

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:

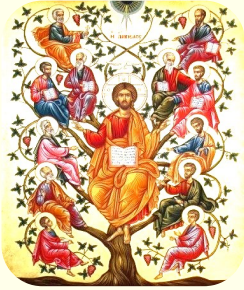
Visitation and/or Holy Communion for the sick upon request.

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 EASTER – APRIL 28, 2024

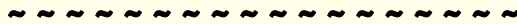
John 15:1-8



“I am the Vine, you are the branches...”

The vine had long been a beloved symbol of Israel. It was used by Isaiah 5:1-7 to express the LORD's complaint at the unresponsiveness of Israel. It was used by Ezekiel 15 in his painstaking unpicking of the proud symbols of Israel. It was used by Jesus in the parable of the Wicked Vine-dressers (Mark 12:1-12) to shame the irresponsible current leaders of Israel. Now, in the Last Supper discourse, on the way to Gethsemane it acquires a new dimension, the pain of pruning. However, the suffering of Jesus is not the principal point here: disciples of Jesus must be prepared to bear the pain of pruning.

The image is a powerful one. To an uninstructed onlooker the wretched, seemingly lifeless twigs left on the vines appear totally unable to burgeon in a few months into the rich harvest of grapes. The most powerful of all the aspects of the symbol is the sap pulsing through those apparently dead branches. There is all the difference in the world between those docked shoots and the dead twigs scattered on the ground. Investigation into the heresies and divisions, the trials and persecutions symbolised by such pruning is all very well, but adherence to the vine, to Christ himself, alone gives life to the Church.



Nei discorsi di addio del Vangelo secondo san Giovanni (capitoli 13-17) l'evangelista prende spunto dalle parole di Gesù per riflettere, con il carisma che gli è proprio, sulla vita dei credenti dal tempo dell'Ascensione al ritorno del Signore. Egli si riconosce talmente legato al Signore attraverso lo Spirito di Dio che parla ai suoi ascoltatori e ai suoi lettori usando l'“io” di Cristo. Per mezzo della sua voce, il Signore rivela a coloro che credono in lui qual è la loro situazione, ordinando loro di agire in modo giusto.

È durante la festa liturgica delle domeniche che vanno da Pasqua alla Pentecoste che la Chiesa propone alla lettura questi discorsi, per mostrare ai credenti cos'è infine importante per la loro vita. Attraverso un paragone, il Signore ci rivela oggi che tutti quelli che gli sono legati mediante la fede vivono in vera simbiosi. Come i tralci della vite, che sono generati e nutriti dalla vite stessa, noi cristiani siamo legati in modo vitale a Gesù Cristo nella comunità della Chiesa. Vi sono molte condizioni perché la forza vitale e la grazia di Cristo possano portare i loro frutti nella nostra vita: ogni tralcio deve essere liberato dai germogli superflui, deve essere sano e reagire in simbiosi fertile con la vite.

Per mezzo del battesimo, Cristo ci ha accolti nella sua comunità. E noi siamo stati liberati dai nostri peccati dalla parola sacramentale di Cristo. La grazia di Cristo non può agire in noi che nella misura in cui noi la lasciamo agire. La Provvidenza divina veglierà su di noi e si prenderà cura di noi se saremo pronti. Ma noi non daremo molti frutti se non restando attaccati alla vite per tutta la vita. Cioè: se viviamo coscienziosamente la nostra vita come membri della Chiesa di Cristo. Poiché, agli occhi di Dio, ha valore duraturo solo ciò che è compiuto in seno alla comunità, con Gesù Cristo e nel suo Spirito: “Senza di me non potete far nulla”. Chi l'ha riconosciuto, può pregare Dio di aiutarlo affinché la sua vita sia veramente fertile nella fede e nell'amore.



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 APRIL 27TH – SABATO

5:00 P.M. - The Tisseverasinghe Family

SUNDAY APRIL 28TH – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. - Eden Ricardo

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Intenzioni di Vito e Elisabetta Barbieri

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia - Leonello Pecorari

Marino D'Attolico - Vito e Mike Cuoppolo

Vincenza Di Tacchio - Felice e Raffaele Vitro

Rosa e Vito Totinno - Maria Di Stefano

Maria Ugenia Colangelo - Mattea e Pasquale

Colangelo - Matteo e Maria Lombardi - Michele Morra

Felicetta Volpe - Antonino Tuccitto e famiglia

Vincenzo Pitino e famiglia

11:30 A.M. + Orlando Gaerlan

1:00 P.M. - Pro Popolo

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

MONDAY APRIL 29TH – LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. + Julian Pasana Solomon

12:00 P.M. + Lumina Dominguez

TUESDAY APRIL 30TH – MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. - Xavier Johnpulle

12:00 P.M. - Kevin Navarro

WEDNESDAY MAY 1ST – MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. + Emily & Herbert Lobo

+ Aurea Abas

+ Felicitas James Nicholas

- Fr. Melito Dias

- Albertos Polizogopoulos

12:00 P.M. + Sydney, Irene & Anne de Souza

THURSDAY MAY 2ND – GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. - Marian Ella de Pilar Reyno

8:30 A.M. - Ursula Lauren Hare

FRIDAY MAY 3RD – VENERDI

8:30 A.M. + Michelina Colangelo

7:00 P.M. + Valerie D'Vauz

SATURDAY MAY 4TH – SABATO

8:30 A.M. - Esllyn Ramsbotham

10:00 A.M. - Ellen Mariano



Offertory - Last Week:

Sunday Collection : \$5,048.90



“Quiet is the first step in our sanctification.” ~ St. Basil

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 28, 2024



Dear Friends in Christ, last Sunday (the fourth in Eastertide) was the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, and given that the Gospel reading came from St. John the Evangelist, it is also traditionally called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” I am sure that throughout the world, many priests and deacons preached about the need and importance of priestly vocations, especially during our confusing, irreligious times; that is to say, on the need to pray that the Lord might send more labourers into the harvest (Mt. 9:37-38). Perhaps there is no place where an infusion of new priestly vocations is more needed than in Europe, where I just returned from recently after a few days of respite. Yet, please forgive me if I do not speak about this perennial need that is not only true there, but also for so many Archdioceses/dioceses throughout the world. My thoughts instead turn to an important question that seems to confuse many faithful today: what does it mean to be a member of Jesus’ flock?

In the Good Shepherd discourse, Jesus told his disciples, *“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this flock. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd”* (John 10:14-16). The fact that the Lord continually seeks and calls many people who are “outside” the Church to become part of the Faith is especially relevant during our Easter Season. In fact, if you have been reading the last few Corners, I have presented for your reflections the faith journeys of a number of individuals, who recently entered the Church during this year’s Easter Saturday Vigil Mass celebrated at our parish.

Wendy, Zoe, and Robert have all graciously shared with us their various challenges, misconceptions, difficulties, struggles, etc., which they experienced in their personal life, before accepting the Lord’s invitation to “come home” and receive the gift of faith; a decision that was filled at times with great oppositions or challenges coming from some of the members of their families, friends and acquaintances. Unsurprisingly, their “fiat” was not an exception. If you scroll through social media, there are many other interesting stories of people from all walks of life, who have also said “yes” to the Lord. These include, for example, Bree Solstad (read, *“Former porn actress embraces Catholic faith after trip to Italy that changed her life”*), Tammy Peterson (see, YouTube video, *“Ten months to live...”*), and Candace Owens (an American conservative political commentator, author, activist, and television presenter, who just became Catholic this past week) to name just a few. Although they once belonged to the group of *“other sheep that do not belong to this flock”*, nevertheless the Lord through his divine tenderness and solicitous love brought them all into his fold.

It is important to state, however, that saying “yes” is only the first step! To be truly part of Jesus’ flock - and to remain faithfully united to him - requires that each person remains united to him in fidelity, love and truth. In fact, in the same Gospel passage, Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd. The adjective John uses is *kalós*, a Greek term that can mean both “good” and “beautiful”. For the Greeks, both the beautiful and the good are associated with the true. Thus, when Jesus says “I am the good (or beautiful) Shepherd”, he is also effectively saying that He is “the truth” (cf. Varden, 4th Sunday of Easter Homily).

Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life (Jn 14:6), is the *“door of the sheepfold.”* Everyone who wishes to be part of his flock must not only pass through this door of truth, but remain grounded in the truth. This reality, however, is no easy feat given that we live in a world that is profoundly wounded by sin. As Bishop Varden so aptly stated: *“Sin is a state of vulnerability to falsehood. Even small sins nibble away at truth, be it by dissimulating it. The tighter sin fixes its grip on us, the more we shall find the truth as such odious.”* (4th Sunday of Easter homily).

That the truth is becoming more odious to some is clearly seen within our Church today. They come in all kinds of stripes: politicians, members of our presbyterate (even those in leadership roles), ordinary lay people, religious, etc. The sad reality is that too many, who call themselves Catholics and profess being part of the Lord’s flock, either have rejected part or all of Christ’s teachings (e.g., morality, teachings on sexuality, etc.) as they have been handed down to us through various means, such as the Catechism, Sacred Scripture, magisterial teachings, etc. To be a member of Christ’s flock means that we cannot pick and choose those teachings that are acceptable to us. Rather, it means that we must embrace all of Our Lord’s teachings, particularly when they are too difficult to understand, accept or live according to!

And what about ourselves? Can we truly say that we belong to the flock of Christ? Have we remain steadfastly united to him in fidelity, in love, and above all, in truth? Or have we chosen to accept and embrace only those teachings of Christ that we find palatable and acceptable to our taste?

Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*



**Reverend
Daniel Lee**

Priestly
Ordination
Mass

St. Michael’s
Cathedral
May 11,
2024
10:00 AM



*You are
invited
to join*

**Father
Daniel Lee**

As he offers
his
First Solemn
Mass of
Thanksgiving
on

Ascension
Sunday,
May 12th
2024 at
11:30 am

St. Lawrence
Martyr
Parish
2210

Lawrence
Ave East,
Scarborough

(Pot luck
reception
follows
Church Hall)

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 28, 2024

Dear Padre

April 28, 2024

Several months ago my son died in a tragic car accident. Life, work, family, and even religion seem so meaningless now. How can I find my way back?

You have suffered a great loss. When you are able, you can choose to live in a way that will respect both your son's memory and your own ongoing life. Here are a few gentle steps that might help.

- Expect to feel numb at first. This is nature's way of helping you deal with your loss. Keep following the normal patterns of your life and, eventually, meaning will return.
- Allow your friends to help. "Sorrows shared are sorrows lessened."
- If you are sad, let the tears come! Even Jesus cried at the death of his friend Lazarus (John 11:32-35).
- If you are angry, look for a healthy release. Focus the energy of your anger into productive work, even if it's just doing dishes or yard work.
- Use your experience to help others. While helping others, the Lord often reveals to us the meaning of our own losses.
- Don't be afraid to seek professional help. A therapist has the expertise to help you talk about your loss and cope with your grief.
- Pray for yourself, for your son, for all whose lives he touched, for all those who are grieving.
- After you have done everything you can, leave your loss in God's hands. The Lord will do for you what you cannot do for yourself. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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~

Vocation Reflection

Our second Scripture reading reminds us that we are to love, not in word and speech only, but in truth and action. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Stewardship Reflection

In today's Gospel Jesus says "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me." We can abide in Jesus by placing ourselves in His presence whenever we pray and He likewise abides in us, especially through receiving Him in the Eucharist. This close relationship with Jesus is where our stewardship originates and is sustained so let us never fail to go to Him before we offer up our time and talents to the parish.



St. Lawrence Martyr Church
EDGE MINISTRY
Are you going to Grade 5-8?
 You are invited to join us for our edge nights filled with faith, food and fun!
 Dates: April 26 / May 17 / June 14
 Time: 7 P M
 Location: Church Hall
 Contact: stlawrenceedge@gmail.com

What is Edge? EDGE is a Catholic youth ministry program designed for young people in grades 5-8. It aims to create a supportive and enjoyable environment where youth can learn, grow, and explore their faith.

Purpose and Community:

- EDGE promotes a sense of belonging within the Body of Christ as Catholic Christians.
- It fosters community by creating a fun, safe, in-person environment where young people can discover some of the riches of the Catholic Faith.

Remember, EDGE is not just about learning; it's about building faith, friendships, and encountering Christ .

JOIN US

April 26 } 7PM
 May 17 }
 June 14 }

All youth in grades 5-8 are welcome to participate!

"Evil draws its power from indecision and concern for what other people think."

~ Pope Benedict XVI ~



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