

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 IN ORDINARY TIME ~ FEBRUARY 9, 2025

Luke 5:1-11



“They left everything and followed Jesus.”

There were obviously several different versions circulating in the early Church of the call of the first disciples. If you try, in your own family, to work out a single version of an important experience that affected you all, you will find the same phenomenon: the event itself is so bright that you are too dazzled to agree on the details that surrounded it.

In Mark and Matthew Jesus is passing along the shore of the lake when he calls two pairs of disciples. In John it takes place where John the Baptist was preaching. The story in Luke has many similarities to the story at the end of John's gospel after the Resurrection, when the risen Christ commissions Peter: a night of failed fishing, followed by a huge catch in obedience to Jesus' instructions. The Church has always seen this as a sign of the need for obedience to Christ. Luke's version here combines the same play on words as in Mark and Matthew about fishing for people. Luke sets the story a little later: in Mark the fishermen have never seen Jesus and follow him blindly; in Luke Peter and his friends have already got to know Jesus before they are commissioned. A special feature in Luke is Peter's cry that he is an unworthy sinner. Luke often teaches us that no one can be a disciple of Jesus without first admitting their sinfulness: Zacchaeus the tax-collector, and the woman who wept at Jesus' feet (Luke 7:36-50) are other examples.

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Prima di essere la pietra su cui Cristo avrebbe fondato la sua Chiesa, Pietro-Simone è stato colui che ha percorso per intero il cammino pieno di passione impulsiva ed insieme di incertezze verso il suo Signore. Egli è stato in questo modo colui che ha percorso, prima di noi, l'itinerario che a ciascuno di noi è chiesto di percorrere.

Simone era un pescatore: ciascuno ha il suo lavoro e a ciascuno può capitare di faticare nel buio di tante notti e di non prendere nulla.

Ma interviene quella Presenza che chiede di lavorare sulla sua parola, cioè di vivere la propria esistenza all'interno di quell'avvenimento potente che è Cristo Signore e allora il nostro lavoro e la nostra esistenza trovano una fecondità mai prima conosciuta. In questo stesso momento ciascuno di noi percepisce la propria distanza da quell'abbraccio misericordioso ed insieme la propria estrema vicinanza.

Non saremo chiamati a fare altre cose, ma a farle per un altro scopo. Così Pietro continuerà ad essere pescatore, ma da allora in poi sarà pescatore di uomini.



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 FEBRUARY 8TH- SABATO

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

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9TH- DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. + Elizabeth Ramsbotham

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Rosario Vella

Agostino Battaglia e Battaglia e Garofalo

Vito e Mike Cuoppolo

Franco e Elisabetta Sinopoli e famiglia

Vito De Nardo e famiglia - Paolo Saptola

Marco, Edda e Carlevaris e Nevodini

L'Anime del Purgatorio

11:30 A.M. + Pat Mancuso

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. + Maria Johanna Dizon

MONDAY FEBRUARY 10TH- LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. + Miko Bolcic

12:00 P.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11TH- MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. + Enza Flaim

12:00 P.M. - Siromi Amereskere

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 12TH- MERCOLEDI

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

- Shashi Thiagarajah

- Angela Bolcic

12:00 P.M. - Cedric De Souza & family

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13TH- GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. + Deceased Griffith family

8:30 A.M. + Emiliana Salita Farrugia

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 14TH- VENERDI

8:30 A.M. + Catherine Dzikowski

7:00 P.M. - Oto Lam & Family

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15TH- SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Enza Flaim

10:00 A.M. + Salcino & Elumina Dominguez



Vocation Reflection ~

Do not be afraid. If the Lord is calling you to the ordained or consecrated life, do not be afraid. Jesus calls and will give you the grace to respond wholeheartedly. 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 ~ Website www.vocationstoronto.ca



OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Regular: \$5,392.50

Building Fund: 3,320.00



“We are beautiful because we are sons and daughters of God, not because we look a certain way.”

Kate Wicker, Weightless: Making Peace with Your Body

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ FEBRUARY 9, 2025



Dear Friends in Christ, this past Tuesday evening, our catechumen were taught the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. As part of their lesson, Rex Catubig (a member of my RCIA team, who facilitated the evening's session) provided a personal testimony on how he experienced the incredible healing power of the Lord in his own life. With Rex's permission, I wish to share his story with you today in the hope that it might offer some hope and encouragement to those readers, who are currently undergoing some form of pain, suffering, trials or tribulation. These are his words....

"It was May of 2013 after the Victoria day weekend. While preparing for work early that morning, I felt a severe headache and vomiting that I never felt my entire life. We rushed to the emergency room of Scarborough General Hospital and they found out that my brain was hemorrhaging due to a large tumor in the right side of my head. The ER doctor informed us that my condition was life threatening and I needed surgery right away. Hearing those words was devastating. Thousands of thoughts came to my mind that were difficult to process. But one stood up, That I will fight this disease with Jesus. That I must begin with sincere confession knowing that every miracle healing Jesus began with the healing of the soul.

While they prepared me for hospital transfer to Sunnybrook Hospital, I asked for a Roman Catholic Priest Chaplain... Upon arriving at Sunnybrook, a senior seminarian came and told me that he couldn't give me the sacrament since no priest was available so early in the morning. He said, 'Because you seek God's Mercy and forgiveness through the love of Jesus, there is forgiveness'. There was comfort that the Catholic Church was there for me, but I needed the words of absolution.

When the doctors assessed me at Sunnybrook Hospital, it was ruled that I could not have surgery that day because no bed was available in the neuro-ward after the surgery. I was sent home with medication to control the bleeding and the pain. On the way home, we contacted our parish secretary, Julia, that I was on my way to have the sacraments of healing and explained what was going on. It was the late Fr. Liam Gavisian, who administered the Sacrament.

After 24 hours, the painkillers stopped working and we went back to Sunnybrook. This time surgery was performed and they discovered that it was stage 4 brain cancer called Glioblastoma (GBM) - the most aggressive type of brain cancer.... With treatment one could survive 18 months; without treatment, 6 to 9 months.... All this time, my thoughts were fixed on Jesus. I opted for treatment. Then followed, 42 rounds of Chemo and radiation therapy simultaneously daily except on the weekends. It was brutal!

Our faith was tested on all fronts. The state of my family, our finances, my health and my life. Together with my faithful wife, we surrender everything to him.... We asked Jesus to allow me more time with my family.... but His will be done....

Six months after (November 2013) the cancer came back with a vengeance. This time, I lost my balance, my left side vision. I was dragging my left foot and lost the sensation in my left arm. The doctors told us that the size of the lesion and tumor doubled. They asked us if I would elect to participate in the study of Glioblastoma, on the condition that I have to undergo another brain surgery and additional 11 rounds of another type of Chemotherapy. The possible outcomes were from coma to death, and if successful, I would be left with left side body paralysis and impaired vision.... My wife Sharon told me to choose the offered treatment. She reminded me of our marriage vows 'For better or for worse in sickness and in health'.... With prayers and consultation with close friends I opted for another treatment.... This time I ask for my last rites prior to surgery.... God is great all the time! The surgery went successful. They removed the tumor about 90%. After days of stay in the hospital I was sent home with paralysis in my left side and blindness in my left eye.

Jesus is still relevant! Truly his body, soul and divinity is present in the Eucharist. Around the first week of December 2013, while attending the Wednesday mass at the parish, during the last part of the Liturgy of the Eucharist, when the priest says 'Behold the lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world', I responded, 'Lord I'm not worthy that you shall enter under my roof but only say the word and my soul **and my body** shall be healed.' The words 'and my body' was an insertion to that prayer in faith. While saying that I was holding my head as I felt a cold breeze flowing down into my body. It was a strange feeling.

After Mass I was still in the same condition, with partial paralysis and vision impaired in my left eye. The following Thursday night, while we were praying the Rosary, during the second decade of the Mystery of light whereby Jesus performed his first miracle of turning water into wine, I heard someone barging from our main door. My instinct kicked in and I stood up and checked the door. Only to realize that my paralysis was restored and nobody was there. The strange part was that I was the only one who heard it. That night, we could barely hold our tears of joy. But I'm still blind. By dawn, when I awakened I was able to see all around me clearly. It seemed like nothing happened. God is Great.

Upon my follow up visit to my Neuro-oncologist the following week, he was surprised by the outcome. He remarked 'In my years of practice you're the only one with this diagnosis who turned out like this. Heavens favoured you' Having my paralysis, my balance and my vision restored was extraordinary. For me and my family it was a great miracle and a blessing considering that this whole ordeal lasted less than a year. Today, I still have a tolerable headache on a daily basis and I use this as my offering to Jesus and my reminder of Jesus' overwhelming mercy and love.

You may ask, why do others never heal? They too prayed hard or even harder. My answer to that, I don't know, but we cannot change the fact that Jesus is a healer and he healed me through the sacraments of the Church." Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*



SACRED JOURNEY
RESTORING THE HOUSE OF GOD

THANK YOU!!!

FUNDS RAISED TO DATE: \$167,748.00

To donate SCAN the QR CODE or

<https://tinyurl.com/SLMDonationForm>



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ FEBRUARY 9, 2025



Registration must be done online at www.vocationstoronto.ca/comesee.

On March 14 - 16, 2025, we are offering a weekend Discernment Retreat at St. Augustine's Seminary for single men aged 18+ who feel the Lord may be calling them to discern the priesthood. The retreat will start on Friday evening at 6:30pm and end on Sunday afternoon at 2:00pm. Meals & Accommodations will be provided.

BELL TOWER Envelopes Offertory NEXT WEEKEND!
 Your Donation is *appreciated* no matter how *big* or *small!*
 Thank you! **GOD** bless you More.

PIZZA & MOVIE NIGHT
 Next Saturday, 15th of February
 after the 5PM Mass

2025 DOMINICAN FRIARS YOUTH INTERFAITH VIDEO Contest
 THEME: Faith as a Pathway from Division to Unity

Students are encouraged to create a three-minute video that captures this year's theme. Please adhere to the guidelines provided on our website and submit your entries via the submission form at <https://bit.ly/DFVCSubmission>
 Please call 416-934-3400 ext. 527 or Email interreligious@archtoronto.org

Dear Padre

February 9, 2025

Who was St. Valentine? Do our Valentine's Day traditions of love and romance have anything to do with the actual St. Valentine?

There were actually three St. Valentines. One was a priest who was beheaded in Rome on February 14 in the year 269. Another was a bishop, who was also martyred in the third century. Both are buried on the Appian Way in Rome. The third St. Valentine is a lesser-known saint who died in Africa with a number of companions during the early centuries of the Church. The tomb of this St. Valentine became a center of popular devotion in the early Middle Ages. In 496, Pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honor this particular St. Valentine.

The popular romantic customs that surround our present Valentine's Day trace their origins back to the Middle Ages. The English writer Geoffrey Chaucer noted that halfway through the second month of the year, February 14, the birds begin to choose their mates. For this reason, the day was looked upon as specially consecrated to lovers and as a proper occasion for writing love letters and sending lovers' tokens. People who gave or received these tokens or letters were referred to as "valentines." In the Middle Ages, a legend also developed that St. Valentine the priest left a farewell note for his jailer's daughter, who had become his friend, and that he signed that note "From Your Valentine." ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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

Coins For Life 2025 BRING BOXES BACK TO PARISH

Would you, your family and friends put aside your toonies, loonies, quarters, nickels, dimes during the next 4-6 weeks, and contribute these savings to help in the struggle to end abortion and to create a **Culture of Life in Canada**. If so coins for life boxes will be handed out at the back of the church next weekend (February 15th/16th).

Every coin makes a difference and helps CLC to run the annual National March for Life in Ottawa May 8, 2025. . For more information on the march contact CLC at 416 204 9749 .

"To examine whether your heart pleases Him is not necessary, but rather whether His Heart pleases you."
 ~ E.A. Bucchianeri, Brushstrokes of a Gadfly ~

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 ~