



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

Parish Secretary: Maureen Holly

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. 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 (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.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION (Confessions)

This coming **TUESDAY DECEMBER 9 at 7 pm.**

Please note that confessions will begin at 7 pm. and will conclude after the last person has gone to confession.

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.

RCIA IN OUR PARISH

Over the past two years we have not had an RCIA process in our parish as there didn't seem many who were interested in becoming a Catholic from among us. Last year we had one man who did complete his initiation into the Catholic Church through the RCIA held at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Whitby. This year, however, there have been many more people who have come forward expressing an interest in the Catholic faith – two men and five women. Of the seven of them, two have not been baptized and five have. Those who are not baptized are called Catechumens while those who have already been baptized in another Christian tradition are called Candidates. Each week we gather together as one group for catechesis which will move over time from the general idea of who God is to the specifics of the sacraments, prayer and life in the Church.

Since all of the seven members of our RCIA process have attended Mass for quite some time now we began with a tour of the church. While any Catholic may already be familiar with what they see at church each Sunday there is so much more about our faith to be learned through a look at the details of our own parish church of St. Leo the Great. Such things as why we dip our hands in Holy Water that is found only at the entrance of the church, why we make the sign of the cross, why we carry a crucifix in each Sunday which leads the procession to the altar – are just some of the questions leading to what we do and why we do it as Roman Catholics. Those who are looking at the Catholic Church from the outside are invited to learn about the external signs and symbols of the Church which manifest the faith that is internal to every Catholic.

Yet the RCIA journeys for those who are already baptized and those who aren't are quite different one from another.

Those who are already baptized (Candidates) through water and in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are already one with all who have been baptized and rightly called 'Christians'. They bring with them the dignity of the children of God, though they are not members of the Catholic Church and have not, therefore, received Christ in the Real Presence of the Eucharist, have not been Confirmed in their initiation as Catholics and are not yet members of the Catholic Church. They have the Holy Spirit already dwelling within them as Christians and await the 'fullness' of initiation in the Church through Reception, Confirmation and Holy Communion.

Those who have not been baptized (Catechumens) are those who desire to have Christ's life in them while already having received

the promptings of God whom they feel and sense is calling them to consider life in the Catholic Church.

The unbaptized faithfully hear the living God proclaimed and Jesus Christ whom He has sent for the salvation of the world and gradually, through the Sunday celebration of the Mass they have already been attending and ongoing catechesis each week will choose to belong to Christ, become His follower and will ask to be baptized into life in Christ and the Church at the Easter Vigil. Yet, as Jesus said in John 15:16 – "You did not choose me, I chose you." It is Christ who chooses us, blesses us with the gift of faith and makes our hearts desire Him.

Already now and in the coming months those who are unbaptized will discover through the RCIA process the God who loves them and has revealed Himself in the fullness of time in Jesus Christ. They will yearn for the waters of Baptism which will make them Christians and members of the Catholic Church and, at the Easter Vigil, when they will be baptized, they will subsequently become full members of the Church.

Both those who desire to be baptized and those who are already baptized will journey together toward Easter. At the Vigil of Easter both will arrive; the unbaptized at the font of Baptism and the baptized at the very doors of the heart of the Church. The unbaptized will arrive as Catechumens awaiting life in Christ while those who already bear the name and dignity of 'Christian' will await being received into the Catholic Church and the reception of the sacraments. Both, however, will leave the Easter Vigil full members of the Catholic Church having received Sacraments of Initiation. The unbaptized will receive Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist and those already baptized will first be Received into the Catholic Church and then Confirmed and receive Jesus in the Eucharist.

What the RCIA process does is all about the work of conversion which is common and necessary for every Christian. Those of us who are baptized and fully initiated grow to realize that there is an ongoing conversion of the mind and heart for which the seasons of the Church year discipline us. We need to be mindful of our need to come back to Christ again and again each year and every year of our lives.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RCIA MEMBERS

The journey of those in our RCIA process is shared by all Christians – following Christ, seeking His will and making Him first. The importance of remembering them in your prayers every day is so beneficial to you and them as you simply ask God to lead and guide them and bless them with the gift of faith.

In parishes where there is a large team working with the members of the RCIA, they are dismissed each week to go and ponder the Word of God. In our parish, since I am a team of 1, they will remain with us, mindful of these words:

"Although you cannot yet participate fully in the Lord's Eucharist, stay with us as a sign of our hope that all God's children will eat and drink with the Lord and work with the Holy Spirit to re-create the face of the earth."

(Fr. Charles)

MASS INTENTIONS – WEEK OF Dec. 9 – 14, 2014

Tues. Dec.9 - 8:30 am – Rev.Bill Addley+
Wed. Dec. 10 - 7:00 pm – In Thanksgiving Blessings Received
Thurs. Dec. 11 - 8:30 am – Stefan Sebala+
Fri. Dec.12 - 8:30 am - In Thanksgiving req. Ed & Theresa Fox
Sat. Dec. 13 – 5:00 pm - Stefan Sebala+
Sun. Dec. 14 – 9:00 am - Martin Martens+
11:00 am – Herta Gumpenberger+ req. LeBlanc Family

Second Sunday of Advent - December 7, 2014

John the Baptist is sent by God to prepare the way for His Son. In our present time God sends priests, religious and deacons to prepare the people to receive His Son. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997 email vocations@archtoronto.org

ANGEL TREE

Thank you one and all who took a Christmas angel last weekend. If you didn't get one you can still help by purchasing hats, mitts and scarves for adults or children or a gift card for a grocery store or a gas station.

Reminder, that gifts are to be returned by Sunday December 14 and placed in the container in the vestibule. Gifts should be in a gift bag, not wrapped with the angel card attached (if you have one). Christmas will be brighter for our neighbours in need. Thank you for your generosity

CWL NEWS

Christmas Cookies will be available to purchase after all the masses on **December 13 & 14** in the vestibule of the church.

Christmas 2014 – 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 items which are so necessary to the men who live on the street which include: new-only socks, underwear, toothbrushes and deodorant, shaving cream, foot powder, lip balm, and Kleenex tissues. We will not be taking any used clothing this season. You are asked to drop off these items in the church vestibule at the Welcome Table. Thank you for your continued support.

Knights of Columbus News

St. Leo the Great Knights of Columbus will be selling **Campaign Life Christmas Cards and Christmas Cakes** for the next 2 weekends. Cakes - \$15.00 small & \$25.00 large. Cards - \$8 box. Also, available to purchase are **"Keeping Christ in Christmas" Lawn Signs** \$15.00 and **Car Magnets** \$3.00 each or \$5.00 for 2. **Breakfast:** On December 7 following the 9 and 11:00 am masses in the parish hall. Everyone is invited to enjoy a **free full breakfast** of eggs, sausages, baked beans, pancakes, biscuits, coffee, tea and juice. **A free will offering to the St. Vincent de Paul would be very much appreciated.**

St. Bridget Catholic School Christmas Outreach

This past October, a tragic fire destroyed Fairview Lodge Nursing Home in Whitby, displacing 192 elderly residents. St. Bridget Catholic School Christmas Outreach is dedicated to bringing a little bit of hope and joy by giving a gift to each and every one of the 192 residents. We are asking for any donations you can offer from the list below to be dropped off at St. Bridget C.S. by Monday Dec.8. All inquiries call Karen Cusato 905-655-1875 ext. 4015. Lip balm, hand or body cream, wrapped candies/chocolate, shortbread cookies, puddings, slipper socks, gloves, winter hats, scarves, puzzle books, playing cards, magazines, combs, razor/shaving cream, change purse, Christmas pins. Thank you.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES 2015

The **2015 Offertory Envelopes** are available for pickup from the tables in the vestibule. The envelopes are arranged in numerical order. If you wish to keep your same envelope number for 2015, please take your box this weekend. 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 you not receiving a tax receipt for donation made in 2015.

If this year you used an envelope in the 500 and 600 series, please note that you have been allotted a new number.

If you cannot remember your envelope box number an alphabetical listing has been provided which will also reference your envelope box number.

If you are not currently using Offertory Envelopes and wish to do so for 2015, please complete a parish Registration Form at the Welcome Table. On receipt of this Registration Form, the office will assign envelopes to you and you will be phoned to pick up in the Quiet Room.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING 2015

Parishioners currently on the Pre-Authorized Giving, please pick up your envelopes from **the Table Marked PAG Only.**

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.

Mass to honour Our Lady of Guadalupe


St. John the Evangelist Church, 903 Giffard St in Whitby, is having a special Mass to honour Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of the Unborn, to ask her intercession of the Lord to heal our nation and end abortion in Canada. After the mass we will find out the importance of Our Lady and her image and why she is the Patroness of the Unborn. Please join us. Thank you and Blessings.




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