

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

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.**

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD ~ JUNE 1, 2025

Luke 24:46-53

As HE blessed them, HE was taken up to Heaven.



In his two-volume history Luke has two versions of the Ascension, one at the end of the gospel (today's gospel reading), one at the beginning of the second volume. The emphasis of the first reading was on the open-endedness of the mission of the apostles: they were to wait till the Spirit came, after which they would continue their mission until the return of Christ – whenever that was going to be. It is a bracket opening a clause, which will be closed only at the end of the world. The emphasis in the gospel reading is on the final blessing of Christ as he departs, and on the joy and thanksgiving which this imparts. There is a sense of completion, for the gospel began in the Temple with the annunciation to Zechariah, and it ends in the Temple with the disciples praising God. There is also a sense of beginning, as the Good News is to spread from Jerusalem to all nations. In either case, the challenge is there: Christ must now play his part through us, his followers. If we act in the Spirit, Christ is acting. If we do not, the Spirit is stifled.

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La morte di Gesù ha costituito uno scandalo per i suoi discepoli, perché essi si erano plasmati un Cristo senza croce. Ma Gesù di Nazaret è il Messia; e non esiste altro Messia che il crocifisso e il glorificato. È attraverso la catechesi del Signore, risuscitato, che i discepoli capiscono che il Messia doveva soffrire e risuscitare dai morti. Era il disegno di Dio manifestato nelle Scritture. Il senso della croce e dell'accompagnamento dei discepoli sulla croce, si scontra con l'intelligenza, con il cuore e con i progetti dell'uomo.

Affinché i discepoli possano essere i testimoni autorizzati di Gesù Cristo, non solo devono comprendere la sua morte redentrice, ma anche ricevere lo Spirito Santo. Gesù si separa dai discepoli benedicensi e affidandoli alla protezione di Dio Padre. Ascensione del Signore al cielo e invio dello Spirito Santo, per fare dei discepoli dei testimoni coraggiosi e per accompagnarli fino al ritorno di Gesù, sono strettamente collegati.

Lo Spirito Santo aumenterà la potenza della parola del predicatore e aprirà l'intelligenza degli ascoltatori. Della vita fragile del missionario egli farà una testimonianza eloquente di Gesù Cristo morto sulla croce e vivo per sempre. Nel mondo, al fianco dei discepoli, lo Spirito Santo sarà il grande Testimone di Gesù.



**Vocation Reflection...** The Lord said, "...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Pray for an increase of vocations to the ordained and consecrated life. If God is calling you, to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997

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

*"At HIS Ascension our LORD entered Heaven, and HE keeps the door open for humanity to enter." ~ Oswald Chambers*

### EUCCHARISTIC 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!*



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

5:00 P.M. + Frank, Teresa & Joseph Lovrek

### SUNDAY JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> - DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. + Edilberto & Editha Latiza

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Susanna e Gianni Onisto

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Vito Sciuto e famiglia

Agostino Battaglia e defunti

famiglie Battaglia e Garofalo

Vito e Mike Cuoppolo

Paquale Scozzese

11:30 A.M. - Corinne Lobo

1:00 P.M. - Pro Populo

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

### MONDAY JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup> - LUNEDÌ

8:30 A.M. - Otto Lam & Family

12:00 P.M. - Maeann De Souza

### TUESDAY JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> - MARTEDÌ

8:30 A.M. + Emil Tisseverasinghe

12:00 P.M. + Anne De Souza

### WEDNESDAY JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup> - MERCOLEDÌ

8:30 A.M. + Paul & Pauline Lam

- Eulalie Dua Garcia

12:00 P.M. + Joseph & Evelyn Valadares

### THURSDAY JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> - GIOVEDÌ

7:00 A.M. - Rafael Peralta Zepeda

8:30 A.M. + Gerogie Ng

### FRIDAY JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> - VENERDÌ

8:30 A.M. - Fernando Dipasupil

7:00 P.M. - Alexandra Camilar

### SATURDAY JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup> - SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Eva Natalizio

10:00 A.M. + Tom Pytel



### OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Regular: \$5,752.90

Pope Pastoral: \$3,012.15

*thank you*



## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD ~ JUNE 1, 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*

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD ~ JUNE 1, 2025



The Third ShareLife Sunday of the year is  
NEXT WEEKEND June 8th!

### YOU'RE CREATING AN ACCESSIBLE FUTURE FOR ALL

Through your support of ShareLife, Silent Voice breaks barriers for families in a welcoming American Sign Language (ASL) environment. Despite the stigma that people with disabilities face, Silent Voice offers a haven of acceptance for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community and their families. Here, their dignity and worth are affirmed, providing them with the confidence to thrive. And it's all possible because of understanding supporters like you.

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.

Corpus Christi Mass & Procession  
Saint Michael's Cathedral Basilica  
Sunday, June 22, 2025 (after Noon Mass)



All are welcome to join  
Frank Cardinal Leo,  
Metropolitan Archbishop of  
Toronto, for a Corpus  
Christi Mass & Procession  
at Saint Michael's Cathedral  
Basilica (65 Bond St.) on  
Sunday, June 22, 2025  
following the Noon Mass!  
Join us as "Pilgrims of  
Hope" during this special  
Year of Jubilee.

### FREE CATHOLIC ESTATE PLANNING WEBINAR

Saturday, June 7, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Learn:

- **How to avoid problems:** in your Will, in the Powers of Attorney, and through proper Estate Trustee selection
- **How to create your own legacy**
- **About our Catholic traditions around cremation, burials and funerals**

#### 3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

1. scan the QR code
2. follow this QR link: [qrco.de/WebJune7](https://qrco.de/WebJune7)
3. send an email to: [Development@ArchToronto.org](mailto:Development@ArchToronto.org) and write "Estate Planning - June 7" in the title line + your name(s) in the body of the message.



## Dear Padre,

### What does the Catholic Church teach about miracles?

Miracles are extraordinary occurrences without natural explanation that manifest the presence and power of God. We believe in miracles "because of the authority of God himself who reveals them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 156).

Christ's multiplication of the loaves is the only miracle recorded by all four evangelists. He performed many other natural miracles—calming the storm, walking on water—and numerous healings as well—curing the deaf and mute, the woman with a hemorrhage. These signs attest that the Father sent Jesus and "they invite belief in him" (CCC, 548). Moreover, Jesus' miracles "also confirm that the kingdom has already arrived on earth..." ("Dogmatic Constitution on the Church," 5).

Today, God still manifests his presence in the Church through miracles. For example, potential medical healings are rigorously investigated by the Vatican for sainthood causes. Other supernatural occurrences—such as apparitions and eucharistic phenomena—are likewise thoroughly and prudently investigated with caution to maintain the Church's credibility and prevent confusion among the faithful.

To that end, in May 2024, the Vatican updated its guidelines for assessing apparitions, visions, and alleged revelations, and reaffirmed that a bishop cannot rule on the validity of a particular case before the pope formally deems it to be "supernatural" for pastoral value. (Search "Norms for Proceeding in the Discernment of Alleged Supernatural Phenomena" at [Vatican.va](https://www.vatican.va).) ●



Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / [DearPadre.org](https://DearPadre.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

### 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 ~

