

# St. Lawrence Martyr Church

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

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Website: [stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org](http://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 8:30am Mass

Divine Mercy: Friday after 8:30am 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:

Mon - Thurs: 9am-12pm (Church)

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: 12:00 pm 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.*

## 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2023



### Love your enemies

Following on from the four adjustments of the Law in last Sunday's gospel come two more, perhaps the most demanding. The Law of Moses had limited revenge: only a tooth might be taken for a tooth, only an eye for an eye, not life itself. Jesus, however, will not tolerate even this limited vengeance; he allows no revenge at all. Again and again in the course of the gospel Jesus returns to this need for unconditional forgiveness. We daringly engage ourselves to it whenever we say the Lord's Prayer, 'forgive us just as we forgive...'

The final demand, however, is the most challenging of all. There is in fact no passage of the canonical scripture which encourages 'hate your enemy'. In any case, just as God lavishes his benefits of life, sun and rain on good and evil alike, so we must put no limits to our love. Only in this way – think of the first reading! – can we attempt to honour and imitate the holiness of God. This is what it means to be a son of God, 'sons of your Father in heaven': only by following in his way and by fulfilling his designs can we be integrated into his family. There can be no enmity in Christianity.

Gesù Cristo, Dio-con-noi e umanità nuova, insegna ai suoi discepoli il comandamento dell'amore, la nuova legge del Vangelo che sostituisce per sempre la legge pagana del vecchio uomo: "Amerai il tuo prossimo e odierai il tuo nemico".

Il nostro spirito trema sentendo le esigenze di questo nuovo comandamento. Non è forse più facile aggredire chi ci aggredisce e amare chi ci ama? Forse è a questo che ci spingerebbero i nostri sensi, è questa la voce dell'anima umiliata non ancora raggiunta dalla luce del Dio di Gesù Cristo, del solo vero Dio. Ecco perché l'amore di carità è un precetto insolito, che apre ad un nuovo orizzonte antropologico la civiltà antica e ogni civiltà umana possibile.

Visto da questo orizzonte, l'uomo, ogni uomo, appare creato a immagine e somiglianza di Dio e non più formato secondo una natura disuguale e arbitraria, come invece credevano i pagani. Liberato dai suoi peccati grazie all'azione redentrice di Cristo e rinnovato dall'azione dello Spirito, l'uomo, ogni uomo, è il tempio in cui risplende lo Spirito di Dio. Dio ama l'uomo per se stesso, a tal punto che consegna alla morte suo Figlio.

Dal momento che Dio ci ama in questo modo e ci ha fatti partecipi del suo amore, noi non possiamo che perdonare il nostro prossimo e aiutarlo perché viva e si sviluppi.



### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Mon - Thur 9am - 12pm (Church)\*  
LENT Friday 9am - 5:45pm (Church)\*

\*In the Chapel, when there is a funeral

**Come and spend some quiet time in prayer!**

### Mass Intentions for the Week

#### **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO**

5:00 P.M. + Thomas & Marjorie Reilly

#### **SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> – DOMENICA**

8:30 A.M. + Felisa & Sergio Canete

10:00 A.M. - Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia  
Intenzioni di Agostino e Nellina Battaglia e famiglia  
Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia  
Rosario Vella - Matilde Pagliaro  
Francesco Ferrante - Maria Piccolo  
Antonino Tuccitto e famiglia  
Vincenzo Pitino e famiglia  
Giuseppe Canini e famiglia  
Totonno e Rosaria Francella  
Maria D'Addario  
Vito e Mike Cuoppolo  
Lucia e Luigi Cuoppolo

11:30 A.M. + Anita Villote

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. - For All Our Parishioners

#### **MONDAY FEBRUARY 20<sup>TH</sup> – LUNEDI**

8:30 A.M. + Hsun Kwong Liao

12:00 P.M. - Theresa Vida

#### **TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup> – MARTEDI**

8:30 A.M. + Emma Montessa Silot

12:00 P.M. - Beverly Corriero

#### **WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> – MERCOLEDI**

8:30 A.M. - For All Our Parishioners (English)

12:00 P.M. - Pro Populo (Latin)

2:00 P.M. - For All Our Parishioners (Italian)

7:00 P.M. - For All Our Parishioners (English)

#### **THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> – GIOVEDI**

7:00 A.M. + Reginald Valadares

8:30 A.M. + Edward Emanuel

#### **FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup> – VENERDI**

8:30 A.M. + Sarah Chu Hsieh

7:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

#### **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO**

8:30 A.M. + Kang Hua Hou

10:00 A.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory



### Weekly Offertory

Last Week's Collection: \$5,052.30

Heating: \$2,028.00

*thank you*



## 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2023



Dear friends in Christ, it is hard to believe how quickly the pages of time are turning these days. It just seemed just like yesterday, when many of us packed away our Christmas decorations for another year, and the Church changed her liturgical colours from white to green as it began the season of Ordinary Time. And in a few days, the colours will once again change from green to purple as we start the penitential season of Lent.

Every year, the season of Lent begins with the account of Jesus' temptation in the desert or the wilderness. All the synoptic Gospel writers - Matthew, Mark and Luke - not only write about Jesus' great trial but the amount of time he had to undergo it. This year's Gospel, which comes from Matthew, begins with the words: "*Jesus was led up by the Spirit in the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, afterwards he was famished*" (Mt 4:1).

It is important to note that the number "40" had a very important symbolic value or significance in the Old Testament. The number "40" represented a period of purification, of testing, and of preparation, with the Bible filled with many examples.

One clearly sees this in the story of Noah's flood from the book of Genesis. God used the rain that continuously fell for forty days and forty nights to cleanse or purify the world from sin. The forty days and nights timeframe also acted as a preparatory period for the beginning of the new creation that would follow the great flood.

In the book of Exodus, we again encounter the number forty. Scripture tells us that the Israelites wandered in the desert for forty years - a period that God intended to use to purify his Chosen People from the sins of idolatry, which they committed shortly after being liberated from the bondage of slavery in Egypt. For forty years, God tested his people through hunger, thirst, danger against foreign enemies, snakes and serpents, as he prepared them for their eventual entrance into the Promised Land.

When Jesus went into the desert for forty days and forty nights, he became the embodiment of the people of Israel and inaugurated a new exodus. Jesus went into the desert to battle the devil, who had led our first parents into sin. In his battle with the man's ancient foe, he allowed himself to be tested and tempted by the devil, and it served as a means of preparation for his upcoming public ministry in Galilee and the surrounding regions.

In imitation of our Lord's fasting, Catholics throughout the Western churches also start the 40-day Lenten season, which begins on Ash Wednesday, six and a half weeks before Easter (excluding Sundays). The Ordo, which contains a list of offices and feasts of the Roman Catholic Church for each day of the year, reminds us that Lent is a period of fasting, abstinence and interior conversion: "*Lent is the yearly celebration by the Church of its corporate conversion in Jesus Christ. During Lent, the liturgy prepares catechumens to celebrate the Paschal Mystery for the various stages of Christian Initiation. It also prepares the faithful for Easter as they recall their Baptism and do penance in preparation for the greatest Feast of the year.* The Ordo goes on to also remind us of Lent's two major purposes: "*It recalls or prepares for Baptism, and emphasizes a spirit of penance. Through forty days of closer attention to God's Word and of more fervent prayer, believers are prepared to celebrate the Paschal Mystery*" (Ordo, p. 154-155).

As we begin another Lenten season, let us then not lose sight why the Church offers us this 40-day period - a time by which we can prepare ourselves to more faithfully and intimately encounter the Lord in Easter, through an interior conversion achieved by doing greater acts of fasting, abstinence, penance, and almsgiving. Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*



### **Ash Wednesday Masses:**

8:30am (English)

12:00pm (Latin)

2:00pm (Italian)

7:00pm (English)

### **Friday Schedule during Lent:**

8:30 am - English Mass

9:00 am - 5:45 pm -

Eucharistic Adoration

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Confessions

6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm - Latin Mass



### **PASTORAL LETTERS TO CONTINUE THE JOURNEY OF RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

On February 8, 2023, the Bishops of Canada released a series of pastoral letters to advance the journey of healing, reconciliation and hope with Indigenous Peoples of this land. Individual letters have been prepared for First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities. In addition, the bishops have released a letter to Catholics throughout the country.

Copies of the letters can be accessed by visiting [www.archtoronto.org/healingandreconciliation](http://www.archtoronto.org/healingandreconciliation) Catholics throughout the archdiocese are invited to reflect, learn and join in efforts to nurture and deepen our relationship with Indigenous Peoples.

We pray that the letters may serve as an additional tool to guide the journey of healing, reconciliation and hope.

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**Vocations Corner ...** “Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Do you feel called to help people get closer to God? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

**Stewardship Reflection ...** God says to all of us “be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.” The Second Vatican Council teaches us that we can reach holiness by gratefully acknowledging the gifts God has given us and cooperating with God in giving these gifts back for the service of the Church. Therefore, let us take some time to reflect on how we can become better stewards in our parish community so that we may move closer, through God’s grace, towards holiness.



**Join our Pastor**

**Fr. Thomas Lim**

**PILGRIMAGE TO  
TURKEY & GREECE  
In the Footsteps of  
St. Paul**



June 02-15, 2023,  
14 days

Flyers/registration forms are found at the lobby of the Church or visit

[St Lawrence Martyr Website](#)

To book call Sisca  
4167318252

**Dear Padre**

**February 19, 2023**

**I am wondering why Ash Wednesday is sometimes in February and sometimes in March. Who decides when Lent begins, and why is it always different?**

The beginning of Lent is determined by the date of Easter, which is a movable feast, unlike Christmas, which is always on December 25. Easter falls on the first Sunday following the first full moon of spring. The first Sunday of Lent is six weeks before, and the Wednesday before the first Sunday of Lent is Ash Wednesday.

This subject has caused division in the Church since the second century, because the Eastern Church and the Western Church had different calendars. So, the calculations of the first full moon of spring differed and therefore the date of Easter and Ash Wednesday were different. Sometimes on a calendar you will see both Easter and Orthodox Easter listed on different Sundays. It is hard for most of us to appreciate why the differences between East and West are so important. Remember the prayer of Jesus, that we all may be one. We can honor our Lord’s desire for unity and pray during this Lent for the unity of Christians everywhere. ●

—The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

**CATHOLIC CHURCH'S RULES ON FASTING AND ABSTINENCE:**

"Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.



For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own *sui iuris* Church.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection." (Source: USCCB)

**[A Reflection on Lenten Fasting](#)**



**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**

"Obedience unites us so closely to God that it in a way transforms us into Him, so that we have no other will but His. If obedience is lacking, even prayer cannot be pleasing to God."

-Thomas Aquinas-

**PRAYER FOR THE SICK:**

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

