation. Indeed, I knew that the Church had a body composed of various members, but in this body the necessary and more members was not lacking; I knew that the Church had a heart and that such a heart appeared to be aflame with love, I knew that one love drove the members of the Church to action, that if this love were extinguished, the apostles would have proclaimed the Gospel no longer, the martyrs would have shed their blood no more. I saw and realized that love sets off the bounds of all vocations, that love is everything, that this same love embraces every time and every place. In one word, that love is everlasting.... O Jesus, my love, at last I have found my calling: my call is love."*

This weekend, we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. The word *advent* originates from the Latin word, *adventus*, which means the arrival or coming of a person of importance. The season of Advent is an indulgent one in our culture, with many of our southern American neighbours, for example, "unofficially" starting their Christmas shopping season by participating in numerous Black Friday sales. For Catholics, however, this pre-Christmas season is not only a joy-filled, anticipatory celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, but it is also a preparatory season of repentance, meditation, and penance. Every Catholic, regardless of his/her vocation, can use this period to take a better inventory of his/her relationship with Christ. It is a wonderful period given to us by the Church so that we can critically evaluate ourselves - to determine if the little flame of God's love still remains alight within our heart, or if it has been extinguished because of our preoccupation with life's demands, busyness, carelessness, indifference, etc. If the latter is true, with God's grace, let us try to once again rekindle the light of God's love within us as we prepare to usher in His Son's arrival this Christmas.

Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*

CONFESSION DATES ZONE 12 CHURCHES FOR DECEMBER 2022

St. Lawrence Martyr

Dec. 15th

9:15am-12:00pm

1:30pm-6:00pm

7:00pm-9:00pm

Holy Spirit

Dec. 8th. 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Our Lady of Fatima

Dec. 14th 5:30-7:00pm & 7:30-9:00pm

Dec. 17th 9:45-10:15am & 3:45-4:15pm

Our Lady of the Rosary

Dec. 6th 7:00pm

St. Boniface

Dec. 22nd, 7:00pm to 11:00pm

St. Joseph

Dec. 13th, 10:00am to 2:00pm

Dec. 16th, 7:00pm to 9:00pm

St. Maria Goretti

Dec. 7, 2022

St. Rose of Lima

30 Minutes before every Mass

St. Thomas More

Dec. 20th 7:30pm & Dec. 21st 7:30pm



2023 SUNDAY MISSALS

St. Joseph Sunday Missals will be available for sale this weekend at a cost of \$5.00 each.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK:

We keep in our prayers the sick, the homebound, and the forgotten members in our community.



Fr. Ralph Paonessa
O.F.M.

Memorial Mass
December 7th 7:00 pm
St. Lawrence Martyr Church

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – NOVEMBER 27TH, 2022

1st Sunday of Advent
(Year A)



Collect Prayer...

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

Happy New Year!

If this strikes you as a bit premature, it isn't really because this Sunday marks the start of the new Church year. In the Catholic Church, the first Sunday of Advent is the beginning of the cycle of readings, holy days, and holidays for roughly the next 365 days. It's also the time of year not only when we are called to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus at Christmas, but also when we are asked to examine our lives and take stock, spiritually speaking.



Sponsor a Christmas Poinsettia:

For parishioners who wanted to sponsor poinsettia pot for the altar in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for \$25, **please call the office.**

For our Christmas decorations, you may make your donations by using the "Christmas Flower" envelope found in your offertory box, or with the envelopes available in the foyer of the Church. **Please place your envelope in the weekend offertory collection.**

THANK YOU!



Stewardship Reflection:

Jesus exhorts us to "keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming." One tremendous way we can keep awake is to receive God's merciful love in the sacrament of reconciliation especially this Advent. *Let us take this season of preparation to become better stewards by properly preparing our own souls for the coming of Christ in our lives.*

Vocations Corner ...

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

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 www.vocationstoronto.ca



Dear Padre

November 27, 2022

Should adopted children know who their biological parents are?

Arguments can be made in favor of and against adopted children knowing their biological origins. It appears more and more that adoption agencies encourage knowledge of biological parents over closed adoptions, where this information is not known by the child or the adopting parents. There are many issues here that are packed emotionally, such as why a person was placed for adoption, fear by adopting parents that this new information could compromise their relationship with their child, perhaps fear on the part of biological parents that they will be asked to be involved in a relationship against their wishes.

An argument to be made in favor of disclosure about one's biological parents has to do with one's health. Today we realize that challenges to our health come not just from bacteria and viruses that invade our system from outside ourselves, but also from within, that is, from genetic predispositions to heart disease, diabetes, and other disorders that could compromise our well-being. This information becomes more critical when persons are of an age to marry and to bear their own children. They might want to know as much information as possible to act responsibly in bearing and raising children.

From Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices: 50 Questions from the Pews,
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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

"Today it is our task to keep watch: to overcome the temptation of thinking that life means accumulating....It is up to us to unmask the deception that we are happy when we have many things...and to believe that prayer and charity...are the greatest of treasures."

HOMILY, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT,
DECEMBER 1, 2019