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.

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

Mark 8:27-35



"The Son of Man is destined to suffer grievously..."

This is the turning-point of Mark's gospel. Till now the stories we have heard have all shown everincreasing wonder and amazement at Jesus' personality, his goodness and his authority. But even his closest disciples do not seem to have seen what this implies. Then suddenly Peter comes to the realisation that Jesus is the Messiah, the Anointed of God, for

whom everyone was waiting. However, Peter still does not understand what this implies. Jesus is not a conquering political hero, who will simply wipe out all opposition by overwhelming force, and make every path smooth and gentle. Jesus begins to show his disciples that the road to fulfilment is through suffering. Three times Jesus repeats this prophecy, and three times the disciples fail to grasp the lesson, first Peter, then the disciples who are arguing about precedence, then the two sons of Zebedee, who want the best places for themselves. So three times Jesus repeats that if you want to follow Jesus you must follow him to the Cross. Nor are we, later followers of Jesus, any quicker than the first disciples to learn this lesson. We greet with indignation and resistance any suffering that comes our way.

Anche oggi si sentono le voci e i giudizi più contrastanti su Gesù: c'è chi lo ritiene un saggio, un generoso moralista, un protagonista della storia, e c'è anche chi lo calunnia, chi lo odia. Ma la sola, la vera identità di Gesù è quella proclamata da Pietro: "Tu sei il Cristo". Se riduciamo la fede cristiana al chiuso di un orizzonte umano, per quanto nobile, siamo in errore: Cristo è venuto a portare la salvezza eterna, la speranza soprannaturale, non una dottrina per rendere più tollerabile la convivenza umana, anche se è interessato alla redenzione di tutte le realtà terrene, sempre in funzione della felicità eterna. Non basta riconoscere Gesù come Figlio di Dio: bisogna imitarlo in ciò che egli ha di più specifico, cioè nell'amore alla croce che non è il fine, ma il mezzo necessario per compiere la redenzione. Se vogliamo essere corredentori non possiamo rifuggire la croce, perché solo attraverso di essa, perdendo la nostra vita, la ritroveremo nell'eternità, partecipando alla risurrezione di Cristo.

"Holiness does not consist in not making mistakes or never sinning. Holiness grows with capacity for conversion, repentance, willingness to begin again, and above all with the capacity for reconciliation and forgiveness." ~ Pope Benedict XVI





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Vocation Reflection ~ "Who do people say that I am?" Who do you think Jesus is? The depth of our faith is rooted in our answer. Is God calling you to be a priest, religious, or deacon? If you think you are being called to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon , call Fr. Matt Maton McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 15, 2024



Dear Friends in Christ, I hope and pray that you and your loved ones had an enjoyable, safe and blessed summer! It's hard to believe how quickly these brief summer months have passed! As countless students return to their classroom to begin a new academic year, I also return to my computer to start the first Pastor's Corner of our new parish year.

When I wrote my first Corner a little more than two years ago in July 2022, my intention was to use it as a way to introduce myself as your new Pastor. Given that I never intended to write anything else after that initial piece, it has truly been remarkable how many Corners I have written since that first one! Although the Holy Spirit has been the driving force for my writings, I must admit that there were many days when I sat in front of my computer struggling with a writer's block, often with a lack of clarity or ideas as to what to write on. There have been times when I simply wanted to stop writing! Despite these difficulties and challenges, I have nevertheless resolved to continue my Corners given that a number of parishioners have found them helpful. Please pray, however, that the Lord will not let the contents of my "writing well" dry up, and that the Holy Spirit will continue to inspire me in my work!

Today I want to turn my attention on the theological concept of "church". From our Catholic Church's perspective, the term "church" can have a wide range of meanings that reflect both the spiritual and communal aspects of faith. These meanings include, for example: 1) The People of God Tthe entire community of believers made of the laity and the clergy; 2) The Body of Christ Tthe mystical union of Christ and his people on earth]; 3) The Universal Church [the global institution that encompasses all Catholics regardless of location or cultural background; 4) The Local Church [the local community of believers that gather for worship and service under the leadership of a bishop or pastor, e.g., St. Lawrence Martyr Parish 7; 5) The Institutional Church [the hierarchical structure and organization of the Catholic Church]; and 6) The Ecclesial Community [community of believers who come to worship the sacraments and journey with one another along the path of faith]. There is, however, an even simpler idea of "church", that is, the physical structure and place, where the People of God come to encounter the Lord!

St. Lawrence Martyr church has truly been a place to pray and meet Our Lord in the Eucharist and in Adoration. Our church has been a spiritual home where we are refreshed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit. It is important to note, however, that our church was built in 1959 and has withstood Toronto's harsh winters and forever changing weather. With this amazing milestone comes the usual wear and tear, and the aging of our church's structure. At 65, our church continues to be beautiful. But now more urgently than ever, it has a great need for major repairs. In the last few years, our bell towers had cracks that allowed water to seep in and rotted in some parts that challenged its stability. For this need, we solicited the services of a structural engineer and the repairs will cost us \$300,000 to keep it from collapse.

"HAEC EST VERE DOMUS DEI" means "This is truly the House of God." These words are written on the arch that sits high above our main altar in the sanctuary. They serve as a powerful reminder as we launch our new fundraising campaign titled, "SACRED JOURNEY: RESTORING THE HOUSE OF **GOD**" – with a goal to raise \$300,000 that will be used to directly address the structural issues related to our bell towers.

Every parishioner can play an important role in our fundraising campaign. Registered parishioner will shortly receive a letter from our parish office outlining how he/she can contribute for the restoration of the bell towers of the House of God. The same information can also be accessed on our parish website for those who are not registered with our parish, or for those who wish to read that same information via computer. The first phase of our "Sacred Journey: Restoring the House of God" campaign will be from September 2024 -August 2026.

There is no doubt that we are currently living in very trying financial times. I know that many people are finding it harder to make ends meet due to the rising inflationary pressures our country is currently experiencing today. Nevertheless, I exhort you to be as generous as you can in helping us reach our goals. The Lord will surely bless you for your generosity!

Remember that many of you have been privileged to encounter the Lord in this beautiful church tucked away in Scarborough. Your donations, regardless how big or small, will help ensure that St. Lawrence Martyr Parish will continue to honour Our Lord, by being a vibrant place for worship and fellowship for many, many years to come. Pax Christi, Fr. Thomas

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

September 15, 2024

Why does OCIA take so long? I've been married to a Catholic for fifty years and would like to become Catholic. My parish's Order of Christian Initiation of Adults program runs from September through Easter. That's a long time for someone in her eighties. Is there any way to accelerate the process?

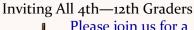
OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults and the new name for RCIA) was designed to meet the needs of two main groups: those who have been baptized as Catholics or in a Protestant tradition but have received no additional instruction in the Catholic faith. and those who have not been baptized. Someone in the first group has a different starting point from someone who has little knowledge of Christ, or who has never participated in a church community. OCIA programs use an instruction process called catechumenate, in which people seeking to become Catholic (catechumens) experience a worshiping community, learn to pray, and reflect on God's word. The catechumenate is divided into steps that are marked by liturgical rites; some parts of the process are optional, depending on each catechumen's pastoral situation. Catechumens can be received into the Church at any time of year. Talk to your priest about your closeness to Catholicism since your marriage and how it has formed your faith. Together, you can determine the amount and type of preparation that's right for you.

Fr. John K. Schmidt, CSsR / 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 ~

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE **AN ALTAR SERVER FOR** WEEKEND MASSES?





Please join us for a TRAINING SESSION September 21, 2024 Saturday, 2:30-4PM SLM Church For any questions, please contact the parish office.

LAUNCHING of EDGE Ministry for School Year 2024-2025





RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) / Adult Confirmation

RCIA/Adult Confirmation Program designed for at least 16 years old non-Catholics wanting to become Catholic, or Baptized Catholic wanting to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church to receive First Communion and / or Confirmation.

Please go to our website to download and complete the application form by clicking this link - SLM RCIA. Program starts October 8, 2024.

First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

The First Reconciliation and Communion Program is designed for and received by children in Gr 2 or older.

For registration requirements please go to our website SLM Sacraments - FR/FHC.

Parents MUST bring all the requirements and attend ONE of the registration dates:

Thurs-Oct 17th at 7PM or Sat-Oct 19th at 10AM

Confirmation

The Confirmation Program is designed for and received by children in Grade 7 or older.

For registration requirements please go to our website SLM Sacraments - Confirmation.

Parents MUST bring all the requirements and attend ONE of the registration dates:

Thurs-Oct 24th at 7PM or Sat-Oct 26th at 10AM



SVdP would like to thank you for your summer contributions. In August we visited 18 families with 36 children and gave \$1,440 of food support and household items. We appreciate your generous and ongoing support in helping our neighbors in need. If you would like a tax receipt,

please use our envelopes when you make a donation. If you are interested in joining our society, our members will be present at the entrance of the church during the weekend of September 21 & 22, in order to answer any questions.



2025 JUBILEE YEAR **ITALY PILGRIMAGE** With our Pastor Father Thomas Lim



September 26 to October 9, 2025

DETAILS Coming Soon!

