



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: 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

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.

YOUTH MINISTRY and Saint Leo the Great Parish

The world we find ourselves living in at present is one of great uncertainty and confusion. We are all effected by the many things and even ideas which seem to pose a threat to our living and way of life as we know it. We are also living in a time when everyone, whether they are working, raising a family or retired, are so exceedingly busy running off in many directions at the same time to accomplish various goals and address needs and demands which rob us of the time to contemplate, think, pray and just be.

Our young people are a growing part of all of the above and so many of them seem to have no faith in the God who made and loves them and no hope in a future of prediction. We need God. Our young people need God. We need ministry to our Catholic youth.

As I mentioned last Sunday in the announcement of our hiring of Dennis Wardle as our full-time Youth Director, people often say that our young people are the future of the Church, but I strongly disagree with that statement. Our young people must be the 'present' of the Church in the here and now so that they will also be present in the future of the Church, for their own good and the good of the Church Jesus founded. We cannot put off until another time what we need to do today in working with our Catholic young people, who are largely being raised without Catholic faith and little or no understanding of who Jesus Christ is and what He is all about. Our parish's new youth ministry is a spiritual investment in our young people themselves and in their future in God. And yes, we are talking about souls here – saving souls from the grasp of a secular world and bringing them into a lived experience of the Risen Lord, the God of Jesus Christ who loves them and calls them into relationship with Himself.

WHY A FULL-TIME YOUTH MINISTER?

The former model of youth groups in Catholic parishes was formed and built on a different time and reality. In the 1950's the parish priest might approach a young couple from his parish and ask them to begin a 'youth group'. So, obediently and without any structure or plan the couple would spend great amounts of energy trying to corral teenagers to attend their weekly or bi-weekly youth gatherings. This was also a time when the majority of Catholic youth were already going to Mass every Sunday with their families. Today the opposite is true as the majority of our Catholic youth attending public or Catholic schools never attend Mass except for special occasions or for sacraments. Over time, the couple would become tired and stressed out over having to come up with new ideas and topics to present to the youth, usually provoking burn-out and the end of the youth group within a year. There were some programs, like CYO, that were successful but these didn't last the test of time and they all disappeared. With the passing of Catholic youth groups also came the sexual revolution of the sixties and seventies when all the safeguards and structures previously known came crashing down. Growing secular ideas led over time to a growing secular culture and Christendom disappeared.

Since the papacy of St. John Paul II the new evangelization began to grow out of the necessity for Catholics to return to the voice of the True Shepherd. St. John Paul knew that Catholic young people had become part of the landscape void of God in the culture and saw the urgent need to call young people back to Jesus Christ, which he so

powerfully accomplished in the now infamous World Youth Days held in various countries and gathering the youth from all parts of the world to one place to grow in and celebrate Catholic faith in Jesus and to partake of the spiritual learning and sharing of that faith in a community of believers and those who are coming to believe. This was the spark that has ignited our Catholic young people the world over and has continued through the works of the two popes who have followed after him. It has also reignited the urgent and crucial need for youth ministry specifically geared to our youth.

Many priests and parishes have attempted to save money in the parish purse by hiring a part-time youth minister, however, time has shown this to be not only unsuccessful but also makes it fairly impossible to retain a youth director who has to visit schools in the daytime and invite the youth to come out to the youth group, plan and put on the meetings themselves in the evenings as well as train and work with adult volunteers who will serve as the core team members. And, make some sort of a decent living on 20 hours pay. The result was youth directors who were working 40-hour weeks and getting poorly paid and burning out for the effort: high expectations with low incentive.

LIFETEEN AND EDGE

In the past 15 years a program called Lifeteen (and Edge, which has been added to it) has exploded within parish youth ministry. Originating in the U.S. Lifeteen takes the guess-work out of planning for youth directors and leaders with a week-to-week plan of topics, events, socials, games, teaching tools, videos and catechetical tools which serves to eliminate the burnout and fadeout of youth ministry and ministers in Catholic parishes. In my last parish assignment of St. John Vianney in Barrie, we hired a full-time youth minister 11 years ago and she is still there and the youth ministry has been successful in bringing young people into a lived relationship with Christ, even producing vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The *Lifeteen* program mixes fun and faith together and is a dynamic plan for active and authentic youth ministry. It is designed for high school teens from grade nine through twelve and their weekly Lifeteen nights normally follow a Lifeteen Mass. *Edge* is for children in grades six to eight and flowed from a desire in younger children to attend the Lifeteen program. *Edge* prepares the youth for Lifeteen and together they provide many years of faith and social formation which trains them in prayer, participation in the sacraments and engages them to give back and serve others.

Parish youth ministries also feed into the other programs which bring many youth ministries from individual parishes together, such as EdgeCamp, which is held in the summer months in a camp setting with youth from various parishes coming together in one place and Steubenville Toronto (held in Oshawa each year) which consists of a weekend of prayer, music and engagement and talks with youth in an exciting and lively environment.

In time, youth ministry in a parish changes the parish. Our parish is strikingly young and we have so many young families with young and growing children. Mindful of our parish debt and our need to increase parish income we have been so blessed with our annual \$25,000. subsidy granted us through the Archdiocese toward our youth ministry program. To the idea that we can't afford youth ministry here I would respond with the truth that we can't afford not to begin this great work which the Lord has not only summoned us to but will bless for the parish, for the Church, for the future. (FrC)

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

Our work is made possible through the giving hearts of our parishioners! Thank you to those who have supported our Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) Program in the past. This weekend, we are encouraging others who may still want to sign-up for our PAG program. A staff member from the Development Office of the Archdiocese will visit to tell us more about PAG and how it allows you to support your parish when you are away—a benefit to the church, since expenses continue all year long. Enrollment forms and brochures are at the lobby and you can submit it with a void cheque to the office or drop it in the offertory basket next week. For more information, please call our church office.

TOTUS TUUS

Evening program for students entering grades 7 -12

From Sunday July 23 to Thursday July 27, 6:45 – 9 p.m.

Cost: \$20. per child. Evening Program maximum: 35.

Day Program for children in Grade 1-6

From Monday July 24 to Friday July 28, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Cost: \$70 per child. Day Program maximum: 60.

Registration forms are available in the vestibule and on the parish website stleothegreat.ca. You can drop off the registration form with the fee at the parish office. If the office is closed, leave it in the outside office mailbox.

SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN

Living the Gospel by helping young families to succeed...

When Amber found out she was going to be a mother, she was afraid and uncertain about who to turn to and where to go. After a friend told her about Rose of Durham, Amber arrived looking for help preparing for the arrival of her son. After one session with her counselor, she felt very safe and welcome, and her anxiety about becoming a parent begin to decrease. Amber took advantage of all the programs and services Rose of Durham had to offer and as a result, her self-esteem drastically improved, along with her parenting skills. Amber admits she would not be the parent she is today if it wasn't for the help and guidance she was offered at ShareLife-supported Rose of Durham. Last year, over 1,270 young parents received the care, counseling and educational support they needed to care for themselves and their new families.

Please make a sacrificial gift to ShareLife through your parish, or at www.sharelife.org

Our goal is \$38,400.00 and we have raised \$23,340.00 so far.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tue, June 13	8:30 a.m.	Ints of the Higgins Family
Wed, June 14	7:00 p.m.	Anna Kraemer + Intentions of Olga
Thur, June 15	8:30 a.m.	
Fri, June 16	8:30 a.m.	Intentions of St. Leo's Catholic Mothers Group
Sat, June 17	5:00 p.m.	Rodrigo Nieto & Jose Reyes+
Sun, June 18	9:00 a.m.	Lawrence Hallihan +
	11:00 a.m.	Michael Power +

MARYGROVE CAMP COLLECTION

Today is the Archdiocesan collection for Marygrove Camp. Your donation will help to send over 1,100 girls from less fortunate families to a wonderful camping experience this summer. The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul thanks you for your support of the camp, one of the many Special Works of the Society.

If you are not able to contribute through use of the envelope today, you can contribute online or learn more about Marygrove Camp or any of our other Special Works, visit: www.ssvptoronto.ca

CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES OF DURHAM

CFSD is dedicated to strengthening the emotional and social well-being of individuals and families, regardless of beliefs, through counseling, prevention and education. **We are currently seeking dedicated people to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.** The Board of Directors is comprised of up to 7 individuals from the community and meets once a month. For more information about CFSD services, please visit our website www.cfsdurham.com. To learn about joining our Board of Directors, please email boardofdirectors@cfsdurham.com or contact Tania, executive assistant, 905-72503513 ext. 121.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the parishioners who donated their Rediscover Catholicism by Matthew Kelly books to the Rular Parish in the Diocese of Pembroke, Ontario. They appreciate your generosity and are looking forward to seeing the impact the book will have on their little parish.

VOCATION SEEDS


"God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son..." How can you best serve God in a response to that love? If God is calling you, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997, email vocations@archtoronto.org




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