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## St. Martin De Porres Parish

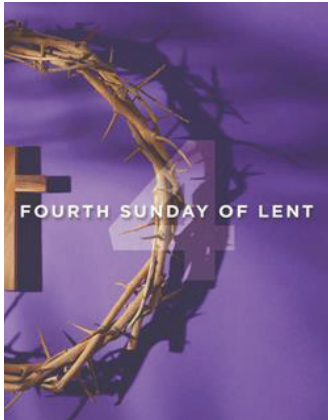
**4179 Lawrence Avenue E. and Morningside Ave. Scarborough, ON M1E 2S3**

**Email** [stmartins.office@rogers.com](mailto:stmartins.office@rogers.com) • **Parish Website** [stmartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/](https://stmartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/)

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

**Fax** 416-284-0201

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



1<sup>st</sup> Reading:  
Joshua 5.9a, 10-12

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:  
2 Corinthians 5.17-21

Gospel:  
15.1-3, 11-32  
(*The Parable of the Prodigal Son*)

### Regular Mass Schedule

### Weekday Masses:

Daily morning mass is 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://stmartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/eq/>

### Approaching the Mercy of God

This Sunday we are invited to reflect on the beautiful parable of the prodigal son. This parable offers us an insight into the unfathomable depths of God's mercy. We are also given an example of the prodigal son to imitate. He teaches us that whenever we fall, we too need to recognize our sin, get up and approach our merciful and loving Father.

However, we may at times find it difficult to accept just how generously God bestows His mercy on those who seek Him. We may have the notion that God is out to punish those who commit sin. However, there is one particularly beautiful line in the parable this Sunday that can help us ease those fears. It says that "while [the son] was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him."

The beauty in this passage is that the father saw the son "while he was still far off." This means that he must've spent time each day looking out at the horizon, eagerly and lovingly waiting for his son to return. Not only does he see him, but he also then runs and embraces his son even though he was dirty and smelled like pigs. As stewards, we shouldn't fear approaching God for His mercy and forgiveness for He longs to grant it to us. Across the Archdiocese, every parish will host a Lenten Day of Reconciliation in which many priests will be available for the sacrament of Confession. Let us take advantage of this beautiful opportunity for healing and prepare ourselves for the Risen Lord at Easter.

### Summary

This Sunday we are invited to reflect on the beautiful parable of the prodigal son which offers us an insight into the unfathomable depths of God's mercy. We are shown that whenever we fall, we too need to recognize our sin, get up and approach our merciful and loving Father. God longs to forgive us, so let us strive to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent to prepare ourselves for the Risen Lord at Easter.

### Mass Intentions for the Week of March 29 / 30, 2025

#### Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup>

5:00 pm                      + Sylvia Pereira (1<sup>st</sup> Death Anniversary)  
- Thanksgiving Anniversary Mass for  
Joseph & Nenita Cuenca

#### Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am                      + Lordieta Morano  
+ Romolo Cadhit

10:30 am                      - For All Parishioners of SMDP

12:00 pm                      + Vinita Maria Cordeiro  
+ Martin & Christalina Fernandes

#### Monday March 31<sup>st</sup>

#### Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup>

8:30 am                      + Rosemary Bass

#### Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup>

8:30 am                      + Madge Saldanha  
- Thanksgiving Mass

#### Thursday April 3<sup>rd</sup>

8:30 am

#### Friday April 4<sup>th</sup>

8:30 am                      + Wesley Tanner  
+ Remy Cadhit

**6:30 pm**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



### April 13<sup>th</sup> - Palm Sunday

Regular Saturday and Sunday Mass Times

### April 17<sup>th</sup> - Holy Thursday

6:30 pm – Washing of the Feet and  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### April 18<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday

Services – 12:00 noon and 3:00 pm  
2:00 pm – Stations of the Cross

### April 19<sup>th</sup> - Easter Vigil at 6:30 pm

### April 20<sup>th</sup> - Easter Sunday

9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon



### LENTEN CONFESSION

Please join us for our Lenten Confession Night on  
**Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 8 pm.**



### Lenten Reflection

An evening of Lenten reflection will take place on Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30-9:30pm in St Martin De Porres Church and will be conducted by Fr. Joshi Kochukudiattil Devasia VC, Divine Mercy Prayer Centre, Tampa FL.

Retreat talks will also take place in Precious Blood Church on Monday March 31<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday & Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm



### Flowers for Easter

Help decorate The Sanctuary for Easter by donating a flowerpot in honor of family and friends by placing a card with their name/s on it. Please drop them off by April 17<sup>th</sup>, in the parish hall. We thank you for your generosity! Choice of flowers – Easter Lilies, Asters, Tulips, Hydrangeas and Sunflowers.



**ShareLife**

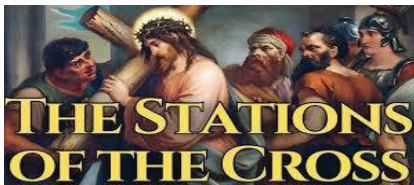


Archdiocese  
of Toronto

"In the poor and outcast, we see Christ's face. By loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ."

**This weekend March 29<sup>th</sup> / 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 is the first  
ShareLife Collection.**

**Your generosity is appreciated.**



Please join us in praying the **Stations of The Cross** every Friday at 6:30 pm. All are welcome!



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

### Parish Weekly **fact**

The role of Hospitality Minister is one of the oldest, dating to early Church history. The hospitality minister greets visitors as they enter and exit the church, ensuring a welcoming atmosphere. They assist parishioners with seating, recognize regular attendees, and help visitors feel comfortable.

Hospitality Ministers arrive 15-20 minutes before mass and leave 15-20 minutes after. They collect weekly offerings, distribute special envelopes and bulletins, and answer questions. Hospitality Ministers must be at least 18 years old and undergo police screening due to handling money.

If you feel called to this ministry and would like to start sharing your time and your talent with your faith community, please email: [stmartins.office@rogers.com](mailto:stmartins.office@rogers.com) or reach out to a hospitality minister as you leave church today!



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