



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: st.leos@bellnet.ca

Pastor: Rev. Charles T. Forget

Parish Secretary: Maureen Holly

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. 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.

TOTUS TUUS REGISTRATION
THIS WEEKEND AFTER ALL
MASSES

If you intend to register your child in Gr. 1 to Gr. 7 for the day program which will run from Monday to Friday or your child in Gr. 7 to Gr. 12 for the evening program which will run from Sunday to Thursday evenings, go to our parish website and download the Totus Tuus Registration form.

MERCY PRECEDES REPENTANCE.
FORGIVENESS FOLLOWS REPENTANCE.

Parishioners might have seen the yellow 8 1/2 x 11 signs on the inside of the church doors last weekend and wondered what the message about “Mercy” is really all about. I got the line from this article on Mark Mallett’s website and think it to be one of the clearest and most beautiful things said about mercy in this *Year of Mercy*. (Fr. C.)

MERCY REVEALED

One of the two thieves crucified with Jesus mocked Him: “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us.” The other [thief], however, rebuking him, said in reply, “Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” He replied to him, “Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” (John 23:39-43)

Here we stand in awe, in profound silence at what is taking place in this exchange. It is the moment when the Redeemer of mankind begins to *apply* the merits of His passion and death: Jesus, as it were, claims the first *sinner* to Himself. It is the moment when God reveals the purpose of His self-sacrificial love: *to bestow mercy upon mankind*. This is the hour when the heart of God will be rent open and mercy will gush forth like a tidal wave, filling the world like an ocean of unfathomable depth, washing away death and decay and covering over the valleys of dead men’s bones. *A new world is being born.*

And yet, in this moment of mercy that brought billions of angels to a standstill, it is to only *one* thief that this divine benevolence is granted: “today *you* will be with me in Paradise.” Jesus did not say, “Today, both of you.... but “he replied to *him*,” that is, the second thief. Here we see a principle, a very *simple* principle that has guided the Church’s teaching for 2000 years:

MERCY PRECEDES REPENTANCE—
FORGIVENESS FOLLOWS REPENTANCE

Remember these words; cling to them as you would to a life buoy, for the *Spiritual Tsunami* of deception racing through the world at this time seeks to capsize this truth, which forms the very *hull* of the Barque of Peter.

“MERCY PRECEDES REPENTANCE”

This is the very heart of the Gospels, the very thrust of Christ’s message as He walked along the shores of Galilee: *I have come looking for you, the lost sheep*. This is the profound prologue to the Love Story that unfolds in each line of the Gospels.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. (John 3:16-17)

This is to say that Love could not wait any longer. The world became like an adulterous bride, but Jesus, like a jealous groom, sought to take his stained and sullied bride back to himself. He did not wait for our repentance; but rather, demonstrating His love for us, stretched out His arms, was pierced for our sins, and rent open His heart as if to say: *no matter who you are, no matter how blackened your soul by sin, no matter how far you have fallen away or how terribly you have rebelled... I, who am Love itself, loves you.*

God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. (Rom 5:8)

So why, then, did Jesus not extend Paradise to the first thief?

“FORGIVENESS FOLLOWS REPENTANCE”

One cannot call the Gospels a true “Love Story” if there are not *two* lovers. The power of this Story lies precisely in the freedom in which God made man, a freedom to love his Creator—*or not*. God becomes man in order to seek out the one who no longer loves Him in order to invite him back into the freedom and happiness of their first embrace... *to reconcile*. And this is why only the second thief is admitted to Paradise: he is the only one of the two who accepts what he clearly sees before him. And what does he accept? First of all, that He is “condemned justly,” that he is a sinner; but also, that Christ is not.

Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father. (Matt 10:32)

It is clear, of course, that both thieves are well aware, more than we might expect, of Jesus’ mission. The first thief acknowledges, to a degree, Christ as the Messiah; the second thief acknowledges that Jesus is a King with a “kingdom.” But why, then, is only the second thief admitted

to the Bridal Chamber? Because to acknowledge Jesus before others means to acknowledge both who He is *and* who I am, namely, a sinner.

If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrongdoing. If we say, "We have not sinned," we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:9-10)

Here, John has painted a beautiful picture of the marital bed of the Cross. Christ, the Groom, seeks to "implant" in His Bride the "word" which has the power to beget eternal life. As Jesus said elsewhere: *"The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life."* In order to "receive" this "word of life", one has to "open up" in faith, letting go of sin, and embracing He who is "truth."

No one who is begotten by God commits sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot sin because he is begotten by God. (1 John 3:9)

By his faith in Jesus, the second thief was immersed totally in the mercy of God. You could say that, at that moment, the thief had given up his life of sin, was doing his penance upon the cross, and in a contemplative gaze upon the Face of Love, was already being transformed *from within* from "glory to glory", as if he were already loving Christ in the only way that is authentic:

If you love me, you will keep my commandments. (John 14:15)

See how rich is the mercy of God!

...love covers a multitude of sins. (John 14:15; 1 Pet 4:8)

But also how God is just.

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever disobeys the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains upon him. (John 6:36)

TRUE MERCY

Thus, Jesus demonstrates what *true mercy* is. It is to love us when we are most unlovable; it is to beckon us when we are most rebellious; it is to seek us when we are most lost; it is to call us when we are most deaf; it is to die for us when we are already dead in our sin; and to forgive us when we are most unforgivable *so that we may be free.*

For freedom Christ set us free; so stand firm and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery. (Gal 5:1)

And we receive the *benefits* of this mercy, that is freedom, *only* when we will to be loved; only if we cease to rebel; only if we choose to be found; only when we agree to listen; only when we rise from our sins by asking forgiveness for the unforgivable. Only then, *when we begin to return to Him in "spirit and truth"*, are the doors of Paradise opened to us as well.

Therefore, do not be deceived, beloved friends: only those who turn from their sins—not excuse them like the first thief—are fit for the Kingdom of God.

MASS INTENTIONS – May 17 – May 22, 2016

Daily Masses this week of Tuesday, May 17 to Friday, May 20 are cancelled as Fr. Charles is attending the Priests' Retreat.

Sat. May 21 – 5:00 pm – Valerie Hotner+ Req Vince & Teresa Corvinelli

Sun. May 22–9:00 am–Noura & Joseph Karam+ Req Karam Family
11:00 am – Luigi Giardullo+ Req. Giardullo Family

Pentecost Sunday – May 15, 2016

Working wonders for those who need help in our neighbourhood...

In response to operational challenges and funding cuts, agencies continue to explore creative ways of working together and reaching more clients. The first initiative known as "Shared Services" encourages agencies to share back office functions in the areas of human resources, financial management and information technology. The vision for this effort is to strengthen the collaboration of agencies guided by the philosophy of working for the common good. Ultimately these administrative and program efficiencies will lead to enhanced organizational capacity, reducing overhead and administrative costs for ShareLife supported agencies. Next ShareLife Sunday is May 29, 2016.

CWL Upcoming Events: Please mark these dates.

All parishioners are invited to watch the **presentation in the hall "Mother Theresa, the Legacy"** (Salt and Light Productions) on Tuesday, May 17 at 7:00 pm. Presented by St. Leo's CWL.

Heroic Catholicism

You are invited on May 28th to join Tim Staples and Tanya Granic Allen at the Canada Christian College in Toronto in what is going to be another amazing day filled with prayer, faith and fellowship. In a world where it is increasingly more difficult to practice our faith, the world and the Church requires people to practice heroic Catholicism.

For more info. www.ServiamMinistries.com/events/heroic/

For group tickets: emrleblanc@gmail.com

Chalice

Next weekend (May 21/22) Deacon Mike Conlin from Midland, Ontario will be here in our parish to speak about *Chalice*. Chalice is a Canadian, Catholic sponsorship organization founded and headed up by a parish priest in Nova Scotia, Father Pat Cosgrove. For the fifth year in a row *MoneySense* magazine has given Chalice a top-rated ranking among Canadian international aid organizations for its efficiency and transparency.

The winner of the Mothers' Day basket is a Vincentian from St. Mary of the People parish, Mr. & Mrs. Hinks of Whitby.

Celebration of Memory and Hope

You are invited to join members of St. John the Evangelist parish at its annual "Celebration of Memory and Hope" being held on Wednesday, May 25th starting at 7:30 pm in the church's parish centre at 903 Giffard St., Whitby, following the 7:00 pm mass held in the church. This celebration is an opportunity for members of our faith community to come together for an hour of gentle prayer, in remembrance of loved ones that we have lost through death. The celebration includes a prayer service and the lighting of candles in memory of loved ones.




ONTARIO DUCT CLEANING
Do it for your home do it for the health of your family.
For a FREE No Obligation phone estimate, call:
905-655-1099



David Marshall
Sales & Leasing
1025 Dundas Street West
1-866-386-4792
david.marshall@whitby.toyota.ca
 **Whitby TOYOTA Co.**
SALES • PARTS • SERVICE



Brooklin Dental Centre
Dr. Austin Saldanha
Parishioner
INVISALIGN/Preferred Provider
The Clear Alternative to Braces,
FREE CONSULTATION
SENIORS DISCOUNT
42 Baldwin Street
905-655-3385
www.brooklindentalcentre.com




Baldwin Animal Hospital
Daniel Baturensky, DVM
4160 Baldwin St. S. Unit 13, Whitby
P 905-655-CATS 905-655-BARK


Eat Shop Spend and Enjoy LOCAL
please support the businesses that support your parish


1847
Wine & Beer Bistro
Brunch/Lunch Sat/Sun
Baptisms, Showers, Weddings
45 Baldwin St., Brooklin
905-425-9463
www.1847bistro.com



SCHOOLHOUSE PLAYCARE CENTRES
We have toddler & preschool programs in your neighbourhood.
For information call
905-728-7740 x 1 or visit
www.schoolhouseplaycare.ca

Knights of Columbus INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE
Michael Mullin
Assistant General Agent
416-300-8680
michael.mullin@kofc.org

Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance • RRSP/RRIF/TFSAs • Disability Insurance
Protecting Catholic families since 1882.



St. Leo's Knights of Columbus
Get involved. Inquire now!
Larry Hallihan 905 620 0351
Allen Frank 905 655 4212



Brooklin Tax & Bookkeeping Services Inc.
Accounting Bookkeeping Personal & Corporate Taxes
Alan Hogan 905.655.8556 62 Winchester Rd. E.

Funeral Director – Michael Lodge
W.C. Town Funeral Chapel
110 Dundas St. E., Whitby (905) 668-3410



DE STEFANO
Funeral Home Services Inc.
Your Partners in Celebrating Life
Adrienne Irvine
Tel: 905-999-5418
1289 Keith Ross Drive, Oshawa ON L1H 7K4
Tel: 905-440-3595
info@destefanofuneralhomes.ca
www.destefanofuneralhomes.ca

Remember...
Let our advertisers know you saw their ad here. 

THE PERFECT SPOT TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL 1-800-268-2637



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
FUNERAL SERVICES
www.catholic-cemeteries.com
Resurrection Cemetery
905-668-8912
Our Funeral Home is Now Open at Holy Cross Cemetery

Serving our Community with Compassion

BARNES MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME
Family owned and operated since 1863
905.655.3662
5295 Thickson Rd. N., Whitby

Melissa Barnes Funeral Director
Richard Barnes Managing Director
(one minute North of Taunton on Thickson)




Shopping Locally Saves Gas



BALDWIN STREET BURGER
FARM FRESH - HANDMADE
53A Baldwin St., Brooklin
www.baldwinstreetburger.com
905-425-3222

The Cherub's Cupboard
Catholic Books & Gifts for all occasions Religious Articles
www.cherubscupboard.com
82 Centre St. N. **905-432-2882**



UR COMPUTER BYTES CLINIC
Computer Sales, Service & Repair
We do all repairs in store with fast results!
71 Baldwin St. N.
905-655-3000
Urcomputerbytes.ca