

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.

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 1ST, 2024

“That day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap ...”

Luke 21:25-28,
34-36



With this reading we begin the Year of Luke, for his gospel provides the readings for almost all the Sundays of the liturgical year which begins today. We begin at the end, for Luke sees the destruction of Jerusalem as the symbol and foretaste of final liberation at the coming of Christ. The horror of this day is represented by the cosmic disturbances, the collapse of all we regard as most stable and reliable, the eruption of the ocean and the collapse of the solar system. The Sack of Jerusalem by the Romans was certainly a decisive moment in the history of the Church, when the possibility vanished for ever of the Church remaining a branch of Judaism. In this sense it was a liberation for the gentile Churches for which Luke was writing his gospel. It is also a symbol of the final liberation from the toils of evil in which humanity is embroiled, and so of the final triumph of Christ. It is a day for which we must prepare by our whole life, for revelation gives us no hint of when it will occur. The only hints are images of unexpected suddenness, like a trap being sprung (as here), or a thief in the night or the pains of labour coming on a pregnant woman.

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Il Vangelo di Luca è indirizzato ai cristiani della sua epoca ma anche a quelli di tutti i tempi, che devono vivere nella fede del Signore in mezzo al mondo. Sono parole di consolazione e di speranza, di fronte alle tribolazioni e alle tristezze della vita.

Gli stessi avvenimenti che disorientano gli uomini saranno per i cristiani il segno che l'ora della salvezza si avvicina. Dietro tutte le peripezie, per quanto dolorose possano essere, essi potranno scoprire il Signore che annuncia la sua venuta, la sua redenzione, e l'inizio di una nuova era.

La venuta del Signore non è considerata come una cosa vicina nel tempo. I cristiani devono pensare che la storia duri a lungo, fino alla creazione definitiva del Regno di Dio. È necessario dunque che essi abbiano un'attitudine paziente di fronte alle avversità, e perseverante nel cammino che li conduce alla vita piena.

Così, il vangelo mette in guardia contro il pericolo di rilassarsi nel quotidiano. Bisogna restare vigili, in preghiera, e chiedere forza, perché ogni affanno terreno smussa i cuori, distrae il pensiero e impedisce di vivere, senza angoscia né sorpresa, l'attesa gioiosa del Signore che è misericordia e vita nuova.



Vocation Reflection ~ "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life." Are worldly cares dragging you down? Be a follower of the Master. If God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca



Eucharistic Adoration

Mon - Thur 9am - 12pm (Church)*

Every Friday 9am - 7pm (Church)*

*In Chapel, when there is a funeral.

Come and spend some quiet time in prayer!



**Mass Intentions
for the week**



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30TH – SABATO

5:00 P.M. + Alfonso Corsetti

SUNDAY DECEMBER 1ST – DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. - Charles Bagasan

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Susanna, Gianne e Giuseppe Onisto

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Vito Sciuto e famiglia - Matilde Pagliaro

Rosaria e Antonio Lisciandro

Vito e Mike Cuoppolo

Luciano Vincenzi - Lorenzo Volpe

Vincenzo Cucuzza - Lina Genneroso

Maria e Giuseppe Doria

Angelina e Corrado Rabbito

Benito Cortese - Domenica Chirichiello

11:30 A.M. - Living & Deceased Craft Group

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

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

MONDAY DECEMBER 2ND – LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. + Jamie Paz

12:00 P.M. - Lydia Dominguez

TUESDAY DECEMBER 3RD – MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. + Paul & Pauline Lam

12:00 P.M. - Brandon & Antonella Ng

WEDNESDAY DEC 4TH – MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. - Juliette Otero

- Leli Dy

+ Edwardo & Lina Cabanlig

+ Dr. Alexander Fangonil

+ Marion Mamo

+ Francisco & Veronica Aven

+ Rudy & Lisolette Langer

12:00 P.M. + Martin Pytel

THURSDAY DECEMBER 5TH – GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. + Sydney, Irene & Anne De Souza

8:30 A.M. + Rosevelt Cohelo

FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH – VENERDI

8:30 A.M. - Oto Lam & Family

7:00 P.M. + Zbigniew Pytel

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH – SABATO

8:30 A.M. - The Fernandes Family

10:00 A.M. - Michael De Souza



OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Regular: \$6,408.35

NOV 9/24 KNIGHTS

Fundraising: \$3,000.00

*thank
you*

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 1ST, 2024



Dear Friends in Christ, the other day I watched a video on BBC Ideas titled, “The Extraordinary Power of Kindness.” The short six-and-a-half-minute clip featured a British woman named, Bernadette Russell, whose life literally changed when she began to show kindness to a stranger each day for one entire year.

Russell’s story began in 2011, when she saw on television a double-decker bus being set on fire by rioting mobs in London. In seeing these horrific acts of vandalism, Russell believed that her nation was in great turmoil, which caused her to have a profound sense of despair. As a simple, average Londoner, Russell was not sure if, and how, she could make a difference.

The course of her life took a dramatic change when a few days later, she made a simple gesture to a stranger she met in the post office. What did she do? Russell gave the man 50 pence, the equivalent of less than one Canadian dollar, or roughly 85 to 90 cents. This simple act of kindness put a smile on the man’s face and caused him to be filled with a profound sense of gratitude, one that was disproportionate to the gift that Russell had offered him.

Seeing the profound impact her little act of kindness had on the stranger, Russell devised a “foolhardy notion” as she was making her way home. Her plan? Russell decided that she would try to perform an act of kindness every single day for a stranger for a full year. Her life dramatically changed thereafter! By her own account, *“Over the course of the year, it proved itself to be utterly heart-warming, completely terrifying, occasionally expensive, sometimes physically hazardous, like when I carried some really heavy shopping over four miles to a lady’s flat. So it was really, sort of, creative journey, that was also tiring and incredibly inspiring.”*

Russell’s acts of kindness also had some unintended effects. She experienced what scientists call the ‘Helper’s High’. Different acts of kindness trigger neurotransmitter in the brain that causes pleasurable sensations, one that is activated as a result of the connection a person develops with another. Russell described the effects as being *“...high every day. Mostly it was kind of a warm glow round your heart and around your tummy. It just felt really good.”* In effect, Russell experienced the paradoxical nature of kindness, one whereby a person who intends to make an act of kindness towards another receives unintended positive consequences for themselves.

While these positive consequences can cause us to act this way, kindness, however, is an essential element to our Christian way of life. Kindness is ultimately a fruit of the Holy Spirit. As St. Paul noted in his letter to the Galatians: *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires”* (Gal. 5:22-24). In effect, Paul is writing about these qualities as attributes, as they are produced by the Holy Spirit and seen within the lives of people of faith.

Kindness can take many forms. It can be seen in the compassion we offer each other, that is, by the understanding or sensitivity we have towards the feelings or experiences of another. We can be kind through the generous gifts of our time, treasures and talents – gifts unconditionally offered without seeking anything in return. Being kind can simply take the form of showing respect and dignity towards a person, who has been made in the image and likeness of God. We can be kind by being empathetic – by putting ourselves in another person’s shoes and walking with their joys and challenges. The hardest form of kindness, however, might simply be letting go of old wounds and moving past our hurts, and in forgiving someone who has painfully hurt us by their actions, words, or deeds. Whatever form kindness we choose to offer to another, let us always remind ourselves that this fruit of the Holy Spirit is an essential element on how we live our Christian life.

On a personal note, I wish to sincerely thank you for the many tokens of kindness that you given my brother-in-law, Poe. Many have asked how Poe is doing and also assured me of their continued prayers for him - a message that I have had my sister, Maria, relay to Poe. Poe has been transferred from ICU to the Complex Continuing Care unit. The wonderful nurses and doctors of Mackenzie Hospital in Richmond Hill continue to provide all the necessary medical assistance Poe needs to help him navigate through his long and difficult journey to recovery. May the Lord bless you for all your kindness that you have given to Poe, Maria and their family!

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. As we begin our new liturgical year, maybe we can imitate Russell’s example and implement within our own life the resolution to make an act of kindness each day for someone - a family member, a co-worker, a friend, even a stranger. Imagine how much we can individually and collectively change the world if we made one small act of kindness each day! As Russell noted: *“The biggest lesson for me was to embrace the fact that every single day I can do something. That thing might be just saying good morning to someone. That thing might be just smiling. That is how we change the world. In the same way that a beach is filled with a billion grains of sand, there is this sort of beautiful humility in saying, ‘I can, at every single moment, at any point of any day, contribute to making the world a better place.’”* Pax Christi, Fr. Thomas



SACRED JOURNEY
RESTORING THE HOUSE OF GOD

THANK YOU!!!

FUNDS RAISED TO DATE: \$99,223.85

To donate SCAN the QR CODE or

<https://tinyurl.com/SLMDonationForm>



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 1ST, 2024

1st Sunday of Advent (Year C)



Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

**Rite of Enrolment Weekend
December 14th/15th**

During the Mass, candidates will be asked to come before the altar to formally give their “Letter of Intent” to our Pastor, Fr. Thomas.



You and your families are invited to attend ONE of the following weekend Masses:

- Sat, December 14th at 5:00pm
- Sun, Dec 15th at 8:30am or 11:30am or 5pm

The email address provided on the registration form will receive the “Letter of Intent” guidelines on Monday, Dec 9.



Collected \$1888 for the needy of our Parish community.
GOD bless YOU MORE!

Dear Padre

December 1, 2024

I've been Catholic all my life, but I don't understand Advent. It's too much like Lent and seems an odd way to prepare for the birth of a baby.

In a society that is primarily secular, one skill of the believing Christian is the ability to balance competing realities. From a secular perspective, Christmas is part of the period identified as the “holidays,” beginning with Thanksgiving until New Year’s Day, when it abruptly ends and stores begin advertising Valentine’s Day.

For Christians, Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the great promise fulfilled after centuries of waiting and expectation. The creative energy of the Father is displayed in wonder and awe as the angels sing and people of good faith gather to celebrate. We join our ancestors in anticipation of this event through the liturgical season of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation.

The Christian holy day is a singular day, the feast of the Nativity of the Lord—Christmas—but the Church continues the celebration of God’s life and love through the days that follow, culminating in the Baptism of the Lord, the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus.

We are invited to hold the secular and the liturgical experiences in an integrated balance. We can celebrate the secular holidays and we can enter the liturgical season that helps us contemplate something much grander and more spectacular. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



2025 JUBILEE YEAR
ITALY PILGRIMAGE

With our Pastor
Father Thomas Lim
September 27 to
October 10, 2025

[Click for Details](#)



**ShareLife-funded agencies
turn no one away**

Your gift will double in value! From November 1 until year end, your contribution to our parish’s ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000.

Did you know no one is turned away from ShareLife-funded agencies due to inability to pay? This is all thanks to your compassionate and generous heart. Through your support, ShareLife agencies are helping the most vulnerable in our community and around the world. Thank you for living the Gospel!

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

**Friars Student Writing Contest 2025
(Nov. 11, 2024 to Jan. 13, 2025)**

Theme: “Do you believe this?” (John 11: 26)

High school students aged 13 to 19 from the Catholic School Boards in the AoT are invited to participate in this annual event, which honours the global Week of Prayer for Christian Unity taking place from January 18 to 25.

Email ecumenical@archtoronto.org or call 4169343400 ext527 for information.



**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

**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 ~

