



St. Leo The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

130 Watford Street, Brooklin, ON L1M 1H2

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

Pastor: Rev. Charles T. Forget

Director of Catechetics: Patrick Sullivan • Parish Secretary: Maureen Holly
905-655-3286 x 103 905-655-3286 x 101

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 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.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 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 pick up a baptism package from Fr. Charles after mass.

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 (Welcome Cards) 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 Manuel Duterte* is present in the hospital (or when he will be). If Father Manuel 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NEW 2013 CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve: Tues. Dec. 24 - 5 pm. and 8 pm.

Christmas Day: Wed. Dec. 25 - 9 am. and 11 am.

This Christmas will be my fifth Christmas since I was made pastor here at St. Leo the Great and the past four Christmases I have observed the same following pattern. The first Mass on Christmas Eve is jam packed and always begins 15 minutes early because the church is already full and there's no point in waiting until 5 pm. because everyone's already here and ready. The 9 pm. and the Midnight Masses, however, have been about half full. When you're the only priest and you've got five Masses to preside and preach at in a period of 18 hours it doesn't make a lot of sense to have this many Masses spread out over an evening and a day, unless of course the Masses are full and five Masses are necessary.

The Christmas Day Masses are both quite full and so it seems that the two later Christmas Eve Masses are the only ones that are far less popular. Midnight Mass has traditionally been loved by those who are older and who can stick it out until that time to go to Mass, but there are increasingly fewer people attending Midnight Mass in our parish and in most other parishes as well. Given that our parish is quite young with many families with younger children, the first Mass of Christmas Eve and the two Masses of Christmas Day are the ones families gravitate toward. Understandably some people will be disappointed in the change of Mass times for Christmas Eve and the dropping of the Midnight Mass, however, I think people will relate to my reasons for doing so and I thank you in advance for your understanding. (Fr. Charles)

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Many Opportunities for Confession

While Advent is not particularly a "penitential season" as is Lent, Advent also affords us an opportunity for us to get ourselves right before the Lord.

On **TUESDAY DECEMBER 3rd at 7:00 pm.** the children who have been preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will anticipate this holy reception of the Body of Christ by going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. In this way they will get rid of their sins and be appropriately made ready to receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time.

On **THURSDAY DECEMBER 5TH at 7:00 pm.** our parish will hold it's Advent Reconciliation with several priests here to hear confessions and we will begin promptly at 7 pm.

On **WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11TH** all parishes in the Archdiocese of Toronto will participate in a Day of Reconciliation asking all parish priests in parishes to make themselves available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On that day I will be in the church and in the confessional from **11 am. – 1:pm., 6 pm. – 7 p.m., and 7:30 pm. – 8:30 pm.** There will still be the Holy Hour at 6 pm.

followed by Mass at 7: pm. As well, there is always confessions heard every Saturday from 4 pm. – 4:30 pm.

Please note that there are two types of Examination of Conscience cards provided by the Archdiocese of Toronto; one for youth (teenagers) and one for adults. Please feel free to take one home with you to help you better prepare for a good confession this Advent. (Fr. Charles)

LECTORS NEEDED

USHERS NEEDED

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED

Have you ever gone to Mass and wondered why the same people seem to be reading every Sunday? I think we all have. The reason is that we don't have enough Lectors. Our parish uses two Lectors per Mass which gives more lectors an opportunity to practice in their ministry and enables us to ensure that if a Lector is absent there is already a Lector who can cover for them. However, at some Masses there are fewer Lectors on the list so they serve more often, sometimes even every week.

To be a Lector you need to have a good clear voice, be able to read well in public so that people can understand what God's Word is saying, but most importantly – they need a love and reverence for the Sacred Scriptures they will proclaim.

We are in need of more people to come forward to serve as Lector and the more Lectors we have the less frequently all of the Lectors will have to serve. As it is right now, at the 11 am. sometimes it is one of the same Lectors every week.

Another issue is with a shortage of people serving in ministries we have the same people serving in two different ministries at the same Mass. While those who serve are actively helping the parish and ensuring all of the necessary ministries are being covered, when you see the same person do one of the readings and then come forward to distribute Communion as a Eucharistic Minister it sends a false message that suggests parish ministry is a closed shop and you have to be one of the regular ministers to be able to get involved, which is just not true.

Ideally, parishioners should belong to and serve in one ministry, outside of the Service ministries such as the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Women's League or the St. Vincent de Paul. In this way, more people will be involved in the liturgical life of the parish and as new people come into each ministry others who have served for some time will remove themselves for a break or perhaps to look at involvement in another ministry.

Personally, I would like to see the move to one-ministry service begin in our parish to both attract new people to get involved and exercise their giftedness and add variety among those who serve in the various ministries.

We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers and especially Lectors. Anyone who would be interested in serving in parish ministry in any area is most welcome and I am more than happy to train you myself. If you are interested either speak to me following Mass or call the parish office and speak to Maureen, the parish secretary. Each of us has gifts which can edify the mysteries we celebrate each Sunday. What are yours? (Fr. C.)

- **CHILDREN'S FIRST RECONCILIATION – TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd AT 7:00 P.M.**
- **PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5th AT 7:00 P.M.**

ST. LEO'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WILL BE SELLING THE FOLLOWING IN THE VESTIBULE AFTER ALL THE MASSES: CAMPAIGN LIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR \$10/BOX OF 15 CARDS & CAMPAIGN LIFE CHRISTMAS CAKES STARTING NOV. 30/DEC. 1 – 1.5 LB. CAKE \$15; 2 LB. CAKE W/TIN \$25 AND "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" LAWN SIGNS FOR \$15.

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION UPDATE:

- WEEKLY COST OF RUNNING OUR PARISH - \$7768
- **LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION**
- Envelopes, Loose bills and change - \$4043
- Pre-Authorized Giving (PAP) - \$1929 (October)
- ➔ **TOTAL COLLECTION LAST WEEK: \$5972**
- ➔ **Deficit in last week's collection: \$1796**

MASS INTENTIONS

Tues., Dec. 3 – 8:30 am – Cristina Shiacca+ Req. by the Corvinelli Family
Wed., Dec. 4 – 7:00 pm – For the Intentions of Maria
Thurs., Dec. 5 – 8:30 am – No Intention
Fri., Dec. 6 – 8:30 am – For the intentions on the Day of Ordination of Deacon Taras Req. by Maria
Sat., Dec. 7 – 5:00 pm – No Intention
Sun., Dec. 8 – 9:00 am – Anna Svetek+ Req. by Milan Svetek
Sun., Dec. 8 – 11:00 am – Marie-Rose Lagace Req. by Lorraine Ebata

THE NEW SUNDAY MISSALS ARE ON SALE AT A COST OF \$5.00 EACH AND ARE AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME TABLE.

Christmas 2013 – Cornerstone Men's Hostel – Once again this Advent Season, St. Leo the Great Parish will be collecting items for the Cornerstone Men's Hostel in Oshawa. Cornerstone has asked us to restrict our donated items to those things that are extremely scarce but so necessary to the men who live on the street which include: **new-only** socks, underwear, toothbrushes and toothpaste, disposable razors, combs/brushes, hand soap, deodorant, shaving cream, foot powder, lip balm, and Kleenex tissues. **We will not be taking a collection of used clothing this season.** You are asked to drop off these items in the church vestibule at the Welcome Table. Thank you to all our parishioners who think of others at this time when we are all called by the gospel to attend to the needs of others as our own preparation for the coming of the Lord! Please contact Larry Hallihan (905) 620-0351 for additional information.

St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Leo the Great Parish is seeking members who are interested in serving the needs of the poor. Please call Tony 905 655-2933 or Donna 905-620-0724 for more info.

Knights of Columbus Free Breakfast - You eat so they can eat – Dec. 8th following 9 am and 11 am Sunday masses. Everyone is invited to enjoy another full breakfast hosted by St. Leo Knights of Columbus: eggs, sausages, baked beans, pancakes, coffee and juice in the parish hall. There is no charge for this breakfast, however, your generous donations to support St. Vincent de Paul are appreciated.

Cherub's Cupboard will be in the Parish Hall on Sunday, Dec. 8th with religious items for sale after the masses.

First Sunday of Advent – December 1, 2013

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." If God is calling you to ministerial service, contact Fr. Hansoo Park 416-0997, email – vocations@vocations.ca

Second Collection for Canada's Aboriginal People – Dec. 7/8, 2013

The Archdiocese of Toronto and other Canadian dioceses will be conducting a special one-time collection for the "Moving Forward Together Campaign" to be held on Dec. 7/8, 2013. Moving Forward Together Campaign is related to the residential schools settlement to support ongoing healing and education programs to help build a brighter future with Aboriginal people across Canada.

The Barnes Family invite you to share a "Candlelight Evening of Music & Memories" on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013 - 6 pm to 7 pm – Musical Prelude – 7 pm Snow Globe Memories. Please see church bulletin board for more details.

The Rosary Apostolate in the Schools - Through the Rosary Apostolate, children are experiencing the power of the Rosary! Dedicate your time to praying the rosary with children once a month in our Catholic Elementary schools. The Rosary Apostolate is welcoming new members. Please call Judy Delaney (905-655-0227).

St. Francis Xavier University offers distance education courses for adults seeking faith formation: Diploma in Ministry; Certificate in Lay Ministry; Certificate in Spirituality; and Diploma in Intellectual Disability Studies. Please contact Continuing & Distance Education 1-877-867-5562, diplomainministry@stfx.ca; <http://www.sites.stfx.ca/continuingeducation/ministry>.


A Family Christmas Concert - Sunday, December 15, 2013 7:30 p.m., St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church, 194 Simcoe St. N., Oshawa. Come and join Paul, Michelle, David and their friends in a joyful celebration of the Christmas Season. Admission is free but we ask if you could bring a non-perishable donation for our St. Vincent de Paul food bank.




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