



# 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](http://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.

## T R U S T

*Letting God Catch You*

I was looking for ideas about what I could possibly write in the parish bulletin for this weekend. As I've mentioned before, I've been writing bulletin articles for over 15 years and feel sometimes that I'm running out of things to address. A parishioner

suggested I consider the topic of Trust, which is a good subject, particularly for our time in history. Many will say that you shouldn't trust anyone because they will let you down and lose your trust but I believe that trust is crucial in any form of relationship.

I remember a bookmark I had years ago that had a brief story on it about a father who was digging a hole in a field of the family farm and how his daughter was sent by her mother to tell her dad that supper was ready. The hole he was digging was quite deep and he, the little girl's dad, was standing at the bottom, the pit being completely black due to its depth and its absence of sunlight. When the little girl arrived at the hole, she looked down into the darkness and called to her father, "Daddy, are you there?" "Yes", her dad replied, "I'm here." She asked her father, "Can I come where you are?" "Sure", replied her dad, just jump in and I'll catch you." "But I can't see you, daddy", the child replied nervously. "No, but I can see you. Just jump in and let daddy catch you."

When Jesus addressed his apostles about the fact that he would soon leave them when he ascended back to the Father, he said, "Trust in God still and trust in me...". Jesus, asking us, no, insisting that we trust him is an imperative, like the father who tells his daughter to jump into the darkness. The father can see his daughter clearly and knows that he can safely and easily catch her even though she can't see him. Our God can be trusted, though it requires something from us – a willingness and ability to let go. And that is not easy, especially if we refuse to let go, to remain in control.

This truth reminds me of a poem my mother used to recite by heart, and I learned to do the same, which speaks of letting go so God can work for our good what perhaps only He can do. If we truly give something to God we can't continue to deal with it on our own. We need to "let go and let God".

**BROKEN TOYS**

As children bring their broken toys,  
with tears, for us to mend,  
I brought my broken dreams to God  
because he was my friend.  
But then, instead of leaving Him  
in peace to work alone,  
I hung around and tried to help...  
with ways that were my own.  
At last I snatched them back and cried,  
"How could you be so slow?"  
"My child", He said, "What could I do?  
You never did let go."

*(Ben Hildner)*

When we ask for special gifts from God like more faith, trust, perseverance, hope, knowledge, God doesn't pour it into us like water into a glass. We receive an increase of trust when we actually trust. Yet this doesn't mean at all that we are just doing everything ourselves. No. Christ assists the little bit of trust we will dare to give him and builds on it.

Trust is a risk, to be sure. If we have placed our trust in someone and they have betrayed that trust they knew we had in them, we will find it most difficult to trust them again. Yet we have the assurance in God that he can be trusted – with our very lives, in fact. The U.S. penny and dollar notes always had the line "In God we trust" which was a nation saying that the very life of our nation and we its people rely and trust in God for our direction, purpose and guidance. That sort of thing, if attempted today, wouldn't make it much beyond thought itself.

It might sound strange for me to say this but, when I look at my mother, who has suffered the ravages of Dementia these past 18 years, I see a woman who trusts still and has always had a tremendous faith and love in the Lord which I still greatly admire. I think that her life of learning to trust in the care of God for her has sustained her and given her what appears to be an incredible, abiding peace. It is far beyond what this dread disease has done to her brain and memory. Like the instinct to breathe or cough, she knows to trust in the One who is Life.

We might be inclined to be willing to trust God for what we want to get from God – an end to suffering, a fix, a cure, a relationship restored, and so on, but are we willing to trust God when God won't take those things away or give them back to us? Suffering is redemptive. If offered up for others it can produce tremendous things, miracles even. Recently I heard of a small diocese in the U.S. which had experienced one of the highest rate increases in vocations to the priesthood in the whole country over a ten year period. What was the cause of such a rise in vocational numbers you might ask? Well, apparently, the bishop of the diocese said that wherever he went throughout his diocese he met so many people and came in contact with so many individuals who were suffering from various maladies, diseases and incurable afflictions. He began to see their personal suffering as a waste in the sense that the suffering of Jesus saved the world, so what would the offering up of suffering for the cause of vocations produce? Vocations.

The idea from bygone days in the Church of offering up your trials and sufferings for the good of others actually bears fruit. This is a radical trust in God which says to the Lord, "I am going to trust you to take my prayers and my sufferings I am offering to you so that you may bless others and your Church in the ways it is most needed. We learn trust and receive the ability of trust by trusting. In trust, offer your whole day to God each morning:

**O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, the reparation for sin, and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer, and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month.**

*(Fr. Charles)*

(From Canadian writer, Mark Mallett on 'Trust') :

**SAINT** Seraphim of Sarov once said, "Acquire a peaceful spirit, and around you, thousands will be saved." Maybe this is another reason why the world remains unmoved by Christians today: we too are restless, worldly, fearful, or unhappy. But in today's Mass readings, Jesus and St. Paul provide the *key* to becoming truly peaceful men and women.

After what appears to be a fatal stoning, St. Paul gets up, goes to the next town, and starts preaching the Gospel again (who needs caffeine?).

They strengthened the spirits of the disciples and exhorted them to persevere in the faith, saying, "It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God."

But there's more to these words than meets the eye, for hardships alone are not enough to enter the Kingdom. Don't pagans and Christians alike suffer? The key, as Paul so dramatically illustrated, lies in the disposition of the heart toward God. So great was his *trust* in the Lord, that He continued to preach the Gospel not knowing if the next drubbing was right around the corner. That's faith.

Yet, how many times do we allow even small trials to rock our faith in God? In the parable of the sower, Jesus describes such souls as ones whose hearts are like rocky soil, where the roots of trust are only surface deep.

When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. (Matt 13:21)

So before He ascended into Heaven, Jesus gave some crucial words to His followers:

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid... I will no longer speak much with you...".

*I will no longer speak much with you.* That is, the Lord is not going to give you explicit instructions every time a trial comes along. "I am going away and I will come back to you," He said. That is, He will now guide you through His *peace* unlike anything the world can give. It is a supernatural peace found in the heart, far below the roaring waves of words and emotions... if we but look for it, and wait for it, before proceeding in this or that way.

But in order to find it, He says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid... for it is necessary to undergo many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God." That is, abandon yourself to Him—totally, entirely. Surrender to His will—completely, without reserve. Wait upon Him—in docility, trust, and silent waiting.

Let Satan cast His stones... but as for you, trust in the Lord. Jesus concludes that Gospel saying, ...the world must know that I love the Father and that I do just as the Father has commanded me.

Likewise, the world must know that *you and I* love the Father and that we do just as the Father has commanded—whether that is resisting temptation to sin, trusting in financial hardship, accepting a poor turn in health, enduring unemployment, giving until it hurts to those in need, and serving others when no one serves us—and doing all of this in a spirit of abandonment and peace. Do this, and around you, many will be drawn to the "rivers of living water" flowing from within you—a Spirit of peace who cries out to them through your witness:

*"You too, do not be troubled or afraid! Jesus has not left you either. Come to Him all you are weary, tired, and lacking in peace, and He will give you rest."*

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Tue, May 23	8:30 a.m.	Int of Peter Quittenton
Wed, May 24	7:00 p.m.	Int of Maria Kchik
Thur, May 25	8:30 a.m.	Lydia & Ivan +
Fri, May 26	8:30 a.m.	Int of Father Charles
Sat, May 27	5:00 p.m.	Paul Frendo-Cumbo +
Sun, May 28	9:00 a.m.	Kay Kogut +
	11:00 a.m.	Alessandro Porretta +



### Catholic Moms Group at St. Leo the Great

First meeting on June 6, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.  
All Moms, Moms-to-be and Grandmoms are Welcome!

### THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

St. Leo the Great Knights of Columbus would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank you" to all parishioners who supported **ShareLife Breakfast \$740** and the **Roses for Life fundraiser \$480**. Thank you for your generosity!

### TOTUS TUUS

Once again this summer our parish is hosting the Totus Tuus Program and the theme this year is "The Mystery of Salvation". This is our parish's 7<sup>th</sup> year in hosting this program.

#### 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:** The parish will receive registrations after all Masses on the weekends of: **May 27/28 and June 3/4.**

**NOTE:** If you will be away the weekends of May 27/28 & June 3/4 leaving you unable to register, 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.

### COFFEE SUNDAY

Next Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> after all Masses in the Parish Hall.

### VOCATION SEEDS


The Lord said, "I will not leave you orphaned." Pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)  
[www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca)




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