

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.**

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD ~ APRIL 13, 2025

Luke 22:14-56



The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

In Luke's version of the story of the Passion of Jesus many of the details are different from those of the other evangelists. This merely means that Luke stresses different aspects, for the narratives are as much commentaries on the significance of events as straight narratives.

1. At the Last Supper Luke gathers together sayings of Jesus on the future of the Church and how the leaders of the community should behave: they should serve their brothers and sisters, not like the arrogant leaders of secular regimes. Luke places here the promise to Peter, that he will strengthen his brothers.

2. Luke stresses that Jesus is in control of the whole sequence. At the Agony in the Garden, instead of the three distraught prayers of Jesus, there is only one, and Jesus is in perfect control, kneeling down and standing up again, rather than throwing himself upon the ground. At the end, instead of 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?', Jesus himself tranquilly yields his life into the Father's hands, obediently completing his Father's will.

3. At the trial-scene there is no sign of the High Priest, nor of any verdict. It is more a disorderly rabble who hustle Jesus to Pilate and produced trumped-up charges. Pilate does not sentence Jesus, but merely hands him over to them 'to deal with as they pleased'. Jesus, on the other hand, continues his mission of bringing peace by the reconciliation of Pilate with Herod.

4. The crucifixion scene itself is a scene of conversions: Jesus continues right to the end his mission of bringing reconciliation. The women of Jerusalem mourn for Jesus. Jesus forgives his executioners. He welcomes the good thief into paradise. The centurion gives praise to God, and the crowds go home expressing their repentance. By contrast, it is the holy women who fulfil the Law of repose on the Sabbath.

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Festeggiamo oggi l'entrata messianica di Gesù a Gerusalemme; in ricordo del suo trionfo, benediciamo le palme e leggiamo il racconto della sua passione e della sua morte. È il profeta Isaia con il suo terzo cantico sul servo sofferente di Iahvè che ci prepara ad ascoltare questo passo del Vangelo.

La sofferenza fa parte della missione del servo. Essa fa anche parte della nostra missione di cristiani. Non può esistere un servo coerente di Gesù se non con il suo fardello, come ci ricorda il salmo di oggi.

Ma nella sofferenza risiede la vittoria. "Egli spogliò se stesso, assumendo la condizione di servo, umiliò se stesso, facendosi obbediente fino alla morte, e alla morte di croce". E, come il suono trionfale di una fanfara, risuonano le parole che richiamano l'antico inno cristiano sulla kenosi citato da san Paolo: "Per questo Dio l'ha esaltato al di sopra di tutto". L'intera gloria del servo di Iahvè è nello spogliarsi completamente, nell'abbassarsi, nel servire come uno schiavo, fino alla morte. La parola essenziale è: "Per questo". L'elevazione divina di Cristo è nel suo abbassarsi, nel suo servire, nella sua solidarietà con noi, in particolare con i più deboli e i più provati.

Poiché la divinità è l'amore. E l'amore si è manifestato con più forza proprio sulla croce, sulla croce dalla quale è scaturito il grido di fiducia filiale nel Padre.

"Dopo queste parole egli rese lo spirito", e noi ci inginocchiemo - secondo la liturgia della messa - e ci immergiamo nella preghiera o nella meditazione. Questo istante di silenzio totale è essenziale, indispensabile a ciascuno di noi. Che cosa dirò al Crocifisso? A me stesso? Al Padre?

### 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!

### Parish CONFESSION Days:

April 16, 2025 - Wed  
1PM - 6PM



### Mass Intentions for the week



#### SATURDAY APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup> - SABATO

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

#### PALM SUNDAY APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup> -

#### DOMENICA DELLE PALMA

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

10:00 A.M. - Per Tutti I Nostri Parrociani

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

1:00 P.M. - Pro Popolo

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

#### MONDAY APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup> - LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. - Ramon Santiago

12:00 P.M. - Richard Neilson

#### TUESDAY APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> - MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. + Aurea & Epifanio Ilag

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

#### WEDNESDAY APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> -

#### MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. + Ida Roland Baldwin D'Souza

12:00 P.M. + Anne De Souza

#### HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup> -

#### GIOVEDI SANTO

3:30 P.M. - Pro Popolo

7:00 P.M. - For All Our Parishioners

#### GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> -

#### VENERDI SANTO

11:00 A.M. - For All Our Parishioners

1:00 P.M. - Per Tutti I Nostri Parrociani

3:00 P.M. - For All Our Parishioners

8:00 P.M. - Pro Popolo

#### HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> -

#### SABATO SANTO

8:00 P.M. - For All Our Parishioners

### OFFERTORY LAST WEEK



Regular: \$6,183  
Bldg Fund: \$3,655

thank  
you



## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD ~ APRIL 13, 2025



Dear Friends in Christ, this Sunday we celebrate what is traditionally called Passion Sunday, also known as Palm Sunday. Our readings commemorate the day when Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah: *"Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey"* (Zech. 9:9). At every Mass, the faithful receive the blessed palm branches, which symbolizes the victory of Christ's passion over sin and death.

Passion Sunday also marks the beginning of Holy Week, which is the most solemn and sacred days in our liturgical year. Catholics throughout the world are invited to participate in the Easter Triduum, which consists of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil (that extends into Easter Sunday). Although these celebrations take place on three different days, it is important to remember that they form one continuous liturgy, which commemorates the Paschal Mystery – the suffering, death, and resurrection – of our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, the Triduum is not a series of disconnected events but a sacred journey, whereby we walk in faith with Christ on the night before he died in the Upper Room to his painful death on Calvary, and from the tomb where his dead body laid to his glorious Resurrection. As people of faith, we are called not to be passive spectators but active participants in this drama of love!

As you read these words, I want to encourage each one of you, if you have not done so before, to come and be part of this year's Triduum. Too many Catholics often settle only for the Easter Sunday Mass. I know this from my pastoral experiences given that the crowds are usually smaller for the other liturgies. What an unfortunate shame! Enter the full mystery by coming for the entire Triduum, since each liturgy builds upon the last, and together they allow us to experience the full depth and breadth of God's merciful love for you and me! If you are still reluctant to attend the entire Triduum, permit me to highlight each day's experience for you.

The Triduum begins on Holy Thursday evening with the Mass of the Lord's Supper. The Mass commemorates the night of love, when Jesus instituted both the Eucharist and the priesthood. Jesus takes the Jewish Passover meal and transforms the breaking of the bread: *"This is my Body... This is my Blood... Do this in remembrance of me!"*

The Eucharist is the greatest love story of all time, a gift of Jesus Christ who poured out himself for us. On this night, Jesus anticipates the sacrifice of the Cross and gives us a means by which we can abide in him always. In washing his disciples' feet on the night before his death, Jesus also teaches us where true greatness is found, that is, in service and humility. At the end of the Mass, the tabernacle is emptied and the sanctuary is stripped. The Eucharist is carried solemnly to the altar of repose and there Jesus begins his agony. It is at this time that we are invited to stay with the Lord and keep watch with him! How can we miss Holy Thursday when it is the beginning of everything?

As we wake from our sleep, we come upon Good Friday. There has not been, nor will there ever be, another day like Good Friday. This is the only day in our liturgical calendar when Mass is not celebrated. The altar is bare and the Church is stripped. Although a heavy silence envelope us, we do not gather in despair but solemn reverence as we listen to the brutal details of Our Lord's suffering and passion from the Gospel of John. The Cross, which was once used as the instrument of torture and death, now becomes the Tree of Life. Through the eyes of faith, we behold and venerate the wood of the Cross *"on which hung the salvation of the world."*

Good Friday is the heart of the Christian mystery. Jesus became incarnate and took on our humanity especially so that He, who is Love, can be crucified! By freely laying down His life for us, Jesus becomes the Paschal Lamb slain for our sins. Jesus' death is not a defeat, but a victory for us and we are healed through His wounds!

If we skip Good Friday, we miss the opportunity to gaze upon Christ crucified. If we miss the Cross, we lose the key that unlocks the mystery of Easter. The glory of the Resurrection can only be understood in the light of Calvary. It is on Good Friday that we are invited to stand with Mary and John at the foot of the Cross in order to gaze upon the Saviour of the world!

Holy Saturday is the quietest day of the Triduum because the Church is still and the Eucharist is not celebrated. In a sense, the Church waits with quiet grief and hope at the tomb with Christ. There is a profound, sacred silence that permeates the air. It is the silence of the disciples who lost their Master, a silence of a world without Christ. But this silence does not last long, however, for it cease just like the stillness that stands before sunrise.

Finally, we come to the climax of Easter – the Saturday Vigil - the night of all nights. The celebration begins in darkness and the Paschal candle is lit from the fire kindled before. It is the Light of Christ that pierces the darkness of the night. The readings for this evening replays God's entire salvation history from the start of Creation, to the Exodus, to the Prophets, and culminates in the Resurrection. The bells ring triumphantly and the Gloria is sung again for the first time since its cessation at the start of Lent. We joyfully exclaim "Alleluia" since the tomb is empty and Christ is risen!

On this night, countless Christian become fully initiated into the Church. They are baptized, confirmed, and invited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion for the first time. The Vigil is also a re-creation and the faithful are called to renew their own baptismal promises as they pass from darkness to light, from death into life. We not only profess Our Lord's rising from the dead, but his Resurrection becomes our own!

And so, dear friends, I make a simple appeal to you. Please do not treat the liturgies of the Triduum as optional extras; rather, consider coming and fully entering into it this year. If an event or a task impedes you from attending, rearrange your schedule! Come alone! Come with a friend! Come as a family! Come with an open heart! I promise that if you come, you will not be disappointed since you will experience in the liturgies of the Triduum, where heaven touches earth, and when time meets eternity. The Triduum ultimately is the manifestation of the beauty and profound drama of God's love for us unpacked over three beautiful days. How, then, can refuse to be a part of it in its entirety?

Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*

## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD ~ APRIL 13, 2025

### Dear Padre,

*I'm thinking about going to the Easter Vigil, but why does it have to be so long?*

When an event seems long, it may have to do with our expectations. If we go to the Easter Vigil and expect it to be like a Sunday Mass, then it will seem long. The typical parish Easter Vigil lasts two to three hours. There are some communities who vigil all night. Why does it have to be so long? Because this is one night of the year when we Catholics tell our whole story.

There are four parts of the Vigil. Part One is the *Lucernarium* (Light) when we gather around the paschal fire from which the paschal candle is lit. Then follows the passing of the light to members of the congregation, who are holding candles. By candlelight, we hear the Exsultet—the Easter Proclamation, sung only on this night. Part Two is the Liturgy of the Word, when we take our time listening to readings, singing psalms, and reflecting on salvation history. Part Three is the Sacraments of Initiation, when new members are welcomed into the Church, baptized, and confirmed, and all renew their baptismal promises. And Part Four is the Liturgy of the Eucharist, when new members receive holy Communion for the first time. The Easter Vigil is rich with meaning, solemn as well as joyful, and to fully experience it, we must take our time. ●



ALEXANDROS MICHALIOS / SHUTTERSTOCK

*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*



Needs of the Holy Land  
Special Collection on  
Good Friday,  
April 18, 2025

These funds are used for the upkeep of the sanctuaries and to help with pastoral work, Catholic schools and social assistance in the Holy Land.

Thank you for your generosity;

### You empower youth to embrace God



Your devotion enables the Office of Catholic Youth to fulfill their mission of helping youth and young adults to encounter, love and serve Jesus Christ. Through your loving support of ShareLife, young people are empowered to become Christian leaders who know Christ and have a growing relationship with Him. Aspiring youth and campus ministers, like Laura, form spiritual habits through workshops and formation retreats. They learn practical methods to engage the youth of today and help them deal with everyday pressures. "These formation sessions have equipped me with a firm foundation in the faith," she says, "enabling me to pass on authentic Catholic teachings to the young people in my care."

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate).

Thank you for living the Gospel through ShareLife!

### 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 (Corner of Grace Street & Mansfield Avenue)

### Jubilee 2025: Lenten Pilgrimage



Why not consider a Lenten Pilgrimage to one of our designated Pilgrimage Churches in the Archdiocese of Toronto during this special year of blessings? A listing of these churches and resources for your visit can be found at: [www.archtoronto.org/jubilee](https://www.archtoronto.org/jubilee).

These locations are as follows:

#### Archdiocesan

[St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, Toronto](#)

#### Central Region

[St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto](#)

[St. Mary's Parish, Toronto \(Bathurst Street\)](#)

[St. Edward the Confessor Parish, NYork](#)

#### Western Region

[Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Etobicoke](#)

[St. Mary's Parish, Brampton](#)

#### Eastern Region

[St. Barnabas Parish, Scarborough](#)

[St. Gregory the Great Parish, Oshawa](#)

#### Northern Region

[St. Padre Pio Parish, Kleinburg](#)

[St. Mary's Parish, Barrie](#)

#### Shrines

[Martyrs' Shrine, Midland](#)



**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 ~*

*In all our necessities, trials, and  
difficulties, no better or safer aid exists  
for us than prayer and hope that God  
will provide for us by means He desires.*

*~ St. John of the Cross ~*