

# St. Lawrence Martyr Church

2210 LAWRENCE AVE E. SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO, M1P 2P9

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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.**

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – MAY 12, 2024

*“Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News...”*

**Mark 16:15-20**



This final blessing on the mission of the disciples summarizes events narrated in the Acts of the Apostles, events which show the power of the Spirit at work in their mission. Finally the account of the Ascension itself is given, modelled on the account given in the Acts, the assurance of the power of Christ which stands behind all the works of his followers and believers. Most of these activities would not be expected in today's Church, but the first and the last are still the task of the Church. Casting out evil spirits and healing may not be done so dramatically as in the gospel miracles, but it is still the Christian's task to bring goodness where there is evil and healing where there are wounds. We

have many opportunities in the course of the day either to foment anger and enmity or to soothe it, opportunities to roughen a wound or to smooth it down. As we know from our failures to do this, such works are the works of the Spirit of Christ, supporting our own weakness and triumphing over our own leanings towards evil.

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La missione della Chiesa è presieduta da Gesù Cristo risorto, salito al cielo e intronizzato Signore alla destra del Padre. L'ascensione e l'invio degli apostoli sono inseparabili. Tra gli undici (Giuda il traditore ha seguito un altro cammino), inviati da Gesù e beneficiari della sua promessa fedele e potente, si trovano anche i successori degli apostoli e la Chiesa intera. Gesù ci invia, ci accompagna e ci dà la forza. Noi non siamo dei volontari spontanei, ma degli inviati. Appoggiandoci su Gesù Cristo vincitore della morte, possiamo obbedire quotidianamente al suo ordine di missione nella serenità e nella speranza.

Gli apostoli sono i messaggeri di una Parola che tocca l'uomo nel centro della sua vita. Il Vangelo, affidato alla Chiesa, ci dà una risposta definitiva: se crediamo, siamo salvati, se rifiutiamo di credere o alziamo le spalle, siamo perduti. Attraverso la fede, che è il sì dato dall'uomo a Dio, noi riceviamo la vita.

Il Signore conferma la predicazione degli apostoli con molti segni; e segni accompagnano anche i credenti. Attraverso questi segni, diversi e coesenti alla missione della Chiesa, Dio vuole garantire la sua azione in coloro che egli ha inviato e invita tutti gli uomini ad abbandonare ciò che è visibile e quindi attraente per il mistero della salvezza.



**The Ascension is  
NOT JESUS GOING AWAY;  
IT IS JESUS ASSUMING  
HIS POSITION AS LEADER  
OF THE CHURCH'S LIFE.**

~Bishop Robert Barron~



### 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 MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO

5:00 P.M. + JB Lafrance & E Richard

#### SUNDAY MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. - Marylou Gaerlan

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Franco e Elisabetta Sinopoli e famiglia

Vito De Nardo e famiglia-Giovanna Costantino

Lucia Cuoppolo - Maria Ciciretto

Defunti famiglie Longo e Tamburro

Vito e Mike Cuoppolo – Maria Di Stefano

Maria, Vincenzo e Vito Ciraco – Annarosa,

FilomeneMaddalena Volpe-Carmela Cuoppolo

Ani Paladian- Philip Lavorgna – Maria Rigillo

Clementina Colangelo – Maria Baroni

Emma Francesci—Agata Lopresti-Costantino

Marco, Edda e defunti famiglie Carlevaris e

Nevodini - L'Anime del Purgatorio

11:30 A.M. - For All Our Parishioners

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. + Conchita Cabalicasan

#### MONDAY MAY 13<sup>TH</sup> – LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. + Venerable Edil Quinn

12:00 P.M. - Otto Lam & Family

#### TUESDAY MAY 14<sup>TH</sup> – MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. + Belen & Eugenio Solitario

12:00 P.M. - Fr. Russell Asch

#### WEDNESDAY MAY 15<sup>TH</sup> – MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. + Ricardo Sta Anna

+ Teresita B. Narvas

+ Rose Alas Bendebel

12:00 P.M. - Fr. Russell Asch

#### THURSDAY MAY 16<sup>TH</sup> – GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. - Latin Mass Servers

8:30 A.M. + Jose & Avelina Tumaliuan

#### FRIDAY MAY 17<sup>TH</sup> – VENERDI

8:30 A.M. + Remedios Dipasupil

7:00 P.M. + Luisa Saguinging

#### SATURDAY MAY 18<sup>TH</sup> – SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Geraldine Senewiratne

10:00 A.M. + Ossie.Swarma Amereskere



Offertory - Last Week:

Sunday Collection : \$5,673.00

Pope's P Works: \$4,139.80



## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – MAY 12, 2024



Dear Friends in Christ, this past week I had the opportunity to attend our Archdiocese's annual priestly retreat at Nottawasaga Inn in New Tecumseth, about one hour and a half away from our parish. Our retreat master was the French priest and author, Father Jacques Philippe, who is renowned for his profound spiritual writings and teachings. His books, which covers such themes as prayer, interior freedom, and peace of heart, have been translated into 18 languages and sold more than 400,000 copies throughout the world.

The theme for our retreat was on the *"Spiritual Fatherhood of the Priesthood."* Fr. Philippe began by stating that some people might reject the theme for a number of reasons: the recent sexual abuse scandals committed by some priests on those entrusted to their pastoral care; the biblical image that traditionally portrays pastors as shepherds of souls after the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd; the grace of ordination, which configures the ordained man to become an *"Alter Christus"*, an icon of Christ. Nevertheless, Fr. Philippe said that the theme of spiritual fatherhood was a legitimate and acceptable one, especially when it is seen through the actions of St. Paul, who applied the term to himself particularly in his writings to the Corinthians: *"Even if you had ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel. Therefore, I urge you to imitate me"* (1 Cor. 4:15-16).

One of the epidemic problems that is inflicting many of our families today is the lack of a true father figure. While the causes of this problem goes beyond the scope of this Corner, what is clearly obvious for everyone to see are the many social consequences that children suffer, when a father figure is missing in their lives. The consequences include, for example: increased risk of delinquency; emotional and psychological impacts such as low self-esteem, higher rates of anxiety and depression; greater educational challenges that leads to lower rates of future success; higher risk of poverty and increased frequency of teenage pregnancy, just to name a few. Fr. Philippe, however, offered another kind of suffering that inflicts many people within our community. He said: *"Where there is no fatherhood, there is no mercy."*

Fr. Philippe directly attributed the rise of the absence of spiritual fatherhood to atheism. He noted that atheism promotes the lie that the greatest obstacle to a person's happiness is the existence of God. A person who wants to be happy must effectively put God to death. Yet, experience tells us that a person does not gain freedom and happiness with the elimination of God; rather, what she inevitably suffers is the loss of reason. Or, as Fr. Philippe puts it: *"When man loses faith little by little, he loses wisdom."* Unfortunately, the tragic consequences of the loss of wisdom are on full display for everyone to see today!

In the Parable of the Prodigal Son, also known as the Parable of the Lost Son, Jesus offers us of the most beautiful portrayal of a father who was present to his children. The young son, after squandering all of his father's wealth in reckless living and finding himself in great need and hunger decides to return home, hoping to work as a hired hand for his father. Upon his return, his father greets him with an incredible response - a reception whereby the father accepts his son with open arms and throws a great feast to celebrate his return. Despite committing the gravest transgressions against his father, the young son did not receive condemnation but unconditional mercy. Although only a story, Jesus' parable ultimately reflects the compassionate and forgiving nature of the Father and his willingness to readily embrace any child, who might have strayed away from his home.

In his reflection, Fr. Philippe asked us to imagine the same story, but this time to envision the absence of the father; that is, let us suppose that God is dead. How would Jesus' parable look like? Well, the story would undoubtedly be quite different. Upon his return home, the young son would not find the welcoming embrace of his father. Instead the son would find an empty house, with all its doors flung wide opened and the wind blowing through the unlatched windows. There would be no one to welcome him; no one to embrace him; no one to lavish forgiveness upon him. There would be no father figure to tell him that there is a place at his home, where he can be himself; where he can free and happy! *"Where there is no fatherhood, there is no mercy."*

The point Fr. Philippe wants to make is that when a person makes a mistake, what he ultimately seeks is a new possibility to live and be happy. To be forgiven for one's sin, however, requires the existence of fatherhood that comes from God, because in the end no man can forgive himself. When God is declared dead, the results are tragic. There is: no one to meet you; no one to tell you that you are my son/daughter; no one to tell you that you have a place in the kingdom reserved especially for you! *"Where there is no fatherhood, there is no mercy."*

As I reflected upon Fr. Philippe's words through the prism of my own life, I cannot help but marvel at how incredibly generous God has been to me. Many years ago, I was effectively the prodigal son, for I had essentially left the Father's house in order to live a life of sin. Yet, in God's solicitude, I received the grace to return home and experience the tender mercy of the Father in the sacrament of reconciliation. To have a God, as Father, is a great gift and not a burden or oppression. Perhaps even more incredible is the fact that for the last fifteen years, I have had the great privilege and power as a priest to dispense the mercy of God, that is, to say to another, "I absolve you from your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!" What a privilege to not only experience the mercy of God personally, but to also shower it abundantly upon his children.

Just imagine a life without the presence of the Father. *"Where there is no fatherhood, there is no mercy."* Without the forgiveness of sins, life would be an incredible burden. May we always offer prayers of thanksgiving to our loving Father, who continues to bestow his mercy upon us. Pax Christi, Fr. Thomas

# THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – MAY 12, 2024

## Dear Padre

May 12, 2024

**What were the main changes brought about by the Second Vatican Council?**

It has been sixty years since the Second Vatican Council and we are still learning from what Pope John Paul II called the "fundamental event in the contemporary Church" and "the constant reference point of every pastoral action." Vatican II's sixteen documents focus on a wide variety of topics, touching almost every conceivable aspect of Church and Christian life. Four of the documents bear the title of "Constitution" and contain the core formulations of the council's teachings.

The most visible change might be in how we worship. But even more fundamental is the emphasis on the Church as the "people of God." Baptism admits all to the same journey of faith, initiating each person with differing talents and abilities into the mission of the Church. Thus, the faithful must be "led to that fully conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as 'a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people' (1 Peter 2:9; see 2:4-5), is their right and duty by reason of their baptism" (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [Sacrosanctum Concilium], 14). The hierarchy continues, but it is to hear and serve God's people; "servant leadership" is the way to exercise authority in the Church of Vatican II. ●

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 ~

### ShareLife and World Communications Day



On this World Communications Day, your support of ShareLife is improving the lives of our brothers and sisters in the Deaf and hard of hearing community.

"If you ever wonder what impact you are making – you are sending Deaf kids to an accessible American Sign Language (ASL) camp in the summer; you are connecting Deaf kids with Deaf mentors; you are inspiring Deaf kids to achieve their dreams; you are teaching family members ASL so they can communicate with their Deaf children. When you give, it goes a long way." – Kelly Mackenzie, Silent Voice

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

### Jubilee Year 2025 ~ Year of Prayer Video Series

The series will focus on the seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer as found in the fourth part of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The first video, an introduction to the Year of Prayer by Archbishop Leo, is available for viewing now on the [archdiocesan website](http://archdiocesan website) as well as on the archdiocesan YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/@archtoronto>.



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](http://SLM website).

**EDGE NIGHT**  
**REMINDER!**

Next Meeting on Friday, May 17  
@ 7PM ~ Church Hall  
All youth in grades 5-8 are welcome to participate!

**Vocation Reflection** ~ Before the Ascension, Jesus tells His Apostles not to leave Jerusalem - to wait - to pray for the Holy Spirit to show them God's will for their future. Where is the Holy Spirit leading you? If you feel that you are being led to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.



**Stewardship Reflection** ~ Before His ascension, Jesus tells His apostles, and us, to go into the world and spread the Gospel. To be authentic stewards we can't hang up our faith on the door as if it were a jacket we took off when we walked into the office. Rather, we should realize that living as a disciple of Christ at all times and showcasing the joy of being a Catholic is perhaps the greatest good we can do in evangelizing our neighbour.



**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**