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 <mark>Scoll</mark>o *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.

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2023

WHY BE ENVIOUS BECAUSE I AM GENEROUS?



'It is not fair! They have hardly had time to roll up their sleeves, and the late-comers get the same wage as I do, having sweated it out right through the heat of the day.'

- Yes, but God is unfair. What are you going to do about that?

'But they didn't deserve it, whereas I worked all day.'

- Yes, you worked. But how did you deserve even to exist?

'Well, God gave me existence, but he might at least be fair.'

- And where would that leave you, if God was fair and gave you what you deserve? Do you want a God in your own image, vengeful, scheming, lazy, punishing (other people), complacent, selfish?

'Hold on! Not completely like me, but at least I am fair.'

- No. God isn't fair at all. That is why Jesus enjoyed having parties with sinners and scum with whom you wouldn't be seen dead.

'Well, they will be different then, when they and I are dead – they'll be sort of cleaned up'

- Up to your standards, you mean? Are you sure God wants them 'cleaned up' like you? Perhaps God loves them just as much as you. Could Jesus ever have said "Blessed are the hungry and dirty and dishonest"?

Gesù ci svela quanto la sua logica sia diversa dalla nostra e la superi. Nella sua vigna c'è spazio per tutti e ogni ora può essere quella giusta. Così come ogni nostra situazione di vita deve essere la vigna che ci è affidata per curarla e metterla in grado di portare molto frutto e questo non per rinchiuderci egoisticamente in un ambito ristretto ma per riconoscerci, a partire dal concreto dell'esistenza, "lanciati sulle frontiere della storia", per essere cioè veri evangelizzatori e missionari.

Siamo tutti pronti a riconoscerci tra gli operai che hanno accettato l'invito della prima ora, ma quale potrà essere la chiamata che il Signore ci riserva per l'ultima ora, per la sera della nostra vita?

Riconoscersi tra i chiamati alla salvezza deve significare renderci disponibili ad accogliere ogni chiamata, anche la meno gratificante, la più difficile e dolorosa.

HUMANITARIAN AID FOR MOROCCO

The Archdiocese of Toronto will accept donations and channel funds through our Catholic partners in Morocco to support relief efforts underway. Those wishing to help may do so in the following ways:



• Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website – <u>www.archtoronto.org</u>

- By phone through the Development Office 416-934-3411
- Through your local parish church, making cheques payable to: *St. Lawrence Martyr Morocco Earthquake Humanitarian Relief*

HUMANITARIAN AID FOR LIBYA

Currently, our Catholic partners are not present in Libya to coordinate relief efforts and as such we are unable to accept donations to aid those affected by the flooding at this time. For those wishing to offer support to the people of Libya, please consider a gift through the Canadian Red Cross:

- Online through the Red Cross website <u>redcross.ca</u>
- By phone through the Red Cross 1-800-418-1111



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2023



Dear Friends in Christ, last week I made my first visit to the students of St. Lawrence School adjacent to our church. It was a wonderful opportunity for me to go class to class and meet the children in a less formal setting, and to share a thought or two about our Catholic Faith. Given that the Universal Church was celebrating the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, I decided to explain to them why the feast was important for Catholics throughout the world.

I asked the children, "If Christians truly believed that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became man and died for our salvation, is it possible that there is a real Cross somewhere in the world - a True Cross that was used to crucify Him?' Unsurprisingly, many children responded in the affirmative. However, when I asked them, "Where then is that True Cross of Christ today?", no one was able to give the answer.

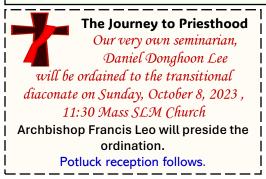
Our Catholic tradition tells us that the True Cross was discovered by Saint Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine, in 326 A.D., in Jerusalem. Its true identity was confirmed by Saint Macarius, the bishop of Jerusalem, after he recited a prayer that miraculously cured a dying woman: "O Lord, who by the Passion of Thine only Son on the cross, didst deign to restore salvation to mankind, and who even now hast inspired thy handmaid Helena to seek for the blessed wood to which the author of our salvation was nailed, show clearly which it was, among the three crosses, that was raised for Thy glory. Distinguish it from those which only served for a common execution. Let this woman who is now expiring return from death's door as soon as she is touched by the wood of salvation." After its discovery, the Cross of Christ would remain in Jerusalem until 614 A.D., when it was seized by the Persians after their invasion of the Holy City. The True Cross, however, was recovered and brought back to Jerusalem by Emperor Heraclius of Constantinople and placed in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem on September 14th, 629 A.D., the same day that the Church now celebrates the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (see EWTN.com for more information).

While the commemoration of these historical events is part of the reason why we celebrate the feast annually, there is, however, a greater spiritual significance associated with the Cross of Christ. The Cross is the very means by which God carried out His salvific plan of salvation. The holy bishop, Saint Andrew of Crete, wonderfully captures this reality when wrote: "We are celebrating the feast of the cross which drove away darkness and brought in the light. As we keep this feast, we are lifted up with the crucified Christ.... So great and outstanding a possession is the cross that all who wins it has won a treasure... for on it and through it and for its sake the riches of salvation that had been lost were restored to us...." Saint Andrew goes on to say, "Had there been no cross, Christ could not have been crucified. Had there been no cross, life itself could not have been nailed to the tree. And if life had not been nailed to it, there would be no streams of immortality pouring from Christ's side, blood and water for the world's cleansing. ... Had there been no cross, death would not have been trodden underfoot, nor hell despoiled. Therefore, the cross is something wonderfully great and honorable. It is great because through the cross the many noble acts of Christ find their consummation. The cross is honorable because it is both the sign of God's suffering and the trophy of his victory. It stands for his suffering because on it he freely suffered unto death...it is his trophy because it is the means by which the devil was wounded and death conquered; and the cross became the one common salvation of the whole world" (cf. Liturgy of the Hours, Feast of the Holy Cross).

The question still remains, though: "Where is the True Cross of Christ?" While most of it has been lost over the years, small fragments of it are preserved in a precious reliquary in the Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem, which is located in Rome. The reliquary is protected by a glass case and displayed to the veneration of the faithful. A few years ago, while I was studying in Rome, I had the great privilege of touching and kissing the holy relic, after participating in a Good Friday celebration held in the Basilica. Needless to say, it was an incredible experience, a blessing that I will remember for the rest of my life!

Today, there is a great current within our culture that wishes to eradicate any reference to our faith, including the removal of crosses from our public domains. I suppose this is due to the fact that the Cross continues to be a "stumbling block" for many. Nevertheless, as followers of Christ, we should remain steadfast and unyielding in professing our faith in Jesus Crucified! Let us pray that we might receive the courage that inspired Saint Paul to say, "But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (Gal. 6:14).

Pax Christi, Fr. Thomas



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You are invited to be a part of an important pro-life witness on Sunday, October 1st from 2 - 3 pm at Kennedy and Lawrence intersection. JOIN THOUSANDS ACROSS CANADA STANDING UP AGAINST ABORTION IN A PEACEFUL,

PRAYERFUL DEMONSTRATION!

SLM CRAFT GROUP are collecting **NEW MEN's socks**

From: Nov. 4th until Nov. 19th GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE in downtown Toronto. The socks may be placed in the Box located in the Church foyer. Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you!

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2023



Celebration of the Solemnity of St. Michael & Conferral of the Pallium upon the Most Rev. Francis Leo Friday, September 29, 2023 5:30p.m. St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica

Archbishop Francis Leo will celebrate Mass, with music from the world-renowned St. Michael's Choir School. As part of the celebration, the Apostolic Nuncio to Canada, the Most Rev. Ivan Jurkovič will confer the pallium on our archbishop.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

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Vocation Reflection . . .

Vocations found..." While searching, listen; could it be that you are being called to serve as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? If God is calling you, contact Fr. Matt Director of Vocations, McCarthy, 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.



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 i information, please contact our church office.



Weekly Offertory:

Last week's collection: \$5,952.45 Thank you for your generosity!

_____ "Anger never travels alone. It is always accompanied by plenty of other sins."

~St. John Mary Vianney~



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. There will be a cylinder bin, to receive the donations, placed at the entrance of the Church. Please see the bulletin board for more information.



September 24, 2023

When can I take photographs in church? During my niece's baptism, I was told to put my camera away. We have a confirmation and a wedding coming up, and I don't want to get in trouble again.

Reverence and courtesy are the issues here. Reverence keeps in mind that what is real about baptism and all the sacraments does not come out in photos. Courtesy notes that other folks are trying to enter into the awe and joy of the mystery, and people taking photographs can get in the way or distract.

Parishes differ in rules and regulations. Many parishes prohibit the taking of pictures. Certainly taking flash pictures is annoying in a way that taking available-light photos is not. But even with nonflash pictures, the photographer is trying to get around people and into a good spot.

Weddings call for photos from approved photographers. In most United States cultures, photos at funeral Masses are out of place. However, there are exceptions, such as the situation of an infirm woman who was unable to attend her sister's funeral. She was extremely upset until her niece thought to record it with her phone. The pastor had no problem with this solution.

No matter what the situation, it is always best to check with the parish office before the event. If it is permitted, get a few good pictures and then be sure to close your eyes in prayer so you can see what is really going on. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

PRAYER FOR THE SICK: We MIN keep in our prayers the sick, the β homebound, and the forgotten members in our community.



