

St. Leo The Great ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

KOMAN CATHOLIC CHUKCH

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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 (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 Victor Amole* is present in the hospital (or when he will be). If Father Victor 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.

CROWNING of the BLESSED MOTHER

An Interesting Story

Last weekend I wrote a story for our bulletin about the beautiful Crowning of Our Lady I witnessed and was part of under the direction of the *Rosary Apostolate* of our parish and St. John Paul II School. Parishioner Barbara Howe brought in a picture of her mother, Mary Sheila Jones, who was chosen to be the child to crown the statue of Our Lady many years ago. Born in England in 1929, Mary (known as Sheila) was chosen most likely by the school and parish church to be the child to place a fitting crown on an image of the Blessed Mother at an event in May, likely between 1940-1941 when she would have been 11 or 12 years old – the current age of her granddaughter, Ellie. Sheila was a member of the parish of St. Joseph in Longsight, Manchester.



What I find interesting about the photograph is the amount of importance they obviously placed on the May crownings of Mary in bygone years for they went to the lengths of providing Sheila with a long embroidered cape, a special white dress, and a crown of flowers for a headpiece, all professionally photographed. It must have been such a cherished honour to be chosen to place the crown on Mary which symbolizes our own

personal and communal high placement of the Blessed Virgin in our faith lives. One can only imagine what the May Crowning of Mary must have looked like in those days. Sadly, Mary Sheila Jones died far too early in 2001 at the age of 72 though we hope and pray that she now wears the crown of Eternal Life with Mary and Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour. Thank you to Barbara for sharing this story and the picture of her mother.

Q: What would Pope Francis think of Ontario's Proposed Sex-Ed Curriculum?

A: Not Much! (From Catholic Education Daily – May 21)

I have heard of some Catholics who don't see a problem with Ontario's promised new Sex-Ed Curriculum due to be implemented this September 2015. The good news is that it doesn't seem that there are many of them in favour of this most inappropriate and agenda-driven attempt to indoctrinate God's beloved children. Just last week (May 20) Pope Francis weighed in on the same subject that is the crux of our provincial debate with strong and clear words about the important role of parents in the education of their children.

The Holy Father said that the

"essential characteristic of the family is its natural vocation to educate the children so that they grow in responsibility for themselves and for others."

He encouraged parents not to shy away from their duty as Christian mothers and fathers as it is a unique and God-given role in the education of their children.

The Holy Father also acknowledged the great difficulties parents face in providing family education in our culture.

"It is difficult for parents to educate their children when they see them only in the evening, when they return home tired from work", he said. "Many parents are kidnapped by work – father and mother must work – and by other preoccupations, hampered by the new needs of the children and the complexity of present-day life – which is like this, we must accept it as it is – and they feel paralyzed out of fear of making a mistake", said the Pope.

A great mistake would be for parents to hand over all education of their children to others when it is within the family, as imperfect and challenged as it is, to see to it that they are the primary educators of their children;

"...parents must not exclude themselves from the education of their children".

Pope Francis emphasized that spiritual education and awareness must also be present in the family when he asked,

"We should ask ourselves: do we try to understand 'where' the children really are in their journey? Do we know where their heart really is? And, above all: do we want to know it?"

His Holiness also addressed a deep concern he has for the rift that has come about between family, education and society itself

"In fact, a rupture has been opened between the family and society, between the family and school; today the educational pact has been broken. And thus, the education alliance of society with the family has entered into crisis because reciprocal trust has been undermined. The symptoms are many. For instance, relations between parents and teachers in the school have been damaged. At times there are tensions and mutual mistrust and the consequences naturally fall on the children."

In Ontario, with the promised imposition of a new Health and Physical Education Curriculum (including Sex-Ed), one of our biggest threats from the Education Ministry and Premier Wynn has been that they know best about what is necessary for the children to learn citing on many occasions the "experts" who have assisted them in formulating this dusted off new version of virtually the same older version that was originally rejected by Ontario parents just a few years ago. I was pleased to hear Pope Francis address this key part of the very issue we are now dealing with in Ontario:

"On the other hand, the so-called "experts" have multiplied, who have taken the role of parents even in the most intimate aspects of education. On emotional life, on personality and on development, on rights and duties the "experts" know everything: objectives, motivations, techniques. And parents must only listen, learn and adapt themselves. Deprived of their role, they often become excessively apprehensive and possessive in dealing with their children, to the point of not correcting them ever: "You cannot correct your

child." They tend increasingly to entrust them to the "experts," even for the most delicate and personal aspects of their life, entrusting themselves in the corner, and thus parents today run the risk of excluding themselves from the life of their children. And this is very grave!"

The Pope also offered that parents cannot fight this battle alone and that

"Christian communities are called to offer support to the educational mission of families."

Addressing this issue about the education of our children and the role of parents and the family in that education is why I am writing this bulletin article in the first place. It has to be said.

All around us those things that were part of the Christian and moral fabric of our society have been crumbling away or are being taken away by force of law.

Dr. Jamie Arthur, who manages The Cardinal Newman Society's Catholic Education Honour Roll, has stated that when teachers, administrators and parents come together and share the same moral foundation grounded in the teachings of the Church, Catholic education becomes a joyful think to witness.

"How comforting it is for parents to know the constituencies (parents, faculty, staff, administrators, religious) that make up a Catholic school are integrated into a community who share, respect and live the same values they espouse, all centered on the teachings of the Catholic Church."

Yet the Holy Father states that there are still those who oppose a faithful Catholic education.

"'Critical' intellectuals of all kinds have silenced parents in a thousand ways, to defend the young generations from harm – real or imagined – of family education."

Pope Francis concluded with a prayer for family education:

"I hope that the Lord will give Christian families the faith, the freedom and the courage necessary for their mission. If family education rediscovers the pride of its leadership, many things will change for the better, for hesitant parents and for disappointed children. It is time that fathers and mothers return from their exile – because they have exiled themselves from the education of their children – and reassume fully their educational role. We hope that the Lord will give parents this grace: not to exile themselves from the education of their children. And only love, tenderness and patience can do this."

"WE SAY NO"

TO THE RADICAL SEX-ED CURRICULUM

FAMILY SIT-IN & MARCH

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2pm. to 6 pm. at Queen's Park

110 Wellesley Street West, Toronto, Ontario *Bring your family, a lunch and a sitting mat.*

Mass Intentions – June 2 - 7

Tues 2-8:30 am – Mary Forbes+ req. Joe & Kathleen Mercer Wed 3-7:00 pm – Patrick McNeill+ req. M. Holly Thur 4-8:30 am – Deceased Members of The Forbes Family, req. Hilda, Basil & Mary

Fri 5-8:30 am – Murray Albert+ req. The Barker Family
Sat 6-5:00 pm – Rose & Francis Gordon+ req. Joan Fernandes
Sunday 7-9:00 am – Zenaida Dia+ req. Rebecca Montelibqno
11:00 am – Audrey Murphy+ req. Vincent & Elizabeth Murphy

Knights of Columbus Breakfast - June 14

Following the 9:00 am and 11:00 am masses - everyone is invited to enjoy a full breakfast of eggs, sausages, baked beans, pancakes, biscuits, coffee, tea and juice in the parish hall. Adults - \$5.00, children 4-12 - \$3.00 and children under 4 free.

Choir Members Needed 11:00 am Sunday Mass

The 11:00 am Sunday Mass Choir has now completed its regular rehearsal season. We will still assist with singing throughout the summer months as members are available. Now might be a good time to consider joining the choir in the Fall. Only 2 things required: attend about 75% of weekly rehearsals on Thursday evenings 7:30 – 8:45 pm at the church and sing with the choir at the 11:00 am Sunday Mass. Alternatively, you may join us for the Christmas Choir only by attending rehearsals starting mid-October. Please, Think about it! Bill Targett, Choir Director

Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services

Free Catholic Estate Planning Seminar on Saturday June 13 at 9:00 am, Resurrection Catholic Cemetery, 355 Taunton Rd in Whitby. The estate planning team will share:

- How to protect your loved ones with a proper Will
- How to ensure your wishes were legally protected
- Powers of Attorney
- The advantage of pre-arranging funeral, burial and cremation plans
- The cost savings of making an estate plan
- Finding lawyers and estate planning advisors
- Our Catholic traditions around wills, burials and funerals.

Refreshments will be served and a free planning kit will be provided at no cost. RSVP: Frank Jannetta 416-733-8544 x2023.

DURHAM CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Volunteer Opportunity: The DCPIC is currently seeking representation from up to three community members for a one year term commencing July 1, 2015 with the possibility of renewal. Application deadline is June 5, at 5:00 pm. For more details visit www.dcpic.ca



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