

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.

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 17, 2024

John 12:20-33



“If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest”

This moving gospel reading is the immediate prelude to the account of the Last Supper and the Passion. It is full of Jesus' dread and confidence at what he knows is approaching. In the gospel of John there is no agony in the garden before Jesus' arrest, for in John the story of the Passion is so shaped that it is clearly the triumph of the Son of man. There is no mention of humiliation or mockery. Jesus remains in control from the beginning, when he permits the guards to take him into custody, till the end, when he calls out that he is ready to die, 'It is complete'. This is all the hour of the exaltation of the Son of man, when Jesus is raised up in every sense. All the more important, then, for John to show before the Passion that the cost for Jesus was real, with this little dialogue in prayer between Jesus and his Father. This is John's equivalent of the prayer in the garden. The second reading from Hebrews shows that there were in early Christianity strong but slightly variant traditions of Jesus' prayer before his Passion. All express his very human fear, his unshakable commitment to his task and his loving confidence in his Father's care.

Il brano del Vangelo odierno segue immediatamente la narrazione dell'ingresso trionfale del Signore a Gerusalemme. Tutti sembrano averlo accolto: persino alcuni Greci, di passaggio, andarono a rendergli omaggio.

Questo è il contesto in cui Giovanni comincia il racconto della Passione. Come in natura, il chicco di grano muore per generare una nuova vita, così Gesù, con la sua morte, riconduce tutto quanto al Padre. Non è l'acclamazione del popolo che farà venire il Regno, ma il consenso del Padre. Il ministero e l'insegnamento di Gesù testimoniano che egli è venuto da parte del Padre. Aprirci a lui, significa passare dalla conoscenza di quanto egli ha detto o fatto all'accettazione della fede. La voce venuta dal cielo ci riporta alla Trasfigurazione (cf. la seconda domenica di Quaresima). Ma qui, chi sente questa voce, o non la riconosce per nulla, o la percepisce come una vaga forma di approvazione. Eppure tale conferma era proprio destinata a loro. Questo è anche un richiamo per noi: se non siamo pronti ad ascoltare la parola di Dio, anche noi resteremo insensibili.

Tutti coloro che vogliono seguire Cristo, che accettano questa nuova via, scelgono di porsi al servizio di Cristo e di camminare al suo fianco. Il significato pregnante di queste parole - essere sempre con lui dovunque egli sia - ci è stato presentato nell'insegnamento e nel nutrimento spirituale della Quaresima. All'avvicinarsi della celebrazione dei misteri pasquali, portiamo in noi la certezza che servire Cristo significa essere onorati dal Padre.

Pray for Vocations *Vocation Reflection* Unless a seed first dries out and dies, it cannot be planted in the earth to grow. Unless we die to our selfish ways, we cannot expect to be people who will “lay down their lives for their friends”. If you think God is calling you to lay down your life as a priest, religious or deacon for His Church, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. www.vocationstoronto.ca Email vocations@archtoronto.org

Stewardship Reflection In the first reading, God tells the prophet Jeremiah, “But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” For the Lord to insist on writing the law on our hearts, He implies that this covenant will be extremely personal and intimate. Let us strive to go to Him and bear our heart to Him, that we may be able to grow deeper in relationship with Christ.



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 MARCH 16TH – SABATO

5:00 P.M. + Bill & Wanda Kaczmarczyk

SUNDAY MARCH 17TH – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. - For All Our Parishioners

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Intenzioni di Vito e Elisabetta Barbieri
Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia - Tony Lamanna
Antonio Savella - Leonello Pecorari
Defunti famiglie De Ciantis e Mastroianni
Marino D'Attolico - Benito Cortese - Maria D'Addario
Agostino Battaglia e defunti famiglie Battaglia e
Garofalo - Totonno e Rosaria Francella - Giuseppe
Canini e famiglia - Giovanna e Dolcino Alimonti
Vito e Mike Cuoppolo - Maria Di Stefano
Francesco Ferrante - Maria, Lorenzo e Giovanna
Romanguolo - Antonio e Felicetta Romanguolo
Dora Cuoppolo - Leonardo Racioppo - Carmela e
Domenico e Nipote Domenico Piroso

11:30 A.M. - Marylou Gaerlan

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

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

MONDAY MARCH 18TH – LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. + Ramon Pardilla

12:00 P.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY MARCH 19TH – MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. - Arthur Hare

12:00 P.M. - Kau Lam Leung & Family

WEDNESDAY MARCH 20TH – MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. + Elvira Fugaccia

+ Victor Cruz

+ Magdalene & John F Labrador

12:00 P.M. - Steven Griffith

THURSDAY MARCH 21ST – GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. - Marie de Souza

8:30 A.M. + Joseph N Hung & Matta H Phan

FRIDAY MARCH 22ND – VENERDI

8:30 A.M. + Jose & Petra Cruz

7:00 P.M. - Colette De Ruiter

SATURDAY MARCH 23RD – SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Vicente Gaerlan

10:00 A.M. - Joseph Leung



Offertory - Last Weekend:
Regular Collections \$5,532.30
Easter Flowers \$2,128.00



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 17, 2024



Dear Friends in Christ, over the years in my priestly ministry, many people of different ages, and from all walks of life, have asked me to help them discern and live God's will in the face of various trials, tribulations, pain and suffering. A particular scenario that some people experience involves the gut-wrenching pain of infertility. The question that I am invariably asked, by a few couples, is whether it is permissible for them to use different reproductive technologies such as in vitro fertilization (IVF), as a means to address their painful reality? Given that IVF can help couples achieve pregnancy and "make" babies, it can be tempting to justify or even condone its use. Yet, there is an ugly, hidden reality to IVF that is unbeknownst to many people, including sincere and faithful Catholics. When I find myself in such a sensitive and delicate pastoral situation, I try to help unmask this fact by offering them the Church's teachings in truth and charity.

In the Genesis creation account, we read that after God created Adam and Eve in their own "image and likeness", he commanded them to *"Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth"* (Gen 1:28). The Church has always interpreted God's commandment to *"be fruitful and multiple"* as a call to procreate and to participate in God's creative power to bring new life into the world. This call, of course, must be performed by a husband and a wife through the conjugal act, within the context of love and marriage. While it is true that IVF does successfully "make" babies, it does so in a dehumanizing manner, with the child conceived outside of the marital act and within a hospital or laboratory. Moreover, there is an incalculable cost that is attached with every successful conception; the ill-treatment, or worst, the destruction of innumerable embryonic children.

Recently I came across an article titled, "Experts warn of 'inhumane' treatment of embryos." In it, an expert provided the following description of how IVF works: *"In a normal in vitro fertilization process, clinicians will create anywhere between 15 to 20 embryos at a time. The embryos are tested for genetic issues, and parents have the opportunity to choose the sex of the baby. After this, wanted embryos are either implanted into the intended mother or frozen for a later time... [with unwanted embryos] routinely destroyed or donated to science, where they are also later destroyed after having inhumane testing done to them."* The same article estimates that between **400,00 and 1.5 million frozen embryos are currently being preserved in U.S. laboratories** today. These numbers are not only mind-boggling to say the least, but they are truly significant since the majority of people fail to realize that these embryonic children, who are created in the "image" and "likeness" of God, find themselves "living" in an untenable state of existence.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, found in the Gospel of Luke, Jesus taught us how to relate to each other irrespective of our state in life. In the parable, "my neighbour" is essentially every human being, who has been created in God's image and thus possess an inherent dignity. What this means is that every human being must be respected as a person from the very instant of her existence until the end of her life. This applies not only to those who are born into the world but also those yet to be born.

The Church has continually taught about the inherent rights given to embryonic children. In the Declaration on Procured Abortion, she wrote: *"From the time that the ovum is fertilized, a new life is begun which is neither that of the father nor of the mother; it is rather the life of a new human being with his own growth. It would never be made human if it were not human already. To this perpetual evidence ... modern genetic science brings valuable confirmation. It has demonstrated that, from the first instant, the programme is fixed as to what this living being will be: a man, this individual-man with his characteristic aspects already well determined. Right from fertilization is begun the adventure of a human life, and each of its great capacities requires time ... to find its place and to be in a position to act".* In *Donum Vitae* ("Instruction on Respect for Human Life in Its Origin and on the Dignity of Procreation", which was issued on February 22, 1987), the Church taught that ***"The human being is to be respected and treated as a person from the moment of conception; and therefore from that same moment his rights as a person must be recognized, among which in the first place is the inviolable right of every innocent human being to life. Since the embryo must be treated as a person, it must also be defended in its integrity, tended and cared for, to the extent possible, in the same way as any other human being as far as medical assistance is concerned"*** (DV 3). All the Church's teachings can be synthesized to the simple principle that once a life has been conceived, it must be protected with the utmost care, including embryonic children. One of the reasons why the Church opposes the use of IVF is that the process kills a great number of children at the embryonic stage.

There is no doubt that the desire to have children and to become parents is a very noble one to have. The birth of a child is undoubtedly an incredibly joyful experience for those parents who are able to conceive. Conversely, the reality of infertility is an incredibly painful experience for many couples who are unable to conceive. While the vitro fertilization process with all its tantalizing power to "create" a child in a hospital or a lab might appear to be the answer for many infertile couples, nevertheless, let us not forget the countless embryonic children who suffer gravely during the process - who because of their lack of voices are the most defenseless of souls, utterly unable to defend and protect themselves in any way.

Let us pray for the countless couples, who have experienced, or are currently experiencing the painful reality of infertility in their respective marriage. Let us pray that they may receive the grace to patiently embrace their cross, and that they may learn to unite their own suffering with the Passion of Christ, thus making it redemptive both for themselves and the world at large.

Pax Christi, *Jr. Thomas*

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 17, 2024



LENT Friday Schedule:

8:30 am - English Mass
 9:00 am - 5:45 pm
 * Eucharistic Adoration *
 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
 Confessions
 6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross
 7:00 pm - Latin Mass

HOLY WEEK & EASTER:

Parish CONFESSION Days:

March 22, 2024
 9AM - 7PM Friday
 March 27, 2024
 1PM - 6PM Wednesday

Palm Sunday:

Regular Sunday Mass

Holy Thursday:

3:30 PM - Latin
 7:00 PM - English
 Adoration of the Blessed
 Sacrament until 12Midnight

Good Friday:

11:00 AM - English
 1:00 PM - Italian
 3:00 PM - English
 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross
 8:00 PM - Latin

Saturday Vigil:

No Saturday 5 PM Mass
 8:00 PM - English

Easter Sunday:

8:30 AM - English
 10:00 AM - Italian
 11:30 AM - English
 1:00 PM - Latin
 No Sunday 5 PM Mass

PRAYER FOR THE SICK:

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



"Make sickness itself a Prayer"
 ~St Francis de Sales~

This Weekend is ShareLife Sunday



ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection
 for our parish's annual campaign.



Every day, young people in our community need a helping hand due to homelessness, trafficking, or violence. ShareLife agencies ensure the safety of youth fleeing violent homes and provide them a supportive place to stay. This is all made possible thanks to amazing people like you who choose to support ShareLife. We thank you for your kindness and generosity. **Our parish goal this year is \$41,800.**

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.



Needs of the Holy Land Special Collection on Good Friday, March 29, 2024 :

Our collection today is a Pontifical request for the Holy Land in support of Christian communities, the works of the Holy Land and the upkeep of Holy Sites. Let us give generously to respond to the needs of the Church in the land of Jesus.

Estate Planning Presentation from a Catholic Perspective on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00 P.M. SLM Parish



Attend to find out:

- How to avoid problems in your Will, with the PoA & through proper Estate Trustee selection
 - How to create your personal Catholic legacy
- ⇒ About our Catholic traditions around cremation, burials and funerals

3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

1. scan QR code (see bulletin board)
2. send an email to: StLawrenceMartyr@archtoronto.org and write "estate planning" in the title line + your name(s) or
3. call 416 759 9359

Dear Padre March 17, 2024



What is the difference between temptation and sin?

The temptations of Jesus, as they are recorded in the Gospels (Mark 1:12, Luke 4:1, and Matthew 4:1), give us the proper direction with regard to sin and temptation. Jesus was tempted three times, but he did not sin. More than that, Jesus put his trust in God during the temptations. Jesus' message is clear: if you feel tempted, call out to God!

The Church teaches that sin is a deliberative process. Temptation is something that happens to you without your consent: a thought or desire pops into your mind. For temptation to become a sin, you have to entertain that thought or desire, or plan to act on it, or do it. That's when temptation "turns a corner" and becomes sin.

Although the sacrament of penance is available throughout the year, the Church places a special emphasis on it during Lent. There may be a communal penance service in your area. Perhaps you can commit now to participating in the service. If it's been a while since you've been to confession or you're not sure what to do or say, just tell the priest. He will show you. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



**JOIN our PASTOR
 FR. THOMAS LIM
 for a 12-day**

**Pilgrimage to Mexico
 Aug 22 - Sep 2, 2024**

Visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Sites from the lives of the Cristeros Saints and many more!

Flyers/Registration forms are found at the lobby of the Church and SLM website.



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