

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*



**BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES
IN THE NAME OF THE LORD**

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION ~ MARCH 29TH, 2026



Dear Friends in Christ, this Sunday we celebrate what is traditionally called Passion Sunday, also known as Palm Sunday. Our readings commemorate the day when Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah: *"Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey"* (Zech. 9:9). At every Mass, the faithful receive the blessed palm branches, which symbolizes the victory of Christ's passion over sin and death.

Passion Sunday also marks the beginning of Holy Week, which is the most solemn and sacred days in our liturgical year. Catholics throughout the world are invited to participate in the Easter Triduum, which consists of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil (that extends into Easter Sunday). Although these celebrations take place on three different days, it is important to remember that they form one continuous liturgy, which commemorates the Paschal Mystery – the suffering, death, and resurrection – of our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, the Triduum is not a series of disconnected events but a sacred journey, whereby we walk in faith with Christ on the night before he died in the Upper Room to his painful death on Calvary, and from the tomb where his dead body laid to his glorious Resurrection. As people of faith, we are called not to be passive spectators but active participants in this drama of love!

As you read these words, I want to encourage each one of you, if you have not done so before, to come and be part of this year's Triduum. Too many Catholics often settle only for the Easter Sunday Mass. I know this from my pastoral experiences given that the crowds are usually smaller for the other liturgies. What an unfortunate shame! Enter the full mystery by coming for the entire Triduum, since each liturgy builds upon the last, and together they allow us to experience the full depth and breadth of God's merciful love for you and me! If you are still reluctant to attend the entire Triduum, permit me to highlight each day's experience for you.

The Triduum begins on Holy Thursday evening with the Mass of the Lord's Supper. The Mass commemorates the night of love, when Jesus instituted both the Eucharist and the priesthood. Jesus takes the Jewish Passover meal and transforms the breaking of the bread: *"This is my Body... This is my Blood... Do this in remembrance of me!"*

The Eucharist is the greatest love story of all time, a gift of Jesus Christ who poured out himself for us. On this night, Jesus anticipates the sacrifice of the Cross and gives us a means by which we can abide in him always. In washing his disciples' feet on the night before his death, Jesus also teaches us where true greatness is found, that is, in service and humility. At the end of the Mass, the tabernacle is emptied and the sanctuary is stripped. The Eucharist is carried solemnly to the altar of repose and there Jesus begins his agony. It is at this time that we are invited to stay with the Lord and keep watch with him! How can we miss Holy Thursday when it is the beginning of everything?

As we wake from our sleep, we come upon Good Friday. There has not been, nor will there ever be, another day like Good Friday. This is the only day in our liturgical calendar when Mass is not celebrated. The altar is bare and the Church is stripped. Although a heavy silence envelope us, we do not gather in despair but solemn reverence as we listen to the brutal details of Our Lord's suffering and passion from the Gospel of John. The Cross, which was once used as the instrument of torture and death, now becomes the Tree of Life. Through the eyes of faith, we behold and venerate the wood of the Cross *"on which hung the salvation of the world."*

Good Friday is the heart of the Christian mystery. Jesus became incarnate and took on our humanity especially so that He, who is Love, can be crucified! By freely laying down His life for us, Jesus becomes the Paschal Lamb slain for our sins. Jesus' death is not a defeat, but a victory for us and we are healed through His wounds!

If we skip Good Friday, we miss the opportunity to gaze upon Christ crucified. If we miss the Cross, we lose the key that unlocks the mystery of Easter. The glory of the Resurrection can only be understood in the light of Calvary. It is on Good Friday that we are invited to stand with Mary and John at the foot of the Cross in order to gaze upon the Saviour of the world!

Holy Saturday is the quietest day of the Triduum because the Church is still and the Eucharist is not celebrated. In a sense, the Church waits with quiet grief and hope at the tomb with Christ. There is a profound, sacred silence that permeates the air. It is the silence of the disciples who lost their Master, a silence of a world without Christ. But this silence does not last long, however, for it cease just like the stillness that stands before sunrise.

Finally, we come to the climax of Easter – the Saturday Vigil – the night of all nights. The celebration begins in darkness and the Paschal candle is lit from the fire kindled before. It is the Light of Christ that pierces the darkness of the night. The readings for this evening replays God's entire salvation history from the start of Creation, to the Exodus, to the Prophets, and culminates in the Resurrection. The bells ring triumphantly and the Gloria is sung again for the first time since its cessation at the start of Lent. We joyfully exclaim "Alleluia" since the tomb is empty and Christ is risen!

On this night, countless Christian become fully initiated into the Church. They are baptized, confirmed, and invited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion for the first time. The Vigil is also a re-creation and the faithful are called to renew their own baptismal promises as they pass from darkness to light, from death into life. We not only profess Our Lord's rising from the dead, but his Resurrection becomes our own!

And so, dear friends, I make a simple appeal to you. Please do not treat the liturgies of the Triduum as optional extras; rather, consider coming and fully entering into it this year. If an event or a task impedes you from attending, rearrange your schedule! Come alone! Come with a friend! Come as a family! Come with an open heart! I promise that if you come, you will not be disappointed since you will experience in the liturgies of the Triduum, where heaven touches earth, and when time meets eternity. The Triduum ultimately is the manifestation of the beauty and profound drama of God's love for us unpacked over three beautiful days. How, then, can refuse to be a part of it in its entirety?

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION ~ MARCH 29TH, 2026



**Come and spend
some quiet time
in prayer**

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

DURING HOLY WEEK

**MON - WED 9AM - 12PM
HOLY THURSDAY UNTIL 12 MIDNIGHT**

EASTER FLOWERS

Help decorate our Church for Easter.

Sponsor a Lily or Hydrangea in memory
of a loved one or in thanksgiving.



Lilies	6"	\$10
Lilies	8"	\$20
Lilies	10"	\$30
Hydrangeas	6"	\$20
Hydrangeas	10"	\$30

To sponsor an Easter flower visit or Call the parish office.



*Mass Intentions
for the week*



SATURDAY MARCH 28TH – SABATO

5:00 P.M. For All Our Parishioners

PALM SUNDAY

SUNDAY MARCH 29TH –

DOMENICA DELLE PALME

8:30 A.M. For All Our Parishioners

10:00 A.M. Per Tutti I Nostri Parrocchiani

11:30 A.M. For All Our Parishioners

1:00 P.M. Pro Popolo

5:00 P.M. For All Our Parishioners

MONDAY MARCH 30TH – LUNEDI

8:30 A.M. Fr. Russell Asch & family

12:00 P.M.+ Lilian De Souza

TUESDAY MARCH 31ST – MARTEDI

8:30 A.M.+ Vicente Gaerlan

12:00 P.M. Theresa Burlton

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1ST – MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M. Georgina Jose

12:00 P.M.+ Tsun Yan Ho

HOLY THURSDAY

APRIL 2ND – GIOVEDI SANTO

3:00 P.M. Latin (Mass)

7:30 P.M. English (Mass)

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3RD – VENERDI SANTO

11:00 A.M. English (Liturgy of the Lord's Passion)

1:00 P.M. Italian (La Passione del Signore)

3:00 P.M. English (Liturgy of the Lord's Passion)

7:00 P.M. Latin (Liturgy of the Lord's Passion)

EASTER VIGIL - HOLY SATURDAY

APRIL 4TH – SABATO SANTO

***No Saturday 5 PM Mass ***

8:00 P.M. English (Vigil Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5TH – DOMENICA DI PASQUA

8:30 A.M. For All Our Parishioners

10:00 A.M. Per Tutti I Nostri Parrocchiani

11:30 A.M. For All Our Parishioners

1:00 P.M. Pro Popolo

***No Sunday 5 PM Mass ***

Christ humbled himself. Because of this God greatly exalted him.

MT 26: 14 - 27



"In the palm procession our heart feels a joy mixed with sadness at sight of the Master's seemingly ephemeral triumph, prelude of suffering and death" (Archbishop Luis Martínez). Today's Mass recognizes that Jesus' real triumph, glory, and kingship will be revealed when he is lifted up on the cross. Jesus' experience of being loved and hated, of being welcomed and then rejected, provides us strength to endure the caprices and injustices of our own life. United to Jesus, our suffering leads to glory.¹

È allo stesso tempo l'ora della luce e l'ora delle tenebre.

L'ora della luce, poiché il sacramento del Corpo e del Sangue è stato istituito, ed è stato detto: "Io sono il pane della vita... Tutto ciò che il Padre mi dà verrà a me: colui che viene a me non lo respingerò... E questa è la volontà di colui che mi ha mandato, che io non perda nulla di quanto mi ha dato, ma lo risusciti l'ultimo giorno" (Gv 6,35-39). Come la morte è arrivata dall'uomo così anche la risurrezione è arrivata dall'uomo, il mondo è stato salvato per mezzo di lui. Questa è la luce della Cena.

Al contrario, la tenebra viene da Giuda. Nessuno è penetrato nel suo segreto. Si è visto in lui un mercante di quartiere che aveva un piccolo negozio, e che non ha sopportato il peso della sua vocazione. Egli incarnerebbe il dramma della piccolezza umana. O, ancora, quello di un giocatore freddo e scaltro dalle grandi ambizioni politiche.

Lanza del Vasto ha fatto di lui l'incarnazione demoniaca e disumanizzata del male. Tuttavia nessuna di queste figure collima con quella del Giuda del Vangelo. Era un brav'uomo, come molti altri. È stato chiamato come gli altri. Non ha capito che cosa gli si faceva fare, ma gli altri lo capivano? Egli era annunciato dai profeti, e quello che doveva accadere è accaduto. Giuda doveva venire, perché altrimenti come si sarebbero compiute le Scritture? Ma sua madre l'ha forse allattato perché si dicesse di lui: "Sarebbe stato meglio per quell'uomo se non fosse mai nato"? Pietro ha rinnegato tre volte, e Giuda ha gettato le sue monete d'argento, urlando il suo rimorso per aver tradito un Giusto. Perché la disperazione ha avuto la meglio sul pentimento? Giuda ha tradito, mentre Pietro che ha rinnegato Cristo è diventato la pietra di sostegno della Chiesa. Non restò a Giuda che la corda per impiccarsi. Perché nessuno si è interessato al pentimento di Giuda? Gesù l'ha chiamato "amico". È veramente lecito pensare che si trattasse di una triste pennellata di stile, affinché sullo sfondo chiaro, il nero apparisse ancora più nero, e il tradimento più ripugnante? Invece, se questa ipotesi sfiora il sacrilegio, che cosa comporta allora l'averlo chiamato "amico"? L'amarezza di una persona tradita? Eppure, se Giuda doveva esserci affinché si compissero le Scritture, quale colpa ha commesso un uomo condannato per essere stato il figlio della perdizione?

Non chiariremo mai il mistero di Giuda, né quello del rimorso che da solo non può cambiare nulla. Giuda Iscariota non sarà più "complice" di nessuno. ²

¹Magnificat - Holy Week 2026 Edition | ² <https://www.lachiesa.it/>

Vocation Reflection... "Blessed is the one who comes in the Name of the Lord!" Are you being called to proclaim Jesus 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

OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Regular: \$ 5,949.45

ShareLife: \$ 8,197.90



Triduum Collection:

Holy Thursday

Good Friday: Holy Land

Easter Collection

*Thank
you*

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION ~ MARCH 29TH, 2026



**Holy Week
Schedule 2026**

Holy Thursday

April 2nd

Mass of the Lord's Supper
and Washing of Feet

3:00 pm - Latin	7:00 pm - English
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 12:00 Midnight	

Good Friday

April 3rd

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

11:00 am - English	3:00 pm - English
1:00 pm - Italian	7:00 pm - Latin
6:00pm ~ Stations of the Cross (English)	

Holy Saturday

April 4th

No Saturday 5 pm Mass

8:00 pm - Easter Vigil Mass (English)

Easter Sunday

April 5th

8:30 am - English	11:30 am - English
10:00 am - Italian	1:00 pm - Latin

No Sunday 5 pm Mass

**Easter Sunday
APRIL 5TH**

COFFEE & CAKE



Coins for life 2026 boxes

Please bring back coin boxes weekends of March 22nd and 29th and give the boxes to the ushers.



A DAY WITH MARY

Mark your calendars:

Date: Saturday, May 30, 2026

Location: Villanova College, King City, ON

Registration Open's Online April 8th

www.archtoronto.org/mary

This family-friendly day will include Holy Mass with His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo, the Rosary, confessions, a keynote address and children's catechesis. Enjoy music, fellowship and more!

Good Friday, April 3, 2026

Holy Land Collection



Good Friday Collection is taken at the request of the Holy See. It is for the support of the many social, educational, and parish projects of the Church throughout the Holy Land, as well as the upkeep of the Holy Sites. It helps to ensure the presence of the Church and peace in this land.

We invite you to give generously.



stlawrencemaryr.archtoronto.org/holymary

SACRED JOURNEY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Romulo Delgado's

HOLY MARY

Oratorio on the life of The Virgin Mary through the mysteries of the Rosary

SATURDAY | MAY 23, 2026 | 7:30 PM

If you wish to honour your family or a loved one, ad spaces are available in the event programme.
Email slmparishfund2024@gmail.com