

# 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](mailto:stlawrencemartyr@archtoronto.org)

Website: [stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org](http://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.**

## 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ MAY 25, 2025

John 14:23-29



**The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you.**

In this final part of the high priestly prayer of Jesus, he suddenly turns from concern for the circle of his disciples to concern for the wider circle of future disciples, and prays for their unity. The unity of the disciples was to be a sign not only horizontally, a sign of their love for one another, but also vertically, a sign of the love of Jesus for them and the mutual love of Jesus and the Father. It was to be a sign for the world, 'that the world may believe that you sent me'.

There is a story that in extreme old age the Apostle John would be carried into the Christian assembly and asked to give them a saving message. All he would say was, 'Love one another'. And at the early martyrdoms the spectators would say, 'See how these Christians love one another!'

Already the Letter of John, especially 2 and 3 John, show that Christian unity was not flawless. The scandals of Christian disunity have become flagrant since the break between Eastern and Western Christianity in 1054 and the shattering of Western Christianity into increasingly petty fragments since 1517. Mission to non-Christians has in the last century or so shown the counterproductive absurdity of this disunity, but the priority given by the Churches to this sign of Jesus' message remains far below that of their Founder. A scatter of quarrelling sects is hardly an effective sign of divine love.'

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Un'antica leggenda racconta che san Giovanni evangelista, vecchio e ormai sul suo letto di morte, continuava a mormorare: "Figli miei, amatevi gli uni gli altri, amatevi gli uni gli altri...". Questo testamento di Gesù, che egli ci ha trasmesso, era per lui molto importante. E, certamente, questo amore non era facile nemmeno in quei tempi. Non è mai così necessario parlare d'amore come là dove non ce n'è. È la stessa cosa che succede per la pace: non si è mai parlato tanto di pace come oggi, e intanto si continua a fare la guerra in moltissimi luoghi. Ma, proprio su questo punto, il Vangelo di Giovanni pone un'importante distinzione: c'è una pace di Gesù e un'altra pace, data dal mondo. San Giovanni attira la nostra attenzione sul fatto che noi non dobbiamo lasciarci accecare dalle parole, dobbiamo tenere conto soprattutto dello spirito nel quale esse sono dette. Dio ci ha mandato lo Spirito Santo per insegnarci la sua volontà. Il suo Spirito ci insegna anche a penetrare il senso delle parole. Possiamo allora rivolgerci a lui quando siamo disorientati, quando ci sentiamo deboli, quando non sappiamo più cosa fare. È un aiuto al quale possiamo ricorrere quando ci aspettano decisioni difficili da prendere. Egli ci aiuta!



**Vocation Reflection...** Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him and we will come to Him. How will I respond to that love? Am I being called to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life? If God is calling you contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocation, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997.

Email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org) [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)

### 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 MAY 14<sup>TH</sup> - SABATO**

5:00 P.M. + Avelina Guanzon

#### **SUNDAY MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> - DOMENICA**

8:30 A.M. - Marylou Lim

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Marino D'Attolico

Vito e Mike Cuoppolo

Luigi e Maria D'Addario

Leonello Pecorari

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

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. + Poe Soesaty

#### **MONDAY MAY 26<sup>TH</sup> - LUNEDÌ**

8:30 A.M. + Poe Soesaty

12:00 P.M. + Ossie & Swarna Amereskere

#### **TUESDAY MAY 27<sup>TH</sup> - MARTEDÌ**

8:30 A.M. + Erinda Martinez-Villa

12:00 P.M. + Chrissie & Johnny Amereskere

#### **WEDNESDAY MAY 28<sup>TH</sup> - MERCOLEDÌ**

8:30 A.M. - Voly Rego & Family

- Francisco Bautista

+ David Jose

+ Ernesto Dauz

12:00 P.M. - Connie Chiu

#### **THURSDAY MAY 29<sup>TH</sup> - GIOVEDÌ**

7:00 A.M. - Pro Populo

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

#### **FRIDAY MAY 30<sup>TH</sup> - VENERDÌ**

8:30 A.M. + Resaro & Rudolf D'Souza

7:00 P.M. - Michael De Souza

#### **SATURDAY MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> - SABATO**

8:30 A.M. + Brendon & Marie-Theresa Furtado

10:00 A.M. + Pro Populo

### OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Regular: \$5,751.45

Bake Sale: \$1,385.85

Bell Tower Envelopes:

\$4,671.60



## 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ MAY 25, 2025



Dear Friends of Christ, in the next couple of Corners, I would like to present to you the stories of baptized Catholics, who for one reason or another were not fully initiated into the Catholic Church; that is to say, they were not able to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation when they were younger. These are their stories....

Bridgette Brennan, a grade twelve student, wrote the following: "Dear Father Thomas, RCIA has been an exciting experience for me. When I started in January, I was not very sure what to expect. All my friends were confirmed in the seventh grade, and the preparation was done online; so they were not much help. It ended up being an interesting journey, and I made some new friends and learnt more about my faith.

One of the things that stood out as most important was baptism. I was baptized at the age of two, so I could not understand its importance. However, watching all the videos in our classes and hearing your explanations allowed me to understand the significance of baptism. I learned how it washes away original sin and brings us into the Church. This made me appreciate it in a way that I was not able to before. I learned about the sacraments, which was not only interesting for me, but it gave me a better understanding of why we do all of these different rituals.

A major lesson that I learned in RCIA concerns the significance of the Eucharist. In the past, I had always received Holy Communion thinking it was just an old tradition. I did not realize that it was not just a symbol, but the actual Body and Blood of Christ. This helped me to see the Mass in a completely different light.

Another part of the RCIA program that I appreciated was learning about Confession. I had always heard about it, when I was younger. I just saw it as simply a way to list my mistakes to some random man. Now, I know that it is about finding peace with God and it is a way to grow spiritually.

Overall, the RCIA program has helped me deepen the understanding of my faith, and what it means to be Catholic. I am grateful for the chance to learn all of this and to strengthen my relationship with God. I'm excited to keep learning about the faith on my own now."

Alessandra Di Giovanni, a young woman, who is about to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage expressed her journey of faith using the following words: "After getting engaged to the love of my life, I knew I wanted to get married at my family church. I started to worry that I would not be able to, since I was only baptized but not confirmed. My fiancé, on the other hand, did it right and got confirmed as a child. When I met with Father Thomas, he said he would marry us (as my fiancé was confirmed). I was so happy in that moment but right away knew this was the perfect opportunity to be confirmed and become a "full" Catholic, as they say.

After our meeting, we went to church the following Sunday and have been every Sunday since. Father Thomas is a wonderful speaker and made it so easy for me to listen and digest God's words. I was never bored and really felt the words of God. I also never forgot to "smile". If you attend every Sunday at St. Lawrence, you know what I am referring too.

As I was already baptized, I did the second part of the RCIA course, which prepared me for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The classes were every Tuesday for three months. I honestly thought I would be learning the same things that I had already known throughout my high school religion class. However, it was so much more and it really made me look at my life and my relationship with God differently.

After all these years, I did not realize how important it was to have a relationship with God. We are taught at a young age in school and by our family that God is everywhere and that he hears us and loves us no matter what. However, in maturing you begin to understand his passion and sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins, which allows us to form a deeper connection with God.

As each Tuesday class would pass then Sunday mass, I started talking to God every day and not just at night before I go to sleep; but all the time and although I didn't get a response in the regular sense, I know he is listening and watching over me.

Realizing when getting baptized, we are made sons and daughters of God, our parents make this commitment to our faith on our behalf, and when getting confirmed, we further fulfill that commitment, in which doing so strengthens our bond to God. Wanting to receive one of the seven sacraments is very important to me; I want to deepen my relationship with God while also strengthening my connection to the church. I want my children to follow in both my footsteps and those of my fiancé in the hope that they will build their relationship with God, to understand his teachings and not to just hear but listen to his words and all that he can offer.

In our classes, one of the themes that we touch on was Agape love, which is total, committed, sustained and self-giving love; a love that you give freely rather than do in expectation. When you are not doing based on receiving something in return, but rather on giving freely. God is the perfect, if not only example of true agape love; He accepts us for who we are without expecting change or fulfillment. I can't imagine my life without this relationship and the agape love God gives me every day."

As you can see in Bridgette and Alessandra's stories, too often we grow up having celebrated the sacraments without truly knowing their significance. For these two women, they were fortunate enough to learn a bit more about their faith through the RCIA program that they attended faithfully these past few months. Pax Christi, *Fr. Thomas*



## 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ MAY 25, 2025

# Good News!

May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter (C)

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 / Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23 /  
John 14:23-29

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**There is a difference between common sense and wisdom.** The former can be taught and is usually passed on by our culture. It includes such practical tips as *wash your hands before you eat, don't drink and drive, and save some money for a rainy day.* Wisdom, on the other hand, tends to be the fruit of reflection upon one's life experiences. It tends to be insightful, containing greater depth and richness.

While we presume everyone will eventually arrive at some level of common sense, not everyone becomes wise with time. Wisdom tends to see what others may not. Jesus taught his followers, "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that [I] told you" (John 14: 26). It is God's Spirit that brings us to wisdom.

I invite you to list five pieces of wisdom you have drawn from your life experiences—five truths for life by which you try to live. You may not live them out as perfectly as you might hope, but they are the five foundation stones upon which you have chosen to build your life. For example, from my own life, I've concluded that patience works. Everything has its own rhythm, and things generally work out, given enough time. Another foundation for me is to live by what I need, rather than by what I want. I readily admit that I don't live that out perfectly, but, when I do, life is much less stressful. ●

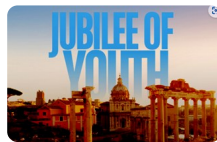


### YOUR LOVE CAN HELP OTHERS THRIVE

Mental health challenges can impact anyone, whether you're personally navigating them or supporting someone who is. These struggles transcend age and circumstance. Brenda was weighed down by shame, having battled anxiety and depression for decades. Through your support, she found a new perspective at a Catholic Family Services agency funded by ShareLife, where counselling lifted her up and allowed her to see her own worth. Your compassion is instrumental in helping others see themselves as God sees them: loving, important, and enough. Thank you for living the Gospel by helping relieve the pain of those facing silent battles.

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

Thank you for Living the Gospel.



### JUBILEE OF YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

YOUNG ADULTS BETWEEN  
THE AGES OF 19-39

Join the [Office of Catholic Youth](https://officeofcatholicyouth.org) on pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from **July 23rd to August 5th** and be transformed by the beauty and universality of the Catholic Church during this historic Holy Year. Enter through the Holy Doors and visit Padua, Florence, Assisi and ending in Rome to participate in the Jubilee activities.

[Learn more on the OCY website](https://officeofcatholicyouth.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**

## Dear Padre,

***I know Catholics with spouses who cheat and abuse them. What should they do?***

If someone is in an abusive marriage, the Church wants you to help that person reach safety. The Church doesn't tolerate anyone staying in a place where physical or mental abuse occurs. Separation is often a first and necessary step. However, there is always hope for reconciliation. If a husband is abusive, and his wife leaves, but he then seeks treatment and changes his ways, the Church hopes that the marriage could be saved.

The same is true for an adulterous spouse. If he or she is repentant and takes steps to change and make amends, the Church hopes for and encourages reconciliation. But if a spouse refuses treatment or continues the adulterous behavior, the next step would be a civil divorce. It is only after separation and a civil divorce that the annulment process can begin. However, even after a civil divorce, there is still hope of reconciliation.

It's important to remember that when a couple gets married, they marry for better and for worse. This means there is a call and an expectation to work things out, to forgive, to repair the hurt, and to not rush to divorce. But, to be sure, if you are dealing with addiction, abuse, or infidelity in your relationship, the Church supports your need to be secure. ●



PRESSMASTER / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR / [DearPadre.org](https://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 ~

