



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: office@stleothegreat.ca

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 7:00 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Friday 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (followed by 8:30 a.m. Mass)

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday 4:30 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 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 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 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.

PARISH LENTEN EVENING RETREAT**Save The Date****Wednesday March 20, 7 pm.****Bishop Christian Riesbeck**

On Wednesday March 20 in the church at 7:00 pm., we have invited Bishop Christian Riesbeck, Auxiliary Bishop of Ottawa, to give us an evening Lenten talk entitled *"MISSIONARY SERVANTS"*.

Bishop Riesbeck is a Companion of the Cross and an excellent speaker. I know him from my seminary days at St. Augustine Seminary in Toronto when we were in formation for the priesthood. Please mark your calendars to attend this evening of inspiration and Lenten spiritual preparation.

THE DIRTY WORD: ABORTION

It should go without saying that as a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, I believe that all life comes from God, the Creator of all things. Therefore, I also believe that the taking of innocent human life whether it be at the age of 2 weeks or 2 months or at the age of two are the same, and we call that murder. However, one need have no faith at all to be able to come to the same conclusion and, in fact, there are many atheists who are prolife.

I think that the saddest thing about the abortion debate which has gone on for many decades now is that it has become just a war on words. Just as quickly as a prolife can say that it is a developing human being from the moment of conception a proabortionists will say that it's just a glob of tissue and that it doesn't become a human until it is born. (New York state has recently passed a law that allows abortion up until and including the time of birth.)



This is a picture of a 5-week old dolphin fetus beside a one-inch pin. There is no mistaking that one can see the tail fin and eyes as well as the developing dorsal fin. Any observer who knows what a dolphin looks like

would be able to say, "this is a dolphin baby". Yet when it comes to the human fetus a giant leap is made in the minds of many proabortionists who do not know the science behind human development or simply choose to ignore it. One time when conservative podcaster Ben Shapiro was speaking at an American university, during the Q&A portion of the event one student asked him why he was prolife. He

answered because the fetus or the embryo is a human fetus or when people want to have a child they call it a baby. The student responded stating that it wasn't a baby but just a clump of cells, to which Mr. Shapiro replied, "Then, you're just a clump of cells." His response wasn't intended to be rude but to show how anyone or anything can be reduced to that which is meaningless just by the words we apply to it. There is a well-known Princeton university bioethics professor, Peter Singer, who openly supports both euthanasia and infanticide. On his faculty page, Mr. Singer stated: *"Newborn human babies have no sense of their own existence over time. So killing a newborn baby is never equivalent to killing a person, that is, a being who wants to go on living. That doesn't mean that it is not almost always a terrible thing to do. It is, but that is because most infants are loved and cherished by their parents, and to kill an infant is usually to do a great wrong to its parents."*

Several decades ago I participated in a local walk-for-life in Oshawa. There were many participants and all in all things were peaceful. At the end of the walk and a few addresses made to the attendees about the ongoing fight for the right to life of the unborn, a couple I knew said to me as we were about to part, "See you next year." While I knew what they meant, that statement has always bothered me in the sense that we are resigned to the fact that abortion is with us and will always be with us. For prolife it is a rather unhealthy acceptance that there isn't a great deal we can do because we haven't done much to change things in the past and currently it appears that this trend will continue. Meanwhile, amongst proabortionists, their message just gets more vile, louder and in your face. Even politicians who have been prolife have so often done little or nothing to help the prolife cause while they were in office. And many Catholics, who receive the Lord Jesus in the mouths on Sunday speak words contrary to the scripture, the Church and science about it being a woman's right to choose whether or not to keep their baby, citing feelings as paramount or what is right and wrong before God. And so many Catholic politicians have placed, in my estimation, their own souls in peril as they publicly state, "I am Catholic, but.....".

The readings over the past few weeks address God's followers in the ways of In Jeremiah 1:5, God says of the prophet, *"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you for my own; before you were born I consecrated you."*

In Isaiah 49:15, God says, *"Can a woman forget the infant at her breast, or a loving mother the child of her womb?"*

In all of the words spoken and ink spilled over the horrific subject of abortion, and with all the speeches about rights and personal autonomy and people's situations in life, it seems to me that it all seems to be coming down to the same thing: that in the debate of which there should be no debate – we've forgotten the baby! (Fr. Charles)



**Calling all students
grade 9 to recent high
school grads!**

Alpha has launched and it's not too late to join! Come, bring some friends, and ask life's biggest questions over food and hot beverages!

**Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 pm in the parish hall,
all are welcome.**



Edge is continuing on
**Thursdays 6:30-8:30 pm
in the parish hall.**

For students grades 6-8.

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Wanna keep up to date with all upcoming youth events? Follow us on instagram! @youthatstleo=



Be inspired, encouraged and healed at the largest single day Catholic event in Canada, the 27th annual **Lift Jesus Higher Rally!** The theme of this year's rally is **"Hope In the Midst of Suffering"**.

**Saturday, March 2nd, 2019, 9 am – 5:30 pm
Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St. W.**

- c Inspired talks by Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields and guest speaker Fr. Mark Goring.
- c The adult high mass (with Sunday readings) will be celebrated by His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins
- c There will be a separate youth event (13-18 years) with great music, dynamic talks and inspirational skits.
- c The youth mass (with Sunday readings) will be celebrated by Fr. Mark Goring.

For Ticket: \$25 for adults and \$15 for the youth. For additional information, please see our website www.lift-jesus-higher-rally.ca or kindly contact us at 647-243-9441.

VOCATION SEEDS

No prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. Do not be discouraged by jeers when considering religious life or priesthood. If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, **Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997, vocations@archtoronto.org, www.vocationstoronto.ca**

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, February 5th	
8:30 a.m.	+ Alice Launay
Wednesday, February 6th	
7:00 p.m.	+ Lorna George
Thursday, February 7th	
8:30 a.m.	+ Philip Launay
Friday, February 8th	
8:30 a.m.	Intentions of Laura Kraemer
Saturday, February 9th	
4:30 p.m.	+ Lorna George
Sunday, February 10th	
9:00 a.m.	+ Geraldnie Mueller
11:00 a.m.	+ Intentions of Nerissa & Med Reyes

CALLING ALL CATHOLIC MOMS!

*Join our Mother's Ministry! Mothers of all ages are invited to join us on **Wed February 13th at 8pm in the Quiet Room.** We meet once a month to discuss different topics but most importantly we laugh, learn and share with likeminded Catholic women.*

Contact annalisa@catholicmomsgroup.com or visit www.catholicmomsgroup.com for more information. New members are always welcome!



**St. Leo Knights of Columbus
Annual Valentines Dance**
will be held on **February 9, 2019.** Everyone is invited for another enjoyable evening with friends and family.

Location - St. Leo Church Hall, Doors open at 6:45 P.M. Refreshments at 7:00 P.M., Dinner at 7:30 P.M. Full meal with desert, Cash Bar, Music - by D.J. Door prizes and draws during evening. Price - \$30.00 individual, \$50.00 couple



Anyone wishing to become a member of the Knights of Columbus can register online by visiting <http://www.kofc.org> and go to JOIN US and follow their instructions. There is a form to complete and submit. Approval of your application will make you a member of

the Ontario Knights of Columbus, temporarily, and upon receiving your Admission Degree you will become a member of St. Leo Knights of Columbus. In the interim you will receive a Membership Card, be able to attend our Council meetings, receive Knights publications, participate in our activities and the Knights Insurance Program. As an alternative you can join the Knights by seeking Admission Degree without registering on line. You may speak to any members of our Council here at St. Leo or contact Grand Knight Larry Hallihan and lgba2008@yahoo.ca



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