



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

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.

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.

St. Michael's Choir School Concert: *Success*

The long-anticipated St. Michael's Choir School Christmas Concert took place a few weeks ago on Friday November 29th at 7 pm. in the church. Though ticket sales were slow over the four weeks we were selling them the night of the concert saw a pretty full church. I am so proud of the Choir School and their musical abilities and always have been, beginning many years ago when I used to frequent the Cathedral in Toronto for Sunday Mass. To hear the Choir School sing at Mass amidst the splendour of the place and most especially the holy Mass itself, was a thing to behold with head, ear and heart and I am proud of their immediate connection to our Archdiocese and their principal purpose in providing music and choir for the Cathedral Church of Toronto. All those who were there were thrilled at the musical selections and the voices of those young boys and men and it was sheer joy to see the faces of so many as they watched and listened to the Choir School sing of the Christmas praises of Jesus.

I want to especially recognize and thank our parish secretary, Maureen Holly, who sold tickets and served in so many ways as our unofficial parish coordinator of the Choir School event. Also, Donna Shaddick who for weeks sold tickets while attending to the other things she was selling on behalf of the CWL, and to the other parishioners who sold tickets – Sandy Yatabe, Judy Delaney, Jeananne Ralph, Madelaine Vonk and Ed and Theresa Fox. CWL President, Shannon Rogers, was instrumental in obtaining much of the food to feed the St. Michael students and she was assisted by so many others who worked the day before and all day during the St. Michael's Choir School visit. Their tireless efforts were greatly appreciated as were those of Tom & Joan Barker, Bill Targett and Cathy Irvin. As well, so many of our parishioners donated money to help offset the cost of purchasing the food and groceries to feed the 220 choir members as well as the staff of 25. A big note of gratitude goes to Gordon Mansell of Allen Organs who donated free of charge a magnificent Allen organ for our use during the concert.

***Footprints On My Heart* by Dee Miles.**

My name is Bernadine. Please call me Dee. I am a fellow parishioner at St Leo the Great Parish in Brooklin. I am presently employed at Markham-Stouffville Hospital as a Registered Nurse in the ER. Prior to this I worked at Sunnybrook Trauma Centre for 5 years and before that I worked at a Trauma Centre in Greenville North Carolina for 8½ years. Even though I see trauma and sorrow every day nothing could have prepared me for my own tragedy. My 8½-year-old daughter named Alyssa Kayla Miles died in 2001. I thank God I had my daughter for 8½ years. For all parents who have lost a child it is not right that they have

gone before us, especially those whose lives were ended in violence. God bless you.

I have a story to share with you in a book I recently wrote about the tragic death of my daughter, Alyssa, who died twelve years ago. I would rather not go into the graphic circumstances of her death here but suffice it to say that her death, at first suspicious turned out to be the result of homicide.

Life is not easy for anyone. If you stop and listen to those around you, you will find out that everyone has a story to tell. Perhaps it may not be as devastating as mine but we all have our crosses, suffering and pain and amidst all of this we come to realize all the more that life is so precious because life can change in an instant. Something terrible can happen to anyone whether we're weak or strong, rich or poor. Yet our faith is our stronghold and can, in the passing of time, teach us to hold our heads high. Keep your faith. God is with you. He will carry you through and eventually home even though it is not for our lifetime to understand why the things that sometimes happen to us do. We will know when we see the face of God.

I graduated from Nursing School at Durham College the same year that Alyssa was born, December 1992. There had been no fulltime nursing jobs in Canada at that time and I was on my own as a single mother because Alyssa's father did not want to accept this responsibility. So I accepted a full time job in North Carolina when Alyssa was 6 months old. A child being born is truly a gift from God. My heart filled with love the instant I saw her. She became the centre of my world, my Alyssa "roo roo", my Sugar Bear. Alyssa meant the world to me. She was a little bit of heaven on earth. She was the best part of me. When she wrapped her arms around me, time stood still. "I love you for being you. No one can ever replace you." She'd smile and say, "I know momma, you love my little arms." Alyssa had a way about her. She was gentle and carefree with the most gentle heart of anyone I have ever known. She was a social butterfly. Once my sister asked her, "Why do you talk to everyone?" "Because I like everyone!", she beamed. Alyssa and I were all we had in this world.

I remember a trip on September 12, 1999 when Alyssa and I planned on attending my sister's wedding in Canada. After loading up the car for our long drive, I drove in and out of pockets of water all along highway 43 thinking I was driving ahead of the storm and away from the danger. Darkness engulfed us. We continued to glide in and out of patches of water that were becoming more frequent and dangerously higher. When I thought we were heading out of real danger the water got deeper still. The darkness and tropical rain beat down upon us and almost engulfed us and then everything went strangely calm. I didn't know we were in the eye of Hurricane Floyd and the dam half an hour north of us had just broke. Water lashed over the hood of the car and up the windshield. The car died and we were stranded in the middle of the raging river... Alyssa and I have many adventures and stories to tell. I would love for you to read my daughter's memoir through tears and laughter. Our story, "*Footprints On My Heart*" will be available after the Masses this weekend and on Tuesday December 17th following the morning Mass. (Dee Miles)

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 – 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 - \$4628
- Pre-Authorized Giving (PAP) - \$1544 (November)
 - ➔ TOTAL COLLECTION LAST WEEK: \$6172
 - ➔ **Deficit in last week's collection: \$1596**

MASS INTENTIONS

- Tues., Dec. 17 – 8:30 am – Dympna Reynolds+ Req. by Allen, Brigid & Cameron Frank
- Wed., Dec. 18 – 7:00 pm – Josef & Karalina Gutherc+ Req. by the Hotner Family
- Thurs., Dec. 19 – 8:30 am – John Corvinelli+ Req. by Teresa & Vince Corvinelli
- Fri., Dec. 20 – 8:30 am – For the intentions of John van der Wyst Req. by Madelaine Vonk
- Sat., Dec. 21 – 5:00 pm – Pearl Ruth Kirke+
- Sun., Dec. 22 – 9:00 am – No Intention
- Sun., Dec. 22 – 11:00 am – Henry Freve+ Req. by Helen Freve

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.

CWL PIES - If you purchased pies from the ladies of the CWL these pies will be available for pickup in the hall from 3 pm to 4:45 pm on Saturday, Dec. 14 or after masses on Sunday, Dec. 15.

Hey you!  **The Catholic View** is coming soon-2014.

Third Sunday of Advent – December 15, 2013

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Are you one to be sent? If God is calling you to be sent as a priest or religious, **contact Fr. Hansoo Park 416-0997, email – vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca**

Offertory Envelopes 2014

The 2014 offertory envelopes are available for pick up from the tables at the windows on the south side of the Church. The envelopes are arranged in numerical order. If you wish to keep your same envelope number for 2014, please take your box this weekend. When you start to use your envelopes in January 2014, you must print your full name and address on the front of each envelope for the month of January. This allows us to enter the correct information in the parish database. Failure to do this will result in your not receiving a tax receipt for 2014. For parishioners who have not used offertory envelopes before, and wish to do so, please complete a parish registration form at the Welcome Table in the church vestibule. On receipt of your registration form, the office will assign envelopes to you and you will be phoned for pickup. Parishioners who are currently on the Pre-Authorized Plan will take their boxes from the table marked PAP ONLY. Parishioners who wish to join the Pre-Authorized Plan can do so by completing the PAP pamphlet found in the Church vestibule.

THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2013 TO FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 2014 AND REOPENS ON MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014. IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY REQUIRING A PRIEST, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE (905) 655-3286 EXT. 8.

Weekday Masses will be cancelled on the following dates after Christmas, New Year's and the week following. This allows Father Charles to catch up on some rest and take some holidays before the busyness of mid-January to June begins. The Wednesday Holy Hours for three weeks during this time are also cancelled.

THERE WILL BE NO MASS & HOLY HOUR:


- Thurs., Dec. 26, Fri., Dec. 27, 2013 &
- Thurs., Jan. 2 & Fri., Jan. 3, 2014
- 4-days of holiday: Tues., Jan. 7, Wed., Jan. 8,
- Thurs., Jan. 9 & Fri., Jan. 10




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