

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

CONFESIONS:

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.

ANointing of the Sick:

If one of your loved ones would like to receive this Sacrament, please contact the Parish Office.

COMMUNION OF THE SICK:

Holy Communion for the sick upon request.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES & FUNERAL SERVICES

Sharing Our Faith, Understanding Your Loss. At a time of sorrow, it helps to turn to those whose very essence is about the promise of everlasting life. This is why we are there for every Catholic family assuring the sacred rites of a Christian funeral are faithfully fulfilled.

If a death has occurred and you need immediate assistance, please call 905-889-7467 (Holy Cross). To learn about pre-planning, obituaries and more, please visit our website Catholic-Cemeteries.ca.

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.

GREAT CONVERSION STORIES

Lydia of Thyatira

John Janaro

On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate along the river where we thought there would be a place of prayer. We sat and spoke with the women who had gathered there. One of them, a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth, from the city of Thyatira, a worshiper of God, listened, and the Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what Paul was saying. After she and her household had been baptized, she offered us an invitation, "If you consider me a believer in the Lord, come and stay at my home," and she prevailed on us (Acts 16:13-15).

Scripture tells the story of a woman named Lydia who was converted by the preaching of Saint Paul. The text alone conveys the profundity of Lydia's encounter with Jesus and the fruitfulness of God's grace in her. Her faith immediately overflowed in love to the benefit of her whole household and in hospitality for the first Christians of Philippi, a Roman city in Macedonia. Lydia's conversion had further significance as a milestone in the history of Saint Paul's apostolate and for the growth of the Church among the Gentiles.

Who was Lydia? We are not even sure of her personal name, since "Lydia" was a general reference to the people known as Lydians who lived in western Asia Minor (present day Turkey). Her name probably refers to her native place and people. She was a wealthy woman (probably widowed) who headed a large household and controlled a business in Philippi on the busy trade route between Rome and Asia. Lydia came from Thyatira in Asia Minor, a place known for its manufacturing of "imperial purple" cloth with exquisite and expensive dyes made naturally from shellfish. At some point, she brought the headquarters of her enterprise to Philippi, presumably importing and selling her stock of purple cloth on the Roman-built trade road.

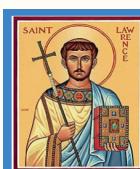
The text calls her a worshiper of God. This term usually referred to a Gentile who honored the God of Israel. Lydia's contact with shellfish (prohibited by Mosaic law) in the manufacture of purple dye might have prevented her from becoming Jewish in Thyatira. But her hope in the God who had revealed himself to Israel and promised salvation to the whole world remained strong even in Philippi, a city with no synagogue, where a handful of immigrants—Jews and "God-worshiping" Gentiles—gathered by the river to pray.

Meanwhile, Paul began his second missionary journey immediately after the meeting with the apostles in Jerusalem (see Acts 15). At that meeting it was decided that Gentile converts did not need to follow the ceremonial precepts of the Mosaic law; that they could be united to Jesus in the Church through faith, baptism, and following him in loving obedience. Paul intended to travel north from Antioch to preach in Asia Minor but was mysteriously hindered by the Spirit (Acts 16:6-7) from entering more inland regions and instead was led to turn west toward the Mediterranean. Then Paul was summoned in a dream by a Macedonian who begged him, Come...and help us (16:9). Paul sailed northwest from Troas and passed the straits of Hellespont (the Dardanelles), the narrow waterway that separated the Middle East and Asia Minor from Europe.

Phillipi in Macedonia was the first European city to hear Paul's preaching. He found no Jewish community in Philippi. Instead he found Lydia, praying, longing for God, prepared by God for the revelation of the Gospel. She became the first Christian convert in Europe, and her household in Philippi became the first church in what was properly the land of the Gentiles on the road leading west, the road leading ultimately to Rome.¹

*(John Janaro is associate professor emeritus of theology at Christendom College and author of *Never Give Up: My Life and God's Mercy* (Servant Books). He blogs at www.johnjanaro.com.*

¹Magnificat - November 2025 Edition



SACRED JOURNEY
Climate Control Fund

GOAL \$1,000,000
FUNDS RAISED: \$ 62,617.31
TO DONATE SCAN THE QR CODE



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ JANUARY 25TH, 2026

Jesus went to Capernaum, so that what had been said through Isaiah might be fulfilled.

MT 4: 12 - 23



Saint Paul urges the Corinthians to “be united in the same mind and in the same purpose” without any divisions among them, and Jesus himself chose companions as soon as he moved to Capernaum. In the unity that Simon, Andrew, James, and John experience through their friendship with Christ, they become certain that “the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Such a unity in charity remains a compelling witness to the truth of the Gospel.

Thanks to our communion in Christ, “anguish has taken wing, dispelled is darkness: for there is no gloom where but now there was distress.” To us enshrouded in the “land of gloom,” Jesus Christ beckons, “Come after me.”¹

Con la Lettera apostolica in forma di Motu proprio “Aperuit illis”, Papa Francesco ha stabilito che “la III Domenica del Tempo ordinario sia dedicata alla celebrazione, riflessione e divulgazione della Parola di Dio”.

L’evangelista Matteo, riprendendo un’immagine del libro di Isaia, ci dice quello che è Gesù per noi: la luce. Nella nostra vita, vediamo spesso tenebre, resistenze, difficoltà, compiti non risolti che si accumulano davanti a noi come un’enorme montagna, problemi con i figli, o gli amici, con la solitudine, il lavoro non gradito...

È tra tutte queste esperienze penose che ci raggiunge la buona parola: non vedete solo le tenebre, guardate anche la luce con cui Dio rischiara la vostra vita. Egli ha mandato Gesù per condividere con voi le vostre pene. Voi potete contare su di lui che è al vostro fianco, luce nell’oscurità.

Non siamo noi che diamo alla nostra vita il suo senso ultimo. È lui. Non è né il nostro lavoro, né il nostro sapere, né il nostro successo. È lui, e la luce che ci distribuisce. Perché il valore della nostra vita non si basa su quello che facciamo, né sulla considerazione o l’influenza che acquistiamo. Essa prende tutto il suo valore perché Dio ci guarda, si volta verso di noi, senza condizioni, e qualsiasi sia il nostro merito. La sua luce penetra nelle nostre tenebre più profonde, anche là dove ci sentiamo radicalmente rimessi in causa, essa penetra nel nostro errore. Possiamo fidarci proprio quando sentiamo i limiti della nostra vita, quando questa ci pesa e il suo senso sembra sfuggirci. Il popolo immenso nelle tenebre ha visto una luce luminosa; una luce è apparsa a coloro che erano nel buio regno della morte!² ¹Magnificat - January 2026 Edition | ² <https://www.lachiesa.it/>

Vocation Reflection... “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” Are you willing to proclaim the coming of the kingdom as a priest, deacon, brother or sister? If God is calling you, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. Email: vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca

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 ~

2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES PICK-UP!

Parishioners please pick up your 2026 Offertory Envelopes at the Entrance of the Church.

Is important that you discard all previous 2025 envelopes.

If you don’t have offertory envelopes and would like a box, please complete the **registration form** found on the parish website or at the back of the Church and return in the Sunday Collection.

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 JANUARY 24TH - SABATO

5:00 P.M. Anthony & Celsa Lobo

SUNDAY JANUARY 25TH - DOMENICA

8:30 A.M. For All Our Parishioners

10:00 A.M. Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia
Vito e Mike Cuoppolo - Mario Massari
Luigi e Maria D’Addario - Leonello Pecorari
Maria e Antonio Ciciretto - Angelo Burdo
Michelina Ciccone - Giuseppe Morra
Rocco e Giuseppina Burdo - Costanza Morra
Michelina Mosca - Assunta Pagliaro
Luca Caccamo Carmela e Euplio Raffaele
Defunti della Famiglia Rabbito
Luigi e Restituta Rea - Benito Cortese
Luigi e Assunta Palleschi
11:30 A.M. + Pat & Valentino Mancuso
1:00 P.M. Pro Populo
5:00 P.M. Holy Souls in Purgatory

MONDAY JANUARY 26TH - LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. Rita & Lancy D’Cunha

12:00 P.M. Clare La Villa

TUESDAY JANUARY 27TH - MARTEDI

8:30 A.M. + Annie Vaz

12:00 P.M. + Amy Moniz

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 28TH - MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. Duran Macalipsay
Tatiana Wankam
+ Marie De Souza

12:00 P.M. Cedric De Souza

THURSDAY JANUARY 29TH - GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M. + Marie De Souza

8:30 A.M. Savio Lobo

FRIDAY JANUARY 30TH - VENERDI

8:30 A.M. + Pedro Abas

7:00 P.M. Kau Lam Leung & Family

SATURDAY JANUARY 31ST - SABATO

8:30 A.M. + Angeline Dengayan

10:00 A.M. + Marie De Souza

OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Regular: \$ 5,659.45
Climate Control: \$ 2,519.25



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ JANUARY 25TH, 2026

FAITH FORMATION SERIES

**IT IS ALL ABOUT
JESUS**

SPEAKERS & TOPICS

FEB 5, 2026 FR. THOMAS LIM	A REFLECTION ON MARRIAGE IN THE LIGHT OF JESUS' LOVE FOR HIS BRIDE, THE CHURCH
FEB 19, 2026 FR. THOMAS LIM	THE STORY OF JESUS' LOVE IN THE EUCHARIST
MAR 12, 2026 FR. TOMASZ SKIBINSKI	EXODUS, THE PRIMORDIAL EXPERIENCE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM

SAVE THESE DATES
THURSDAYS @ 7:00PM

Mar 12 & 26 Apr 16 & 30



EDGE

The **St. Lawrence Edge Program** is a Catholic youth ministry **for Grades 6-8**. We are focused on creating a safe, fun, and faith-filled community where youth can explore Catholic teachings, build friendships, and encounter Jesus personally.

Our **Edge Nights** include games, relevant talks, small group discussions, and prayer. **We meet every other Friday from 6:30-8:00 PM in the parish hall.**

For **registration forms** see our parish website or **email us at stlawrenceedge@gmail.com** for the Edge night schedule, registration forms, annual registration fees or any questions you may have.

ST. LAWRENCE MARTYR CHURCH

PASTA & SALSA NIGHT

SACRED JOURNEY CLIMATE CONTROL FUND

Saturday Feb 14
6:30 PM Parish Hall

TICKETS \$40 Adult | \$20 Child

stlawrencemartyr.archtoronto.org/Valentines2026

Kindergarten and Elementary Registration at St. Lawrence School

Began Wednesday January 21ST 2026 for the 2025-2026 school year. Students born in 2022 and who are Baptised Roman Catholic or whose parent is Baptised Roman Catholic and who lives within the boundaries of St. Lawrence register your child at soar.tcdsb.org. New students to the area and who want to attend St. Lawrence School can also apply with the same above requirements. Current students of St. Lawrence do not need to reapply for the 2025-2026 school year. **Please visit the website for further registration details.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the St. Lawrence school office at 416-393-5264.

All Sold Out!

See you there!

**PILGRIMAGE TO
ENGLAND,
SCOTLAND & IRELAND**

With Fr. Thomas Lim

May 31 - June 14, 2026