



St. Leo The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

130 Watford Street, Brooklin, ON L1M 1H2

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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:

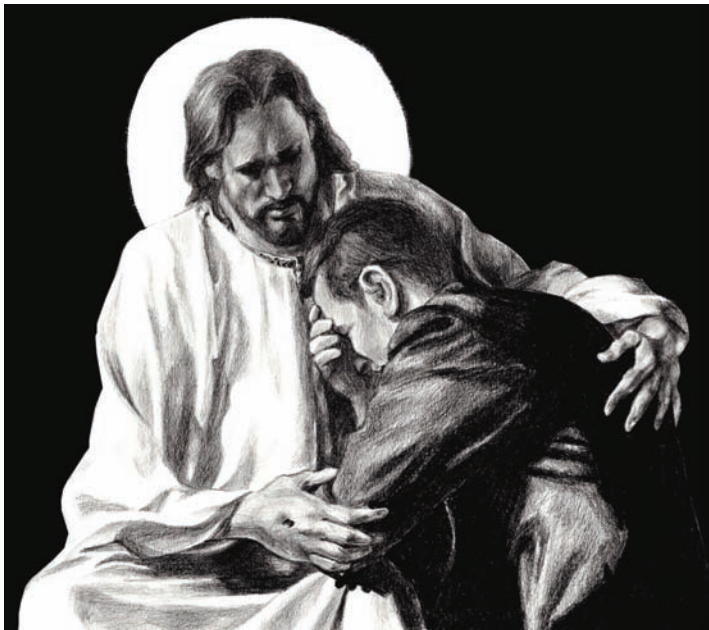
All families attending St. Leo's are requested to register with the parish.

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.

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION



LENT: A PENITENTIAL SEASON

Lent is a penitential season of the Church year, which is to say that the time from Ash Wednesday up to but not including Holy Thursday is the prime time to consider preparing for and celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation, otherwise known as 'going to confession'.

Let's face it, confessing one's sins ain't fun and many people dread or even fear going. Yet I would say that this is either because they have had a bad experience in the confessional or perhaps it's a form of pride; What if the priest recognizes my voice? What if I don't know how to go to confession? If it has been quite a long time since I last went to confession, what will the priest say to me?

RETURNING TO THE LORD IS BEAUTIFUL!

First of all, I would strongly urge anyone who hasn't been to confession for a matter of years to return to this beautiful, often misunderstood sacrament which comes to us from Jesus Himself when he said to Peter and the other Apostles.

"If you forgive any man's sins, they stand forgiven; if you pronounce them unforgiven, unforgiven they remain." (Jn. 20:23) Our Lord does not wait for the sinner to come with a scowl on his face and arms folded in front of him as if to say to us, "Where have you been?" Rather, he has been waiting for you and for all sinners from the time of his crucifixion to remove our sin from us in his beautiful, gentle yet powerful forgiveness. He wants us to be free and set free to live again without carrying our sins around with us like useless weights which weary us and leave us burdened. He takes our burden of sin from us for he is God who has the power to forgive all sins if the penitent be sorry for them and desires to be forgiven.

The beautiful crucifix in our church speaks endlessly of what Christ did for us when he hung upon that cross on Calvary. In looking upon it we see not defeat but victory; not the work of hatred but love itself; not a failed mission but the accomplishment of the Mission of the Messiah who came into this world to suffer, die and rise again so that we might have and experience the forgiveness of our sins.



USING AN EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Throughout the season of Lent we have a table set up in the vestibule with three different Examinations of Conscience (EofC) for Children, Young Adults and Adults. These are based on the Ten Commandments and list various sins that we can review as to whether we have personally committed any of these. The sheets serve to offer us a guide which leads to a personal moral inventory of our sins. We might be tempted to generalize in the confessional when it comes to naming our sins but the Church asks us to be specific, confessing our sins in both number and kind. For example, say I haven't been to confession in over a year and instead of reviewing an Examination of Conscience I just go to confession and tell the priest that I have been impatient and that I lied once. First of all, you shouldn't be here on the earth because you're already a living saint! Secondly, if we use an EofC we will be more specific and genuine in perhaps saying, "I've lied, been impatient, gossiped, missed Mass on three Sundays, didn't attend Mass on January 1, a holy day of obligation, I've judged others, entertained bad thoughts, held a grudge.....". Using an EofC will also help you in the future so that you don't have to suddenly remember a sin and look back and say to yourself, "Whoops, I never mentioned that sin in my last confession". If you don't have a good memory and you've reviewed the EofC, just check off the boxes beside the sins you know you've committed and take it with you to the confessional OR write them down on a stick-it note and use that in the confessional. After confession you can destroy the note and throw it in the waste can in one of the 4 vestibule washrooms.

NOT ONLY ARE YOUR SINS FORGIVEN....

Confession unshackles you from the shackles your sins placed on yourself in Christ's great and merciful forgiveness. You are not only free *from* your sins but are also free to live your life *for* the Lord in a new way with the Lord's grace and help. "Go and sin no more", Jesus said to those he forgave.

A WORD FOR LENT

As in years past, beginning Ash Wednesday and before and after all weekend Masses you are invited to dip your hand in one of the two boxes of words and take a Word-for-Lent. This will be your word from God, because God directed your hand, to reflect upon through Lent. It's the Spirit's way of telling you something. Pray on it. Think about it. Do it.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY & THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Father John Boos will celebrate the Masses on the weekends of the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sat./Sun. March 2/3) and the First Sunday of Lent (Sat./Sun. March 9/10) and Fr. Mark Kolosowski will preside at the Ash Wednesday Mass on Wed. March 6 at 7:00 pm.

ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 pm. Mass only! (No noon Mass this year)

SOUP AND BREAD POVERTY MEAL



Once again, the CWL will organize and put on the weekly **Lenten Soup & Bread each Friday in the parish hall from 5 pm. to 6:20 pm.** featuring a variety of hearty homemade soups and bread

asking only a freewill offering from participants with all proceeds going to our St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Again this year, our three elementary schools will participate which is a great way to see schools and the parish coming together in community and fellowship while identifying in our own small way our outreach to the less fortunate.

EACH FRIDAY the Soup & Bread will be followed by

6:30 pm. STATIONS OF THE CROSS and

7:00 pm. MASS

Please note, there will be no 7 pm. Mass on the first Friday of Lent (following Ash Wednesday) and the NET Team will lead in the Stations of the Cross in the church following the Soup & Bread.



Lenten Evening Retreat Wed. March 20 at 7 pm.

As previously announced, we will be blessed to hear Bishop Christian Riesbeck of the Archdiocese of Ottawa give a one-evening Lenten talk in our parish called "*Missionary Servants*". Please mark your calendars to attend. Trust God to speak to your heart and bring a friend or two.

MASS INTENTIONS

Wednesday, March 6th

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday

Saturday, March 9th

4:30 p.m. Intentions of Donna S. & Jeananne R.

Sunday, March 10th

9:00 a.m. † Andrew Steen

11:00 a.m. † Fred Molica

Wednesday, March 13th

7:00 p.m. † Jutta Lazzaro

Thursday, March 14th

8:30 a.m. † Alice Launay

Friday, March 15th

7:00 p.m. Intentions of Nora Kelly

Saturday, March 16th

4:30 p.m. † Gurly Rasnussen

Sunday, March 17th

9:00 a.m. Intentions of Catholic Mothers Group

11:00 a.m. All Souls in Prugatory

There will be no daily Mass on March 5, 7, 8 & 12.

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.**

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Alpha Weekend, a retreat part of the Alpha program will be held March 22nd & 23rd, 2019. Please mark your calendars and book this weekend off.

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

Wanna keep up to date with all upcoming youth events?

Follow us on instagram! @youthatstleo

Also check out our new youth board at the back of the church.

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food..."

As part of the Knights of Columbus 'Food For Families' program, we are inviting each family in the St. Leo the Great community to donate NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS / CANNED ITEMS DURING THE SEASON OF LENT. The reality is that food insecurity is a year-round problem and the numbers of people accessing food banks across Durham Region is sadly increasing. Our local food banks and kitchens depend on the generosity of others to provide food to those who cannot afford food and often struggle to purchase these items as well. The Knights of Columbus hope you can donate to this worthy endeavour. The food drive will begin on Friday March 8th and will end on Sunday April 21st. Donations can be dropped off in the vestibule.




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