

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: Father Mounir El-Rassi

Parish Secretary: Magda Nowak 905-655-3286 ext. 1001

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday & Thursday 8 am to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday & Friday by appointment only.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 8:30 a.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 *Hospital Chaplain* is present in the hospital (or when he will be). If the Hospital Chaplain 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. Mounir 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. Mounir, please call the parish office and leave a message with the parish secretary at 905-655-3286 ext. 1001.

Saint Agnes**Feast day – January 21**

St. Agnes of Rome was born in 291 AD and raised in a Christian family. Agnes was very beautiful and belonged to a wealthy family. Her hand in marriage was highly sought after, and she had many high ranking men chasing after her. However, Agnes made a promise to God never to stain her purity. Her love for the Lord was great and she hated sin even more than death!

Whenever a man wished to marry Agnes, she would always say, "Jesus Christ is my only Spouse." According to legend, the young men she turned away became so angry and insulted by her devotion to God and purity that they began to submit her name to authorities as a Christian follower.

In one incident, Procop, the Governor's son, became very angry when she refused him. He tried to win her for his wife with rich gifts and promises, but the beautiful young girl kept saying, "I am already promised to the Lord of the Universe. He is more splendid than the sun and the stars, and He has said He will never leave me!"

In great anger, Procop accused her of being a Christian and brought her to his father, the Governor. The Governor promised Agnes wonderful gifts if she would only deny God, but Agnes refused. He tried to change her mind by putting her in chains, but her lovely face shone with joy.

Next he sent her to a place of sin, but an Angel protected her. At last, she was condemned to death. Even the pagans cried to see such a young and beautiful girl going to death. Yet, Agnes was as happy as a bride on her wedding day. She did not pay attention to those who begged her to save herself. "I would offend my Spouse," she said, "if I were to try to please you. He chose me first and He shall have me!" Then she prayed and bowed her head for the death-stroke of the sword.

Other accounts of Agnes' life hold the Prefect Sempronius responsible for her martyrdom. It is said he condemned the young girl to be dragged through the streets naked. Some versions of the legend state that Agnes' hair grew instantly to cover her entire body and all the men who

attempted to rape the beautiful virgin were immediately struck blind.

The stories go on to explain that another man presided over Agnes' trial after Sempronius excused himself. The new man sentenced Agnes to death. At first, Agnes was tied to a stake, but either the wood would not burn or the flames parted away from her. This prompted an officer to draw his sword and behead the girl. It is believed that her blood, which poured out to the stadium, was soaked up with cloths by Christians.

She died a virgin-martyr at the age of 12 or 13 on 21 January 304.

Agnes was buried beside the Via Nomentana in Rome. Her bones are currently conserved beneath the high altar in the church of Sant'Angese fuori le mura in Rome, which was built over the catacomb that held her tomb. Her skull is preserved in the church of Sant'Agnese in Agone in Rome's Piazza Navona.

In 1858, Father Caspar Rehr, an Austrian missionary founded the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes.

St. Agnes is widely known as the patron saint of young girls. She is also the patron saint of chastity, rape survivors and the Children of Mary. She is often represented with a lamb, the symbol of her virgin innocence, and a palm branch, like other martyrs. She is shown as a young girl in robes holding a palm branch with the lamb either at her feet or in her arms.

Her feast day is celebrated on January 21. On her feast day, it is customary for two lambs to be brought in to be blessed by the pope. On Holy Thursday the lambs' wool is removed and woven into the pallium the pope gives to a newly consecrated archbishop as a sign of his power and union with the pope.

Marriage Preparation Classes

St. John the Evangelist will provide a Marriage Preparation Course on six Thursday evenings from 7pm to 9pm beginning Thursday January 20th through to Thursday February 24, 2022 ONLINE VIA ZOOM. The course cost is \$200 per couple. Please contact Vicki at 905-668-3676.



MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

Saturday, January 15th

4:30 p.m. † Joyce & Norman Gay

Sunday, January 16th

9:00 a.m. † Francesco Caruso

11:00 a.m. For the parishioners of St. Leo the Great

Tuesday, January 18th

8:30 a.m. † Susan & Alex Quinn
Intentions of Sonia Palencia
Intentions of Christopher Duarte

Wednesday, January 19th

8:30 a.m. Intentions of Sonia Palencia
Intentions of the Frank Family
† Basil Cultrera
† James Devlin
† Innocenzo & Vincenzina Mammone
† Attilio & Maria Tuzi

Thursday, January 20th

8:30 a.m. Intentions of Anna Maria Tuzi & Benedetto Tuzi
Intentions of Sonia Palencia

Friday, January 21st

8:30 a.m. + Martin Rego
Intentions of Sonia Palencia
Intentions of Angela Meagher
Intentions of Veronica & Chris Duarte

Saturday, January 22nd

4:30 p.m. For the parishioners of St. Leo the Great

Sunday, January 23rd

9:00 a.m. † Fred Molica
11:00 a.m. † Madge St. Denis

Calling all Catholic Advisors

Are you a lawyer, financial or insurance advisor? If yes, then we want to hear from you! The Archdiocese of Toronto has spent a number of years creating a network of advisors, who understand our faith and can assist us with our estate and financial affairs. Come and be a part of our network where you have the opportunity to integrate your spiritual and professional lives. For further information, contact the Development office at 416-934-3400 ext. 561/519 or email development@archtoronto.org

Pre-Authorized Giving

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving Plan (PAG) to assist you in your support of the work of the parish through your regular parish offerings. To accomplish the mission entrusted to us by Christ, the parishes depend entirely on the generosity of their parishioners. Pre-authorized giving allows you to give to your parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account or credit card. These funds are then deposited directly to the parish account. There are various benefits of participating in pre-authorized giving, both for you and for your parish.

Advantages for you:

- The convenience of having your offering automatically contributed to the parish.
- Knowing you continue to support the parish even when you are away.
- Continual support of ministries and programs funded through the parish.

Advantages for the Parish:

- Regular, dependable contributions to the parish.
- Reduction of cash on hand.
- Reduction of paperwork.

For information on how to enrol, please contact your parish office.

Marriage Sunday 2022

Celebration of Marriage Mass with Bishop Kasun, February 13, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.


As part of Marriage Sunday 2022 celebrations, Bishop Robert Kasun, CSB will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+) in 2022. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 13 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). Due to social distancing measures, cathedral attendance is limited to pre-registered couples celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries and a maximum of one (1) guest per celebrant couple. Registration is now open. Given the limited attendance at the cathedral, we encourage milestone celebrants to register early. Those who are not able to register may join the celebration via livestream Mass here: www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live. The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m. Please visit www.archtoronto.org/marriage to register and to access s for parishes and couples.




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