

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: Maureen Holly 905-655-3286 x 101



*May the Blessings of this
Holy Season be with you Always.*

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2014

The Christmas Mass times for 2014 are:

Christmas Eve – Wednesday December 24 -- 5 & 8 pm.

Christmas Day – Thursday December 25 -- 9 and 11 am.

AND SADNESS FLEE AWAY

These are the last words in our well-known Advent song “O Come Divine Messiah!” It’s the last weekend - this Fourth Sunday of Advent - of our Advent Season of “waiting”. There is no avoiding, I suppose, a sense of “let’s get Advent out of the way to prepare for the 25th”, but the wisdom of the Church in choosing its scriptures for this Sunday reminds us to continue to be ready as was Mary before the Angel Gabriel appeared to her.

Aside from the four Sundays when the scriptures tell us to be ready and prepared for the coming of the Lord, this season of joyful preparedness can be a very difficult time for so many people: for those who are poor or marginalized; for those who have to face the holiday season alone with memories of better times and the loss of a loved one who is no longer with them; those who are experiencing the breakup of a relationship; those who are coping with an illness or poor health; those who are fearful, worried or faced with much anxiety. The holiday season can be the worst of times at a time that is supposed to be joyous, festive, celebratory and fun.

Now, it’s not that I want to end this Advent season bulletin with a “downer” of an article, but I really feel, as I think we all do, for those who are sad, lonely, perplexed, vexed with the constant onslaught of too many things to do, but especially for those who are suffering from what can seem to be an immovable sense of sorrow, loss and relentless sadness at this time when everyone else can seem to have it all.

For me, if I should ever be sad, it is not mindless games that can shake me from my mood, but rather the work of the artist who can paint the scenes I see and feel inwardly, the poet who can speak of what I sense, the composer and the musician who can lead me to think that they know what it is to feel as I feel. I turn to that great poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow who wrote *Day Is Done*.

**The day is done, and the darkness
Falls from the wings of night,
As a feather is wafted downward
From an eagle in his flight.
I see the lights of the village
Gleam through the rain and the mist,
And a feeling of sadness comes o'er me
That my soul cannot resist:
A feeling of sadness and longing,
That is not akin to pain,
And resembles sorrow only
As the mist resembles the rain.
Come, read to me some poem,
Some simple and heartfelt lay,
That shall soothe this restless feeling,
And banish the thoughts of day.**

**Not from the grand old masters,
Not from the bards sublime,
Whose distant footsteps echo
Through the corridors of Time.
For, like strains of martial music,
Their mighty thoughts suggest
Life's endless toil and endeavor;
And to-night I long for rest.
Read from some humbler poet,
Whose songs gushed from his heart,
As showers from the clouds of summer,
Or tears from the eyelids start;
Who, through long days of labor,
And nights devoid of ease,
Still heard in his soul the music
Of wonderful melodies.
Such songs have power to quiet.
The restless pulse of care,
And come like the benediction
That follows after prayer.
Then read from the treasured volume
The poem of thy choice,
And lend to the rhyme of the poet
The beauty of thy voice.
And the night shall be filled with music
And the cares, that infest the day,
Shall fold their tents, like the Arabs,
And as silently steal away.**

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Ah, the music of words from the poets experience, perception, pen and mind. While sadness is real just as physical pain is real, they are not in and of themselves all powerful nor will they be our end. We need to recognize them for what they are, temporary feelings and sensations that will pass in time. And even if pain and suffering should be our last lot in this life it is surrounded with that hope that there is going to be a Resurrection that will forever change sadness into joy, darkness into light, loss into relationship again. The Christmas we await is the Christ we await not only in our days but in our very bones. What could possibly address the needs, pain and hurt of this world? Nothing, save a baby who is God Himself! We would have ever been confounded with evil if it were not for God to send us a Saviour, some One outside of ourselves who could take our pain, sadness, emptiness and a world of suffering upon Himself – as He did in His Passion, Cross and Death on it. And just when it would have seemed that the worst that humanity could pile on Him was done and all was seemingly lost, it wasn't. In three days He rose from death to Life and it changed and has changed everything.

In just three days we will celebrate the birth of a child who was born in another place and time. Yet it will be far more than a ‘happy birthday’; it will be the celebration of the coming of the One who saved us and saves us still. Even and especially in the midst of any pain, suffering, grief and death... “then hope shall sing its triumph, and sadness flee away... and one day forever! That’s why we sing, ‘O Come, Divine Messiah!’ (Fr. Charles)

MASS INTENTIONS – WEEK OF Dec. 23 – 28, 2014

Tues., Dec. 23 – 8:30 am – Henry Freve+
Req. by Helen Freve
Wed., Dec. 24 – 5:00 pm - Christmas Eve Mass
– 8:00 pm - Christmas Eve Mass
Thurs., Dec. 25 – 9:00 am - Christmas Day Mass
11:00 am – Christmas Day Mass
Fri., Dec. 26 – NO MASS
Sat., Dec. 27 – 5:00 pm – Special Intentions
Sun., Dec. 28 – 9:00 am – Intentions of Melinda Larocque
Req. by Marjorie Larocque
11:00 am – Marianne Laverty+
Req. by the Johnson Family

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2014 TO FRIDAY JANUARY 2, 2015 AND WILL RE-OPEN ON MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2015. IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY REQUIRING A PRIEST, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT 905-655-3286 EXT. 8.

Weekday Masses will be cancelled on the following dates after Christmas, New Year's and the week following. Friday December 26, Tuesday December 30, Friday January 2, 2015. Also the week of January 6 – 9, 2015 – Masses & Holy Hour cancelled as Fr. Charles is on a week's vacation.

Knights of Columbus News

The Knights continue to sell "Keep Christ in Christmas" car magnets and lawn signs during Advent.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 21, 2014

From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life and she said "Yes!" ... and so the Saviour came into the world. Pray to know God's Will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world. If you think God is calling you to do this as a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Christ Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997.

PAPAL BLESSING SCROLLS

The Archdiocese of Toronto will no longer facilitate ordering Papal Blessing Scrolls. Parishioners will be able to go online www.vatican.va. Under the Roman Curia tab, and then the Office of Papal Charities under 'Institutions Connected with the Holy See', download the order form and send it directly to the Vatican by fax or mail. The scroll order will be processed and sent to the parishioner, along with an invoice for the scroll including shipping costs.

Walk the Walk: Following Christ as His Disciple - Dr. Tim Gray

In this informative CD, Dr. Gray explores how Christian discipleship calls us to follow in the footsteps of Christ as engaged participants in God's plan. Christianity as an idea is easy to follow, but for many in our culture, Christianity as a way of life proves to be too difficult. Why? Because many are comfortable with the happiness they have, and they don't want to risk losing it. It is safer and easier to keep God at distance, than to submit to His will and trust Him. People worry about what they'll lose, rather than focusing on what they can gain. Eventually, the more we distance ourselves from God, the more we increase the gap, the closer we get to denying God altogether.

With the use of Holy Scripture, wit, and life examples, Dr. Gray explains that our Faith is not simply about ideas and thoughts it's about action. It's about matching our deeds with our identity. Most importantly, it's about Jesus leading and us following. If we are to be disciples we must **love, trust, and obey God**. During this Advent and Christmas season take some time to think about these questions:

How often do you distance yourself from God? Do you trust God enough to let go of earthly loves? How far are you willing to follow God's will.

Francesco Bianco

Durham Catholic District School Board – Full Day Kindergarten Registration

We welcome all interested families to register for our Full Day Kindergarten programs at schools across the region. Your child must be turning four years of age by Dec.31, 2015 to register in the Durham Catholic school system.

Step 1: Visit dcdsb.ca from Jan. 12 to 16, 2015 to enroll your child through the online application process. For questions about registration email admissions@dcdsb.ca

Step 2: Call your local Catholic school to make an appointment to complete your registration during the week of Jan. 19 to 23, 2015.

Child Care – For info. on child care programs available at Durham Catholic schools call 905-576-6150 ext. 2172 or email childcare@dcdsb.ca

Durham Catholic District School Board – French Immersion Registration – Enroll your child through our online registration process at www.dcdsb.ca from Dec. 10, 2014 to Jan. 16, 2015. Students must be entering Grade 1 in Sept. 2015.




ONTARIO DUCT CLEANING
Do it for your home do it for the health of your family.
For a FREE No Obligation phone estimate, call:
905-655-1099




David Marshall
Sales & Leasing
1025 Dundas St. W.
1-866-386-4792
david.marshall@whitby.toyota.ca
 **TOYOTA Co.**
SALES • PARTS • SERVICE

Brooklin Dental Centre
Est. 1984



Dr. Austin Saldanha
Parishioner
INVISALIGN/Preferred Provider
The Clear Alternative to Braces,
FREE CONSULTATION
NEW PATIENTS ALWAYS WELCOME
42 Baldwin Street
905-655-3385
www.brooklindentalcentre.com



Baldwin Animal Hospital
Daniel Baturensky, DVM
4160 Baldwin St. S. Unit 13, Whitby
P 905-655-CATS 905-655-BARK

Benjamin Moore
The Colour Experts



Brooklin Paint
53 Baldwin St. (behind Baldwin Burger) **905-655-5699**

Outstanding Agents. Outstanding Results.



Daniel McDermott
Sales Rep./Parishioner
Office: **905-668-1800**
Cell: **905-447-6508**
www.danielmcdermott.org
Make The Right Move

1847
Wine & Beer Bistro

Creole Brunch on Sundays
Baptisms, Showers, Weddings
45 Baldwin St., Brooklin
905-425-9463
www.1847bistro.com

Floors IN MOTION



51 Baldwin St. **905-440-0040**
www.floorsinmotion.com

Remember...
Let our advertisers know you saw their ad here.



DISCOVER THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE



Rely on the Knights of Columbus to protect your family's future.
Michael Mullin, FIC
416-300-8680 www.mmullin.ca



LIFE INSURANCE DISABILITY INSURANCE LONG-TERM CARE RRSP/RIFF/TFSAs



Janet Moreira
Sales Representative/Parishioner
Bus **905-430-9000**
Cel **905-718-9279**
Your New Favourite Realtor at gettingyoumoved.com



St. Leo's Knights of Columbus
Get involved. Inquire now!
Larry Hallihan 905 620 0351
Allen Frank 905 655 4212



Funeral Director – Michael Lodge
W.C. Town Funeral Chapel
110 Dundas St. E., Whitby **(905) 668-3410**




Accounting
Bookkeeping
Personal & Corporate Taxes
Alan Hogan 905.655.8556 62 Winchester Rd. E.



Adrienne Irvine
Tel: 905-999-5418
1289 Keith Ross Drive, Oshawa, ON L1H 7K4
Tel: 905-440-3595
info@destefanofuneralhomes.ca
www.destefanofuneralhomes.ca

Shop LOCAL • Spend LOCAL
Eat LOCAL • Enjoy LOCAL
and support the local businesses that support your parish

OSHAWA FUNERAL HOME

Guy M. May Robert Amos
Sprague Furey David Mankiewicz
Hannah Martin Sandra Komel
Robert McHardy Imre Szabo

847 King Street West
905-721-1234


THE PERFECT SPOT TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!



TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL 1-800-268-2637

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
Archdiocese of Toronto
Resurrection, Whitby
(905) 668-8912
Mausoleum, Cremation, Monument Lots and Shrine Sections
www.catholic-cemeteries.com

The Cherub's Cupboard
Catholic Books & Gifts for all occasions
Religious Articles
www.cherubscupboard.com
82 Centre St. N. **905-432-2882**



Serving our Community with Compassion



BARNES MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME




Shopping Locally Saves Gas




BALDWIN STREET BURGER
FARM FRESH - HANDMADE
53A Baldwin St., Brooklin
www.baldwinstreetburger.com
905-425-3222



UrCOMPUTER BYTES CLINIC
Computer Sales, Service & Repair
We do all repairs in store with fast results!
71 Baldwin St. N.
905-655-3000
Urcomputerbytes.ca

Family owned and operated since 1863
905.655.3662
5295 Thickson Rd. N., Whitby
(one minute North of Taunton on Thickson)

Melissa Barnes Funeral Director
Richard Barnes Managing Director



Brian R. Evans
Financial Advisor
The Brooklin Medical Centre
5959 Anderson St. 905-655-8076
brian.r.evans@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com
Life Insurance Agent for Edward Jones Insurance Agency

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING