

St. Lawrence Martyr Church

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

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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 LENT ~ MARCH 9, 2025

Luke 4: 1-13



JESUS was led by the Spirit into the desert and was tempted.

To remind us that Lent is a time when we are tested out the gospel reading of the First Sunday of Lent is always about the testing of Jesus. But our fasting or whatever the extra little offering we make to the Lord during Lent may be, we enter into solidarity with the hardship undergone by Jesus in his Passion. Of course Lent is not a matter of testing out how far we can push ourselves (a sort of macho self-torture). Rather it is a period of preparation for the Passion and Resurrection, like the forty years of Israel in the desert, preparing for the Promised Land, or the prophet Elijah's forty-day preparation, or the forty days during which Christ prepared the apostles between Easter and the Ascension. The point of Jesus' forty-day fast is to give some force to the devil's first taunt. To each of the devil's taunts Jesus replies with a word of scripture: if you rely on God's word you are unshakably safe, for God has created and arranged everything. Matthew and Luke have a different order for second and third temptations: Matthew climaxes with Jesus as the Second Moses, like Moses seeing all the territories from a high mountain. Luke ends the scene as he begins and ends his gospel, at Jerusalem, the turning-point of the gospel.

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La Quaresima si apre con il racconto delle tentazioni di Gesù. Poste alla soglia del suo ministero pubblico, esse sono in qualche modo l'anticipazione delle numerose contraddizioni che Gesù dovrà subire nel suo itinerario, fino all'ultima violenza della morte. In esse è rivelata l'autenticità dell'umanità di Cristo, che, in completa solidarietà con l'uomo, subisce tutte le tentazioni tramite le quali il Nemico cerca di distoglierlo dalla sua completa sottomissione al Padre. "Cristo tentato dal demonio! Ma in Cristo sei tu che sei tentato" (sant'Agostino).

In esse viene anticipata la vittoria finale di Cristo nella risurrezione. Cristo inaugura un cammino - che è l'itinerario di ogni essere umano - dove nessuno potrà impedire che il disegno di Dio si manifesti per tutti gli uomini: la sua volontà di riscattarlo, cioè di recuperare per l'uomo la sovranità della sua vita in un libero riconoscimento della sua dipendenza da Dio.

È nell'obbedienza a Dio che risiede la libertà dell'uomo. L'abbandono nelle mani del Padre - "Io vivo per il Padre" - è la fonte dell'unica e vera libertà, che consiste nel rifiutare di venire trattati in modo diverso da quello che siamo. Il potere di Dio la rende possibile .



### 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 MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>- SABATO**

5:00 P.M. + Ann Aittler

#### **SUNDAY MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>- DOMENICA**

8:30 A.M. + Eric Ricardo

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Alfredo Fugaccia

Giulia Benedetti

Rosario Vella

Agostino Battaglia e Battaglia e Garofalo

Vito e Mike Cuoppolo

Franco e Elisabetta Sinopoli e famiglia

Vito De Nardo e famiglia

Maria e Giuseppe Doria

Defunti famiglie Longo e Russo

Defunti famiglie Tamburro e Caccavella

Marco, Edda e Carlevaris e Nevodini

L'Anime del Purgatorio

11:30 A.M. + Philomena O'Brien

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

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

#### **MONDAY MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>- LUNEDI**

8:30 A.M. + Lisa Reader

12:00 P.M. - Protection of Unborn Children

#### **TUESDAY MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup>- MARTEDI**

8:30 A.M. + Jamie Madigan

12:00 P.M. + Rita & Leo Lobo

#### **WEDNESDAY MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>- MERCOLEDI**

8:30 A.M. - Shashi Thiagarajah

- Miko Acacio

+ Felicidad Buyser

+ Lourdes Manankil

+ Vicente Chua

+ Joseph Wong Cho

+ Maria Chan Lau Ken

12:00 P.M. + Jeremy Mar

#### **THURSDAY MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup>- GIOVEDI**

7:00 A.M. + Sydney De Souza

8:30 A.M. + Anna Menna

#### **FRIDAY MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>- VENERDI**

8:30 A.M. - Arthur Hare

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

#### **SATURDAY MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>- SABATO**

8:30 A.M. - Leander Charles Hare

10:00 A.M. + Josephine Mar



### OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Regular: \$5,222.40

Building Fund: \$3,453.50

thank  
you



## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT ~ MARCH 9, 2025



Dear Friends in Christ, while I was in the third year of my priestly formation at St. Augustine Seminary, my mother, Theresa, was diagnosed with stage four pancreatic cancer. The news was both totally unexpected and devastating for my family, given that mom had shown no signs of pain or suffering up to that point. Although my mom suffered immensely during the last fifty-four days of her life, she did so with great patience and faith supported by the prayers and sacrifices from countless families, friends and well-wishers.

A couple weeks before her death (8 January 2008), I had the opportunity to spend a few moments with mom in her bedroom. It was during this rare time alone that she gave me her “last words.” She said: *“Thomas, in the future, whenever you encounter pain, suffering, trials or tribulations, I want you to simply go to the foot of the Cross and hang on to the feet of Christ. There you will find all the graces and strength you need!”* These words, which were spoken by a dying mother to her son, contain great spiritual truths.

Many saints have spoken about the Cross of the Christ. St. Thomas Aquinas (my patron) wrote extensively about it in his *Summa Theologica*, Commentaries on Scripture, and homilies. Aquinas viewed the Cross not only as the act of supreme love, but also as the source of salvation. He believed that if Christians were to meditate on the Cross of Christ, they would learn to see their trials as a participation in Christ’s own suffering, and thus endure it with great patience and resolve. Aquinas also preached the Cross as the ultimate example of virtue. As he remarked in a homily, *“The Cross exemplifies every virtue. If you seek the example of love: ‘Greater love than this no man hath, than to lay down his life for his friends’ (Jn 15:13). If you seek patience, you will find a perfect example of the Cross... If you seek obedience, follow him who ‘became obedient unto death’ (Phil. 2:8). If you seek humility, see the Son of God ‘humbled and made obedient unto death’ (Phil. 2:8)” (cf. ‘The Cross Exemplifies Every Virtue’).* The Cross of Christ then is the source of all things!

As He hung upon the Cross, Jesus spoke seven last words or sayings that became powerful expressions of His suffering, love, and mission of salvation. His words as found in the four Gospels were: *“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do” (Lk. 23:34); “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise” (Lk 23:43); “Woman, behold your son! ... Behold your mother!” (Jn. 19:26-27); “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Mt. 27:46, Mk. 15:34-35); “I thirst” (Jn. 19:28); “It is finished” (Jn. 19:30); “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit” (Lk. 23:46).* Throughout the centuries, many famous works including musical compositions, oratorios, sermons, and theological treatises have been created around the Seven Words of Christ including, for example, Joseph Haydn’s “The Seven Last Words of Our Saviour on the Cross” (1786, Oratorio Version 1796).

A modern original oratorio based on the Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross has been composed by Romulo Delgado. On one level, Romulo is an accomplished operatic tenor, composer, world music multi-instrumentalist, vocal coach and adjudicator. He trained in Toronto at the Royal Conservatory of Music and his versatility as a performer has enchanted audiences all over North America and Europe. On another level, Romulo is a man of faith!

Shortly after he gave his first operatic performance in Vienna, Romulo’s first son was born with a rare genetic mutation. The disease caused Rafael to be continually bedridden and suffer from endless pain. The family was put on suicide watch multiple times because the doctors often told them that Rafael would not make it through the day, and that they needed to prepare for his funeral. Children with this form of genetic mutation do not live beyond 8 years; yet, incredibly, Rafael always managed to survive, and he is now 11 years old.

When Romulo wrote his original oratorio, it originated in the crucible of profound pain and suffering. Romulo began his writings as a means to help overcome the struggles he and his wife faced in having a complex care child. In the midst of suffering, Romulo asked himself profound questions like... what is the truth, what is faith in God's will, and who is God to me? At the darkest moments of his life, Romulo found all the answers to his questions in and through the Cross! His oratorio explores the salvific meaning of suffering, the richness of hope, the deepness of faith, and the love of God for all of humanity. Romulo never intended to make his oratorio public. It was only when a priest friend, Fr. Jorge Aviles, heard the oratorio that Romulo was encouraged to share the hidden treasures found in his work with others.

As part of St. Lawrence Martyr Parish’s Sacred Journey Capital Campaign, we are hosting a Lenten Fundraiser Musical Gala titled **THE CROSS OF CHRIST** on **April 12, 2025 at 7:30PM** at our church. The oratorio will be professionally performed by Romulo Delgado (tenor), Sara Papini (soprano), Hillary Tufford (Mezzo-Soprano) and Andrew Tees (Bass-Baritone), supported by Conductor Denis Mastromonaco and a 32-piece orchestra. They have performed this oratorio at a few parishes within the Archdiocese of Toronto and the reviews have been amazing! These performances have also helped raise a substantial amount for the parishes’ campaigns.

As we begin our Lenten journey, I ask you to prayerfully consider attending Romulo’s oratorio **THE CROSS OF CHRIST**. His faith gave him courage, hope and love. His hope is that this oratorio will help each of us in our own personal journey of faith via the road to humility and complete abandonment to the will of God. Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*



# THE CROSS OF CHRIST

ORIGINAL ORATORIO BY ROMULO DELGADO

TICKETS @ <https://bit.ly/CrossOfChrist2025>



# 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT ~ MARCH 9, 2025



## Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary - March 25, 2025 Solemnity of the Annunciation of Our Lord.

Cardinal Leo invites the Faithful to renew the consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on March 25, starting with a Marian Triduum (3 day preparation before Consecration) from March 22- 24, 2025. [Click for resources.](#)



## BELL TOWER Envelopes Offertory NEXT WEEKEND!

Your Donation is *appreciated* no matter how *big* or *small!*  
Thank you! GOD bless you More.



## Announcing the 2025 ShareLife Campaign

As we approach our first ShareLife Sunday collection on **March 30**, it is essential that we come together in compassion to meet our Parish Campaign goal, addressing the growing needs in our communities. By reaching this goal, our agencies will continue to:

- offer walk-in counselling to those facing mental health issues
- help victims of domestic violence
- ensure isolated seniors are not forgotten
- distribute food to families in our community
- form priests and deacons who will minister in our parishes

Your support of ShareLife makes these programs possible, among many others. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate).



Registration for the retreat is to be done online at: [www.vocationstoronto.ca/hscomesee](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca/hscomesee).



March 16-Saturday, after the 5PM Mass



## LENT Friday Schedule

English Mass  
8:30 am  
Eucharistic Adoration  
9:00 am ~ 5:45 pm  
Confessions  
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm  
Stations of the Cross ~ 6:00 pm  
Latin Mass ~ 7:00 pm

## Dear Padre

March 9, 2025

**Who decided that fish isn't meat? I really dislike fish; also, it bugs me when my friends eat lobster for dinner on Fridays in the name of "sacrifice."**

Latin is the official language of the Catholic Church. Canon law, as written in Latin, states that we must abstain from *carne* (meat), a word that refers to warm-blooded animals that walk on the ground. By that definition, fish is allowed.

You make an excellent point about the lobster dinners and the nature of sacrifice. In the document "Questions and Answers About Lent and Lenten Practices," the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops states, "While fish, lobster, and other shellfish are not considered meat and can be consumed on days of abstinence, indulging in the lavish buffet at your favorite seafood place sort of misses the point. Abstaining from meat and other indulgences during Lent is a penitential practice. On the Fridays of Lent, we remember the sacrifice of Christ on Good Friday and unite ourselves with that sacrifice through abstinence and prayer."

As we enter Lent, we must remember that our acts of penance should be more than thinking about just giving something up, like meat. Our fasting isn't just an external discipline—sacrifice for the sake of checking a box. It's supposed to be a sacrifice that leads us closer to God. When we take that deeper step ourselves, then we can invite our friends to go deeper, too. ●

Fr. Paul Borowski, CSSR / DearPadre.org

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## 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 ~

