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# St. Martin De Porres Parish

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

Email: [stmartinsc.office@archtoronto.org](mailto:stmartinsc.office@archtoronto.org) or [stmartins.office@rogers.com](mailto:stmartins.office@rogers.com)

Parish Website: [stmartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/](http://stmartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/)

Phone: -284-9192 St. Vincent de Paul Society 416-284-6131

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## Parish Contacts

### **Pastor**

Rev. Anthony Gonsalves (ext 105)

### **Parish Office Secretary**

Zelena Cardoza (ext 104)

[zcardoza@archtoronto.org](mailto:zcardoza@archtoronto.org)

## Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

## Daily 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 3.30 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



## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading:**

Isaiah 2.1-5

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:**

Romans 13.11-14

### **Gospel:**

Matthew 24.37-44

The Necessity for  
Watchfulness

### **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 & 12:00 noon**

<https://stmartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/eg/>

### **Preparing Ourselves for Christ**

This Sunday marks the beginning of the beautiful season of Advent, a time to deepen our relationship with Christ. In the Gospel, Jesus exhorts us to “keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.” This exhortation doesn’t imply that we are expected to never sleep, or sin, again, but that we must consistently strive to move from a life of running towards sin, to a life of running away from sin.

One tremendous way we can do this is to receive God’s merciful love in the sacrament of reconciliation. It is important to remember that the Lord eagerly and lovingly awaits to forgive us. The whole purpose of the Incarnation was for this reason, as St. John says in his first letter, “in this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.” Jesus became man for our salvation. In going to confession, we are enabling the Lord to fulfill His salvific mission in our lives which brings Him boundless joy.

This cleansing of our sins will greatly help us live out our lives as stewards by infusing all of our actions with the grace that flows from the sacrament. In order to receive the graces well, let us foster a sense of contrition for our sins, a firm purpose of amendment for our lives and a commitment to penance. All parishes in the Archdiocese will be hosting an Advent Day of Confessions to make it easier for us to avail ourselves to this sacrament. Let us take this season of preparation to become better stewards by properly preparing our own souls for the coming of Christ in our lives.

### **Summary**

Jesus exhorts us to “keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.” One tremendous way we can keep awake is to receive God’s merciful love in the sacrament of reconciliation especially this Advent. Let us take this season of preparation to become better stewards by properly preparing our own souls for the coming of Christ in our lives.

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

#### **Saturday Nov 29<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 pm

+ Elizabeth Mascarenhas  
+ Allen Domingo

#### **Sunday Nov 30<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am

+ Doris, Paul & Josef Sciberras  
+ Martin Vieira  
+ John Gonzales

10:30 am

- For All Parishioners of SMDP

12:00 pm

+ Deceased members of the Fonseca Family  
+ Lilia Tanchoco

#### **Monday Dec 1<sup>st</sup>**

#### **Tuesday Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>**

8:30 am

+ Joseph Collins  
+ Amalia Reyes Villas

#### **Wednesday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>**

8:30 am

+ Andrew D’Cruz  
- S. I & Blessings for Dorine Couture

#### **Thursday Dec 4<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 am

+ Sr. Barbara Desmond  
+ Thomas Beaumont

#### **Friday Dec 5<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 am

- Thanksgiving for the DeClaro Family  
+ Joseph Veloce



The parish is asking for donations of Poinsettias to help decorate the Altar and the Church for Christmas

If you would like to donate a poinsettia/s, please drop them off by **Tuesday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>** in the parish hall.

We thank you for your generosity!



## **CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE**

### **Christmas Eve**

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 pm

### **Christmas Day**

December 25<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon

### **New Year's Eve**

December 31<sup>st</sup> - 5:00 pm

### **New Year Masses**

January 1<sup>st</sup> - 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon

## **Christmas CAROLS**



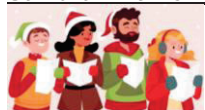
Join us for a joyful evening of **Christmas Carol Singing** right after the **5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, December 13, 2025!** Let's fill the church with festive music and the spirit of the season.

After the singing, stay for **hot chocolate and cookies** in the parish hall — a warm treat for all ages!



Come celebrate the joy of Christmas with your parish family — everyone is welcome!

### **St Martin De Porres Thursday Prayer Group**



Heyyy there, are you one of those folks who secretly sing in the shower? Time to come out and join other singer-wannabes!

St Martin de Porres parishioners are going CAROLING at a nearby long-term care home, and we're looking for volunteers with big smiles and good cheer. Young or old, you're welcome. Even if you think you're not really a "singer," don't worry! We'll have a practice session this coming Thursday, Nov 27, 7:00 pm here in the church. **Caroling day is Sunday, Nov.30 in the afternoon.**

Share the joy of Christmas and help make the season beautiful for residents in long-term care.

Questions? Email: [tessm@rogers.com](mailto:tessm@rogers.com)



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



## **ADVENT CONFESSION NIGHT**

St Martin De Porres will have its annual

Advent Confession Night on

Wednesday, Dec 10th from 6 – 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.



Society of  
Saint Vincent de Paul



Your Society of St. Vincent de Paul is appealing to you for help in making this Christmas a little brighter for your Neighbours in Need. Please consider donating gift cards for either No Frills, Food Basics or Walmart. Denominations of \$25, \$50 or \$100 would be ideal. Please put the gift cards into an envelope, clearly labelled for St. Vincent de Paul. If you need a tax receipt, please clearly write your full name, address, and phone number. All gift card donations may be put into the collection basket, or into the mail slot in the side door. We would appreciate receiving your donations by the first week in December.

**THANK YOU** for your generosity.

## **THANK YOU**

The SMDP Annual Christmas Bazaar was a huge success, pulling in a profit of \$6228.05.

A huge **THANK YOU** to all our parishioners who dedicated their time, talent and most importantly, their patronage. This would never have been possible without your support. All proceeds of the bazaar go 100% towards our church and initiatives within the parish.

God Bless you all and here's to a very Merry Christmas Season.



Kindly pick up your **2026** Sunday Offertory envelopes from the Church Foyer. Please look for your **last name** and not your envelope number, as many numbers have changed. If you do not see your name on a box of envelopes, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

**Please do not use the 2026 envelopes until January**

## ***Parish Weekly Facts***

### **Advent and the Advent Wreath**

Advent, from the Latin meaning "coming toward", is a time of preparation for Christmas when we commemorate the first coming of Jesus Christ into the world. But amid the preparation for gift giving, charitable donations, and festive gatherings, Advent also calls us to prepare our souls for Christ's Second Coming at the end of time.

The progressive lighting of the candles on the Advent Wreath symbolizes expectation, hope, and joy of our preparation for the coming of Christ.

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