

# 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](mailto:stlawrencemartyr@archtoronto.org)

Website: [stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org](http://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.*

## 33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

Matthew 25:14-30



### YOU HAVE BEEN FAITHFUL IN SMALL THINGS: COME AND JOIN IN YOUR MASTER'S HAPPINESS

There is a progression in these four parables leading up to the final judgement. In the first it is a question of alertness of the householder to the whole situation (24.42-44). In the second the steward needs to be the right sort of person to be left in charge (24.45-51). In the third the savvy girls have prepared by getting the right kit (25.1-13). Now in the fourth the slaves make the correct use of their gifts. Or do not, for in each case the point is made by contrast.

Matthew shares the outline of the Parable of the Talents with Luke, but Luke has built it out to include other elements. In Matthew's version the sums of money are enormous: even a single talent is more than the annual tribute of a medium-sized Roman province, but Matthew likes to illustrate with huge figures, and of course it is not specified how long the master is absent, so how long a period the slaves have to double the sums. Not all slaves were confined to basic manual labour, and there were instances of slaves who held important administrative positions in the Roman Empire.

The final conversation with the unsuccessful slave is slightly worrying: it hovers on the edge of allegory. The returning master must be intended to be Christ, the Son of man who is about to exercise judgement; but is he really to be understood as a hard man, reaping where he had not sown? The unsuccessful slave must be intended as those who reject Jesus, but need he be so aggressively cocky? Are these features merely enlivening decorations of the story, or are they intended to convey a meaning, to be picked up and enlarged in the scene of the final judgement?.

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La parabola dei talenti parla della venuta di Gesù per il giudizio universale. Quando ritornerà, egli esigerà di sapere da noi come abbiamo usato il nostro tempo, cosa abbiamo fatto della nostra vita e dei talenti che abbiamo ricevuto, cioè delle nostre capacità. Il premio per il buon uso sarà la partecipazione alla gioia del Signore, cioè al banchetto eterno. La parabola racchiude un insegnamento fondamentale: Dio non misurerà né conterà i nostri acquisti, le nostre realizzazioni. Non ci chiederà se abbiamo compiuto delle prodezze ammirate dal mondo, perché ciò non dipende da noi, ma è in parte condizionato dai talenti che abbiamo ricevuto. Vengono tenute in conto soltanto la fedeltà, l'assiduità e la carità con le quali noi avremo fatto fronte ai nostri doveri, anche se i più umili e i più ordinari. Il terzo servitore, "malvagio e infingardo" ha una falsa immagine del padrone (di Dio). Il peggio è che non lo ama. La paura nei confronti del padrone l'ha paralizzato ed ha agito in modo maldestro, senza assumersi nessun rischio. Così ha sotterrato il suo talento. Dio si aspetta da noi una risposta gioiosa, un impegno che proviene dall'amore e dalla nostra prontezza ad assumere rischi e ad affrontare difficoltà. I talenti possono significare le capacità naturali, i doni e i carismi ricevuti dallo Spirito Santo, ma anche il Vangelo, la rivelazione, e la salvezza che Cristo ha trasmesso alla Chiesa.

Tutti i credenti hanno il dovere di ritrasmettere questi doni, a parole e a fatti.

### 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 18<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO

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

#### SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. + Tony & Maria Schwanauer

10:00 A.M. - Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia  
Francesco Ferrante - Antonino Tuccitto e famiglia  
Vincenzo Pitino e famiglia  
Giuseppe Canini e famiglia  
Totunno e Rosaria Francella - Vito e Mike Cuoppolo  
Giuseppe Masellis - Lorenzo Volpe  
Defunti famiglie Longo e Tamburro  
Giovanna Costantino - Norm Loesing  
Amedeo, Vittoria, Sandra e Angelo Vincenzi  
Regina, Marcello, Giulio e Luigia Manera  
Damiano Balestin - L'Anime Del Purgatorio

11:30 A.M. - The Tumaliuan Family

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

#### MONDAY NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> – LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. + Bishop Nicola De Angelis

12:00 P.M. - Bradley Chin-You & Family

#### TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> – MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. + Carmen Poblete Jose

12:00 P.M. - Nick Mazare

#### WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> – MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. - David Jose

- Zach Noranho

- Vincent Gomes

+ Deceased Gomes Family

+ Alfonso Trinh Hue

+ Francia Nueva

12:00 P.M. - Theresa Burlton

#### THURSDAY NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> – GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. + Maric Dominguez

8:30 A.M. + George Ramond Poblete

#### FRIDAY NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> – VENERDI

8:30 A.M. - Dolores Poblete

7:00 P.M. - Eric Mazare

#### SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Harold Liao

10:00 A.M. - Barbaa Dobrodzj



Weekly Offertory Last Sunday:  
Regular Collection: \$5,118.15

thank you



## 33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2023



Dear Friends in Christ, last week I touch upon the end-of-life battle that was taking place in the U.K. concerning an ailing baby girl named, Indi Gregory. At the time when I was writing my piece, baby Indi was still receiving life-sustaining treatment on a ventilator at the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham, England. Her parents were making a valiant effort to prolong Indi's life with the extra-ordinary offer of help coming from the Bambino Gesu pediatric hospital in Rome. And they were appealing the British higher courts to reverse the original decision to cease Indi's life support. Unfortunately, the second-highest court in U.K. reaffirmed the original ruling and demanded that Indi's life support be removed immediately. Sadly, Indi died on November 13<sup>th</sup> in the arms of her mother, while in the hospice.

There are undoubtedly many troubling elements associated with Indi's recent death: the over-reaching powers of the courts; the public's muted response; Indi's imposed euthanasia - and the temptation might be for us to focus on them. However, a person who looks at Indi's case with the eyes of faith will surely see beyond these things. A person of faith will see that Our Merciful Lord does not abandon those who are in need, and that he often bestows the most unexpected blessings and graces even in the midst of evil.

During the darkest moments of his ordeal, that is, in the midst of his legal battles with the British courts, Indi's father, Dean Gregory, discovered God. Dean's unexpected encounter with God is quite remarkable given that that he was never a man of faith. Dean confessed: *"I am not religious and I am not baptized. But when I was in court I felt like I had been dragged to hell. I thought that if hell exists, then heaven must also exist."* Dean went on to add: *"It was as if the devil was there. I thought that if the devil exists, then God must exist"* (my emphasis).

After acknowledging the reality of God, Dean also discovered the ultimate means by which he could save his dying baby girl. While his daughter was in the neonatal intensive care unit, a Christian volunteer told Dean that *"baptism protects you and opens the door to heaven for you."* Desiring Indi go to heaven, Dean had his terminally ill daughter baptized on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. As people of faith, can we have any doubt whatsoever that his little baby girl is with the Lord today, given that she died in her mother's arms in a perfect state of sinlessness? Unsurprisingly, Dean and his wife also decided to be baptized saying: *We want to be protected in this life and go to heaven."*

What can we learn from Indi's story? Through the great mystery of providence, our Almighty Lord in his infinite goodness and power can bring good out of evil. In a more eloquent way, St. Augustine remarked: *"For the Almighty God, Who, as even the heathen acknowledge, has supreme power over all things, being Himself supremely good, would never permit the existence of anything evil among His works, if He were not so omnipotent and good that He can bring good even out of evil."* While it is true that the secular forces were successful in carrying out their wicked schemes by euthanizing Indi through the removal of her life-support, nevertheless, through the gift of baptism, the Lord bestowed upon baby Indi the reward of eternal life. Indi's parents too received the incredible gift of faith: to know that God exists and that he is walking them in their journey of faith.

As we look around, it is easy to be overwhelmed by the sight and presence of so much evil in our world today. Maybe some of you are personally experiencing its effect in your own life. If that is the case, I encourage you not to despair or grow despondent. Instead, continue to keep your eyes on our Lord who can bring good out of evil. Do what the psalmist exhorts: *"Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this. Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes"* (Ps. 37:3-7).  
Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*

### Vocation Reflection



What will you say when you meet God face to face? Better still, what will God say to you? Will you be able to answer that you served faithfully? Can you answer that now? If God is calling you to the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life, 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)

### Stewardship Reflection



"Well done, good and trustworthy slave; enter into the joy of your master" are the beautiful words that all of us long to hear after a life of following Christ. If we want to hear that spoken to us at our judgement we must live in such a way that fully embraces the spirituality of stewardship. Let us ask ourselves, how well are we using our gifts for the glory of God and the Church?

*"Let us learn to cast our hearts into God."*

~St. Bernard~



**ShareLife:  
Your love puts food on the table**

**ShareLife** Your year-end gift will double in value!  
From now until December 31, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched up to \$500,000.

Through your unwavering support for ShareLife and its Food Security Grants, you ensure families can access meal programs and food banks throughout our archdiocese.

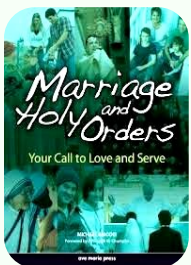
"We are so grateful ShareLife supporters are providing emergency funds to relieve the immediate challenges of families and individuals experiencing hunger," says Louise Coutu, Executive Director of the SSVP Greater Toronto Central Council.

**~Archdiocesan Consultation Underway~  
Your assistance is requested. Share Your  
Ideas to assist with future planning!**

Archbishop Francis Leo is inviting the Catholic community to share thoughts and ideas regarding future pastoral planning in the Archdiocese of Toronto. Feedback will help inform a renewed Pastoral Plan to be used in the years ahead. To learn more about the process, read the letter of invitation from the archbishop and complete the short survey by December 15, 2023, please visit: [www.archtoronto.org/consultation](http://www.archtoronto.org/consultation).



Please take a few minutes to share your insights and ideas. Thank you for your collaboration in this archdiocesan initiative.



**Spiritus York - Discerning a  
Life Long Call to Service**

Wednesday, November 22, 2023  
7-9 PM St. Peter's Church,  
100 Bainbridge, Woodbridge ON

Join Spiritus York (young adults ages 19-35) for a night on the Sacrament of Service - Marriage and Holy Orders. We will start the night with mass and then have a talk by Fr. Thomas Lim on discernment. You want to get married? Are you ready? How well do you know yourself? These are just some questions we need to ask ourselves. The talk will be followed by discussion and fellowship. Appetizers will be provided. We hope to see you there!



**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 19, 2023**

**My grandmother says Catholics used to fast from midnight until they received Communion. When did the fasting time change to only one hour, and why?**

The ancient discipline of fasting before Communion became a universal practice by the fifth century. Until 1953, those who would receive holy Communion refrained from consuming food, water, and medicine from midnight to the time of Communion. In 1953 and 1957, Pope Pius XII reduced the fast from food to three hours and from water for one hour (*Christus Dominus* and *Sacram Communionem*).

In 1966, Pope St. Paul VI further reduced the fast to one hour and allowed water and medicine at any time (*Paenitemini*). In 1973, he reduced the fast for the sick and elderly to fifteen minutes before Communion when one hour is prohibitive (*Immensae Caritatis*).

The loosening of the restrictions was in no way intended to lessen the reverence for the holy Eucharist. The changes were made to allow as many Catholics as possible to receive the Eucharist, which can be difficult when priests are in short supply. For the same reason, *Immensae Caritatis* also allowed the practice of having extraordinary ministers give Communion. Despite the changes to the Communion fast, unity and uniformity have been maintained. And of course, Catholics are free to fast before Communion beyond the duration and degree currently prescribed. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, 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**