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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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.

“YES” TO EUTHANASIA BRINGS A SEISMIC SHIFT IN VALUES

Euthanasia is a word we are all used to but it has a very ugly reputation, justly earned by the countries that have legalized it. The ‘slippery slope’ that is always the warning cry from opponents of an immoral act has already shown it’s poisonous fruit in those places where legalized euthanasia has a history even to the point now of the euthanizing of children. Canada can now boast, through the recent passing of Bill 52 in the province of Quebec, that it is the first nation of North America to do so. The Quebec Government was highly praising itself for this momentous legislation change but Margaret Somerville’s final prediction found at the end of this article in bold should serve as a sobering reminder of all the many questions posed by Euthanasia but not answered by the Government of Quebec or any other proponents of the taking of human life. Please read this article and be informed by its questions about this most serious issue. (*Fr. C*)

Article by MARGARET SOMERVILLE

Why, after millenniums of prohibiting the intentional killing of another human being, in particular by physicians, did Quebec politicians think euthanasia is a “progressive” idea that must be implemented without delay? Bill 52, originally introduced by the Parti Québécois government, was rapidly reintroduced by the Liberals and passed Thursday.

Why did Quebec politicians fail to give sufficient weight to the dangers and harms of legalizing euthanasia, especially to vulnerable people — those who are old and fragile or disabled, and whose lives are denigrated by euthanasia’s message that they are not worth living?

Why have their ethical imaginations, human memories (knowledge of history) and examined emotions failed to warn them that they are on the wrong path? Did they fail to distinguish between obligations to kill people’s suffering through good palliative care and pain management, and killing the person with the suffering? Did they fail to heed an old warning: “Nowhere are human rights more threatened than when we act purporting to do only good”? A desire to do good blinds us to the harms.

Are Quebec politicians so focused on giving priority to individual autonomy — “choice” — they don’t see the harm to the value of respect for human life at the societal level that legalizing euthanasia unavoidably causes?

How will legalizing euthanasia affect law’s and medicine’s capacity to carry the value of respect for life for society as a whole? They are the main institutions carrying this value in a secular society.

Has the media’s almost sole focus on heart-wrenching cases of suffering individuals asking for euthanasia blinded us to the larger-picture consequences of legalizing it?

Why do politicians use obfuscating language — “medical aid to die” — for euthanasia? An Ipsos Marketing survey found only one-third of Quebecers understood this meant a lethal injection.

Can we imagine physicians teaching medical students how to carry out euthanasia and clinically role-modelling it for them?

Will many physicians decline work in institutions in which colleagues administer euthanasia? Imagine sitting down to lunch with a colleague who 10 minutes before killed a patient.

Will patients refuse admission to institutions that provide euthanasia? Will they refuse palliative care and pain management for fear of being euthanized? The Netherlands and Belgium both show these are valid concerns.

Why did Quebec politicians cite Belgium’s law as a felicitous (pleasant) example when there’s ample evidence of its abuse (the practical slippery slope) and rapid and broad expansion of its application (the logical slippery slope)?

Would serious mental illness or anorexia nervosa be an “end of life condition” allowing euthanasia in Quebec, as in Belgium and the Netherlands? Likewise, as in those countries, once we become accustomed to euthanasia will children become eligible for it? What about people with dementia?

Will euthanasia be used as a cost-saving mechanism? Was it just a coincidence that Bill 52’s passage immediately followed the budget bill?

As Quebec politicians claim, will euthanasia be rarely used? In Belgium, five people die each day by euthanasia. In the Netherlands, four per cent of all deaths are now by euthanasia, which is an underestimate and does not include deaths through “continuous terminal sedation (CTS)” (Bill 52’s term for “slow euthanasia”), which is being increasingly used, as its requirements are less onerous.

Is euthanasia just an incremental expansion of current ethically and legally accepted end-of-life decisions, such as refusals of life-support treatment, as pro-euthanasia advocates argue, or is acting with an intention to kill different-in-kind from allowing a natural death?

Is euthanasia medical treatment? What are the dangers to patients, the trust-based physician-patient relationship, and medicine of defining it as such? Should we take the “medical cloak” off euthanasia and have some specially trained persons other than physicians mandated to administer it?

If euthanasia remains permitted, how do we think our great-great-grandchildren will die? What kind of society will we have left to them? Will it be one in which no reasonable person would want to live?

Why don’t most politicians and many Canadians recognize the momentousness of a decision to legalize euthanasia? It’s not an incremental change, but a radical and massive shift in our society’s and civilization’s foundational values.

I predict history will see each society’s decision about euthanasia as its turning-point values decision of the 21st century.

Margaret Somerville is the founding director of the Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law at McGill University. This article was first in [The Montreal Gazette](#).

JUNE 15, 2014

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION UPDATE:

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

- Envelopes, Loose bills and change - \$3693
- Pre-Authorized Giving (PAP) - \$1555 (May)
- ➔ TOTAL COLLECTION LAST WEEK: \$5248

MASS INTENTIONS

Tues., June 17 – 8:30 am – No Intention
Wed., June 18 – 10:00 am – St. Bridget School Mass (Church)
7:00 pm – Maynard McDonald+ Req. by Bernadine Miles & GERALYN Thornhill
Thurs. June 19 – 9:00 am – Blessed John Paul II School Mass (Church)
Fri., June 20 – 8:30 am – No Intention
Sat., June 21 – 5:00 pm – Jim Nadeau+ Req. by Maureen, Nicola & Samantha
Sun., June 22 - 9:00 am – Annette Ameloot+ Req. by St. Leo's Knights of Columbus
Sun., June 22 – 11:00 am – Choucraallah Ghafari+ Req. by Eva Ghafar

PARISH FALL BAZAAR – SEPTEMBER 20, 2014

This year's Bazaar will be organized by the Catholic Women's League but all proceeds will continue to go to the parish. We need the help of all parishioners to insure the success of this undertaking. We need to have a working committee in place by the end of the month. Please contact: J. Ralph (905) 579-6118 or D. Shaddick (905) 620-0724 or B. Hallihan (905) 620-0351 if you can be of any assistance. The Raffle tickets (with all cash prizes) will be ready to go next weekend and in the weeks to come. If you would be willing to help man the table to distribute tickets in the coming weeks, please contact Jeananne at (905) 579-6118.

Totus Tuus is coming!

The children and youth of the parish are invited to join us for Totus Tuus (Latin for Totally Yours) this summer from July 20th to July 25th. Totus Tuus is an Archdiocesan program whereby seminarians and college students travel to different parishes, spreading the Good News of our Lord through catechetical instruction, Mass, confession, songs and games! The grade school program, for children entering grades 1-6, runs Monday-Friday from 9 am - 2:30 pm. The Intermediate/High School program for grades 7-12 runs Sunday-Thursday from 7 pm - 9 pm. **The cost is only \$50 per person for the entire week.** To register or for more information, please contact Carly Thistel (Totus Tuus Co-ordinator) at carlythistel@gmail.com. More information about the program is also available at www.totustuustoronto.ca

St. Leo's C.W.L. extends an invitation to all women of the parish to join them for dinner, Tuesday, June 17th at 6 pm in the parish hall. Call 905-579-6118 or 905-620-0724 if you'd like to be included.

**St. Leo the Great Catholic Women's League
Strawberry Social**

You're invited on Sunday, June 22, 2014 to a Strawberry Social – 12 noon to 2 pm in the parish hall. Come and enjoy the taste of the season. Single tickets \$6, Family \$15. Fancy sandwiches, coffee, tea and juice, strawberry shortcake will be served.

GOD – By Peter Kreeft, read by Fr. Guy Selvester

How can we know God? What is God like and how do we know? These and many more questions are examined and explained in this CD. Why is it important to know God? Well, as Kreeft explains "Without knowing God, is like driving without seeing the road." Have you ever driven in a thick fog or blizzard? Do you remember how uncomfortable and uncertain you felt? Hopefully you pulled over and waited for the weather to clear. What about those who don't stop? They keep driving blind, hoping to get where they need to go. Many people in our society are driving blind, heading off course, drifting away from eternal life.

Like a child who understands some things about their parents, we will never fully understand God. However, if you are seriously searching to know how "to know" God, then this is a solid starting point. The CD is heavy in philosophical and theological thought (it reminded me of a university lecture), but I found myself replaying multiple sections in order to grasp and fully appreciate the truths of the existence, nature, and attributes of our God. When I met my wife Jennifer, I wanted to get to know her. As I got to know her, I fell more in love. I'm still getting to know her... and my love for her grows. Fall deeper in love with God by getting to know him better.

Francesco Bianco, Parishioner

ATTENTION ALL GARDENERS – It's that time of the year when we need to start organizing our parish gardens. Volunteers are needed to weed and feed these gardens. All those interested whether new or last year's volunteers, please contact Joan Barker (905) 655-2062.

Trinity Sunday – June 15, 2014

"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 to priesthood or consecrated life, **contact Fr. Hansook Park – 416-968-0997 email vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca**


5th Annual Heart to Heart Run/Walk for Catholic Family Services of Durham on Saturday, June 21, 2014 at Heber Down Conservation Area. Please see poster on Church bulletin board for detailed information.




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