

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.**

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER) ~ APRIL 27, 2025

John 20:19-31

Eight Days later, JESUS came and stood in their midst.



This passage from John's Gospel has all the more significance because it brings the Gospel to a close. The story of the breakfast-party with the Risen Christ on the shore of the Lake of Galilee is a sort of appendix. The story-line of the main Gospel ends with Thomas blurting out 'My Lord and my God'. The Gospel therefore ends, as it began with the only two unmistakable declarations in the New Testament of the divinity of Jesus. 'The Word was God' and 'My Lord and my God' bracket the Gospel, showing the purpose and angle of the whole, to show that Jesus is God. It complements the other Gospels: they show a man who is also God, whereas this Gospel shows a God who is also man. It is with the divine authority that Jesus confers on his Church the divine power to forgive. Real forgiveness is indeed Godlike. It is not simply 'forgive-and-forget', but forgiveness in the knowledge that a hurt has occurred. Just as a bone, broken and merged together again, can be stronger than it was before it was broken, so forgiveness can create a real link of love on both sides, a treasured secret of divine graciousness between forger and forgiven..

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Partecipando al sacrificio della Messa, noi ascoltiamo ogni volta le parole di Cristo che si rivolge agli apostoli: "Vi lascio la pace, vi do la mia pace". Inoltre, imploriamo il Signore di concederci "unità e pace secondo la sua volontà" e di donare "la pace ai nostri giorni".

Ogni volta che apparve agli apostoli Cristo, dopo aver vinto la morte, augurò la pace, sapendo quanto tutti loro la desiderassero. Nel conferire agli apostoli il potere di rimettere i peccati, Cristo ha portato la pace nell'anima inquieta dell'uomo. L'anima creata da Dio ha nostalgia di Dio. La pace con Dio è il fondamento della pace tra gli uomini. Liberato dalla schiavitù del peccato, l'uomo è in pace, ha l'anima in festa, in pace. La pace regna sui cuori puri. È partendo dalla pace interiore, quella del cuore, appoggiandosi ad essa, che si può stabilire la pace esteriore: in famiglia, fra vicini, in seno alla Chiesa, tra i popoli. Dio chiama tutti gli uomini ad unirsi al suo popolo unico. Il suo desiderio, che è di riunire tutti gli uomini in seno ad un'unica comunità per salvarli, è già espresso nell'Antico Testamento.

Gli Ebrei capirono di essere un popolo unico nella lontana notte di Pasqua in cui Dio li separò dagli Egiziani ed indicò loro la Terra promessa.

La Pasqua viene per ricordare questo avvenimento alle generazioni successive: in questo giorno ogni ebreo ha il sentimento di essere di nuovo condotto fuori dall'Egitto per essere salvato. Allo stesso modo, il nuovo popolo di Dio è nato il giorno di Pasqua, quando la concordia eterna fu rinnovata e suggellata dal sangue del Figlio di Dio. Questo popolo creato da Cristo è precisamente la Chiesa.

Gli uomini assomigliano a piccoli universi, chiusi e segreti. Dio li ha creati così. Ciò nonostante, il Creatore ha dato agli uomini anche il gusto di riunirsi in gruppi, di vivere, di lavorare, di creare in comune. Dio ha voluto allo stesso tempo assicurare loro la salvezza in quanto comunità, la salvezza del suo popolo. Accettare la salvezza promessa da Dio significa nello stesso tempo integrarsi al nuovo popolo riunito da Cristo, in seno al quale tutti usano i medesimi strumenti della grazia, cioè i sacramenti, scaturiti dalla Passione di Cristo.

In diversi momenti, il Nuovo Testamento designa Cristo come il volto visibile di Dio, l'immagine del Padre, il suo segno (Col 1,15; Gv 1,18). Cristo è come un sacramento che significa e trasmette l'amore del Padre. È un segno carico di significato e di forza di salvezza; in lui si trovano riuniti il perdono del Padre e la filiazione. In questo senso, Cristo appare come il primo sacramento nato dall'amore di Dio, la fonte di tutti i sacramenti. I sacramenti possono esistere solamente perché in loro Cristo stesso è presente ed agisce.

Come una madre premurosa, la Chiesa si sforza di spiritualizzare tutta la vita dei suoi figli e delle sue figlie. Vivere la spiritualità, provare la pace dell'anima è tentare di dare un carattere divino al quotidiano attraverso il flusso di grazie, di sapienza, di sentimenti, di consolazione che viene da Dio. Per ottenere la salvezza, egli ci fa pervenire, in un modo o nell'altro, a raggiungere Cristo. Ci fa camminare la mano nella mano con i figli del popolo di Dio, ci dirige verso un destino comune sotto l'egida di Cristo che si occupa di noi, ci perdona, ci santifica e ci concede la pace.

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 APRIL 26TH - SABATO SANTO

8:00 P.M. + Carmela & Antonio Scarano

SUNDAY APRIL 27TH - DOMENICA

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

10:00 A.M. - (Italian)

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia - Tony Lamanna
Antonio Savella - Marino D'Attolico - Benito Cortese-Vito e Mike Cuoppolo - Luigi e Maria D'Addario-Rocco e Giuseppina Burdo
Giuseppe Morra - Michelina Mosca - Costanza Morra - Luca Caccamo - Carmela e Euplio Raffaele - Giovanna Costantino e famiglia—Giseppe Canini e famiglia - Totonno e Rosaria Francella Fedele e Clementina Colangelo - Vincenza Di Tacchio Leonello Pecorari - Marco, Edda e defunti famiglie Carlevaris e Nevodini - L'Anime del Purgatorio

11:30 A.M. + Paolo Giuseppina Antonio M

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

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

MONDAY APRIL 28TH - LUNEDÌ

8:30 A.M. + Carmina Benedict D'Souza

12:00 P.M. - Beverley Correiro

6:00 P.M. + Pope Francis - RM (Latin)

TUESDAY APRIL 29TH - MARTEDÌ

8:30 A.M. + Rose & Anthony Galekovic

12:00 P.M. - Ramon Enrique Jose

WEDNESDAY APRIL 30TH - MERCOLEDÌ

8:30 A.M. + Gavino & Romualda Anino

+ Joward Pumihic

+ Hermann Genoud

12:00 P.M. + Salvacion Gorobia

THURSDAY MAY 1ST - GIOVEDÌ

7:00 A.M. - Pro Populo

8:30 A.M. + Martina D'Souza & Family

FRIDAY MAY 2ND - VENERDÌ

8:30 A.M. - Ursula Lauren Hare

7:00 P.M. - Fred Leung

SATURDAY MAY 3RD - SABATO

8:30 A.M. - Ellen Mariano

10:00 A.M. - Kau Lam Leung



OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Holy Thursday: \$4,595.00

Good Friday: \$6,950.40

Easter Sunday: \$6,119.40

Regular: \$8,295.65

Thank You for your generosity!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER) ~ APRIL 27, 2025



Dear Friends of Christ, during the past few months, I (along with the members of my RCIA team) had the privilege of walking and preparing a number of adults to be received into the Catholic Church. In my preliminary interviews with them, and throughout their weekly catechesis, I often reminded these candidates to ask themselves a simple question as they participated in the RCIA program: "Is the Lord inviting me to a deeper relationship with Him through the Catholic Church." I am happy to say that nine adults from different walks of life said "yes". They were fully initiated into our Faith and Church during this year's Easter Vigil Mass 2025.

After the completion of the RCIA program, I asked each person to write me a brief reflection on their journey of faith. All sent me wonderful and thoughtful words! Over the next few weeks, I would like to share with you some of their stories in my Corner. As you read these stories, please try to see God's fingerprint and how he acts in the lives of these individuals. It really is amazing how he uses different means for each person and how they are able to respond in their own ways to the point each is able to take the leap of faith and enter the Church. Hopefully, their stories will help you have a greater appreciation of your own Catholic Faith, a gift and blessing that many of us often take for granted. With that said, the first story belongs to Leslie Tse.

"I grew up in an evangelical Christian family in Hong Kong and was baptized as a teenager. The churches that I attended all held to the Protestant doctrines of bible-alone (sola scriptura) and faith-alone (sola fide). Back in my teenage years I was an anti-Catholic (as is typical of many Protestants) and considered that the Catholic Church had distorted the purity of the original Christian faith from Our Lord Jesus Christ and the Apostles. At that stage of my Christian journey, my knowledge of the Catholic Church all came from Protestant sources or history books.

Many evangelical Christians simply ignore most of the first 1500 years of Church history, and readily jump from the first century of apostolic time to the Reformation period. For me that three quarter of church history always intrigued me and it was hard to ignore. The question is: Will God allow His Church to fall into error for most of church history?

After immigrating to Canada, I had a job close to an Anglican bookstore situated near an old and large Anglican church (near Bloor and Yonge). I visited that Anglican bookstore quite often during lunchtime and from there I started to glance into the historical churches - both Catholic and Orthodox. I visited many of these churches out of curiosity.

I bought and read (part of) the Catechism of the Catholic Church. I watched the Christmas Midnight Mass celebrated by the late Pope John Paul II. And eventually, I attended Masses (very occasionally) at St Michael's Cathedral and bought a missal. I remembered when Pope John Paul II passed away in 2005 and I was deeply moved and saddened, as if someone close to me had died, even though I was not a Catholic back then.

When I look back at all these experiences now, I believe that it was Our Lord who was slowly bringing me back to His Church. Up to this point my anti-Catholic stance was mostly gone, but my knowledge of the Catholic faith was at best only very superficial. And I still had reservation on the idea of converting from Protestantism to Catholicism.

The real turning point came before the pandemic, when I first came across on the internet articles regarding the Eucharist/ Holy Communion, including works by Dr. Scott Hahn. It was the first time that I read the theology of the Eucharist, including the exegesis of John 6, 1 Corinthians 10 (Protestants only focus on 1 Corinthians 11), the Eucharist and the Passover meal, etc.

These caused me to research deeper into Catholic apologetic literature including those by Dr. Scott Hahn, Tim Staples, Jimmy Akin, etc. I read the exegesis of scripture passages that point to core Catholic beliefs (for example, Matthew 16 on the Papacy; Luke 10 on Church authority; John 20 on the sacrament of reconciliation). And, one by one, my obstacles to Catholicism were removed, such as: the use of holy images; beliefs on Mary (most profoundly her role as New Ark of the Covenant, and as Queen of the Davidic kingdom); faith and works (not sola fide).

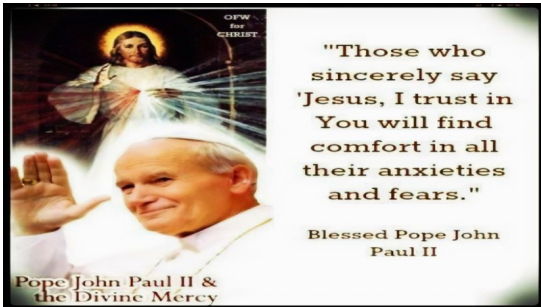
By the Fall of 2022, with the pandemic almost over, I began to look for a Catholic church that offered more traditional and reverent liturgies, including the extraordinary form of the Mass. The Lord led me to St Lawrence Martyr church. Thanks be to God the transition was smooth, and it kind of reminded me of my first attendances of Masses at St Michael's many years ago. The liturgies here are reverent and the church building is both beautiful and traditional.

To my surprise I have found that Fr. Thomas was my university classmate (though we did not know each other back then). I joined the RCIA class in the Fall of 2024 and will be fully received into the Catholic Church this Easter Vigil 2025."

Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*

Do not try to excuse your faults; try to correct them - St. Don Bosco

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SECURITIES AS A CHARITABLE GIFT OPTION

One of the most financially sound ways to support the Archdiocese of Toronto is with the gift of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds). When you donate stocks, mutual funds and other publicly traded securities to a registered charity, you pay no capital gains tax and receive a tax receipt for the full amount of the gift. It means a great tax break for you and more significant support of your Parish and various archdiocesan charities such as ShareLife, St. Augustine's Seminary, The Shepherds' Trust and many others.

To donate securities, follow this link: <https://bit.ly/GiftsOfSecurities>

where you will find our "How to Gift Securities Info Sheet" and a "Letter of Direction."
Tel # 416-934-3400 ext. 519



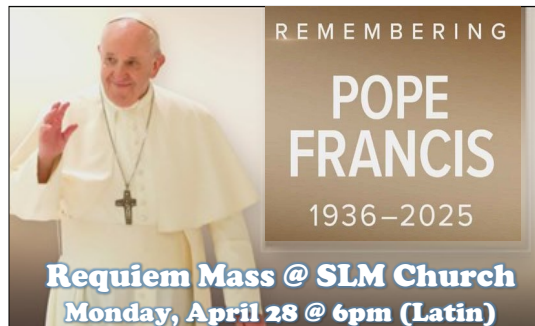
The second ShareLife Sunday of the year is **NEXT WEEKEND May 4th!**

YOU ENSURE A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN

As many as 7,000 youth are homeless across Canada on any given night. Covenant House, an agency you support through ShareLife, provides a refuge for at-risk youth. They offer safe housing alongside healthcare, education, and employment guidance. Thanks to your compassionate heart, young people like David can move from a life on the street to a life with a future. David first found safety in the emergency shelter and later moved into a transitional housing program, where he formed a life-long bond with his mentor, whose kind heart and patient guidance inspired David to pursue and complete post-secondary education.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

Thank you for living the Gospel through ShareLife!



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,

How do we maintain our faith in a world that shames religion and creates doubt in our beliefs?

I would respond to your question with one of my own: "When has it ever been different?" In what place has there been universal praise and acceptance of the practices of faith and belief? When has there been a time when there is no doubt? This is a good question for this Sunday, when we hear about St. Thomas, the doubting disciple.

Many years ago, unanimity might have been understood as the norm in a tight-knit neighborhood community of people with the same experience and belief. However, in the wide world today that is so connected and disconnected at the same time, sameness and uniformity cannot be assumed. It may cause unease, or even fear, to learn that someone disagrees with you, perhaps even someone you love, but it should no longer be a surprise or considered out of the ordinary.

Doubt can help a person grow in faith and belief. Even though doubt is challenging, it is often a necessary experience in order to be strengthened and to persevere. Doubt is not something that should cause us to quiver in fear, but rather to rejoice in hope, in the confidence that what we believe is worth living and has something to teach us. ●



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 ~

