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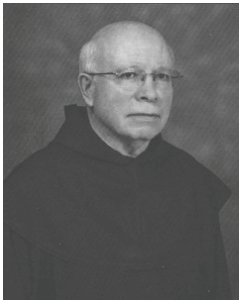
August 9-13 for students entering grades 7-12
August 10-14 for students entering grades 1-6

To obtain a Registration Form for Totus Tuus, go to our parish website (stleothegreat.ca) and print off the registration form. Bring the completed form with you when you come to Mass on the weekend of May 9/10 along with your payment using cash or a cheque made out to *St. Leo the Great Parish*.

What is Totus Tuus?

Totus Tuus is a unique and fun-filled program featuring a team of 4 college-age students who will engage our youth with a week-long program focusing on the Catholic faith. The week is packed with skits, songs, Daily Mass and inspiring teaching. Go to our parish website for info. and to download the registration form. Please remember that we are only opening the registration this year to *St. Leo the Great* parishioners. If by the deadline we do not have 60 children we will open it up to outside parishioners.

FR. DOMINIC BORG, OCD Pray for him.



Many of our parishioners would know Fr. Dominic Borg, OCD, who came to our parish at the beginning of Lent this year to lead us in an excellent three-day retreat. Fr. Dominic experienced major blockages to his heart and after being hospitalized slipped into a coma just before he was supposed to have surgery.

At last report he has come out of the coma and is even eating now, a good sign. Please keep him in your prayers as well as all of the priests who serve in our Archdiocese to make Christ known.

THE PATH, THE JOURNEY OF LIFE

I was privileged to attend the Evangelization Summit in Ottawa last Friday and Saturday and heard 8 engaging and inspiring speakers from the U.S. and Canada give individual talks on various forms of how Catholics can give witness to their faith in our contemporary culture. Some of the more well-known speakers were Dr. Scott Hahn, Patrick Coffin (an old friend of mine from my seminary days), and Dr. Ralph Martin. Dr. Scott Hahn who was formerly a Presbyterian Minister in the U.S. had a dramatic conversion to Catholicism about 30 years ago and is a biblical scholar and professor at Steubenville’s Franciscan University. Patrick Coffin is the host of a popular Catholic radio show in California called Catholic Answers. Dr. Ralph Martin, who also teaches at Franciscan University has been a Catholic author and speaker for decades and in 1975 is more famously known for delivering a prophecy for our times to then Pope Paul VI at St. Peter’s in Rome, known as the Prophecy at Rome. While his talk never mentioned at any time this famous prophecy, Dr. Martin spoke powerfully of a Catholic Church that is in so many ways and so many places asleep to the revealed truths of Jesus. His talk resonated with me particularly since I have often raised the same issues in my bulletin articles and preaching about the growing idea that somehow everyone just goes to heaven at the end of their life. At funeral home prayer services and often in

eulogies in general, people often and increasingly speak of the deceased as now being with loved ones and old friends and having a good time without any reference to God or God’s presence. As I’ve often said, perhaps the reasoning comes from some deduction which says that like the Disney movie title, *All Dogs Go to Heaven*, so do all humans. I’ve often heard people actually say that they feel in the end all people go to heaven. While it’s a nice thought what seems strange to me is the total absence of any reference whatsoever to God, to seeing Him, to judgment, mercy or forgiveness, as if somehow these are not necessary at all. Perhaps this might seem harmless to some as if our ‘opinions’ trump what God has revealed to us.

What I’ve often observed in eulogies for the dead is a more feel-good type of personal religion that makes up its own theology about life after death with little or no mention of heaven at all much less the reality of hell, which is the eternal absence of God. In a 2012 interview, Dr. Ralph Martin spoke of this same issue:

“I feel like there is a doctrinal confusion that hasn’t been paid sufficient attention to, that really is holding back evangelization. I would describe it like this: Many of our fellow Catholics look at the world this way — that broad and wide is the road that leads to heaven, and almost everyone is going that way, but narrow is the way that leads to hell, and hardly anybody is going that way.

Of course, this is hugely problematic, as it’s the exact opposite of what Jesus said in Matthew 7:13-14: “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.” So I feel like there’s actually some significant teaching in Vatican II that hasn’t been paid attention to, that would really clarify this amazing doctrinal confusion.

Q: This being the case, what particular aspects of the Second Vatican Council would you like to see clarified?

A: This is what I did my doctoral dissertation on last year here in Rome, and this is the subject of my book that’s just been published by Eerdmans. In short, it relates to *Lumen Gentium*, the Constitution of the Church, Section 16. This states it’s possible under certain circumstances for people to be saved without hearing the Gospel if they’re inculpably ignorant, seeking God seriously, trying to live their life according to their conscience, assisted by grace — which is a very important point. But then almost everyone ignores the next three sentences, which say that even though it’s theoretically possible for people to be saved without hearing the Gospel, as a matter of fact, “often men, deceived by the Evil One, have become vain in their reasonings and have exchanged the truth of God for a lie, serving the creature rather than the Creator.”

Therefore, for the sake of their salvation, it’s urgent that the Church carry out its work of evangelization. Even though it’s possible for people to be saved without hearing the Gospel, it’s not so easy, because we’re not talking about a neutral environment. We’re talking about where the world of flesh and the devil are doing their best to put people on the broad way or keep them there.

MAY 3, 2015

So lots of people aren't seeking God and really do need to hear the Gospel and be called to repentance, faith, baptism and conversion in order to be saved. Christianity isn't just about enriching somebody's life. For many people, it's a matter of heaven or hell. This truth needs to be brought forward at this time because all our exhortations to be more enthusiastic about evangelization, more zealous, are going to fall on semi-deaf ears unless people really believe it will make a significant difference to people's lives. Not just for this life, but for eternity."

St. Faustina reminded us through the Divine Mercy revelations that God is full of mercy but can only give it to those who desire to receive it, are open to it, who have become aware of their need for conversion. Mercy is not only offered but needs to be accepted by the soul of every human person. Our God is love itself and His desire that we come to Him with our lives, our sin and our repentance opens the gates of His mercy and love that will flood in on us. It is our own free choice and freedom, which is God-given, that either bars God's love and mercy or openly accepts it. Our God is a perfect gentleman who will not act against our own will. Wide is the road, Jesus said, that leads to perdition and many walk that road. Narrow is the road that leads to life with Him forever, and only a few find it.

These words are not meant to scare us but to intensify our zeal to share the good news of Jesus' love and mercy with all who need it. *(Fr. Charles)*

MARCH FOR LIFE IN OTTAWA

On **Thursday May 14th the National March For Life** will take place in **Ottawa** on the front lawn of the Parliament Buildings and will weave through the streets of Ottawa. Last year there were 23,000 people who attended and it attracts men and women, children, families, grandparents, clergy and people of all stripes who wish to stand for the unborn child in this country. It is not a protest but a peaceful yet powerful witness to our country in our nation's capital of our defense for the right to life of all people here and in the world.

We have hired a coach to take people from our parish to Ottawa on that day, leaving in the morning and returning in the evening. The coach will accommodate 56 people and in order to cover the cost of the bus to the parish we are charging \$35.00 per person, not a bad price for a comfortable bus ride to and from Ottawa.

Tickets will be on sale after all the masses and once the bus is full, it's full.

Upcoming Cursillo Weekends May 15 - 18

Cursillo is a short course in learning and experiencing the fundamentals for truly "being Christian" through entering into or deepening a relationship with Jesus Christ. A method is offered as a means, based on friendship, for living our daily life as a Christian in an ever-growing and deepening manner. Suggested Charitable Donation: \$250 which covers 3 nights accommodation, meals, snacks and all activities. For more info contact Gabriel Ferdinand 647-929-2771.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK – May 3-8

For more than 160 years, Ontario's publicly-funded Catholic schools have been integrating our faith into all aspects of school life, empowering one another to serve as faithful disciples. We celebrate the distinctive contribution that Catholic schools provide, giving thanks and offering our prayers for all those who diligently nurture this precious gift.

Mass Intentions -May 5- 10

Tues. 8:30 am – Rev. Bernard Canning+ req. The Tait Family

Wed. 7:00 pm – Int. Nowak Family

Thurs. 8:30 am –Rev. Bernard Canning+ req. Lena Clark

Fri. 8:30 am – Int. Fr. Charles – req. The Nowak Family

Sat. 5:00 pm – Melinda Larocque+ req. The North Family

Sunday 9:00 am – Sadie Hallihan+ req. The Hallihan Family

Sunday 11:00 am – Bridget McNeill+ req M. Holly

FASHION SHOW AND FAMILY FUN NIGHT

The CWL will be hosting a **Spring Fashion Show on Saturday May 23 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm** with doors opening at noon for a sneak peek, here at St. Leo the Great being held in the parish hall. The Fashion Show will be featuring all Canadian made clothing from Peachtree Originals of Markham.

Coffee, tea and desserts will be served. Tickets are \$15.00 per person and can be obtained by calling Jeananne 905-6118 or Donna 905-620-0724. This would be a great gift for mom on Mother's Day.

The parish **Family Fun Night has been rescheduled to Saturday May 30 at 6:30 – 8:00 pm** in the parish hall. Just \$5.00 per family. Please plan to come and join other families for an evening of Trivia and other fun challenges. Pizza, beverages and desserts will be provided. Please register your family by calling Jeananne at 905-579-6118 or Donna at 905-620-0724 as they need to know how much pizza to order.

St. Leo Knights of Columbus will distribute lapel "Roses for Life" before and after all the masses on Mother's Day weekend May 9/10. A contribution to support Rose of Durham and Young Mothers would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

Confirmation: Wednesday May 13 at 7:00 pm Mass
The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred by Bp. Nguyen

Toronto Ordinations to the Priesthood

Please pray as a community of faith for Rev. Mr. Ricardo Davis and Rev. Mr. David Twaddle who are to be ordained to the Holy Priesthood at 10:00 am on Saturday May 9 at St. Michael's Cathedral. May the Lord who has begun the good work in them bring it to fulfillment!




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