

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**

Happy Thanksgiving



LET our LIVES be FULL of BOTH Thanks and Giving

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ OCTOBER 12, 2025



Message for Thanksgiving 13 October 2025 His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On the occasion of our upcoming Thanksgiving celebrations, I am reaching out to wish you all Happy Thanksgiving. This holiday offers us a sacred time and unique opportunity to rediscover the spirituality of gratitude and renew our commitment to living a life rooted in thanksgiving. When viewed in the light of the Holy Jubilee Year of Hope, Thanksgiving becomes more than a familial or cultural celebration, it becomes a profound expression of our relationship with God, the giver of all good gifts.

At its heart, Catholic spirituality is Eucharistic. The very word “Eucharist” comes from the Greek *eucharistein* or *eulogein*, meaning “thanksgiving,” which recalls an ancient blessing that praised God’s works of creation, redemption and sanctification (*cf.* CCC 1328). In the Old Testament, bread and wine “were offered in sacrifice among the first fruits” in gratitude to God (CCC 1334). When we celebrate the Eucharist each week, indeed each day, we participate in the supreme act of praise and thanksgiving in which the Church unites herself to Christ’s perfect offering of gratitude to the Father (*cf. Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 8). In this way, the Eucharist not only sustains us but also teaches us how to live with hearts attuned to God’s blessings and shaped by gratitude. Thanksgiving, then, is not simply a once-a-year holiday, but the very posture of the Christian soul (*cf.* Basil the Great, *Homily V, In martyrem Julittam*).

A spirituality of gratitude and thanksgiving pushes us deeper, to give thanks not only for material blessings but also for the gift of faith, for the communion of the Church, for the forgiveness of sins, and for the hope that does not disappoint (*cf. Rom 5:5*). Gratitude is a way of perceiving the world: we see creation as a gift, history as salvation unfolding, and our lives as entrusted with the precious mission of Jesus Christ. Regarding our mission, the word “Mass” comes from the Latin word *missio* which means “mission”, thereby uniting the Eucharist as an act of thanksgiving with our Christian vocation and mission (*cf.* CCC 1332).

During this Jubilee Year of Hope, we have been invited “to recognize the immense goodness present in our world, lest we be tempted to think ourselves overwhelmed by evil and violence” (*Spes non Confundit*, 7). To discern God’s grace present and at work in the world today and in our past is no small task, but it is absolutely crucial in the spiritual life; our Christian walk of faith (*cf.* Augustine, *Confessions*, Book VIII). The thankful heart remembers God’s past fidelity and so finds strength to believe in his future blessings. Just as Israel gave thanks for liberation from Egypt and for entrance into the Promised Land, the Church today gives thanks for Christ’s victory over sin and death and looks forward to the fullness of the Kingdom (*cf.* John Cassian, *The Conferences*, IX, ix-xiv). Gratitude roots us in the memory of salvation, while the theological virtue of Hope stretches us toward its fulfillment.

I am reminded of the words of St. Paul, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 *Thes* 5:16-18). During this Thanksgiving Weekend, I encourage those who gather together to begin their time by prayerfully recalling what they are grateful for in their lives. After each person’s remembrance, we can conclude with the response: “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever” (*Ps.* 136). In our parishes, I would like to invite communities to celebrate the liturgical setting of Thanksgiving Day Mass on the Monday of Thanksgiving weekend. During this liturgy we are reminded that God’s gifts are limitless. We also pray for the grace to treasure all that God gives, to help us share his gifts with others, and to use them for his glory (*cf.* CCCB, *Roman Missal: Thanksgiving Day Mass*). Finally, I am inviting you to cultivate grateful hearts that extend beyond a single day or weekend and that do not depend on circumstances but flow, rather, from the knowledge that “every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above” (*Jas* 1:17) and we simply share in God’s love and generosity.

In this Holy Jubilee Year of Hope, Thanksgiving is more than tradition - it is a sacramental reminder of God’s love that finds its fullest expression in the Sunday Eucharist. May God bless you and your family and friends on this Thanksgiving weekend. Know that I give thanks to God for all of you, for the wonderful People of the Archdiocese of Toronto. I am grateful for the generous ministry of our priests and deacons; for the prophetic witness of those women and men in consecrated life; for the strong and committed faith life of our families; for the dynamic and life-giving outreach of our social and healthcare institutions; for the fidelity and loyalty to the Gospel and Church teaching of our educational institutes; for the fruitful cooperation with civil and governmental agencies and; for the beauty, truth and goodness of the Catholic faith seen and expressed in a myriad of ways throughout our blessed archdiocese. Be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us and make us truly grateful disciples of your Son.

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Thanksgiving Day Prayer

*O God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work, help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home, help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering, help me to destroy my complacency;
bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help;
By word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted.
Amen.*

— Samuel F. Pugh

<https://www.catholicdigest.com/faith/201611-07five-prayers-to-say-on-thanksgiving/>

Dear Padre October 12, 2025

Are people born with the Holy Spirit, or do they have to be baptized in order to receive the Holy Spirit? If we are not born with the Holy Spirit, is it just our conscience that is bothered when we are doing wrong?

Your question is suggesting that the Holy Spirit is “in” or “out.” St. Paul teaches us, “In him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). In other words, the Spirit of God is always with us, and we are dependent on that Spirit for life. There is no beginning and there is no end; the Spirit always was, and is, and will be.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains that “Conscience is a judgment of reason whereby the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act that he is going to perform, is in the process of performing, or has already completed. In all he says and does, man is obliged to follow faithfully what he knows to be just and right” (1778). We have an obligation to form our consciences to know what is right and to help our children form theirs. It is with the cooperation of the Spirit that a “good conscience” is formed.

When we celebrate the sacraments, including the sacrament of baptism, we are confirming the life of the Spirit that is within us. We are acknowledging and proclaiming the abiding presence of the Spirit of God. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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Come and spend some quiet time in prayer

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

MON - THUR 9AM - 12PM (CHURCH)*
EVERY FRIDAY 9AM - 7PM (CHURCH)*

*IN CHAPEL, WHEN THERE IS A FUNERAL.



Mass Intentions for the week



SATURDAY OCTOBER 11TH - SABATO

5:00 P.M. + Emmanuel Bedford

SUNDAY OCTOBER 12TH - DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

10:00 A.M. (Italian)

Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia - Maria Giuseppina Pucci
Lorenzo Volpe - Vito e Mike Cuoppolo - Rosario Vella
Giovanna Costantino e famiglia - Concetta Sica
Defunti famiglie Longo e Russo - Pasquale Volpe
Defunti famiglie - Vito De Nardo e famiglia
Tamburro e Caccavella - Annarosa Volpe
Franco, Elisabetta e Salvatore - Sinopoli e famiglia
Agostino Battaglia e defunti famiglie Battaglia e Garofalo
Marco, Edda e defunti famiglie Carlevaris e Nevodini
L'Anima del Purgatorio

11:30 A.M. For All Our Parishioners

1:00 P.M. Pro Populo

5:00 P.M. Rvee Alcazaren

MONDAY OCTOBER 13TH - LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. + Denise Nanke

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

TUESDAY OCTOBER 14TH - MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. Marys Foon Seung

12:00 P.M. Vito Thampapillai

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 15TH - MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. + Sheng Lim Lee

+ Maria & Juro Zemljak

+ Juvylyn Millado

Venus Acacio

12:00 P.M. Living of the Gorobia Family

THURSDAY OCTOBER 16TH - GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. Merinda Dominguez

8:30 A.M. John & Audrey

FRIDAY OCTOBER 17TH - VENERDI

8:30 A.M. + Celso Enriquez

7:00 P.M. Kau Lam Leung

SATURDAY OCTOBER 18TH - SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Maria Giuseppina Pucci

10:00 A.M. Pro Populo



Don't Forget!

Next Sunday:



Thank You



SACRED JOURNEY Climate Control Fund
Restoring the House of God



MISSIONARIES OF HOPE World Mission Sunday Collection
Thank you for generosity.

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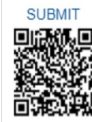
Be a part of our 2025 SLMC Cookbook!

Send your Original recipes by email to

SLMCookbook2025@gmail.com

or upload to online portal

By Sunday October 19th, 2025



Pre-Order \$30 | Sep 15 - Oct 31

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and \$35 after Oct 31

stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org/cookbook



RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) / Adult Confirmation



We are now accepting registrations for the 2025-2026 RCIA Program. Please visit our [website](#) for information and to download the [RCIA Initial application form](#)



First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

Registration OPEN for children in Grade 2 or older



Confirmation

Registration OPEN for children in Grade 7 or older

For more information and registration forms, please visit our website.

Have you ever considered how you can use your unique talents to serve Him and our fellow parishioners?

COME & JOIN US

Parish Hall

October 11 & 12

After all Masses

SIP & SERVE

FILL YOUR CUP & FILL A NEED



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

FAITH FORMATION SERIES

IT IS ALL ABOUT
JESUS



SPEAKERS & TOPICS

OCT 16 REV. THOMAS LIM	THE MYSTERY OF GOD'S LOVE THROUGH DIVINE REVELATION	SAVE THESE DATES THURSDAYS @ 7:00PM	
OCT 30 REV. GIUSEPPE SCOLLO	JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025: OLD TESTAMENT ROOTS, NEW TESTAMENT FULFILLMENT AND ECCLESIAL PRACTICE	Oct 16 & 30	Jan 8 & 22
		Nov 13 & 27	Feb 5 & 19
DEC 8, 9 & 10 THOMAS CARDINAL COLLINS	THE MANY FACETS OF ADVENT	Dec 8, 9 & 10 (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)	Mar 12 & 26
			Apr 16 & 30

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 ~