
St. Martin De Porres Parish

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

Email: smartins.office@rogers.com

Parish Website: smartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/

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

Parish Contacts

Pastor

Rev. Anthony Gonsalves (ext 105)

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 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 9:00 am to 4:00 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 Family Services: 416-921-1163
(counselling for individuals and families)

Retrouvaille (for troubled marriages) 416-281-6007

Catholic Cemeteries 416-733-8544

Catholic Cultural Services 416-757-7010

New Beginnings 416-222-1101

St. Vincent de Paul Society 416-284-6131



PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY



1st Reading:
Isaiah 50.4-7

2nd Reading:
Philippians 2.6-11

Gospel:
Matthew 26.14-27.66

Through the Eyes of a Donkey

Today marks the beginning of Holy Week, the most sacred week in the entire liturgical calendar of the church. It opens with the celebration of Palm (Passion) Sunday where Jesus triumphantly enters Jerusalem riding a donkey amidst the waving palm branches. We can glean a great insight into true stewardship when we reflect on this event through the lens of the donkey which is a metaphor for our lives.

From the donkey`s perspective, he sees a great crowd ready to welcome him into Jerusalem. He hears the singing of praises and sees them laying their coats and branches on his path. It would be easy for the donkey to feel prideful as he walks along. However, we as onlookers can clearly see that the crowds are not praising the donkey, but the one sitting upon the donkey, Jesus Christ.

As stewards offering ourselves to our parish community, we can be tempted to think that all of the compliments, praises and thanks we receive is properly owed to us. However, from this image of the donkey, we should strive to humbly recognize that all of our good works should lead others to Christ, not ourselves. The donkey served Christ just as we, through our time and talents, should serve Him and His body, the Church. This Palm Sunday let us ask ourselves, do we fully direct all of the praise, glory and honour of our actions to Jesus?

Summary

The donkey on which Christ rode into Jerusalem could've seen all the palms and praises being sung around him and been tempted to believe that he was the one they celebrated. However, we as onlookers can clearly see that the crowds are not praising the donkey, but the one sitting upon the donkey, Jesus Christ. This Palm Sunday let us learn from this image and ask ourselves, do we fully direct all of the praise, glory and honour of our actions to Jesus?

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://smartindeporessc.archtoronto.org/eq/>

Mass Intentions for the Week of Mar 28/ Mar 29, 2026

Saturday Mar 28th

5:00 pm † Sylvia Pereira
 † Agnelo Machado

Sunday Mar 29th

9:00 am † Loretta & Alistair King
 † Kim Jesus Cabeguín

10:30 am - For All Parishioners of SMDP

12:00 pm † Liza Palway

Monday Mar 30th

8:30 am

Tuesday Mar 31th

8:30 am

Wednesday Apr 1st

8:30 am † Rosemary Bass
 † Joan Fernandes

Thursday Apr 2nd

8:30 am

Friday Apr 3rd

8:30 am

Parish Weekly fact

"Our Parish Financial report for 2025 shows a donation decrease of 68%. Donation decline reflects the absence of large one-time donations received in 2024. The percentage breakdown of how donations were received in 2025 is as follows:

| Donation Type | % | Tax Receipt Generated |
|----------------|------|-----------------------|
| Envelopes | 55% | Yes |
| Electronically | 29% | Yes |
| Loose Cash | 16% | No |
| | 100% | |

The Parish Financial council encourages parishioners to regularly use envelopes or electronically via Donate now (credit card) or PAG (direct withdrawal from your bank account.) Both electronic methods can be found on the parish website. If you are currently using envelopes, please consider moving to electronic donations as this helps reduce parish cost in managing the collections"

EASTER FLOWERS

Parishioners are warmly invited to sponsor this year's **EASTER FLOWER** display in our Sanctuary. You may bring the *Easter Lilies* before Saturday, April 4th, 2026 and leave them in the hall. Thank you kindly.



HOLY WEEK

St. Martin De Porres Parish



PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 28 Saturday
5:00 PM Vigil Mass

MARCH 29 Sunday
9:00 AM • 10:30 AM • 12:00 PM



HOLY THURSDAY

APRIL 2 6:30 PM • Mass
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9:15 PM



GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3 12:00 PM • 3:00 PM (services)

HOLY SATURDAY

APRIL 4 6:30 PM • Mass



EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5 Masses
9:00 AM • 10:30 AM • 12:00 PM



HEALING
of life's hurts

Mass and Special LENTEN Healing Service

HOLY WEEK TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026,
7:00-9:00 PM

ST MARTIN DE PORRES CHURCH

Jesus suffered pain and rejection to gain our salvation. We too may be burdened with a lot of pain and hurts accumulated through life. Our saviour invites us to bring our life's hurts to Him for healing and peace.

A special healing prayer service will be held on Holy Week Tuesday, 7:00-9:00pm. It is appropriate for adults, not children.

Try a Little Madness

Again, I will restore you, and you shall be rebuilt, O virgin Israel; Carrying your festive tambourines, you shall go forth dancing with the merry-makers. (Jeremiah 31:4)

There is a wonderful scene at the end of the movie, "Zorba the Greek," when, after experiencing financial ruin, Zorba and his boss sit down to lament together. After a while, there is nothing to do about it but laugh. Zorba then tells his rational, strait-laced, overly self-conscious friend, "Boss, I love you too much not to say this: you are a very good man, but you are not wild enough. "The boss asks Zorba to teach him to dance and the movie ends with them dancing next to their ruined project.

It is ironic that so many people are bored in this day and age which provides so many opportunities for fun. Many have lost the madness that Zorba recommends, waiting instead for some latest novelty to catch their fancy. But if we spend our time "waiting for something interesting to happen, "we will be too dependent on external circumstances to make us happy. If we are bored with our lives, we have only ourselves to blame.

Try a little madness. Eat breakfast by candlelight on the best dinnerware. Get up early and watch a sunrise. Call your husband or wife and say, "I love you." Book a hotel room and invite him or her to sneak away for a second honeymoon. Bring home presents "out of season." "Enroll in a square dance class. Cook a gourmet dinner. Go bird watching. Play hide-and seek with the kids. Have a blast!

What nonsense are those few Christian traditions that paint a picture of God as dour and rigid. Our God is a playful God who rejoices when we have fun. We are never more like him than when we become like little children and play merrily in his garden.

Suggested Practices

1. That money you've been saving for a rainy day-spend it now on something you enjoy.
2. Do something crazy and unpredictable each day.

Bundle Up
For the
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
serviens in vobis

We are collecting your donations at
St. Martin de Porres
4179 Lawrence Avenue East, West Hill
On
April 11 - 12, 2026

We DO NOT ACCEPT
appliances, baby or regular furniture,
books, mattresses, dishes,
construction material or video tapes
For more information visit
www.ssvptoronto.ca

SACRAMENTAL PREP NEWS

COMMUNION CLASSES (IN PERSON)

- Wednesday April 15th at 6:00-7:30 p.m.

CONFIRMATION

- Information Night & Collection of Registration Forms on Tuesday April 07th at 6 p.m.

KAPIT BAHAY

RESTAURANT

Open Daily 9am-9pm
except Tues

Breakfast Buffet

Sat-Sun 8am-12pm

4218 Lawrence E. of Morningside

416-283-4404

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