

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.

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – NOVEMBER 12TH, 2023

Matthew 25:1-13

THE WISE AND FOOLISH VIRGINS

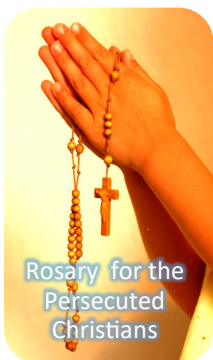


The principal moment of a wedding at this date was when the groom went to fetch the bride from her father's house and took her to his own. The torches should be pictured as oil-soaked rags, flaming on the end of a stick, to usher him either into one house or into the other. (The little oil-lamps found in archaeological excavations would hardly be suitable for such a celebration: they provide minimal light and would blow out in any gust of wind).

In a typical black-and-white Matthean parable the point is not that they all went to sleep, but that only some had brought oil with which to soak the rags. In Matthew this would be a stock of good works (like the wedding-garment in 22.12). The point is no longer alertness, as in the previous parable, but due preparation. It is not that the silly girls did not have enough oil; they simply did not have any; no wonder the rags kept going out! Without oil the rags wouldn't even light properly! The story is not an allegory, but only a single-point parable on the need to prepare for the final wedding. That wedding-feast is the joyful moment of the wedding of the Lord to his bride at the end of time, as so often in both Old and New Testaments.



Ai tempi di Gesù la sposa aspettava nella casa dei genitori l'arrivo dello sposo. Dopo il tramonto del sole, lo sposo arrivava con un corteo nuziale per portarla nella sua casa. Alcune damigelle seguivano la sposa. Diverse ragioni potevano causare il ritardo dello sposo come, per esempio, lunghi discorsi con i genitori della sposa sui doni e sulla dote. Il tirare in lungo le trattative era di buon auspicio. Ma non è lo stesso per le spose di cui si parla nel Vangelo di oggi. Qui si tratta infatti del ritorno di Cristo e tutto è riassunto nelle ultime parole: "Vegliate, dunque, perché non sapete né il giorno né l'ora", cioè: "Siate pronte per l'arrivo di Cristo". Così la parabola delle vergini poteva cominciare con questa frase: "Per il regno dei cieli accadrà come per le dieci vergini che uscirono, con le loro lampade, incontro allo sposo". Agli occhi di Gesù, è saggio chi veglia, cioè chi pensa sempre, nel suo animo, al giorno del ritorno del Signore e all'ora della propria morte, chi vive ogni giorno nell'amicizia di Dio, nella grazia santificante, e chi si rialza subito se, per debolezza, cade. Allora "Vegliate", perché nessuno, all'infuori di Dio, conosce il giorno e l'ora.



Rosary for the Persecuted Christians

LET US ACT ON BEHALF OF PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Wednesday, November 15 is Red Wednesday in Canada. Many buildings will be lit up in red, and parishes, schools, religious communities, sanctuaries, and civil society organizations wishing to participate in this international awareness initiative are encouraged to mark their calendars. In Toronto, Most Rev Francis Leo will be offering the holy sacrifice of the Mass for the intentions of persecuted Christians at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica on November 15 at 5pm. Alternatively, you may wish to pray the rosary in solidarity with faith communities around the world on Red Wednesday.



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 11TH – SABATO
5:00 P.M. + Sylvia, Allan & Bob Schuler

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12TH – DOMENICA
8:30 A.M. - Michael Ramsbotham
10:00 A.M. - L'Anime del Purgatorio
Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia - Rosario Vella
Franco e Elisabetta Sinopoli e famiglia - Vit De Nardo e famiglia – Defunti famiglie Ciciretto e Addorisio—Salvatore Simone e famiglia – Vincenzo, Domenica, Donata e Raffaele Trentadue – Giuseppe, Isabella e Vito Pantaleo – Mario e Antonio Rosetti – Lorenzo Volpe—Fedele e Clementina Colangelo – Luigi e Maia Lamanna—Stefano Colangelo – Luigi Lamanna – Marco, Edda e defunti famiglie Carlevaris e Nevodini
11:30 A.M. + Geraldine Senewiratne
1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo
5:00 P.M. - For All Our Parishioners

MONDAY NOVEMBER 13TH – LUNEDI
8:30 A.M. - Orlando Gaerlan
12:00 P.M. + Doreen Burlton

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14TH – MARTEDI
8:30 A.M. - Fr. Thomas Lim
12:00 P.M. - Fred Leung

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 15TH – MERCOLEDI
8:30 A.M. + Andrea Barbieri
+ Eugene Brailsford
+ Alfredo & Florence Bahingawan
- Fr. Thomas Lim
12:00 P.M. - Leoncio Dominguez & Family

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16TH – GIOVEDI
7:00 A.M. - Angela Leung
8:30 A.M. + Angela & Giuseppe Morra

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17TH – VENERDI
8:30 A.M. + Mike La Rosa
7:00 P.M. - Margaret Tomei

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18TH – SABATO
8:30 A.M. + Dominic Braganza
10:00 A.M. - Rodel & Emelina Torres & Family

Weekly Offertory Last Sunday:
Regular Collection: \$5,756.05
Building Fund: \$3,100.70

thank you



Dear Friends in Christ, the other day I read a heart-wrenching story concerning a critically ill 8-month-old baby named, Indi Gregory. Indi, who is a British citizen, suffers from a rare degenerative mitochondrial disease and has been receiving life-support treatment on a ventilator from a British hospital. Despite Indi's parents' vocal, vehement desire to keep their baby girl alive, England's high court has ruled that it would be in the child's "best interest" to take her off life-support. In what can only be described as a remarkable turn of event, the Italian government, in its desire to save Indi's life, granted her citizenship and offered to cover the cost of all her medical treatment at the Bambino Gesù pediatric hospital in Rome.

The battle waged between Indi's parents and the British court essentially involve end-of-life issues. It concerns the kind of extraordinary care that critically ill individuals (including infants) should have. Alternatively, it involves asking what kind of steps should be taken in order to prolong life, particularly when the human body is at its natural end. The British court has effectively ruled that no action should be taken; death is deemed best for Indi achieved by taking her off life-support system. Conversely, and not surprisingly, Indi's parents want to keep their girl on life support system so that they can explore different treatments for her.

The Church offers a set of rules on how the faithful are to act, when confronted with end-of-life issues. The Catechism, for example, states that *"Discontinuing medical procedures that are burdensome, dangerous, extraordinary, or disproportionate to the expected outcome can be legitimate; it is the refusal of "over-zealous" treatment. Here one does not will to cause death; one's inability to impede it is merely accepted. The decisions should be made by the patient if he is competent and able or, if not, by those legally entitled to act for the patient, whose reasonable will and legitimate interests must always be respected"* (CCC 2278, my emphasis added).

What the Church is effectively saying is that a person is not always required to undertake extraordinary measures in order to keep himself/herself alive. Thus, a stage-four cancer patient could refuse painful chemotherapy treatment that might prolong her life; or, the use of a ventilator can be discontinued for a person whose breathing system is shutting down. To refuse treatment is not akin to a desire to die; rather, it is the coming to terms with one's mortality, and the acceptance of the inevitability of one's death.

Implicit in the same guidance, however, is an acknowledgment that a person (or his/her advocate) also has a right to undertake a treatment in order to prolong his/her life, even if it might be deemed burdensome, dangerous or extraordinary. This is clearly what Indi's parents want for their daughter; incredibly, with the help of a foreign children's hospital. The president of Bambino Gesù hospital in a published letter outlined "a detailed treatment plan" for the child, which includes "life sustaining treatment and palliative care to ensure Indi's survival comfort while the treatments take effect" (cf. "Indi Gregory Case", Catholic New Agency). Whether Indi will ultimately have the treatment generously offered by the Italian medical team remains to be seen. It will depend on whether the appellation court decides to uphold the first court's original ruling, or if they decide to overturn it.

Facing end-of-life issues and deciding what course of action to take is never an easy thing, especially when it involves infants and babies. Perhaps the larger issue at hand in Indi's case is whether those end-of-life decisions should be made by the court (as is the case here), or whether they ultimately belong to her parents (as should be the case). Shortly after granting Indi's citizenship, the Italian President Giorgia Meloni wrote on social media: *"They say there isn't much hope for little Indi, but until the very end, I'll do what I can to defend her life, and to defend the right of her mamma and papa to do all that they can for her."* In the end, isn't that what Indi's parents are doing - defending her life by exercising their right to do all they can for her? Pax Christi, Fr. Thomas

Vocation Reflection



"Keep awake,
therefore, for you
know neither the day
nor the hour."

Listen with your heart as well as with your ears for then you may accept the call to serve in the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life. 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



While the thought of death and judgement can lead many to fear and trembling the Catechism instead calls us to cultivate a "holy fear" and a "blessed hope" (CCC 1041). St. Rose of Viterbo says that we should "live so as not to fear death. For those who live well in the world, death is not frightening but sweet and precious."

As stewards let us strive to prepare for death by remembering that we will stand before the same Lord at judgement that we meet every day in prayer and at Mass.

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – NOVEMBER 12TH, 2023

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 16th at 7PM
Saturday, November 18th at 10AM



**FRIARS
STUDENT
WRITING
CONTEST
2024**

November 8, 2023
January 12, 2024

High school students (ages 13-19 years) in the Catholic School Boards located in the Archdiocese of Toronto

are invited to participate in this annual event that commemorates the global Week of Prayer for Christian Unity from January 18-25.

Write a five-hundred-word essay that explores the 2024 theme “YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD... AND YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOURSELF” (*Luke 10:27*). Great prizes await the top three submissions.

Students are to consult the resources at <https://rb.gy/wajo9> to understand the meaning and purpose of the theme and address the focus question found on the poster and submit their entries at <https://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward>.

Contact: ecumenical@archtoronto.org or call 416-934-3400 (Ext. 527) for more information or questions.

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.

“Love is a mystery that transforms everything it touches into things beautiful and pleasing to GOD.”

~St Faustina Kowalska~



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 12, 2023

I was taught that Catholic churches are built on consecrated ground. How can a church be torn down and replaced by a shopping mall if it's sacred ground?

Church buildings are blessed and considered by the Church to be sacred places. But when they're damaged and can no longer be repaired or their repair is impractical or they no longer effectively serve their purpose for the faithful of God, the bishop can remove that blessing. By doing this, the bishop opens them for nonsacred use. Subsequently, they can be torn down or sold, as long as the new purpose is not scandalous to the people of God.

In the end, what is truly sacred is not the brick and mortar or even the soil, but the purpose for which they were built. Churches are blessed and declared sacred because we perform sacred rituals within them. When those rituals are no longer being performed in that location, there is no longer a need for them to be declared sacred.

When a church is closed, it is often a sad event. Many people carry deep emotional ties to their parish churches. But a diocese cannot always maintain all of its churches. Catholic populations shift, local needs change. Money is limited, and good stewardship demands that bishops sometimes make the difficult decision to close or merge parishes. Remember what is truly important and of ultimate and sacred value—our worship and service of God. ●

Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR / 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