
St. Martin De Porres Parish

4179 Lawrence Avenue E. and Morningside Ave. Scarborough, ON M1E 2S3

Email: stmartins.office@rogers.com • Parish Website: <https://stmartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/>

Pastoral Team

Pastor - Rev. Anthony Gonsalves

Parish Office:

Phone: 416-284-9192, 416-519-9663

Fax: 416-284-0201



Mass Schedule

Weekdays

Tuesday to Friday 8.30 AM

** No Morning Mass on Monday & Saturday

FRIDAY Mass is followed by the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament till 10.00 am.

Weekend

SATURDAY: 5.00 PM (Vigil)

SUNDAY: 9.00 AM, 10.30 AM & 12.00 Noon

Reconciliation SATURDAY From 4.15 PM to 4.45 PM

Baptism, Confirmation, First Communion

Registered and active parishioners are asked to contact the parish office during week days between 8.30 am to 4.30 pm (Closed 12.30pm - 1.30 pm)

Marriage

Contact the parish priest one year in advance of the date of marriage.

Shut-ins

Please let the parish team know so that they can be supported sacramentally.

Parish Schools

St. Martin De Porres School

416-393-5286

St. Malachy School

416-393-5336

St. Ursula School

416-393-5306

Diocesan Services

Birthright (pregnancy support)

416-469-1111

Catholic Cemeteries

416-733-8544

Catholic Family Services:

416-921-1163

Catholic Cultural Services

416-757-7010

(counselling for individuals and families)

New Beginnings

416-222-1101

Retrouvaille (for troubled marriages)

416-281-6007

St. Vincent de Paul Society

416-284-6131

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Happy 3rd week of Advent!



1st Reading:
Isaiah 61. 1-2a, 10-11

2nd Reading:
1 Thessalonians 5. 16-24

Gospel:
John 1.6-8, 19-28
The Testimony of John the Baptist

Regular Mass Schedule Weekday Masses:

Daily morning mass will be celebrated Tuesday to Friday at 8:30 am

Weekend Schedule:

Saturday (Vigil) Mass **5:00 pm**

Sunday Masses **9:00 am, 10:30 am and 12:00 noon**

<https://stmartindeporessc.archtoronto.org/eq/>

Choosing Joy

“Rejoice always!” These are the words that St. Paul writes in the second reading this Gaudete Sunday. He exhorts all of us to always rejoice. It is important to note that he doesn’t say to always be happy, but to rejoice always. Happiness, by definition, is utterly circumstantial. We are happy when we are experiencing something good, like eating ice cream on a hot day. However, when the ice cream melts, or it begins to rain our happiness quickly ceases because that good thing we were experiencing is fleeting.

Joy on the other hand is radically different. To experience joy is to remain happy despite the circumstances. This everlasting joy springs solely from recognizing that we are beloved children of God and being aware that we are living in the smiling gaze of Christ. But how do we live in joy? St. James in his letter says, “My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy.” To experience joy is to intentionally call to mind God’s love in the midst of our trials.

As stewards, let us not keep this practice of joy to ourselves. One way we can help people rejoice in suffering is by not partaking in complaining about our difficult situations. The next time we are in a tough moment and people around us begin to complain, let us strive to steer the conversation into one of gratitude for the good things the Lord is doing in our lives. This slow adjustment of choosing joy in our trials will begin to revitalize our parishes and communities, and the entire world.

Summary

This Gaudete Sunday St. Paul exhorts all of us to “rejoice always.” One way we can help people rejoice in suffering is by not partaking in complaining about our difficult situations. The next time we are in a tough moment and people around us begin to complain, let us strive to steer the conversation into one of gratitude for the good things the Lord is doing in our lives.

Mass Intentions for the Week – December 16 - 17

Saturday December 16th

5:00 pm + Gracie Menezes
+ John Noronha

Sunday December 17th

9:00 am + Edna Etherington
+ Antonio Fazio

10:30 am + Romeo Toribio

12:00 pm + Franco Ratnam
+ Maria Gomes
+ Elmo & Malcolm Jayatilake

Monday December 18th

9:00 am -- Neil & Hycinthia
(40th Wedding Anniversary)

Tuesday December 19th

8:30 am + George Tidona
(1st Death Anniversary)
+ Jennia Aquino (B'day Blessing)

Wednesday December 20th

8:30 am + Death Anniversary of John Don Paul
+ Maria Gomes

Thursday December 21st

8:30 am

Friday December 22nd

8:30 am



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday December 23 rd	5:00 pm
Sunday December 24 th	9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon
Sunday December 24 th (Christmas Eve)	5:00 pm
<u>Christmas Day</u>	
Monday December 25 th	9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon
Saturday December 30 th	5:00 pm
Sunday, December 31 st	9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon
Sunday, December 31 st (New Year's Eve)	5:00 pm
<u>New Year Masses</u>	
Monday, January 1 st	9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon



ADVENT CONFESSION NIGHT

This **Monday, December 18th from 6:30 – 8 PM.** There will be other priests available for confessions. Please take advantage of this time as it will be your last major opportunity before the celebration of Christmas.



Poinsettias to help decorate the church for Christmas.

Help decorate our worship space for Christmas by donating Poinsettias. Please drop them off by Friday, Dec. 22nd in the parish hall. We thank you for your generosity!



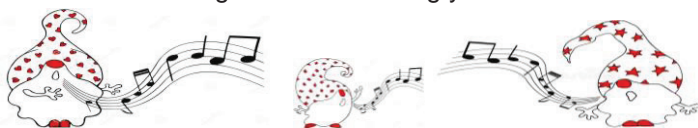
For those using donation envelopes, 2024 envelopes are available for pickup in the foyer as you leave the church today. The envelopes are sorted alphabetically by last name. If you do not find your envelope box, please advise the parish office. Thank you.



A Carol evening is being held on **Saturday, December 23rd, 2023**, in the church after the 5:00 pm mass.

Join us for an evening of Christmas music and fellowship followed by a Hot Chocolate and Cookie reception after, in the lobby.

So come one, come all, to celebrate the season.
Looking forward to seeing you there.



Let us Pray! For the sick members of our parish and for those who love and minister to them.

Parish Weekly Fact

If we wish to maximize our Offertory or Building Fund donations for a 2023 Income Tax receipt, we should know that any 2023 donations must be received at the Parish Office by 1:00 p.m. on December 31st, (in reality by Friday December 29th).

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Wednesday
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