

St. Lawrence Martyr Church

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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*



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ APRIL 12TH, 2026



Dear Friends in Christ, this Easter has been a season of powerful grace in the life of the Church. Across the world and here at home, the Church witnessed many men and women responding to the Lord's call with open hearts. In our own Archdiocese of Toronto, 2,050 catechumens were baptized at the Easter Vigil, a beautiful increase from 1,823 last year. Likewise, many who were already baptized took the step into full communion, with candidates rising from 1,280 to 1,620. Here in our parish, I was privileged to baptize seven catechumens, to receive two candidates into full communion, and to confirm six others. These are not just numbers - they are stories of grace, moments where Christ has gently and persistently drawn people to Himself.

As we continue our journey through this Easter Season, I would like to share with you a series of reflections from some of the adults I had the privilege of accompanying through the RCIA process this past year. Their stories are simple, honest, and deeply faith-filled. They remind us that the Risen Lord is still at work, calling and transforming lives in ways both seen and unseen. My hope is that, in reading their journeys, you may recognize something of your own story. Perhaps you will be reminded of the gift of your own faith, or notice more clearly the quiet ways the Lord has been present and active in your life. May this Easter season renew in all of us a deeper gratitude, a stronger faith, and a more attentive heart to the Lord who continues to walk with us.

Dustin (a young adult university student) wrote: "Life is one long mysterious journey with no obvious answer in sight. Faced with a path of a myriad possibilities, many struggle to cope with their decisions and the uncertainty of the future. It's easy to look at today's world and find oneself in a state of internal disarray, where pain, strife, poverty, and sickness seem to be the only focus in life. A world of mystery and intrigue, the backyard garden of Earth, is forced to fit into the frame of our tiny cubicles in a small section of the world. The despair and negativity around us can often be overwhelming, and without hope, nihilism makes you lose purpose and sidetracks you from the path you are meant to be on.

When despondency becomes the only response to bearing our own crosses, crosses that many are too blind to even see, we lose our wonder of the world and the beauty in it. Existence without a robust foundation taints the very picture of Eden itself, and a life without deeper reason shackles the human spirit. As I began to mature more as a person, I came to the realization that my thought process doesn't fit neatly with this perception of the world and life itself. While money is important to living, and everyone wants to have good things, you lose sight of your relationships and identity as a person when it becomes your sole purpose. I started noticing how easy it is to chase recognition, jump into relationships out of insecurity, and boast about accomplishments to satiate the ego. Life without purpose breeds selfishness, distorting your reality of the world into one that is not worth sharing with anyone other than yourself. I started finding myself incompatible with this perspective, measuring worth through status and comparison to find personal meaning.

There is beauty in the mundane, wonder in parts of the world I've never seen before, and grace in my interactions that have yet to bloom. I think there's a great power in seeing things with purpose, and I found that God perfectly fits into that picture. There is no greater missing puzzle piece than Him in the mysterious puzzle of life. A divine creator provides a sense of purpose, and the belief that we are created with intention and dignity gives humanity a depth of meaning that strictly materialistic or nihilist frameworks fail to provide. This drew me closer to God, as I began to see beauty in different aspects of life and a sense of order that made belief in a creator even more natural to me.

Faith is not merely a means to attaining heaven, a moral framework built on transaction, but a guiding light that fills my life with satisfaction. Throughout my journey in coming closer to God, I found myself becoming more attentive to the quiet blessings of life and learning more to appreciate things as they happen. It became less of an escape from reality, and more of an anchor of hope and morality to navigate suffering, sorrow, and plight in the world. I began to greatly appreciate how the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church help steer a person closer towards that unshakable anchor, and to live a deeply meaningful life. The objective realities we experience in the world differ from person to person, shaped from within, and how we frame this perspective makes the difference between seeing a rainy day with despair or hope for a better future. I started viewing mistakes as lessons from God, failure as an opportunity to improve, and setbacks as purposeful turns whose meaning only becomes clear in time through God's design.

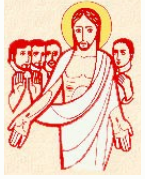
All of this is to say that the lessons I have acquired from the Church's instructions make me feel equipped in navigating an increasingly complex world. As I continue this journey, I realize faith is not about finding answers to every mystery of life but appreciating the beauty in them and learning to walk through them with hope. The world will always contain suffering, uncertainty, and questions we will never be able to fully resolve. However, through faith, this reality no longer feels meaningless or random, but instead a part of my personal story that fits into the greater narrative that God is constantly unfolding. With faith, I now walk closer to God with hope, trusting that life's purpose will continue to reveal itself in ways I cannot yet see."

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ APRIL 12TH, 2026

PARISH OFFICE OPEN ON SUNDAYS 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

God has given us new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

JN 20: 19 - 31



On this Divine Mercy Sunday we recall the words of Saint Thomas Aquinas: "Mercy consists in bringing a thing out of non-being into being." We see this transpire concretely in the life of the early Church. The believers "devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of bread and to prayers." They were filled with awe; they were witnesses of wondrous signs; they lived for the good of the other; they were selfless and generous; they overflowed with "exultation and sincerity of heart." God "in his great mercy" gave them—and us—"a new birth to a living hope" through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. That is what the Apostle Thomas is looking for in the Lord's open side. ¹

Dopo la morte di Cristo, gli apostoli rimasero soli. Ebbero paura al punto di rinchiudersi per il timore delle persone malevole. Avevano vissuto tre lunghi anni con il Maestro, ma non l'avevano capito, al punto che Cristo dovette rimproverarli seriamente (Lc 24,25). Non l'avevano capito perché il loro modo di pensare restava troppo terra. Vedendo Cristo impotente e senza coscienza sulla sua croce, essi avevano gettato tutt'intorno sguardi impauriti, dimenticando ciò che era stato detto loro: "Vi vedrò di nuovo, e il vostro cuore si rallegrerà e nessuno vi potrà togliere la vostra gioia" (Gv 16,22). Ed ancora: "Voi avrete tribolazione nel mondo, ma abbiate fiducia; io ho vinto il mondo!" (Gv 16,33).

I discepoli si rallegrarono al vedere Cristo, furono rassicurati dalle sue parole: "Pace a voi! Ricevete lo Spirito Santo!". Ma essi dovettero attendere la Pentecoste perché lo Spirito Santo venisse a purificare i loro spiriti e i loro cuori, a dare loro il coraggio di proclamare la gloria di Dio, di portare la buona novella agli stranieri e di infondere coraggio ai loro seguaci. Dio si è riavvicinato agli uomini ed essi si sono rimessi nelle sue mani, per mezzo di Cristo e dello Spirito Santo.

Concedendo agli apostoli il potere di rimettere i peccati, Cristo ha detto loro: "Ricevete lo Spirito Santo; a chi rimetterete i peccati saranno rimessi e a chi non li rimetterete resteranno non rimessi" (Gv 20,22-23). Come Cristo ha fatto con gli apostoli, così il vescovo, imponendo le mani ai sacerdoti che vengono ordinati, trasmette oggi il potere dello Spirito Santo, che permette loro di dispensare i sacramenti e, attraverso di essi, di assolvere i peccati. Ogni sacramento, non solo evoca il ricordo di Cristo, ma è Cristo in persona, che agisce immediatamente per salvare l'uomo. Nel dispensare i sacramenti, la Chiesa si mette in un certo senso ai piedi della croce per portare la salvezza ai credenti. Come potrebbe quindi dimenticare la fonte dalla quale scaturiscono le grazie di salvezza che sgorgano dalle sue mani?

Dio realizzerà il suo più grande desiderio, renderà l'uomo felice se egli lo vorrà, se risponderà "sì" al Padre che gli offre la gioia, a Cristo che gli porta la salvezza, allo Spirito Santo che gli serve da guida. Dio non impone il suo amore agli uomini. Egli attende che l'uomo stesso faccia un passo in avanti. Dio salva chi si apre a lui per mezzo della fede, della speranza e dell'amore. Dio si avvicina, e anche l'uomo deve avvicinarsi a lui. Allora Dio e l'uomo si incontrano sullo stesso cammino, in Cristo, nella sua Chiesa. Cristo non è solo uomo, né solo Dio. È Dio e uomo allo stesso tempo; grazie a questa duplice natura, egli è come un ponte teso tra l'umanità e Dio. Il sacrificio offerto a Dio da Cristo ha cancellato le colpe passate, presenti e future. "Egli ha fatto questo una volta per tutte, offrendo se stesso" (Eb 7,27). Da allora gli uomini possono "per mezzo di lui accostarsi a Dio" fiduciosi del fatto che "egli resta sempre" (Eb 7,25). Così, per la sua natura prodigiosa e il suo sacrificio completo, Cristo è il solo Intercessore e Sacerdote Supremo. In Cristo, gli uomini ritornano al Padre. In Cristo il Padre rivela agli uomini l'amore che egli porta loro. È sempre più facile avvicinarsi a Dio prendendo la mano caritatevole che il Padre tende all'uomo per aiutarlo a seguire Cristo, nostro Redentore. Tale è il senso del salmo che evoca l'uomo miserabile il cui grido giunse fino agli orecchi del Signore, e che fu liberato dai suoi mali.²

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

Vocation Reflection... "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Will you respond to God's call to be sent as priest, deacon, sister or brother? If God is calling you, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, [Director of Vocations](#), Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org



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 APRIL 11ST - SABATO

5:00 P.M.+ Maria, Paul & Terrance Dalgado

SUNDAY APRIL 12ND - DOMENICA

8:30 A.M.+ Lee Fung Lien

10:00 A.M. Susanna, Gianni Onisto

Concetta Lembo - Pietro e Elvira Fugaccia

Dino Barbieri - Vito e Mike Cuoppolo

Vito Sciuto e famiglia - Pasquale Scozzese

Giovanna Costantino e famiglia

Giuseppe Canini e famiglia - Lorenzo Volpe

Felice, Maria e Antonio Tersigni

Agostino Battaglia e defunti famiglie Battaglia e Garofalo

Marco, Edda e defunti famiglie Carlevaris e Nevodini

L'Anime del Purgatorio

11:30 A.M. For All Our Parishioners

1:00 P.M. Pro Popolo

2:30 P.M. **Divine Mercy Service**

5:00 P.M.+ Stella & Anthony Rozario

MONDAY APRIL 13TH - LUNEDI

8:30 A.M.+ Daniel Noranho

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

TUESDAY APRIL 14TH - MARTEDI

8:30 A.M.+ Romeo Collin

12:00 P.M. Stephen Griffith

WEDNESDAY APRIL 15TH - MERCOLEDI

8:30 A.M.+ Guillermo Gallego Jr.

+ Epifanio Ilag

12:00 P.M.+ Marie De Souza

THURSDAY APRIL 16TH - GIOVEDI

7:00 A.M.+ Fr. Laim Gavigan

8:30 A.M. Lilith Tchoi

FRIDAY APRIL 17TH - VENERDI

8:30 A.M. Ramon Santiago

7:00 P.M.+ Muriel Williams

SATURDAY APRIL 18TH - SABATO

8:30 A.M. Milton & Aleah Eion

10:00 A.M. Marylou Gorobia

OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Holy Thursday: \$ 3,819.70

Good Friday: \$ 7,259.95

Easter Sunday: \$ 6,728.20

Regular: \$ 8,797.65



Thank you

Today's Second Collection:


Building Fund

Next Week's Second Collection:

Climate Control Fund

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ APRIL 12TH, 2026

FAITH FORMATION SERIES	
IT IS ALL ABOUT JESUS	
SPEAKERS & TOPICS	
APR 16, 2026 FR. ANTONELLA MURGIA	WHY IS EASTER THE CENTRE OF OUR FAITH
APR 30, 2026 DEACON DOUG MCMANAMAN	DIFFICULT TOPICS AROUND CATHOLIC SEXUAL ETHICS



Grades 6–8. Edge Nights
Every other Friday from 6:30-8:00 PM

2026 Schedule:
Jan 30 | Feb 27 | Mar 13 | Mar 27
Apr 10 | Apr 24 | May 22 | Jun 12

For **registration forms** see our parish website or **email us at stlawrenceedge@gmail.com**

Help Not Harm: Take Action to Support Bill C-218
Write your Member of Parliament Today!
Visit HelpNotHarmCanada.ca

You're invited to visit HelpNotHarmCanada.ca where you can e-mail your Member of Parliament (MP), asking for their support of **Bill C-218 (The Right to Recover Act)**, which would amend the Criminal Code to prevent Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) from being provided when mental illness is the sole underlying condition. Without this change, MAiD will be available for those suffering from mental illness alone beginning in March 2027.


Chances are you know someone struggling with mental illness — a family member, friend, or colleague. As Catholics and Canadians, we are called to offer care, hope, and protection — not death — to those who are suffering and most vulnerable.

Visit HelpNotHarmCanada.ca today and ask your MP to support Bill C-218.

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 ~



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

For Tickets

Deluxe \$100
(Limited Quantity)
Regular Adult \$60
Child \$30



stlawrencemartyr.carchtoronto.org/holymary


Please bring back ALL Coins for life 2026 boxes

Pick-up is this week!

All Boxes filled, partial or empty can be given to the ushers on Sunday or parish office by Monday.

SHARELIFE SUNDAY COLLECTIONS
March 22 / April 26 / May 31

Please give at the parish by using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.





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!