# 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.

### **3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 21, 2024**

#### Mark 1:14-20



### "I will make you into fishers of men"

What is going on? In the Gospel of John the first two disciples joined Jesus down the Jordan Valley. One of them was Andrew, the other unnamed. Now we get another story, in another place, of other first disciples being called. So the Church underlines, on two days close together, the importance of Jesus' new community. The first thing he does is call disciples. He can't do everything on his own, and

that is the point of the Church. He calls disciples to make a new people, a new Israel. We all have our part to fill in Jesus' play (sometimes it seems like a pantomime), old, young, middle-aged. Tired old people, busy parents, lively youngsters, each of us can make a unique contribution, especially since Jesus has chosen us himself. An odd choice, some of us! What did he want ME to do in the new family of Jesus?

The double record shows that at least two different people told the story. When two people tell the same story, there are bound to be variations. The place didn't matter, or the order in which they were called. The point of the story was the call, the response and the companionship, working together.

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Con la Lettera apostolica in forma di Motu proprio "Aperuit illis", Papa Francesco ha stabilito che "la III Domenica del Tempo ordinario sia dedicata alla celebrazione, riflessione e divulgazione della Parola di Dio". Nel Vangelo di Marco è la prima predica di Gesù.

È brevissima, ma offre una sintesi felicissima dei temi fondamentali di tutta la sua predicazione: il compimento del tempo, il regno di Dio, la conversione, la fede al vangelo. Poi vi è la chiamata dei primi discepoli: è il paradigma concreto di ogni sequela.

Ci sono due indicativi teologici che sono la ragione dei due successivi imperativi antropologici: è suonata l'ora messianica, l'attesa è finita poiché il regno di Dio si è fatto vicino, è ormai presente nella storia, perciò non è più possibile rimandare la decisione, occorre convertirsi, cambiare cioè la testa e la direzione del cammino passando a credere al vangelo.

Conversione e fede non sono due azioni che si succedono, ma due momenti del medesimo movimento: quello negativo del distacco, quello positivo di fondare la vita sul vangelo, cioè credere, mettendosi a seguire Gesù, appunto come Simone e Andrea, Giacomo e Giovanni.

Vangelo è il termine greco che significa lieta notizia nuova, e una bella notizia evidentemente porta gioia. Il regno di Dio è l'espressione riassuntiva di tutta la gioia. Gesù è questo regno arrivato: la gioia è qui a portata di mano. Chi decide di seguire Gesù è sicuro di arrivarci anche lui.

"Do you want our Lord to give you many graces? Visit Him often. Do you want Him to give you few graces? Visit Him seldom. Visits to the Blessed Sacrament are powerful and indispensable means of overcoming the attacks of the devil. Make frequent visits to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and the devil will be powerless against you." ~ St. John Bosco ~



### **3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 21, 2024**



Dear Friends in Christ, each year when I begin my confirmation program for the grades seven students and older, I ask each candidate, who wish to enrol for the sacrament of confirmation, to briefly write me a "letter of enrolment." Their letter of enrolment should

contain information of who they are, what their interests are, and a brief reason why he/she wishes to celebrate the sacrament. Although I get many different kinds of answers to the final point, a good number of candidates often view confirmation as some kind of rite of passage. This final response should not be surprising given that confirmation is often celebrated by many students just as they are approaching the conclusion of their elementary school years. Nevertheless, confirmation is not this!

Confirmation is the second sacrament by which a baptized person continues his/her path of Christian initiation. The word confirmation, which comes from the Latin word, *confirmare*, means to strengthen. Through a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the baptismal grace is deepened, the baptized is strengthened and obliged to more firmly become a witness of Christ by word and deed and to spread and defend the faith (cf. can. 879).

The sacrament of confirmation is conferred by anointing with chrism on the forehead and the imposition of hands. The form, or words, prescribed in the liturgical books are: *"Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit"* (cf. can. 880 §1). The chrism oil must have been consecrated by a bishop (usually done within the Chrism Mass celebrated during the Holy Week), even if the sacrament is administered by a priest (cf. can. 880 §2)

The ordinary minister of confirmation is the bishop. A priest can also administer the sacrament, provided he has been given the faculty by the Church's common law or has been duly authorized to confirm. Priests also have the power to confirm those candidates whom they have instructed in the faith for baptism or full communion into the Catholic Church (e.g., through the RCIA program, Rite of Catholic Initiation of Adults). Just as the Church permits greater latitude in carrying out baptism in cases of death, the same is also true with confirmation. In danger of death the pastor, or <u>any priest</u>, has the faculty to confer the sacrament of confirmation.

The sacrament of confirmation, like baptism, imprints an indelible mark, or character, which cannot be erased nor removed. The indelible seal received in confirmation is really a new character and not merely just a deepening of the baptismal character. The character gives the baptized person the power to engage in spiritual battles against the enemies of faith, binds them more closely to the Church, and transforms them from being simple members of Christ's kingdom to becoming valiant soldiers of Christ.

Confirmation also bestows a variety of special graces to its recipients: 1. Since confirmation completes or "seals" the grace of baptism, a person receives the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in a special way. The person is empowered with the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of God (cf. Isa. 11:2). St. Aquinas calls these gifts "habits," "instincts" or "dispositions" given by God as supernatural aids to help men and women on their journey towards perfection. A person who properly exercises these gifts and puts them to good use will produce the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (cf. Gal. 5:22-23); 2. A person also receives a deepening of faith, that is, a more mature understanding of the Church and a greater sense of belonging to the Catholic community, thus helping him/her to grow in the knowledge and love of God; 3. A strengthening that prepares the person for witness and mission, that is, to openly profess, spread and defend their faith, by bearing witness to the Gospel through words and deeds.

As you can see, confirmation is an important sacrament in its own right and helps baptized Catholics along the journey of full initiation into the Catholic Church. Next week, I will touch upon the final sacrament of initiation, the sacrament of the Eucharist, or Holy Communion. Pax Christi, **7**r. **Thomas** 

### Day of Praying and Healing after Abortion : February 10, 2024

The Sisters of Life are hosting a Day of Prayer and Healing for women seeking healing after abortion. The day is an opportunity to experience the loving mercy of God and the joy of healing in Christ, in a confidential and sacred space. It will include a witness of mercy, a Scripture reflection, personal prayer, opportunity for Sacramental Confession, and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. There is no fee for the day, lunch will be provided.



CONTACT: The Sisters of Life TEL#: 4164632722 ~ EMAIL: toronto@sistersoflife.org ~ WEB: https://sistersoflife.org

### **3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 21, 2024**



### **Society of Saint Vincent de Paul St. Lawrence Martyr Conference**

Thank you, Parishioners of St Lawrence Martyr Church. In 2023, including Christmas, we were able to assist 276 families with food vouchers totaling \$30,037 and \$4,000 in new beds. May God bless your generosity!

The **LEGION OF MARY** is a lay apostolate providing voluntary services like bringing the Pilgrim Virgin statue to homes, arranging for the Enthronement of Sacred Heart of Jesus, visiting the sick/elderly, Hospital visit etc. If you wish to have any of the above services or be a part of us, please contact the Parish office

416-759-9359 or call 416-759-7004. Judith Rebello, President

Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday 6pm



## Vocation Reflection

The call of the disciples is so familiar to us that we tend to miss Vocations the wonder of the disciples'

response, which was immediate and complete; they leave everything and follow Jesus. Can we do less if we feel that God is calling us to the priesthood, religious life or deaconate? If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416~968~0997.

> www.vocationstoronto.ca Email vocations@archtoronto.org

## Stewardship Reflection

As Jesus calls the apostles, He uses their own language by inviting them to be "fishers of people."



There is a deep spiritual insight that can be gleaned from this, namely, that Christ uses what we bring to the table to serve Him and the Church. This is the heart of stewardship, so let us reflect on our own gifts and graciously heed the call of Christ to become "fishers of people," each in our own way.

"Do not have Jesus Christ on your lips, and the world in your heart." ~St. Ignatius of Antioch~



Children born in 2020 are eligible to register for the September 2024 school year.

Registration opens January 24, 2024 at 10 am. For more information visit

Kindergarten Registration | Toronto Catholic District School Board (tcdsb.org)



#### January 21, 2024

While on vacation, I attended Mass at a church where many people left right after Communion. Why would they do this?

Canon law says the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass on Sundays and other holy days. We are expected to attend the entire Mass.

A misunderstanding of this law may be traced to a pre-Vatican II teaching. Some theologians taught that the Mass had three main parts: offertory, consecration, and Communion. Some people reasoned that their obligation would be fulfilled by attending only those parts of the Mass. They felt justified in coming late and leaving early.

This changed with the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). The Mass is divided into four sections (introductory rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, concluding rite), and Christ is present throughout the Mass. Attending Mass means being there from the processional hymn through the recessional hymn.

Some people have valid reasons for leaving Mass early, such as feeling ill or taking a crying child from church. Perhaps they are traveling and need to get to the airport on time. Still, I also wonder why there is a great exodus before the Mass has ended in some churches. In my opinion, people who are in the habit of leaving early should reconsider that practice.

Fr. Victor Karls, CSsR / DearPadre.org

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK:



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

