

# 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: [office@stleothegreat.ca](mailto:office@stleothegreat.ca)

**Pastor: Rev. Charles T. Forget**

**Parish Secretary: Magda Nowak 905-655-3286 x 101**

**Youth Director: Dennis Wardle x 103**

### 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 7:00 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Friday 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (followed by 8:30 a.m. Mass)

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday 4:30 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 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 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.

## Praying For Sutherland Springs, Texas

Last Sunday at 11:20 pm. in the small community of Sutherland Springs, Texas, a deranged gunman walked into the Baptist church and opened fire on the people gathered there, just as we were gathered for Mass here at that time. In the end, and only after one member of the community shot the assailant, did the horror stop. In the end a total of 26 people ranging in age from 5 to 72 were killed and 20 others were injured. The assailant himself died shortly after he had fled the scene.

As Catholic Christians we can feel in some remote but real way the horror and weight of this tragedy when people were attending a church service on the Lord's holy day to listen to the Word of God, to pray and to worship and thank God for his help and blessing for their lives as they drew closer to Jesus. For the 26 people who died worshipping the Lord would be their last act on this earth though no one would have ever even considered something like this happening.

There is much confusion in the world today and in a world where we've become used to the idea that terrorist attacks and mass shootings have become part of our life experience, even if far off somewhere else, it is human to try and make sense of something that doesn't make any sense. It is also the reality of the presence of evil. Though people will attempt to explain away these horrific events or jump to conclusions about where they come from or the remedy to their being stopped, there is a denial of the reality and presence of evil. Just as there is the presence of good people who generally respect their fellow man there are those who have come under so many different influences as to only complicate the reasons for why people do what they do.

Lest we think that radical attacks on people through acts of terror are the same as mass shootings, there is a difference. Many if not most of the world's terrorists today do their malicious deeds in God's name while the majority of those who intentionally shoot innocent people in mass shootings such as in Las Vegas and now in Texas claim to have no faith or belief in God. The end result, however, is the same: human carnage and loss of life and great injury for those who just happened to be at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Some will even go so far as to blame the deaths of innocent people at the hands of a deranged person on God, as if God pulled the trigger or as if God stood by idly while evil was carried out. Ours is a God, however, who took upon himself a human body in order that he might be able to save sinful humanity. He experienced the worst of the evil that humans have heaped upon other humans. Our God knows what it is to suffer. He knows what it is to go without food for a day or two.... or forty! He knows what it is to have a migraine headache.... as if his head were crowned with thorns. He knows what it is like to be homeless and to be driven out of a city or town. He knows what it is to be crushed with pain and as innocent to suffer at the merciless hands of the guilty.

Our God knows, for God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself.

Yet the world continues to move away from belief in God, relying more and more on our own ideas, our thoughts and our own plans for the world in which we live. Yet it is a world that has been placed in our hands, not of our own creating, with a responsibility to take care of it and all the earth's inhabitants.

All Christians know, or should know, about the fight between good and evil, light and darkness, blessing and curse which took place in heaven between St. Michael the Archangel and the Devil, that fallen angel who took with him many other angels who desired to "be like God". Their rebellion led them to a war in the heavens, the results of which we know so well – that Satan was defeated and thrown down and out of heaven and St. Michael was triumphant. In our parish we pray after each of the Sunday Masses for St. Michael to protect us as well. What sometimes Christians forget is the place where Satan was thrown. Many will say that Satan was cast into hell, a fitting idea considering that that is where he belongs. However, that is not where he was destined to go. The Devil was Revelations 12:9 tells us where he landed:

*"So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."*

The Evil One is here and he is able to do much of his work and spread his influence most especially and effectively by those very people who often deny his existence. He is permitted to have his way on earth with so many because they deny his presence and reality and often deny the truth and reality of God as well. But the efforts of *dirty face*, as I choose to call him, are futile in the long run because evil has it's hour but God has his day. Evil is often referred to in the New Testament as being associated with the word 'hour'. Whenever the religious authorities and the crowds sought to kill Jesus the Gospel would tell us that "Jesus slipped from them and disappeared from their sight.... for his hour had not yet come. The 'hour' referred to always refers to that hour when Satan would *appear* to have had the last word on Jesus. Just before Jesus

*"After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,..."*  
(John 17:1)

At the wedding feast at Cana, in Galilee, Jesus worked his first miracle in the changing of 600 litres of water into the finest and choicest of wines. Yet before he had wrought this miracle he had been approached by his Blessed Mother who informed him that their host had apparently run out of wine, Jesus responded, "*Woman, what is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.*" Jesus was indicating that he knew as soon as he worked that first miracle he was on his way to the Cross. He would be going public and would no longer live his private life of the past thirty years. So the word 'hour' is always associated in reference to his death when it would seem that evil had triumphed. But in the resurrection of Jesus three days after his death there would be the fulfillment of his rising again to new life, referenced as the Day of the Lord. We call Sunday the Lord's Day and his second coming, the Day of the Lord.

The good, therefore, as well as the evil that men do adds to or takes away from the hour of this world, the hour of evil, or to the goodness of the Lord when God has his day. The hour when Christ died was 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon on Good Friday but the hour of evil, when Satan tries to mock that great work of redemption by the Saviour is 3:00 am. If you should ever find yourself waking up at around that time it could well be that the Lord is asking you to pray for the world, for sinners, for yourself or that the world would turn back to God. God can use us to further the redemption he won for the world by having us pray and intercede for others, for the dead, for the living, for

those who suffer, for those in need. The amazing thing is that when God awakens you to pray you will feel wide awake and rested, even if you feel you should be sleeping.

We should pray for the souls of those Christians who died so suddenly as well as those injured in Texas at the hands of one lone gunman who did great evil and exposed the influence and deadly power of Satan, even though the worldly so often don't see evil at all save for some solitary human who committed a horrific, senseless act. We should pray for that community and the families who have seen and continue to feel the effects of such evil in their midst and for that community church which had the worship of God seemingly superceded by the antics and influence of Satan himself in the knowledge that evil has had it's hour but God will have His Day! (Fr. Charles)

Many years ago I came across this poem which was written long before my time but speaks still about the consistency between our belief in Christ and our everyday lives. Jesus does, in fact, come to our house through the door of our heart and desires that we do our living with the reality that he is always with us wherever we go and with whom ever we meet or bide our time.

## IF JESUS CAME TO YOUR HOUSE

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two  
 If he came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do.  
 Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honored  
 Guest,  
 And all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best,  
 And you keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there  
 That serving Him in your own home is joy beyond compare.

But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door  
 With arms outstretched in welcome to your heavenly Visitor?  
 Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in?  
 Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?  
 Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard?  
 And wish you hadn't uttered that last, loud, hasty word?

Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn books  
 out?  
 Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?  
 And I wonder if the Savior spent a day or two with you,  
 Would you go right on doing the things you always do?  
 Would you go right on saying the things you always say?  
 Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace?  
 And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?  
 Would you sing the songs you always sing, and read the books  
 you read,  
 And let him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?  
 Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to go?  
 Or would you, maybe, change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends?  
 Or would you hope they'd stay away until His visit ends?  
 Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on?  
 Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?  
 It might be interesting to know the things that you would do?  
 If Jesus Christ in person came to spend some time with you.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Tue, Nov 14	8:30 a.m.	Deceased members of the Novielli & Colangelo Families
Wed, Nov 15	7:00 p.m.	Deceased members of St. Leo's Knights of Columbus
Thur, Nov 16	8:30 a.m.	Manuel Rebelo +
Fri, Nov 17	8:30 a.m.	Intentions of Veronica Tuzi
Sat, Nov 18	5:00 p.m.	Vincenzina Mammone +
Sun, Nov 19	9:00 a.m.	Francis Campos +
	11:00 a.m.	Ellen & Michael Sullivan +

## HOLY LAND WOOD ART

The main income for the Christian community of Bethlehem-The Birth Place of Jesus-is selling their hand crafted olive wood religious items to the pilgrims who visit the area. The past few years have been extremely hard for the community as a result of declining tourism. Some Christians responded by fleeing the Holy Land ,and the absence of a living Christian community is very dangerous for the Holy Sites such as the Church of The Nativity. On **November, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**, we will be having some of their beautiful art held for sale in an effort to strengthen the Christian presence in the Holy Land.

## FOOD DRIVE

In Pope Francis Apostolic Letter on Mercy and Peace he has dedicated the 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time November 19, 2017 as "The World Day of the Poor". He invites all of the people of the world to cater to the poor in deeds and love. The CWL of St. Leo's Parish invites all parishioners to assist the poor by dropping off bags of non-perishable food to the crying room on November 18 and 19 before and after Mass. The CWL will deliver your donation to the Food Bank next to Holy Cross Church in Oshawa. Please also bring in any used eyeglasses that will be donated to an Oshawa Optometrist who donates her time to "Third World Eye Care Society" (T.W.E.C.S.) a Canadian charity that has provided eyeglasses to the poor in Peru, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Ecuador and the Philippines. Some of these poor have never been able to see God's World. Adult and Children's used glasses are needed. Thank you.

## Senior Men's High School Retreat

The Office of Vocations is hosting a day retreat at Our Lady of the Airways Parish, Mississauga, on Saturday, November 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. This retreat will provide time to pray, interact & socialize with other young Catholic men. Seminarians deliver talks on practical aspects of faith. The day includes Holy Mass, Adoration & Confession. Registration for the retreat is to be done online at: [www.vocationstoronto.ca](http://www.vocationstoronto.ca) (under Programs). For more information please call the Office of Vocations at: 416-968-0997 or email: [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)







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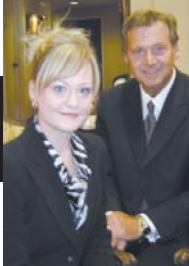
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