

St. Lawrence Martyr Church

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

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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.

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 8TH, 2024

Luke 3:1-6



“The Call of John the Baptist ...”

Each year the two middle Sundays of Advent centre on John the Baptist, preparing the way for Jesus. John came to prepare a community of repentance who would be ready for the Messiah. This was to be a community not of those who went around moping about their sinfulness, but a community of those who had changed their ways and their whole system of values and priorities. The Hebrew concept which he proclaimed was a matter of turning round and going in the opposite direction. To be ready for the Messiah meant – and still means – such a radical change of attitude. John himself had prepared by going out into the desert, for the Messiah was to come striding across the desert, as did Israel at the exodus. John’s clothing and his whole way of life showed his rejection of current materialism and his single-minded dedication. It is not primarily a negative point of view, for his quotation of Baruch (as in today’s first reading) or of Isaiah shows that the flattening of the hills and the filling of the valleys is a preparation for the Kingdom of Peace and Justice. A good deal of positive planning and of spade-work is needed if we are to be ready to welcome that Kingdom.



Abramo concepì Isacco per la fede nella promessa di Dio “e divenne padre di molti popoli” (cf. Rm 4,18-22). Ugualmente Maria concepì Gesù per mezzo della fede. La concezione verginale di Gesù fu opera dello Spirito Santo, ma per mezzo della fede di Maria. È sempre Dio che opera, ma attraverso la collaborazione dell’uomo. Credere, infatti, è rispondere con fiducia alla parola di Dio, accogliere i suoi piani come se fossero propri e sottomettersi in obbedienza alla sua volontà per collaborarvi. La fede vuole sempre: 1) la fiducia in Dio e 2) la professione di ciò che si crede, poiché “con il cuore si crede per ottenere la giustizia e con la bocca si fa la professione di fede per avere la salvezza” (Rm 10,10). Una volta riconosciuta vera la parola di Dio, Maria credette alla concezione verginale di Gesù e credette pure alla volontà di Dio di salvare gli uomini peccatori, la volle e aderì a quel piano lasciandosi coinvolgere: “Eccomi, sono la serva del Signore, avvenga di me quello che hai detto” (Lc 1,38). Dalla sua fede quindi nacque Gesù e pure la Chiesa. Perciò, insieme ad Elisabetta che esclamò: “Beata colei che ha creduto all’adempimento delle parole del Signore” (Lc 1,45), ogni generazione oggi la proclama beata (cf. Lc 1,48). La Chiesa ha il compito di continuare nel mondo la missione materna di Maria, quella di comunicare il Salvatore al mondo. Il cristiano di oggi deve fare proprio il piano di Dio “il quale vuole che tutti gli uomini siano salvati” (1Tm 2,4), proclamando la propria salvezza e lasciandosi attivamente coinvolgere nel portare la salvezza al prossimo, poiché “in questo è glorificato il Padre mio: che portiate molto frutto e diventiate miei discepoli (Gv 15,8).



Vocation Reflection ~ "Could God be calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother, or sister to help our world of today to truly “prepare the way of the Lord”? Contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, AoT 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 DECEMBER 7TH– SABATO

5:00 P.M. + Terrance DalGado

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8TH– DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. + Shen Thong & + Chi Chong Hsieh

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Franco e Elisabetta Sinopoli e famiglia

Vito De Nardo e famiglia – Isabella Pagliaro

Giovanna Costantino

Antonio e Maria Ciciretto

Vito e Mike Cuoppolo – Lorenzo Volpe

Luigi, Giovanni e Luigina De Rose

Francesco Falsetti e Famiglia –

Vincenza Di Tacchio e famiglia -

MarcoEdda defunti famiglie Carlevaris Nevodini

L’Anime del Purgatorio

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

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

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

MONDAY DECEMBER 9TH– LUNEDI

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

12:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

TUESDAY DECEMBER 10TH– MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. + Deceased Fernandes Family

12:00 P.M. - Rafael & Ricardo P Zepeda

WEDNESDAY DEC 11TH– MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. + Emile Tisseverasinghe

+ Camilus Johnpulle

+ Jesusa Santos Mamangon

+ Josephine Abalos

+ Lito Dizon

+ Maura Meneses

12:00 P.M. + Ossie & Swarma Ameresekere

THURSDAY DECEMBER 12TH– GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. - Special Intention

8:30 A.M. + Alejandro Libaque

FRIDAY DECEMBER 13TH– VENERDI

8:30 A.M. + Caterina Simone

7:00 P.M. + Ralph & Eda Peralta

SATURDAY DECEMBER 14TH– SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Lita Solitario

10:00 A.M. + Irene De Souza



OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Regular: \$5,929.85

Building Fund: \$4,210.10



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 8TH, 2024



Dear Friends in Christ, when I reflect upon the current state of our modern world, there seems to be a greater level of aggression being manifested today. This aggression is often bold, strong and ruthless in its desire to conquer. We see this from a macro perspective as seen by the countless wars and conflicts that are being waged throughout the world. The spirit of aggression is also active on the micro level with acts of violence, abuse, rage and hatred being a common occurrence within our homes, work environments, places of studies, communities, etc. What I believe that is sorely lacking today is its antidote, gentleness, a fruit of the Holy Spirit that characterizes authentic followers of Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is the par excellence example of gentleness. In fact, the prophet Isaiah foretold the coming of a gentle Saviour, one who would show tenderness and compassion for the weak and downtrodden: *“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. **A bruised reed he will not break and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out**”* (Isa. 42:1-4). The “bruised reed” and the “smoldering wick” refers to the spiritually, physically, or morally weak, individuals whom the world considers feeble, dispensable and insignificant.

We see throughout the gospels countless examples of how Jesus treated the “bruised reed” and “smoldering wick” of his times. Jesus strengthened and cured the shriveled hand of the disfigured man, and gave healing to countless people who were sick, maimed, blind and mute. Our Lord prevented the life of the woman caught in adultery – a “smoldering wick” - from being snuffed out, and subsequently gave her a new lease in life by forgiving her sin. Jesus gently and lovingly restored the severed fellowship that his fallen apostle, the “bruised reed” Peter, caused when he denied Jesus three times. A quick perusal of the gospels pages will undoubtedly offer us further examples of Jesus’ gentleness towards the “bruised reed” and “smoldering wick” of his times.

What does it mean to show gentleness and what are its characteristics or traits? A spiritual writer offers the following apt description: *“Gentleness is the virtue that restrains the passion of anger. Over the centuries it has been variously described. Sometimes poetically, sometimes theologically. Where anger flares up, gentleness calms down. Where anger is a bursting flame gentleness is a gentle rain. Where anger asserts itself and crushes, gentleness embraces and quiets and soothes yet as we hear these and similar descriptions of gentleness we are liable to make the mistake as I dare say so much of the modern world makes the mistake of identifying gentleness with weakness....*

A gentle person is a meek person. So most people think that a gentle person is a weak person. It is just the opposite. In order to be truly gentle and that does not mean soft or sentimental, one must be strong. Only strong people can be gentle, because gentleness restrains strength by love. Whether its strength of body that could destroy physically or strength of will that could crush volitionally or strength of mind that could devastate intellectually. It’s only such people that can even begin to be gentle. And the reason of course is because they’ve got something to restrain.... But the motive power behind gentleness is always love. Love of the other for whose sake I restrain myself. There are then two qualities that belong to the meaning of gentleness and they are strength and love” (Fr. John A. Hardon).

Given this description of gentleness, why is it an essential element of our Christian spirituality? The fundamental reason we are called to practice it in our lives is because God has offered his loving mercy to each of us with great gentleness. By sending His Son into the world as Our Lord and Saviour, God has allowed his justice to be restrained by love. In other words, we are called to exercise gentleness because we are first-and-foremost the recipients of gentle mercy!

We are also called to exercise gentleness because Jesus made it a grave obligation, a necessary condition that he requires from all his disciples. Jesus not only invites us to rest in him, but he also expects us to learn from him: *“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and **learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart**; and you will find rest for yourselves* (Matt. 11:28-29). Thus, anyone who wants to be a true disciple of Christ – to be truly Christ-like - must imitate the gentle heart of the Master.

The Lord continually offers us the graces to help us to be gentle in the face of those who irritate, annoy, disturb, or provoke us. Let us then with the help of the Holy Spirit show gentleness towards everyone we encounter, and in doing so follow in the footsteps of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, He who is gentle, meek and humble of heart.

Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*



SACRED JOURNEY
RESTORING THE HOUSE OF GOD

THANK YOU!!!

FUNDS RAISED TO DATE: \$100,568.85

To donate SCAN the QR CODE or

<https://tinyurl.com/SLMDonationForm>



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 8TH, 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent (Yr-C)



Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. 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.

2025 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR PICK-UP!



Parishioners are asked to pick up their 2025 Offertory Envelopes at the Parish Hall.

Is important that you discard all previous envelopes when the New Year commences.

Please enter your full name and address on the first few 2025 envelopes so that we may allocate your donations correctly for income tax purposes.

If you don't have offertory envelopes and would like a box, please complete the [registration form](#) found on the parish website or at the back of the Church and return in the Sunday Collection.

“Commitment is doing what you said you would do, after the feeling you said it in has passed.”

~ St. Camillus de Lellis ~

Prayers and Best Wishes for Frank Cardinal Leo



The faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto offer our prayers and best wishes for the newest members of the College of Cardinals, including our chief shepherd, the Archbishop of Toronto, Frank Cardinal Leo. This weekend, Cardinal Leo is in Rome as one of the 21 new cardinals from around the world gathered with Pope Francis. Please pray for our new cardinal as he begins this important role of service to the Church.

Regional Masses to celebrate Cardinal Leo and the beginning of the Jubilee Year will take place early in 2025. More details will be shared in the coming weeks.

Dear Padre

December 8, 2024

If Christmas is on December 25, why is the Immaculate Conception on December 8, rather than sometime in March?

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception asserts that Mary was free of the stain of original sin from the time she was conceived in her mother's womb. Jesus was also free of the stain of original sin and his conception by Mary is referred to as the Incarnation of Christ. Mary's Immaculate Conception is often confused for Christ's Incarnation.

In the Church's liturgical calendar, Mary's conception is celebrated on December 8; her birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on September 8. Likewise, Christ's conception is celebrated on March 25 on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord; his birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on December 25.

Mary's Immaculate Conception was celebrated many centuries before Pope Pius IX defined it as dogma on December 8, 1854: “The doctrine that maintains that the Blessed Virgin Mary in the first instant of her conception, by a unique grace and privilege granted to her by Almighty God, in consideration of the merits of Jesus Christ the Savior of mankind, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore must be firmly and constantly believed by all the faithful” (*Ineffabilis Deus*). In fact, eight years before, in 1846, the bishops of the United States had already adopted the Immaculate Conception as the patronal feast for Catholics in this country. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



2025 JUBILEE YEAR
ITALY PILGRIMAGE

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

[Click for Details](#)



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 ~