
St. Martin De Porres Parish

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

Email: stmartinsc.office@archtoronto.org or stmartins.office@rogers.com

Parish Website: stmartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/

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

Parish Contacts

Pastor

Rev. Anthony Gonsalves (ext 105)

Parish Office Secretary

Zelena Cardoza (ext 104)

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



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



1st Reading:
Isaiah 35.1-6a, 10

2nd Reading:
James 5.7-10

Gospel:
Matthew 11.2-11
*Jesus Praises John
the Baptist*

Rejoicing amidst the Darkness

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." These are the words proclaimed in the entrance antiphon of Mass for Gaudete Sunday this week. It urges us to constantly rejoice in the Lord, and as good stewards of Christ, we should always strive to live lives inundated with the joy that flows from the Lord.

In order to do this, we must understand the difference between joy and happiness, for the Lord never promised us happiness. Instead He says, "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Happiness is a result of our good circumstances, because we feel good, or we had something positive happen to us, etc. Joy on the other hand goes much deeper. Henri Nouwen describes it as "the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing -- sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death -- can take that love away."

So joy is the ability to remain happy due to our awareness of being beloved sons and daughters of God even amidst the trials of our life. Henri Nouwen further describes joy as a choice we must make every day. How often in our difficult lives do we take solace and rejoice in our identities of being beloved children of God? This Gaudete Sunday let us strive to be more intentionally joyful, and to pray to Christ for strength, for He says, "Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete" (John 16:24).

Summary

Gaudete Sunday urges us to constantly rejoice in the Lord. Henri Nouwen describes joy as the ability to remain happy due to our awareness of being beloved children of God even amidst the trials of our life. So let us strive to be more intentionally joyful, and to pray to Christ for strength, for He says, "Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete" (John 16:24).

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/>

Mass Intentions for the Week of Dec 13 / 14, 2025

Saturday Dec 13th

5:00 pm + Juan Miel
 + Deceased members of the Luciano Family

Sunday Dec 14th

9:00 am + Archie Mathias
 + Jag Samra and for the well-being of his family

10:30 am - For All Parishioners of SMDP

12:00 pm - Rocco Colangelo (1st Death Anniversary)

Monday Dec 15th

Tuesday Dec 16th

8:30 am + S. I & Blessings for Hugo & Raaniya on their 25th Wedding Anniversary

Wednesday Dec 17th

8:30 am + Franco Ratnan

Thursday Dec 18th

8:30 am

Friday Dec 19th

8:30 am



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

December 24th - 6:00 pm

Christmas Day

December 25th - 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon

New Year's Eve

December 31st - 5:00 pm

New Year Masses

January 1st - 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon



50+ Christmas lunch

Please join us to for a fun filled afternoon and a festive lunch on **Thursday December 18th**

12:00 noon to 3 pm

Tickets on sale at all weekend masses

\$ 25.00 for members & \$ 30.00 for non-members

Kindly purchase your tickets asap to avoid disappointment



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. 23rd** in the parish hall.

We thank you for your generosity!



NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2026

Kindly pick up your **2026** Sunday Offertory envelopes from the Church Hall. 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

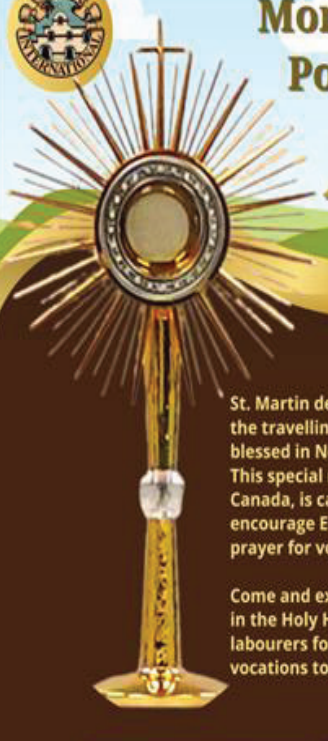
2025 DONATION DEADLINE

Any donations received in the parish office by noon on December 31, 2025, will be credited toward your 2025 charitable donation tax receipt. Donations received after that time will be considered 2026 donations. In accordance with CRA regulations, donations submitted by mail must be postmarked by Canada Post by December 31, 2025, to be eligible for a 2025 tax receipt.

Parish Weekly Facts

Advent is the time in which we prepare for Christmas, the memorial of Jesus Christ being born into the world. Preparations are practical, like decorating trees, and giving gifts, but they're also intended to be spiritual.

During the Advent season, we should also notice a common theme of preparation in the Gospel readings. We're invited to enter more frequently into silence, into prayer and reflection, into penance and fasting, and into the sacramental life of the Church. All of these things remind us of the importance of preparing our hearts for the Lord and making room for His presence in our lives.



Monstrance of Saint Pope John Paul II Adoration


St. Martin de Porres Parish is honoured to welcome the travelling Vocations Monstrance — one of six blessed in November 2004 by Saint Pope John Paul II. This special monstrance, hosted by Serra Council for Canada, is carried from parish to parish to encourage Eucharistic Adoration and to deepen our prayer for vocations.


Come and experience the LOVING PRESENCE of JESUS in the Holy Hour of Adoration as we pray for labourers for His harvest and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Mass Celebration


Holy Hour of Adoration

Light Refreshments

 **SATURDAY**
December 20, 2025

 **STARTS AT**
8:30 am

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

 St. Martin de Porres, 4179 Lawrence Avenue East
Scarborough, ON M1E 2S3



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

KAPIT BAHAY
RESTAURANTOpen Daily 9am-9pm
except Tues**Breakfast Buffet**
Sat-Sun 8am-12pm4218 Lawrence E. of Morningside
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