

# St. Lawrence Martyr Church

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

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## 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:

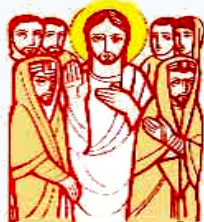
Visitation and/or Holy Communion for the sick upon request.

*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.*

## 31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

Matthew 23:1-12



### THEY DO NOT PRACTISE WHAT THEY PREACH

This chapter contains the fiercest of all the hard things which the gospel of Matthew has to say about the scribes and Pharisees. It introduces a sevenfold curse upon them. The Pharisees were the party of the Jews most concerned for the exact observance of the prescriptions of the Law of Moses. The 'scribes' were lawyers to whom they would turn in the case of a clash between two laws. It is good to follow laws and good to be able to work out what the laws are telling you to do, but their attention to detail and their fussiness often made them lose sight of the real purpose of the Law.

However, Jesus was prepared to meet the Pharisees on their own ground and debate with them in their own terms. The Pharisees took no part in the condemnation and death of Jesus; they are simply not there in the narrative. His opponents in Jerusalem were the Sadducees, who were in charge of Jerusalem.

Argument about legal observance is part of the Jewish way of life, even today, and the controversies in the story of Jesus could well have been in-house discussions about the interpretation of the Law, rather than hostile confrontations. He even used – and used brilliantly – the Pharisaic method of quoting the Law in argument, setting text against text, and the recognized rules of interpretation. He uses this technique to put the Law of love of neighbour on the very same level as love of God.

In the gospels, and especially in Matthew, written towards the end of the century, the hostility to this group has obviously become fiercer, no doubt because of their persecution of the followers of Jesus. As Matthew warns, 'they will flog you in their synagogues.' One of their concerns was obviously the status of the religious leaders. It looks as though they were turning into little gods on their own. This was a danger in Judaism, where specialized interpreters of the Law were required and honoured; there were many rabbis ('my great one') in Israel.

Che cosa significa essere cristiano?

Andare a Messa, battezzare i propri figli, fare la comunione a Pasqua, rispettare i comandamenti?

Nel Vangelo di oggi, Cristo svela la falsità della religiosità dei farisei servendosi dell'esempio dei sacerdoti dell'Antico Testamento: "Quanto vi dicono, fatelo e osservatelo; ma non fate secondo le loro opere, perché dicono e non fanno".

Viene da pensare ai genitori e agli educatori: non basta parlare o insegnare, bisogna dare il buon esempio. Quante volte un padre alcolizzato, una madre negligente o degli educatori poco adatti avviano i bambini alla menzogna?

Quello che dovrebbe essere il comportamento del vero cristiano appare nell'insegnamento di san Paolo ai Tessalonicesi. Chiamato da Cristo sulla via di Damasco, san Paolo scoprì, per un'improvvisa folgorazione, tutto il mistero di Cristo e capì che l'essere Cristiano. consiste nello spirito di apostolato. Egli stesso, pieno dello Spirito di Cristo risorto, lo trasmise agli altri.

Essere cristiani vuol dire questo: non tanto rispettare ciecamente delle formule o dei precetti, ma donare Cristo agli altri, mediante una vita cristiana onesta, perché, grazie all'apostolato della preghiera, della sofferenza e delle opere, il cristiano possa divenire una forza vivente del Vangelo di Cristo.

Questo è l'insegnamento di Gesù ed è così che deve vivere chi vuole essere cristiano.

### 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!

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



### SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO

5:00 P.M. + JP, Maria & Terrance DalGado

### SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. + Carmela & Antonio Scarano

10:00 A.M. - Susanna e Gianni Onisto - Filippo Lembo  
Angelo Tiveron - Defunti famiglie Onisto, Lembo e Barrato  
Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia - Vito Sciuto e famiglia  
Rocco e Giuseppina Burdo - Giuseppe Morra  
Michelina Mosca - Costanza Morra - Luca Caccamo  
Carmela e Euplio Raffaele - Leopoldo Volpe e famiglia  
Angelo Lamanna e famiglia - Angelo Pagnello e famiglia  
Vito e Mike Cuoppolo - Defunti famiglie Ciciretto e  
Cuoppolo - Defunti famiglie Volpe e Cuoppolo  
Nancy e Vicky Masellis - Giovanna Costantino  
Edmondo e Marianna Della Siepe - Oriele e Nino Beccati  
Leonora Tredici e famiglia - Lorenzo Volpe

11:30 A.M. - For All Our Parishioners

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. + Philomena & Valentine Fernandes

### MONDAY NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> – LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. + Geraldine Senewiratne

12:00 P.M. + Rita Lobo

### TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> – MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. + Carmen Poblete Jose

12:00 P.M. + Frank Duff

### WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> – MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. - Greco LaVilla  
+ Giovanna Costantino  
+ Marina Singarayer  
+ Joseph Selvanayagam  
+ Christine Reclusado

12:00 P.M. + Family of David & Carmen Jose

### THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> – GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. + Friends of Maria Georgina Jose

8:30 A.M. + Rocchina & Carmelo Scarano

### FRIDAY NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> – VENERDI

8:30 A.M. + Gianna Ramzi

7:00 P.M. + David Jose

### SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Fr. Ralph Paonessa O.F.M.

10:00 A.M. - Corazon La Plana



Weekly Offertory (Last Week):  
Regular Collection: \$5,406.60

thank you

Vocation  
Reflection



"The greatest among  
you will be your  
servant."

Can I respond to God 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](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)  
Email  
[vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)

St. Teresa of Avila



"To have courage for  
whatever comes in  
life - everything lies  
in that."

Born in Spain in 1515,  
St. Teresa of Avila grew  
up reading and  
studying about  
Christian martyrs.

Their examples  
inspired her, to the  
point where she longed  
to die a martyr's death.  
But she would face  
other tests that would  
require courage,  
including illnesses and  
the death of her family.  
She stayed courageous  
to complete God's tasks  
for her throughout her  
life.

It's impossible to know  
what a day may bring.  
God has plans for us,  
but sometimes those  
plans take us through  
difficult times. You  
must remember to stay  
courageous, even when  
the going gets tough.



Dear Friends in Christ, a few days ago I received an email from Joanne, the daughter of a former parishioner of mine, who notified me that her mother, Jane, had succumbed to cancer. The news of Jane's death was not totally unexpected given that her cancer had gotten progressively worse over the years, and had reached a point where the doctors couldn't do anything more for her. With great peace in her heart, Jane awaited her journey home to the Father's house.

Jane was an incredible woman of faith. Although she faced the same fear and uncertainty that many people who have been diagnosed with cancer experience, nevertheless, Jane continued to find strength to patiently embrace her cross. Jane's reservoir of strength came from two sources. The first came in the form of a counsel, which originated from my late mother, Theresa, that I had shared with Jane a few years ago. Prior to dying of pancreatic cancer, my mom said to me: *"Thomas, in the future when you become a priest, whenever you are confronted with any kind of pain, sufferings, trials and/or tribulations, go to the foot of the Cross and hang on to the feet of Christ. It is there where you will find all the strength and grace that you need."* Jane told me that my mother's words profoundly impacted her and resonated within the depths of her heart, and that over the years they helped her to patiently embrace her cross and to accept with holy resignation God's will for her life.

Secondly, and more importantly, Jane received strength and grace through Our Lord, who always shows a great concern for both the bodily and spiritual welfare of the sick. The Gospel is filled with countless stories of Jesus providing healing to those afflicted with various kinds of ailments, diseases, and sicknesses. The Lord gave his healing power to his apostles and disciples; and he gave the same power to his Church by instituting the sacrament of anointing as the Letter of James clearly reveals: *"Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priests pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of the faith will save the sick persons, and the Lord will raise them up; and if they have committed any sins, their sins will be forgiven them"* (James 5:14-16).

The sacrament of anointing is celebrated through the laying on of hands by the priests of the Church, the offering of the prayer of faith, and the anointing of the sick with oil made holy by God's blessings. The rite signifies the grace of the sacrament and confers it. For those who receive the sacrament through the hands of the priest, the sacrament gives the anointed person *"the grace of the Holy Spirit to those who are sick: by this grace the whole person is helped and saved, sustained by trust in God, and strengthened against the temptations of the Evil One and against anxiety over death. Thus the sick person is able not only to bear suffering bravely, but also to fight against it.... If necessary, the sacrament also provides the sick person with the forgiveness of sins and the completion of Christian penance"* (cf. The General Instruction of the Pastoral Care of the Sick). Jane experienced God's strength and grace each time she received the oil of the infirm during the sacrament of anointing.

Despite the great blessings that the sacrament of anointing bestows upon an ill person, sadly many of the faithful follow the wrongful practice of delaying its reception. Even worse are the unfortunate few, who see the anointing as some form of "kiss of death". These individuals mistakenly believe that by asking a priest to minister the sacrament, he will somehow cause the person's condition to worsen, or result in unnecessary anxiety or fear being brought to the individual and/or his/her family. Unfortunately, far too many Catholics needlessly have to endure their illness, suffering and crosses alone; without the strength and consolation that the Lord wishes to offer them through the sacrament of anointing.

Joanne informed me that in her final days as Jane remained in palliative care, she had a profound longing to be with the Lord. Her desire was quickly granted since she shortly died peacefully thereafter. Although Jane ultimately died surrounded by her three daughters in the nursing home, it should be noted that she also died in the bosom of Holy Mother Church, since she was given the privilege of encountering the Lord one last time before her death, when the priest administered Last Rites and gave to her Jesus, one final time, in the holy Viaticum. *"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever"* (Ps 136:1).

Pax Christi, Fr. Thomas

## 31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2023



### FIRST RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

The First Reconciliation and Communion Program is designed for and received by children in Grade 2 or older. For registration requirements please go to our website [SLM Sacraments - FR/FHC](#).

Parents **MUST** bring all the requirements and attend **ONE** of the registration dates:

Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7PM  
Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10AM

### CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Program is designed for and received by children in Grade 7 or older. For registration requirements please go to our website [SLM Sacraments - Confirmation](#).

Parents **MUST** bring all the requirements and attend **ONE** of the registration dates:

Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7PM  
Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 10AM

### The Shepherds' Trust Special Collection November 19, 2023



There will be a second collection for The Shepherds' Trust on November 19, 2023. The mission of The Shepherds' Trust is to help ensure that elderly and disabled priests are provided with sufficient financial resources to lead a dignified life after many years of ministry. Your generous gift will help our priests to maintain a modest but active and independent lifestyle in their retirement years. For priests who are ill or otherwise infirm, the Trust ensures they have access to nursing home facilities and medical care. Thank you for your support of this important work.



### BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE & DIGNITY

An Annual Conference of the Saint Monica Institute for Education and Evangelization

**2023 CLD Conference November 11, 2023**  
**The Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure in Toronto: 1300 Leslie Street, North York**  
**A LIGHT FOR NATIONS**

Advocates and organizations from across Canada have been invited to present a full day of proposals for building joyful and faithful witness through a wide range of activities, from single parenthood to economics to peace and defense of civil rights. All are invited, particularly those looking for ways to be involved in active witness. To register and learn more, visit <https://learning.saintmonicainstitute.ca/products/2023-CLD-Conference.aspx>



### In loving memory

### November ~ Month of All Souls REMEMBERING THE DEAD

During the month of November, we are called to pray in a particular way for those who have died. There will be a special Memorial Prayer Box placed in front of the Sanctuary during the month of November. The names of the deceased may be written on the Envelopes provided and placed in the Memorial Prayer Box. During the month of November, the deceased will be remembered at all Masses.

*Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him/her. May his/her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed. rest in peace. Amen*

## Dear Padre

November 5, 2023

*I would like to do more spiritual reading, but everything I've tried is either over my head or too sweet and pious for me. Do you have suggestions for any down-to-earth authors?*

You might try reading shorter works. More is not necessarily better. Consider several publications available at [Liguori.org](#). *In My Own Words* is a series of books that gathers excerpts from different authors: Dorothy Day, Sr. Thea Bowman, Pope St. John Paul II, and others. Also consider the *Wisdom* series for Advent and Christmas or Lent and Easter. These include the writings of ancients and a few more current authors like Pope Francis, Henri Nouwen, and Thomas Merton. *Daybreaks* for Advent and Lent are booklets of short meditations for each day of each season. *Catholic Update*, a four-page newsletter from Liguori, features in-depth articles on contemporary topics written by expert authors.

C. S. Lewis was a prolific and popular Christian author. His *Mere Christianity* is practical and informative. A *Grief Observed* is a beautiful meditation for those who have lost someone dear to them, as is Henri Nouwen's *In Memoriam*. Merton's *New Seeds of Contemplation* has inspired readers since it was first published in 1949.

Finally, the best place to start might be the Gospel of Mark—not to study or analyze. Rather, read it just to get to know Jesus a little better. ●

*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK:

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



## 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**