

# 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.**

## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT ~ MARCH 30, 2025

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 *Your brother was dead and has come to life again.*



Today's gospel reading gives us a particularly attractive Lukan story of forgiveness. The story of the Prodigal Son is told with all Luke's love, artistry and delicacy of character-study. The wastrel son goes back home not because he is repentant, but simply because he is hungry. The loving father is perpetually on the look-out, despite the fact that the boy has written his father off with his implied 'I don't care whether you are alive or dead, I want my money'. He runs to meet the son, interrupting the carefully-prepared speech and pampering the returned wastrel. A chicken would have made a good party, or perhaps a lamb; but a fattened calf will feed the whole village! When the father loves the elder son enough to leave his guests at the party and go out into the field, the disgruntled stay-at-home invents slanders about the other's 'loose women' and is gently corrected by his father's 'your brother'.

Luke's characters are always a bit like ourselves, good and bad at the same time. As here, they often reflect on their situation, 'What shall I do now?' (Build new barns to fit my harvest – ingratiate myself with my master's debtors – compose a pretty speech to soothe dad's anger)

An unforgettable picture of the overflowing love and forgiveness of God.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

"O Padre, che per mezzo del tuo Figlio operi mirabilmente la nostra redenzione": è con questa preghiera che apriamo la liturgia di questa domenica. Il Vangelo ci annuncia una misericordia che è già avvenuta e ci invita a riceverla in fretta: "Vi supplichiamo in nome di Cristo: lasciatevi riconciliare con Dio", dice san Paolo (2Cor 5,20).

Il padre non impedisce al suo secondogenito di allontanarsi da lui. Egli rispetta la sua libertà, che il figlio impiegherà per vivere una vita grigia e degradata. Ma mai si stanca di aspettare, fino al momento in cui potrà riabbracciarlo di nuovo, a casa.

Di fronte all'amore del padre, il peccato del figlio risalta maggiormente. La sofferenza e le privazioni sopportate dal figlio minore sono la conseguenza del suo desiderio di indipendenza e di autonomia, e di abbandono del padre. La nostalgia di una comunione perduta risveglia in lui un altro desiderio: riprendere il cammino del focolare familiare.

Questo desiderio del cuore, suscitato dalla grazia, è l'inizio della conversione che noi chiediamo di continuo a Dio. Siamo sempre sicuri dell'accoglienza del padre.

La figura del fratello maggiore ci ricorda che non ci comportiamo veramente da figli e figlie se non proviamo gli stessi sentimenti del padre. Il perdono passa per il riconoscimento del bisogno di essere costantemente accolti dal Padre. Solo così la Pasqua diventa per il cristiano una festa del perdono ricevuto e di vera fratellanza.



**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 29<sup>TH</sup> - SABATO**

5:00 P.M. + Felicidad Buysier

**SUNDAY MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup> - DOMENICA**

8:30 A.M. - The Howsinchev Family

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Giulia Benedetti - Marino D'Attolico

Vito e Mike Cuoppolo

Rocco e Giuseppina Burdo

Gisueppe Morra - Michelina Mosca

Costanza Morra - Luca Caccamo

Carmela e Euplio Raffaele

Carmela Pirosa

Vicenzo Cucuzza - Leonello Pecorari

Gaetano, Agata e Filippo Lopresti

Costantino Angelo Lamanna e famiglia

Rocco Racioppo e famiglia

Leopoldo Volpe

11:30 A.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

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

**MONDAY MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> - LUNEDI**

8:30 A.M. + Vicente Gaerlan

12:00 P.M. - Theresa Burlton

**TUESDAY APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> - MARTEDI**

8:30 A.M. - Josefa Senario Portal

12:00 P.M. + Tsun Yan Ho

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> - MERCOLEDI**

8:30 A.M. + Ponce Cruz Lorenzana

+ Julian Potian Jr.

12:00 P.M. - Brian Hanratty

**THURSDAY APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> - GIOVEDI**

7:00 A.M. - Joramel & Ledi Ludovica

8:30 A.M. + Corazon Isagani + Myrna Mariano

**FRIDAY APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup> - VENERDI**

8:30 A.M. + Theresa Lynne Mendoza

7:00 P.M. - Angela & Michael Okulize

**SATURDAY APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup> - SABATO**

8:30 A.M. + Pio Aure

10:00 A.M. - Joseph Leung & Family



**OFFERTORY LAST WEEK**

Regular: \$5,983.90

Easter Flowers: \$2,618.35

*Thank you*



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT ~ MARCH 30, 2025



Dear Friends in Christ, in my previous Pastor's Corner written on the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2024, I shared with you how my brother-in-law, Poe, suffered from some bleeding in his brain and had to be admitted to the ICU unit at Toronto General. Despite numerous CT scans, MRIs, ultrasounds, etc., his medical team was not able to determine the true cause and source of his bleeding. As his conditions stabilized, Poe was eventually transferred to Mackenzie Hospital in Richmond Hill, where he underwent a personal "Way of the Cross." With the help of Maria, his sons and many family members and friends, Poe patiently embraced his suffering and carried his cross with courage. Sadly, Poe died this past Wednesday (26 March 2025), six months to the day since he first suffered the bleeding in his brain.

To say that Poe's sudden death was a shock for our family and his medical team (e.g., doctors, nurses, therapists, etc.) is an understatement. Although Poe had suffered numerous serious medical episodes during these past few months, his health nevertheless appeared to steadily improve with the wonderful help of those caring for him. In fact, his doctors were so optimistic about his prognosis that they were making preparations to discharge him from the hospital within a matter of weeks. Given that Poe has been bed-ridden for all these months, the doctors informed us that he still needed help in rehabilitating his motor and speech skills, one that would be best suited in a long-term care facility. As a result, our family began to look for possible places that could play a role in helping Poe begin the next stage of his recovery. And, so, inquiries were made and just as quickly ceased with his untimely death.

As I reflect upon Poe's unexpected death, one of the first thoughts that comes to mind are the words the Lord said to his people through the prophet Isaiah. "*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts*" (Isa. 55:8-9). The Lord spoke these words because he wanted his people to keep their focus on his restoration promises for them after their exile in Babylon. The Lord's words, however, contain a timeless truth that we would do well to keep before our mind. **God's wisdom, plans, and understanding are far beyond our human comprehension.**

While the doctors, who in using their expert medical skills, truly believed that Poe had turned the corner, the fact remain that God alone knew the real extent of Poe's condition and the true state of his soul. That the Lord called Poe to himself without any warning, in spite of the presence of positive signs of recovery, show that God's plans are indeed beyond our human understanding. Nevertheless, the Lord's actions (including the unexpected death of our loved ones) remain good for the Lord alone knows what is best for his children. As people of faith, when we face the realities of pain, sufferings, trials, tribulations and even death, we need to continually seek Him, receive His abundant grace, and trust in His wisdom.

One more thought comes to mind - the need to always be ready for our own death! On a number of occasions Jesus taught his disciples that no one knows the exact time of his return. "*But of the day and hour no man knows, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only*" (Mt. 24:36). "*Watch, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour when the Son of Man comes*" (Mt. 25:13). These verses serve as a powerful reminder of the importance of always being spiritually alert and prepared at all times. We must continually live our faith and avoid being complacent and indifferent given that the Lord can return at any time. This does not mean that we should remain in a state of anxiety or anxiousness concerning the unknown; rather, we are called to have a lifestyle of watchfulness, remaining vigilant for the day when we are called from this world, whether it is suddenly and/or unexpected as was the case for Poe, or slowly and expectantly. Let us be vigilant and ready!

I will miss Poe for many reasons including the many hours we spent together around the dinner table. Although I was undoubtedly surprised by his sudden death, I nevertheless accept God's will for him, for the Lord truly knew what was best for Poe. I kindly ask that you pray for the repose of Poe's soul, and that the grace of consolation and well-being be given to those Poe left behind, especially my sister, Maria, and her two boys, Dominic and Lucas. Thank you and blessings to you!

*"Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen."* Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*



## THE CROSS OF CHRIST

ORIGINAL ORATORIO BY ROMULO DELGADO

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



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT ~ MARCH 30, 2025

### St. Francis of Assisi Parish GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION Celebrating our Faith & Heritage



Friday April 18, 2025 at 3 pm  
On the streets of Toronto in the  
neighbourhood of 'Little Italy'  
Starting at  
St. Francis of Assisi Church  
(Corner of Grace Street & Mansfield  
Avenue)



### Life-Giving Wounds: A Healing Retreat for Adult Children of Divorced or Separated Parents

Friday, May 16 at 6 p.m. to  
Sunday, May 18 at 3:30 p.m. at  
St. Augustine's Seminary  
Must be 18 or older to attend. Cost:  
\$340 per person (\$200 for  
students), which includes meals,  
lodging and retreat material  
To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/LGW-TO-Retreat-Register2025>.



### PARISH DAY OF CONFESSION

FRIDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> 9AM - 12PM & 2:00PM - 6:30PM  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> 1PM - 6 PM

### The Easter Triduum

#### Holy Week Schedule

#### Holy Thursday

April 17<sup>th</sup>

Mass of the Lord's Supper and Washing of Feet

3:30 pm ~ Latin	7:00 pm ~ English
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Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
until 12:00 Midnight

#### Good Friday

April 18<sup>th</sup>

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

11:00 am ~ English	3:00 pm ~ English
1:00 pm ~ Italian	8:00 pm ~ Latin

7:00 pm ~ Stations of the Cross (English)

#### Holy Saturday

April 19<sup>th</sup>

\*No Saturday 5 pm Mass\*

8:00 pm ~ Easter Vigil Mass (English)	
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#### Easter Sunday

April 20<sup>th</sup>

8:30 am ~ English	11:30 am ~ English
10:00 am ~ Italian	1:00 pm ~ Latin

\*No Sunday 5 pm 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



### 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

## Dear Padre,

*Is it OK if I receive holy Communion more than once a day?  
Part of my routine is to go to early morning Mass in my parish,  
even on days I know I'm going to another Mass, like a wedding  
or funeral, or sometimes another Mass for that day.*

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that by the very nature of what the Eucharist intends and celebrates, those who participate in the great mystery of our faith should "receive the Lord's Body" (1388). In other words, reception of holy Communion is strongly recommended and is understood as the ordinary practice for all who participate in the Mass. Proper preparation and disposition are presumed as both necessary and important.

In response to a specific "dubium" or question about this practice and expectation, in 1984 the Pontifical Commission on the Code of Canon Law issued an authentic interpretation of the Church's understanding of this practice. It mandated that "the faithful may receive the Holy Eucharist only a second time on the same day" (CCC, 1388, footnote 222). This directive is intended to establish the general norm and practice for the reception of holy Communion. Your practice, as a result of this norm, is directly representative of the understanding of the Church. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, 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 ~

