

St. Leo The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

130 Watford Street, Brooklin, ON L1M 1H2

905.655.3286 • Fax: 905.655.4519

www.stleothegreat.ca • e-mail: st.leos@bellnet.ca

Pastor: Rev. Charles T. Forget

Parish Secretary: Magda Nowak

905-655-3286 x 101

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Closed for Lunch from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Friday Office Closed.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Mass: 7:00 p.m.

Rosary prayed 20 minutes before weekday masses.

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Youth Mass

Sunday 9:00 a.m. (with Children's Liturgy JK, SK, Grade 1 & 2) & 11:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. or anytime by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please download the Baptism Information Kit and Registration Form from the parish website, www.stleothegreat.ca

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

The Archdiocese of Toronto requires that you contact your parish priest at least one year in advance of the planned date of your wedding and that you participate in a marriage preparation course. Please call the Parish Office.

PARISH REGISTRATION:

All families attending St. Leo's are requested to register with the parish.

Registration forms are available in the vestibule of the church.

LOCAL HOSPITALS AND EMERGENCY PASTORAL VISITATION

If you or someone in your family is in the Oshawa, Whitby or Port Perry Hospitals and would like to have a priest (for serious reasons) visit the person who is sick for Anointing of the Sick, Last Rites, Confession or Communion, please note that there is a full-time Catholic Priest assigned to these three hospitals at various times of the week. Simply ask hospital staff to inquire as to whether *Father Pius Alejo* is present in the hospital (or when he will be). If Father Pius Alejo is not available and there is an emergency requiring a Catholic priest, please call St. Leo the Great Parish at 905-655-3286 and when prompted, press "8" and leave your message. Fr. Charles will receive your message (if he is available) and return your call. If there is no emergency but you would like to speak to Fr. Charles, please call the parish office and leave a message with the parish secretary at 905-655-3286 x 101.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

All of us Catholics who made our First Holy Communion when we were children, usually around the age of seven (Gr. 2), learned how to receive Communion at that time through some form of instruction. When I was preparing for my First Communion most of the training and catechism we received was by our teacher, often a nun back in those days, who would teach us about how sacred the Host is and how the way we received it should reflect our awe and respect for Jesus. For those children whose parents might not have been in the habit of attending Mass every Sunday they might become a bit rusty in the proper ways of receiving the Eucharist. And children, of course, become teenagers and then adults and what we've learned (or didn't learn) is reflected in the way we receive the Lord Jesus Christ in Holy Communion.

One of the fundamentals of our reception of Holy Communion is our response. When the priest (or often enough today, an Extraordinary Minister of Communion) holds the Host in front of us and says, "The Body of Christ", it is more than



just a statement of the reality present by the priest or minister but also a summons to us to declare our belief about the mystery in which we are participating. "Amen", means that we profess we believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist we are about to receive. It doesn't mean that we understand that mystery because no one can fully understand it, but it means we give our ascent to believe in its reality.

In the sixth chapter of John's Gospel we read the Bread of Life discourse where we find Jesus speaking to his disciples and the large number of followers because many of them had experienced Jesus' miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish. They wanted Jesus to give them magical bread and the more they misunderstood him the more Jesus became blunt about his flesh being real food and his blood being real drink, adding that if they did not receive him in this way they would have no spiritual life in themselves. And, of course, he literally meant what he said in the fact that he was willing to allow them to leave him over it. If they had misunderstood him, Jesus would have called them back and spoken plainly to them about their misunderstanding, however, the reason he allowed them to leave and "walk with him no more" was precisely because they did understand what he was revealing but could not bring themselves to accept it. What is curious is when Jesus turned to his twelve disciples and asked them as to whether they also were going to leave along with the others. Peter spoke up for the silent eleven other disciples and replied, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Messiah!" (Jn 6:68)

Note that Peter didn't say he understood the mystery Jesus was presenting to them but that he was accepting of it. In other words, Peter is saying that while he doesn't understand what Jesus is giving them – himself – he believes in Jesus and whatever he says goes. Peter then goes on to make a great profession on behalf of all the apostles that their faith in Jesus has led to their knowledge of who Jesus really is. The same applies to our approach to the Eucharistic mystery: our faith in

Jesus leads us to a knowledge of Jesus – to the point that we can say we know.

So, the way in which we receive Holy Communion each Sunday should attest to what we believe about Jesus. All of us can get rusty, or perhaps just get used to hearing the same things and doing the same things out of habit each week at Mass. So, here are a few of the fundamentals in properly receiving the Eucharist:

Bow Before Extending Your Hands or Opening Your Mouth

This practice was renewed in the New Missal about 5 years ago and calls for the faithful to demonstrate a sign of respect for the Eucharist as they approach the priest or minister to receive. The instructions call for the faithful to simply bow their head at the neck only, not bowing from the hip (a profound bow) or genuflecting. This is called a "simple bow". *"When standing before the minister to receive Holy Communion, the faithful should make a simple bow of the head". (GIRM 160)*

Extend Your Hands Making A Throne For God

Placing one hand on top of another is the way we make a *Throne for God*, as the Early Church used to call it. We do this by placing the hand we write with and eat with underneath the opposite hand. I am right-handed so I would place my right hand underneath my left hand, holding them both fairly flat.

If the communicant prefers to receive Holy Communion on the tongue the choice is theirs to do so. The tongue should be extended and still so that the minister of Communion can easily place the host on the tongue.

Respond With a Clear "Amen"

Over the years I've noticed more and more people aren't saying anything as they receive Communion while others barely whisper their Amen. The communicants Amen response should be equal to that of the Minister of Communion. It is each individual persons way of affirming their faith in the Eucharist just as Peter did before they receive Jesus in the Eucharist. Of course, not everyone will be able to audibly say "Amen" if they temporarily have no voice or are mute. Their gesture of the simple bow would be sufficient in these cases.

If you are receiving Communion in the hand, with the hand placement as mentioned above, the priest or minister will place the host in your hand. There is no need to take the host from the priest or to meet him halfway. Also, it is important that the communicant holds their hands flat rather than in a cupped fashion to receive the host. Once you have the host in your hand, you take your bottom hand and pick up the host and place it in your mouth while standing still in front of the minister of Communion. There is a tendency in our anxious world to receive the host and then start walking away while placing the host in the mouth somewhere along the way. The instruction is clear on this: *"when receiving Holy Communion in the hand, they reverently open their hands placing one beneath the other (the hand you write and hold a fork with, beneath), and they consume the host immediately upon receiving it."* Proper hand placement eliminates the need for communicants to pass the host from one hand to the other.

St. Augustine said that when we receive the Body and Blood of the Lord in Communion we should say "Amen" to what we are. We receive the Body of our Lord in order to become the Body of Christ as members of the Church. This holy mystery of the Eucharist remains truly great – yet we receive Him! (Fr. C)

APRIL 23, 2017

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat, Apr 29	5:00 p.m.	Corrine Jablonski +
Sun, Apr 30	9:00 a.m.	Frank Dillon +
	11:00 a.m.	Vincenzina Mammone +
	1:00 p.m.	First Communion

There will be no daily Masses from Tuesday, April 25 to Friday April 28 inclusive.

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, April 24 and Tuesday, April 25.

SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN

Living the Gospel by helping the vulnerable in our society...

Tim and Donna met 25 years ago and have made the Friday and Saturday social nights at Our Place a regular part of their lives. Their intellectual capacity is somewhat limited but they do maintain their own independent apartments. While Tim is currently caring for his aging mother following her recent surgery, Donna is able to support Tim by cooking meals and offering caring attention. As Tim overcomes some social shyness in his own life, he also takes cares of some of Donna's daily needs with household chores, and working on the computer. The support role ShareLife plays enables Our Place to be a caring partner to these vulnerable people. **ShareLife funded agencies like Our Place helps many intellectually disabled men and women through compassionate and caring support.**

Next ShareLife Sunday is May 7, 2017

Please give generously.

SHARELIFE BREAKFAST – MAY 7

St. Leo Knights of Columbus Breakfast following the 9:00 and 11:00 A.M. Masses on May 7. Everyone is welcome to enjoy a full breakfast of eggs, sausages, baked beans, pancakes, biscuits, coffee, tea and juice in the Church hall. Adults - \$5.00, Children ages 4-12 - \$3.00 and Children under 4 - free. All proceeds will go to ShareLife.

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

Please join us to celebrate Father Charles' 24th Ordination Anniversary on May 7 after 11 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall.

FASHION SHOW

Sunday, April 30 at 1 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Tickets \$15 each and available after Masses. Featuring clothing from Alia at the Oshawa Centre.

PUBLIC ROSARY RALLY

In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady appearing to the 3 children at Fatima. Bring your Rosary, children & grandchildren.

Day: Saturday, May 13, 2017

Time: Praying the Rosary – 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Divine Mercy Chaplet – 3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Location: Thickson & Dundas (Sobeys Plaza)

MOTHER'S DAY BASKET

Mother's Day Basket Raffle tickets can be purchased after all the Masses.

12 HOURS OF PRAYER FOR PALLIATIVE CARE

The CWL of Canada calls all people of faith to join nationwide in **12 hours of Prayer for Palliative Care** on May 4, 2017 as a profound witness to the sanctity of human life. All parishioners, family and friends are invited to join St. Leo's Parish in prayer and solidarity any time between 8:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. at the church. For more information, please contact Cathy Duncan 905-430-1075 or Peter Hupka 905-666-5610. Those unable to attend are encouraged to join in prayerful support. The day's events will be available next weekend.

ARCHDIOCESEAN DAY OF PRAYER – MAY 12

On this day, Cardinal Collins has asked that we all take the time, as a community, to pray for all vocations; priesthood, religious and consecrated life. During this time, we also ask that you pray for our five soon-to-be priests along with all those who are discerning or who are currently in formation. For more information, please contact your parish office, call the Office of Vocations at 416-968-0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org

Senior Men's High School Retreat (Grades 11 & 12)

The Office of Vocations is hosting a day retreat at **St. Mary Immaculate Parish, Richmond Hill on Saturday, April 29, 2017 (from 9am to 5pm)**. Provides a time to pray, interact & socialize with other young Catholic men. Seminarians will deliver talks on practical aspects of faith. Day includes Holy Mass, Adoration & Confession. For more information please contact your pastor or call the Office of Vocations at 416-968-0997 or email: vocations@archtoronto.org

VOCATION SEEDS


"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Will you respond to God's call to be sent as priest, deacon, sister or brother? If God is calling you, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. email vocations@archtoronto.org
www.vocationstoronto.ca




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