



# 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](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 (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.



## Family of Faith

### SAINT LEO THE GREAT PARISH'S FAMILY OF FAITH CAMPAIGN WELL UNDERWAY

St. Leo the Great Parish

#### Family of Faith Campaign Update

Campaign Goal – \$390,000.

Pledges received (as of Wed. Oct. 28) – \$162,000.

That's **41%** of our goal! 👍



### PRO-CHOICE STUDENTS RETHINK ABORTION AFTER STUDYING CHICKEN EMBRYOS

I found the following article to be quite interesting in that it shows how human experience can lead to a change of mind. I have always been pro-life (as is Christ, the Author of all life) and somewhat active through pro-life activities such as *Life Chain* and the *March For Life* in Ottawa. There has been very little debate on the issue of abortion, in my opinion, since there is rarely any calm conversation about this heated issue, especially between the pro-life people and the pro-abortion side. In my personal experience the pro-abortion side rarely debates or argues – they just seek to shut you up and always resort to name calling. Walking with my Roman collar on at the March For Life in Ottawa alongside 25,000 others, the pro-abortion people, usually numbering about 50 people or so, will personally call out at me and other priests as we silently walk along, with things I might find on a public washroom wall and certainly not fit to print in a parish bulletin.

Yet, if people could just stop talking and do the research and the reading they would find that the great mystery of life itself, found in all living things, is evidence of a wonderfully creative and creating God who has designed all things with such intricate detail and profound beauty. Like the students in the article which follows, their stance on abortion changed a great deal when they actually looked at the miracle of life and development of a chicken embryo when observed under a microscope and applied that to human life. (*Fr. C.*)

Former abortionist Dr. Bernard Nathanson was pivotal in legalizing abortion in New York before *Roe v. Wade*. After he became pro-life, he said, “Fewer women would have abortions if wombs had windows.”

Nathanson's own pro-life conversion came after he observed preborn babies on ultrasound, which was a new technology at that time. He believed that because preborn babies went unseen, it was easy to dismiss their suffering and death in abortion. Because the babies are hidden, they often were (and still are) disregarded by abortion supporters, who focus exclusively on the women they think abortion helps (despite numerous studies showing that abortion is detrimental to women's mental health). Nathanson believed that if people could see preborn babies nestled in their mother's wombs, many would find abortion unthinkable.

As I announced at all the Masses last weekend, our parish campaign for the *Family of Faith* has begun. The Family of Faith campaign is part of the overall Pastoral Plan for the Archdiocese of Toronto with an overall goal of raising 105 million dollars over a five year giving period through all of its 225 parishes. The campaign begun two years ago is now in its final wave (Wave 4) and being held in 49 parishes, St. Leo the Great being one of them.

Each parish was assigned a proportionate goal and our goal is \$390,000. Since the campaign in every parish covers a five year giving period, parishioners are asked to make a pledge of payments on a monthly, bi-annually or yearly basis over the five years and can be made by cheque, credit card or automatic debt.

While half of the money raised will go toward the more immediate needs of the restoration of St. Michael's Cathedral, the building of new parishes and the refurbishing of older ones, the remaining half of the campaign money will provide University and College chaplaincies, assist parishes in hiring Youth Ministers, establish evangelization and adult faith formation programs throughout the Archdiocese.

#### MY PERSONAL COMMITMENT

As pastor, I feel I should qualify my own participation in this campaign – I have committed a total pledge of \$6,000, which works out to \$100. per month at \$1200. per year over a five year period.

Just as our parishioners are being asked to participate in this campaign even while they may also have other charitable commitments, I also regularly contribute to the parish Offertory collection (PAG), sponsor a seminarian in India, a child in Chile (through Chalice) and contribute on a monthly basis to Sick Children's Hospital.

#### OUR PARISH COMMITMENT

As a parish, all of our parishioners will be contacted through this campaign, will be given information and background about the great needs which exist and how individuals and families may contribute and participate. Our parish too is a family of faith – the Christian faith of the ages which binds us together universally and locally. God bless our efforts!

When something happens to open a pro-abortion person's eyes to the reality of what goes on inside a woman's womb, it sometimes brings conversion. This is why many women who are considering abortion change their minds when they see their babies on an ultrasound screen.

In the following account, some pro-abortion students had their beliefs challenged in a biology class.

Ted Merrill, who has performed some abortions himself, wrote about how students in one of his classes started to rethink their views on abortion after they studied chicken embryos:

*Extreme positions may be easier when the argument is intellectual. But they don't hold up at close range. I noticed this in my interactions with college students in an anatomy and physiology class I taught. The nine students in this all-female class were unequivocally in favor of abortion rights when we started the section on reproduction. But something changed when they studied live chick embryos.*

*I had explained to them that all vertebrates closely resemble one another during early development. Then we open fertilized eggs at various stages. Under a microscope, eggs that have incubated for 36 hours show the first rudiments of an embryo, and a crude tubular structure rhythmically twitching in the center. At 48 hours, you can see an elementary – but definitely formed – heart pumping red blood cells through a looped network of tubes. You can recognize an eye. Just a day later, there are limbs, a face, and a brain that looks like linked sausages.*

*As the young women looked at these early-stage embryos and watched that amazing little heart beating, they were moved. "If we closed up the shell and put it back in the incubator, would it still grow?" one of them asked me. Another said, "It's going to die in a little while under the microscope, isn't it?" A third student declared, "I don't think we should be doing this." And while some of my students couldn't wait to see how the embryo progressed through the later stages of development, others became upset and refused to open any more eggs.*

*When I brought the talk around to abortion again, I noticed that their feelings were no longer clear-cut. They all upheld a woman's right to choose, but felt that other factors had to be considered, too.*

While none of the pro-abortion students went so far as to embrace the pro-life position, they were made very uneasy by seeing the reality of developing life – even though it was not human life. Their "pro-choice" views had been based on slogans and sound bites; they had never really considered what it is that abortion destroys. Seeing the chicken embryos and their beating hearts was enough to challenge their views.

It is striking how a little bit of reality, even when that reality concerns animals, could cause strongly pro-abortion students to reconsider their positions.

*Source: Ted Merrill "Abortion: Extreme Views Ignore Reality" Medical Economics July 15, 1996 (Bio-Edge)*

### Mass Intentions –November 3 - 8

Tues. Nov. 3 8:30 am - Victor Athaide+ req. The Athaide Family  
Wed. Nov. 4 7:00 pm - Edmondo Tirelli+ req. The Tirelli Family  
Thurs. Nov. 5 8:30 am - Ken Wesley+ req. The Delaney Family  
Fri. Nov. 6 8:30 am - Eleanor Tomas+ req. The Campitelli Family  
Sat. Nov. 7 5:00 pm - Ken Wesley+ req The Shaddick Family  
Sun. Nov. 8 - 9:00 am - Ken Wesley+ req. The Baker Family  
11:00 am - Carolina & Johannes de Wit+ req.  
The Franssen Family

### Parish Feast Day - November 10 @ 5:00 pm Mass

#### Two Anniversaries Celebrated:

November 10<sup>th</sup> is the annual Feast Day of our parish patron, St. Leo the Great, and each year on this date we celebrate with an evening Mass which begins with a brief procession from the parish hall to the church. We will celebrate our name day on Tuesday November 10 at 5:00 pm Mass as well as the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Leo School.

### IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE

**The Book of Remembrance**, in which parishioners can record the names of their deceased family members, is on the lectern (on the right-side of the Altar) in front of the statue of Mary. You may enter the names of those you wish remembered.

During the month of November all the Holy Souls will be remembered at all masses.

### ST. LEO CHRISTMAS CHOIR

All are welcome to join our Christmas choir for the Christmas "Midnight Mass" on Thursday December 24 (Midnight will move to around 8 pm for that night only!) The 11:00 am Sunday Mass choir invites you to join us for 5 rehearsals that will culminate with Christmas Mass. We rehearse on Thursday evenings 7:30 – 9:00 pm in the church. Our Christmas "Choir Lite" rehearsals begin Thursday November 19. Please contact Bill Targett at princt2gmail.com.

**Vendors Fair/Craft Sale: Saturday November 14 from 9 - 3 pm in the parish hall. Something for Everyone! Christmas shopping made easy. Free Admission**

**Big Band Dance: Saturday November 21 in parish hall**

**Reminder: Get your tickets now as tickets are limited.**

**Available after all weekend masses.**

St. Leo the Great Knights of Columbus Recruitment Drive has been cancelled. Please check the bulletin for further information.

### Holy Land Wood Art - November 14 & 15

The main income for Christian community of Bethlehem - The Birth Place of Jesus - are selling their handcrafted olive wood religious items to the pilgrims who visit the area. The past few years have been extremely hard for the community due to declining tourism. On Nov. 14 & 15 they will be here selling their beautiful art. Your support is very much appreciated.




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