

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. Russell Asch

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

Rev. Fr. Giuseppe Scollo

In Residence

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.

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2023



TO BE FORGIVEN, YOU MUST FORGIVE

This is a favourite parable of Matthew, continuing and concluding his theme that forgiveness is the life-blood of any Christian community. Matthew gathers together into one chapter the special teachings about the community of the disciples, and half of it concerns quarrels, offences and disagreements. We cannot live together without upsetting one another, unwittingly, or even deliberately. So forgiveness is the vital step, and real forgiveness cements a relationship, leaving it stronger than it was before the offence. Don't forgive and forget, but remember the forgiveness!

The parable expands and stresses the petition in the Lord's Prayer, 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive others.' The importance of this petition was already underlined by Matthew; it is the only petition of the Lord's Prayer to which he adds at the end a confirmatory saying of Jesus. Like so many of Matthew's parables, this one revolves round contrasting characters, the 'goodie' and the 'baddie' (wedding-guests and guest without a wedding-garment; the two who use their talents and the one who hides it; the girls with and without oil for their lamps; the sheep and the goats). The contrast between the two sums of money is deliberately fantastic: the first slave owes millions of dollars, a sum no private person could ever repay, let alone a slave; it is more than a year's tax for a whole Roman province. The second owes a couple of months' wages of a casual labourer.

Quante volte devo perdonare? Buon senso, opportunità, giustizia umana sono termini insufficienti per comprendere adeguatamente la morale cristiana; e non solo perché Cristo è venuto a perfezionare la legge. "Occhio per occhio e dente per dente", come fu detto agli antichi è una norma che Cristo, nella sua autorità di legislatore supremo, dichiara superata. Ma c'è qualche cosa di più. Dopo la morte redentiva di Cristo l'uomo si trova in una situazione nuova: l'uomo è un perdonato. Il debito gli è stato rimesso, la sua condanna cancellata. "Colui che non aveva conosciuto peccato, Dio lo trattò da peccato in nostro favore, perché noi potessimo diventare per mezzo di lui giustizia di Dio" (2Cor 5,21). Il Padre ormai ci vede in Cristo: figli giustificati. Il mio peccato può ancora indebolire il mio rapporto filiale con il Padre, ma non può eliminarlo. Più che dal suo peccato l'uomo è determinato dal perdono infinitamente misericordioso di Dio: "Il peccato dell'uomo è un pugno di sabbia - così san Serafino di Sarov - la misericordia divina un mare sconfinato". La miseria umana s'immerge nell'accoglienza purificatrice di Dio. Se questa è la novità portata da Cristo, anche il perdono umano deve adeguarsi ai parametri divini: "Siate misericordiosi come misericordioso è il Padre vostro" (Lc 6,36). Se il Padre guarda l'uomo come perdonato in Cristo, io non lo posso guardare come un condannato. Se il Padre ci accoglie in Cristo così come siamo per trasfigurarci in lui, l'accoglienza benevola diventa un bisogno della vita, una beatitudine. La comunità cristiana non pretende di essere una società di perfetti, ma vuole essere un luogo di perdono, una società di perdonati che ogni giorno gusta la gioia della benevolenza paterna e desidera renderla manifesta nel perdono reciproco.

Eucharistic Adoration



Mon - Thur 9am - 12pm
(Church)*

Every Friday 9am - 7pm
(Church)*

*In the Chapel, when there is a funeral
Come and spend some quiet time
in prayer!



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16TH – SABATO

5:00 P.M. + Hector Luna

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. - Sacha & Kayla Bagasan

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

Francesco Ferrante

Antonino Tuccitto e famiglia

Vincenzo Pitino e famiglia

Giuseppe Canini e famiglia

Leonardo Cornacchia - Annarosa Volpe

Salvatore Simone e famiglia

Agostino Battaglia - Vincenza Di Tacchio

Carmelo Colangelo - Domenico Galluzzo

11:30 A.M. + Frank John Pras

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

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

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH – LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. + Bruce Benton

12:00 P.M. + Sydney De Souza

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH – MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. + Francisco Gonzales

12:00 P.M. + Cardinal Velasio De Paolis CS

WEDNESDAY SEPT 20TH – MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. - Fr. Neil Pereira

- Leslie Tse

12:00 P.M. - Leung Kau Lam

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST – GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. - Fr. Dominic Covis

8:30 A.M. + Maravilla Ibe

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 22ND – VENERDI

8:30 A.M. + Hector Luna

7:00 P.M. - Ricardo Peralta Zepeda

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23RD – SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Maritess Fidelino

10:00 A.M. - Henriette Asch

*"The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness."
~Pope Benedict XVI~*

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2023

Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends in Christ, my late maternal aunt, Theresa, was a pretty outspoken woman, one who was never afraid to speak her mind. Every so often she would make a comment that would cause you to either turn your head, or shake it in disbelief. One day while I was having dinner with her and my cousin, she said something to the following effect, "You Pastors have a relatively easy life. You do not have much to do except celebrate one or two Masses on Sunday!" While there may be a Pastor or two somewhere in the world who might actually prove her point, he/they would not be the norm, but rather the exception to the rule. The fact is that the role of a Pastor is often a busy and multi-faceted one. As an "*Alter Christus*" (Another Christ), or "*In Persona Christi*" (In the person of Christ), he dispenses countless graces through the Sacraments. As a spiritual Father, he sees and interacts with countless people from all walks of life, helping them in their journey of faith. As an administrator, he is like a CEO of a small firm. Often he keeps his eyes focused on the "dollars and cents" to ensure that the parish has enough money to pay for its expenses and bills. At other times, he is a problem solver, dealing with all kinds of issues or difficulties that arise from various sources.

A few years ago, while I was the Pastor of Our Lady of the Airways in Mississauga, the Lord taught me an important lesson on problem resolution, one that I have not forgotten to this day. One cold, winter Saturday morning, when I was heading to the church to pray as was my usual routine, I was horrified to discover that a pipe in the basement of my office/rectory had burst. A flooded basement is bad enough under any circumstances! But can you imagine what I was thinking, when I thought of all the parish files and documents that were stored in a space adjacent to where the pipe had burst?

That morning I called a parishioner, Nello, who was not only a jack-of-all trade type of guy, but a wise and faithful layman. I told him what had happened and he arrived at my place within a few minutes thereafter. Nello immediately went to the basement to assess the damage for himself. After having surveyed the problem, he simply asked me, "Father, what were you planning to do this morning?" I conveyed to him my original plan and he instructed me to go ahead and do it, and not to worry about anything because he would take care of everything for me. Without any hesitation, I left and did as he asked.

When I returned a couple hours later, what I found truly amazed me. Not only did Nello fully repair the pipe, which had burst in two locations, but he had also cleaned the entire basement and removed all the water from the floor. Remarkably, the basement looked exactly like it had been prior to the pipe bursting.

After I expressed my sincere gratitude to him, Nello gave me two copper pipes, approximately three inches in length, and an inch in width. Each pipe had a gash roughly one-and-a-half inches in length and a quarter inch in width. He told me, "Father, here is your keepsake from today." When I took them from him, Nello added, "**Remember! Never forget that no matter how bad things get, every problem has a solution. Do not worry! God will help you!**"

Nello's gifts remains very close to me since one of the pipes sits on the desk in my parish office. I keep it there because it reminds me that when I am confronted with a problem, not to over-worry. No matter how bad things might get or appear, the Lord in his own ways will provide a resolution to the problem. Just as the Lord sent Nello to resolve the busted basement pipes that cold morning, He would continue to do so in whatever situation I find myself in.

I offer you Nello's faith-filled counsel, because many who are reading my words today are undoubtedly facing what might seem like unsurmountable or challenging issues, circumstances, or problems. I encourage you to remain steadfast in your faith and to remember that "**Every problem has a solution. Do not worry! God will help you!**" While the help or resolution that you seek may not exactly come as quickly as you hope or desire, nevertheless, the Lord will in His own time provide you with the necessary helping hand. "*Surrender to God and He will do all things for you*" (Liturgy of the Hours, Week Two, Opening Antiphon).

Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*



Banns for Ordination

Mr. Daniel Donghoon LEE is to be ordained to the Diaconate for the Archdiocese of Toronto on October 3, 2023 at St. Lawrence Martyr Parish, Scarborough, ON.

Please remember him in your prayers.

Canon Law obliges Catholics to reveal any impediments to sacred orders to the bishop or pastor of the parish.



SLM Thanksgiving Food Drive

During the month of September, until the first weekend of October, the Knights of Columbus will be conducting a Food Drive to collect non-perishable food. Prior to COVID, about 1,500 pounds were collected and donated. Let's aim for 1,500 pounds this year 2023. There will be a cylinder bin, to receive the donations, placed at the foyer / entrance of the Church. The food will be donated to local Food Bank and distributed in time for Thanksgiving. What a better way to give thanks to the Lord for all the good things in our lives, than by donating some food for those in need. For more information please contact Gerry Lobo at 416-298-8382, Rex Catubig at 416-750-0142 or Jaime Libaque at 416-456-7084.

In prayer, more is accomplished by listening than by talking.

~St. Jane Frances de Chantal~



"If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's." Consider service as a priest, deacon, brother or sister. If God is calling you contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997 . www.vocationstoronto.ca email vocations@archtoronto.org

Stewardship Reflection . . .

As stewards, we can sometimes fall into the same temptation of those in the Gospel of feeling that the gifts God has given us and our neighbour are not to our liking. However, we should strive to be grateful for the gifts we have received and even be grateful and praise God for the gifts of others. Let us strive to grow in gratitude to God for His many gifts in our lives and the lives of our fellow parishioners .



*"The CROSS is a school of LOVE."
~St Maximilian Koba~*

Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) Program:

Our Parish offers the PAG Program. Those who wish to sign-up may do so by filling out a registration form found in our website or in the church foyer. Please submit forms with a void cheque to the office or place in the offertory basket at any time. PAG allows you to support your parish when you are away. For more information, please contact our church office.



Weekly Offertory:

Last week's collection: \$5,709.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Celebration of Wedding Anniversaries

Anniversary blessings are given to all celebrating couples after the Holy Communion at all Masses of the **last weekend of the month.**



How does the program work?

- Married couples who are celebrating their wedding anniversaries are asked to contact the office.
- Please provide your names, the number of years of marriage you are celebrating, and the weekend mass time which you usually attend.



RCIA (*Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*) is a program in the Catholic Church for adults who wish to become Catholic.

This year's RCIA program will begin in late September. Please contact the parish office or visit our website for more information.

Dear Padre

September 17, 2023

Why are churches doing away with the confessionals?

In many churches, when it is feasible, the traditional confessional box is modified or even replaced by a more spacious, less darkened reconciliation room. In 1974, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops decreed that "small chapels or rooms of reconciliation be provided in which penitents might choose to confess their sins through an informal face-to-face exchange with the priest, with the opportunity for appropriate spiritual counsel." Later, a further elaboration recommended austere furnishings and decoration in this space, "with nothing superfluous in evidence beyond a simple cross, table and Bible. The purpose of this room is primarily for the celebration of the reconciliation liturgy; it is not a lounge, counseling room, etc. The word 'chapel' more appropriately describes this space." If a reconciliation chapel does not provide a fixed screen or grille between the penitent and confessor, it must be offered elsewhere, according to canon law. "The purpose of this norm is...to afford the penitent anonymity if he or she desires and to make certain that there is no suspicion of impropriety in the confessor-penitent relationship" (Code of Canon Law, 964 commentary).

Ideally, the environment of the reconciliation chapel helps the penitent and confessor feel they are "on holy ground" (Exodus 3:5) in encountering God in this sacrament. It offers an inviting sacred space to celebrate a powerful expression of God's mercy and unconditional love. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Renew your Faith and Reaffirm your Beliefs!

Join our Pastor

Fr. Thomas Lim

PILGRIMAGE TO EGYPT, JORDAN & HOLY LAND



April 24 - May 10, 2024
17 days

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

For more information call Sisca
416.731.8252



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