



# St. Leo The Great

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

130 Watford Street, Brooklin, ON L1M 1H2

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**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](http://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.

Recently, the great Canadian Catholic spiritual writer, Mark Mallett, wrote the following article about Advent and the real coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. With a built-in tendency for us to think our every-year repetition of the same theme in Advent, Jesus' coming, Mark reminds us through the popes and spiritual saints and writers of the Church that the coming of Christ is more than just a theme for a season but a reality that will be fulfilled, perhaps even in our own time. To talk of such things may seem to be 'doom and gloom' but it would not only be wrong but dangerous to think the Lord's coming, the anti-Christ, heaven and hell are somehow just beliefs but not within the realm of the real. Yet they are, of course, and this Advent again reminds us to wake up, pay attention, draw close to the Lord who draws close to you. There is no time like this moment for us to invite Jesus into our lives and give him dominion over us, our bodies, our souls, our families, our children, our community, our province and nation and the world itself. The world is not getting better but worse and further away from the kingship and kingdom of God, therefore, the Church, her pope, bishops and priests and all her people must become living witnesses for the truth and reality of the coming of Jesus – the greatest possible news for the sad and empty world-driven soul. It's time to come home to Christ and to bring others with you, not in some preachy 'turn-or-burn' kind of way but with the great attraction of holiness which comes from the desire to be holy. (Fr. Charles)

## COMFORT IN HIS COMING

Is it possible that, this Advent, we are truly preparing for the coming of Jesus? If we listen to what the popes have been saying, to what Our Lady is saying, to what the Church Fathers are saying, and put all the pieces together, the answer is an emphatic "yes!" Not that Jesus is coming this December 25th. And nor is He coming in a way that evangelical movie flicks have been suggesting, preceded by a rapture, etc. It is a coming of Christ *within* the hearts of the faithful to bring to fulfillment all the promises of Scripture that we are reading this month in the book of Isaiah.

**For the mysteries of Jesus are not yet completely perfected and fulfilled. They are complete, indeed, in the person of Jesus, but not in us, who are his members, nor in the Church, which is his mystical body.** —St. John Eudes, treatise "On the Kingdom of Jesus", Liturgy of the Hours, Vol IV, p 559

And it is God's intention to indeed bring them to fulfillment. As St. Paul wrote, the Father will continue to pour out His Spirit and gifts... until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the extent of the full stature of Christ. (Eph 4:13)

And this, in order that the People of God may... be holy and without blemish before him... that he might present to himself the Church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. (Eph 1:4, 5:27)

This so-called "middle coming" for which Our Lady "the woman clothed in the sun" has been appearing and preparing us for, is the last stage in human history when God—not Satan—gets the last word. [1] When, as Isaiah prophesied, "the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord" [2] and...

...this gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come. (Matt 24:14)

St. Louis de Montfort once prayed:

**Your divine commandments are broken, your Gospel is thrown aside, torrents of iniquity flood the whole earth carrying away even your servants... Will everything come to the same end as Sodom and Gomorrah? Will you never break your silence? Will you**

**tolerate all this for ever? Is it not true that your will must be done on earth as it is in heaven? Is it not true that your kingdom must come? Did you not give to some souls, dear to you, a vision of the future renewal of the Church?**

—Prayer for Missionaries, n. 5; [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)

Souls such as St. Bernard of Clairvaux:

**We know that there are three comings of the Lord... In the final coming, all flesh will see the salvation of our God, and they will look on him whom they pierced. The intermediate coming is a hidden one; in it *only the elect see the Lord within their own selves, and they are saved...* In his first coming Our Lord came in our flesh and in our weakness; in this middle coming he comes in spirit and power; in the final coming he will be seen in glory and majesty...**

—St. Bernard, Liturgy of the Hours, Vol I, p. 169

And St. Cyril of Jerusalem:

**There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, like that of rain on fleece, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future [when] he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.**

—The Catechetical Instruction St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Lecture 15; translation from The Splendor of Creation, Rev. Joseph Iannuzzi, p. 59

Venerable Conchita...

**It is a union of the same nature as that of the union of heaven, except that in paradise the veil which conceals the Divinity disappears...** —Jesus to Venerable Conchita, Ronda Chervin, Walk With Me Jesus; cited in The Crown and Completion of All Sanctities, Daniel O'Connor, p. 12

...and Venerable Maria Concepción:

**The time has come to exalt the Holy Spirit in the world... I desire that this last epoch be consecrated in a very special way to this Holy Spirit...It is his turn, it is his epoch, it is the triumph of love in My Church, in the whole universe.** —Jesus to Venerable María Concepción Cabrera de Armida; Fr. Marie-Michel Philippon, Conchita: A Mother's Spiritual Diary, p. 195-196

And in case we are tempted to dismiss these prophetic words saying, "Oh, that's just private revelation," we can be confident that this has been taught by the popes as well.

**The task of humble Pope John is to "prepare for the Lord a perfect people," which is exactly like the task of the Baptist, who is his patron and from whom he takes his name. And it is not possible to imagine a higher and more precious perfection than that of the triumph of Christian peace, which is peace at heart, peace in the social order, in life, in wellbeing, in mutual respect, and in the brotherhood of nations.** —ST. POPE JOHN XXIII, True Christian Peace, December 23rd, 1959; [www.catholicculture.org](http://www.catholicculture.org)

**When it does arrive, it will turn out to be a solemn hour, one big with consequences not only for the restoration of the Kingdom of Christ, but for the pacification of... the world.** —POPE PIUS XI, *Ubi Arcani dei Consilii* "On the Peace of Christ in his Kingdom", December 23, 1922

**Dear young people, it is up to you to be the watchmen of the morning who announce the coming of the sun who is the Risen Christ!** —POPE JOHN PAUL II, Message of the Holy Father to the Youth of the World, XVII World Youth Day, n. 3; (cf. Is 21:11-12)

It is with these prophetic promises, brothers and sisters, that Our Lady wishes to comfort you again.

"Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end..."

But if this coming of the Risen Sun is an interior manifestation of God's life, power, and holiness, then it is obvious that we must *prepare* to receive Him. Just as many missed the first coming of Christ, so too, many will miss this "middle coming".

*A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!*

Isaiah says we need to "make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!" That is, to *remove those obstacles of sin* that prevent His grace. We need to "fill in the valleys", that is, those areas in our hearts where we are *lacking in charity*, especially to those who have hurt us. And we need to make "every mountain low", that is, those hills of *pride and self-dependence* that leave no room for the presence of God.

**Can we pray, therefore, for the coming of Jesus? Can we sincerely say: "Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!"? Yes, we can. And not only for that: we must! We pray for anticipations of his world-changing presence.** —POPE BENEDICT XVI, *Jesus of Nazareth, Holy Week: From the Entrance into Jerusalem to the Resurrection*, p. 292, Ignatius Press

But this coming of Christ, brothers and sisters, is not the same as that coming of Jesus where "two or three are gathered," or His coming in Baptism and the Eucharist, or His interior presence through prayer. Rather, this is a coming that will subdue the nations, purify the world, and establish the Kingdom of His Divine Will "on earth as it is in Heaven" as in a "new Pentecost."

**Ah, my daughter, the creature always races more into evil. How many machinations of ruin they are preparing! They will go so far as to exhaust themselves in evil. But while they occupy themselves in going their way, I will occupy Myself with the completion and fulfillment of My Fiat Voluntas Tua ("Thy will be done") so that My Will reign on earth—but in an all-new manner. Ah yes, I want to confound man in Love! Therefore, be attentive. I want you with Me to prepare this Era of Celestial and Divine Love...** —Jesus to Servant of God, Luisa Piccarreta, *Manuscripts*, Feb 8th, 1921; excerpt from *The Splendor of Creation*, Rev. Joseph Iannuzzi, p.80

Thus, so also must the valleys, hills and mountains of Satan's kingdom be brought to nothing. And so, I'll continue our reflection on that "beast" that is determined to undermine Christ's kingdom so that our hearts are ready and our minds prepared for the "final confrontation" of this era...

**But even this night in the world shows clear signs of a dawn that will come, of a new day receiving the kiss of a new and more resplendent sun... A new resurrection of Jesus is necessary: a true resurrection, which admits no more lordship of death... In individuals, Christ must destroy the night of mortal sin with the dawn of grace regained. In families, the night of indifference and coolness must give way to the sun of love. In factories, in cities, in nations, in lands of misunderstanding and hatred the night must grow bright as the day... and strife will cease and there will be peace. Come Lord Jesus... Send thy angel, O Lord and make our night grow as bright as the day... How many souls are longing for the hastening of the day in which Thou alone wilt live and reign in their hearts! Come, Lord Jesus. There are numerous signs that Thy return is not far off.** —POPE PIUS XII, *Urbi et Orbi address*, March 2nd, 1957; [vatican.va](http://vatican.va)

...for he comes to rule the earth.  
He shall rule the world with justice  
and the peoples with his constancy. (*Psalm 85*)

**MASS INTENTIONS – Dec 13 - 18, 2016**

Tue, Dec 13	8:30 a.m.	Teresa Stadnyk+
Wed, Dec 14	7:00 p.m.	Int of Markian, Fr. Taras, Olia, Peter, Matthew & Daniel Int of Michele LaBarre Huinink Dante Fabris+ Andy Fedak+ Mark Mason+
Thu, Dec 15	8:30 a.m.	Jack Helferty+
Fri, Dec 16	8:30 a.m.	Paul Ponce de Leon+ Cala Dimitroff+ Mark Mason+ Int of Michele LaBarre Huinink
Sat, Dec 17	5:00 p.m.	Mark Mason+
Sun, Dec 18	9:00 a.m.	Ernie Laton+
	11:00 a.m.	Angela, Innocenzo, Giuseppe & Maria Mammone+

**ADVENT DAY OF CONFESSION**

**St. Leo the Great**

Thursday, Dec 15; 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**Holy Family**

Wednesday, Dec 14; 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**St. John the Evangelist - Whitby**

Sunday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m.

There will be copies of an Examination of Conscience for young children, teenagers as well as for adults in the vestibule which assist in helping you to do a bit of a moral inventory on your life and the areas and particular sins you may have committed.

**CHRISTMAS COOKIES**

Christmas Cookies will be available to purchase after all Masses on December 17 & 18 in the vestibule.

**2017 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

2017 offertory envelopes are available for pick up in the vestibule. Please do not use 2017 envelopes until the New Year. Please write your name and address on envelopes for the first few weeks of 2017 to confirm your contact information.

**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday December 24<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

**Sunday December 25<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

**Saturday December 31<sup>st</sup>**

5:00 p.m.

**Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup>**

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Please note that incense will be used at all the Masses.







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