



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: 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.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 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 Manuel Duterte* is present in the hospital (or when he will be). If Father Manuel 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.

A TRAUMATIC EVENT

A blessing and A Witness

Last Sunday evening, October 26, I hosted a birthday party at the rectory for my mother who had two days before turned 83. Our family was gathered, there were children and babies and adults all mixing and mingling with one another and greeting Margaret, our mother, on the anniversary of her date of birth. It was festive, joyful and my mother seemed to be in particularly good humour. Before we were to sing Happy Birthday to our mother, I thought it an opportune time to say a prayer over her for her birthday and ask God's blessing. Afterward, I was rather critical within myself for the words I had chosen which prayed for "God's fullest blessing on mom, that He would keep her safe in His care for all our hope and trust is in Him". I reflected on my words and considered it a rather serious blessing feeling that I should have just thanked God on behalf of our family for all the many blessings He'd given her; a loving husband and family, a good long life, relatively good health (though my mom's had Dementia for over 15 years now) and a faith in the Lord Jesus Christ that has been unshakeable. But I didn't. I prayed for God's protection on her. "Why did I do that?", I asked myself. Until the following day.



Last Monday morning at around 9:30 am., just eighteen hours after I had prayed that prayer over mom, the fire alarms rang throughout the nursing home my mother has called her home these past 4 years. At first, having become used to the many practice drills the staff of Fairview Lodge have become used to, everyone thought it was yet another drill. But then the call came blurring out over the PA system, "This is not a drill. Please evacuate all residents from the building immediately, repeat....". All of the staff quickly and efficiently mobilized to do that most important thing to be done in the wake of a fire, most especially in a nursing home with 192 residents who are vulnerable, confused and scared – to get everyone out of their rooms, beds, bathrooms or wherever they are and get them safely out of and far away from the building and to make sure every last one, including staff, is accounted for. And that is precisely what this most incredible, caring staff did in all of just 3 minutes. The three-times-per-month fire drills had paid off in that not a single resident or staff member was injured, save one employee who was sent to hospital from smoke inhalation. When one thinks of nursing home fires these last two decades and the great loss of life which has resulted from each of these fires, it is truly amazing and a wonder that no one was injured or lost their lives through this devastating fire. This is thanks in no small measure to the brave and well-trained staff of Fairview Lodge.

In January of this year a devastating fire tore through a 14-year-old nursing home in L'Isle-Verte, Quebec taking the lives of over 30 people. In May of 2012 a nursing home fire in Hawksbury, Ontario took the lives of an elderly couple who were killed in a blaze in that facility. In October of the same year a person died in a fire in a London Ontario nursing home. In 2009 a retirement home blaze in Orillia, Ontario took the lives

of four people and in 2011 a fire in another retirement home took the life of a single elderly person. In 1995 a fire in a retirement home in Mississauga, Ontario killed 8 people. Between 1969 and 1980 three nursing home fires in Canada claimed the lives of 97 elderly. Considering this kind of previous Canadian history of fires in nursing home facilities it is truly remarkable that Fairview Lodge's fire of this past week saw every single resident get out of the building unscathed. It could have turned out so differently.



Margaret Forget post-evacuation from Fairview Lodge Oct. 27

While there is a great deal of evil that takes place in this world there are always the great news stories, which often aren't told or shared, of those who give witness to the presence of love in this world. The staff of Fairview Lodge, always exceptional in the love and care they give to their residents, were truly heroes that day for doing more than 'just their job'. They were witnesses of care for the vulnerable who everyday depend on that care for their living and survival. Their very lives are owed to them and to the many citizens who jumped out of their vehicles or ran from their homes to offer assistance in getting everyone out. The care for residents who had been evacuated from the nursing home continued on in a well-organized way as people were fed and comforted by the staff and family members who had arrived to be with their loved ones. While the event itself has been disastrous to the building, the fire could have been of entirely different human proportions had it not been for the care and guidance of God and those many people who witness the goodness of human beings that can triumph over tragedy.

Those who were evacuated from the nursing home were transported by bus or wheeled over to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Whitby, just a block away from the nursing home. When I heard about the fire and arrived to look for my mom, no one was being permitted entry into the church. Not knowing where my mother was exactly, I ventured across the parking lot to the former Denis O'Connor high school and entered what was the old gym when I saw my mother's roommate, Kathy. She waved to get my attention and then pointed to my mother on the opposite side of the room. Just seeing her was moving and emotional. When my mother saw me she began to laugh. It was a good sign that she was okay and safe.

The new home, located just south of the old buildings, was supposed to be ready this past September but due to various delays won't be completed until February or later. While all of the residents have been relocated to various hospitals and nursing homes in the area, (my mother is at Hillside Terrace in Oshawa) they are still displaced from the place they have called their home until the new building is completed. The transition, I know, has been hard on some of the residents as they feel out of place and confused while others, like my mother, don't seem to show any notice of being in a different environment at all. They need our prayers and I need to be and am grateful to God for His protection of mom and them all in His beautiful answer to my birthday prayer for mom. (Fr. Charles)

RELATIVISM: Do you know how it is affecting you?-

Chris Stefanick

"If it feels good, do it." "That's your truth, this is mine." "Who are you to impose your beliefs on others?" "Don't be intolerant." "It's my choice what I do with my body." Have you ever taken the time to really think about the consequences that these ideas have on us, our relationships, and the functioning of our society? Probably not, why would you? These messages have been so masterfully ingrained in our culture that they seem normal, acceptable, even truthful. "What is truth? The famous retort by Pontius Pilate to our Lord is echoed today. Is there really truth to be found when it comes to the most important things in life, or are we left with our opinions, feelings, and personal tastes? Unfortunately, we are living in a world where "Truth" has become relative to whatever I think and what you think. Society tells us that we can never know truth because it differs from person to person and culture to culture. Don't you dare disagree with someone's "truth," you could be labeled as "intolerant," "hateful," a "homophobe," or a "bigot." Also, if objective truth is not scientifically verifiable, then it's just subjective opinion, and therefore we can make up our own truth...As Fr. Charles would say, "Horse Spit."

In his CD, Chris Stefanick passionately debunks the myth of relativism by using simple logic and common sense. You will learn about the damage relativism has caused to people's understanding of the meaning of life, faith and morality, and how it makes us easy to be manipulated. Chris will clearly explain how relativism can be disproved and how you can battle relativism by speaking the truth (with conviction, joy, and love) and striving for holiness. I really enjoyed this CD because of his candor and honesty, and that he hit on many of the big issues that society wants us to stay hushed about. I strongly recommend this CD to anyone who is sick and tired of the "anything goes" mentality that is choking the life out of our society.

Francesco Bianco

For more information on this and other CDs, please visit Lighthousecatholicmedia.org

Also, check out our Lighthouse Catholic Media display in the vestibule for other great titles.

**FEAST OF ST. LEO THE GREAT
NEXT MONDAY NOVEMBER 10**

Come to celebrate our parish patron's feast day with Mass at 7:00 pm. We ask all parishioners attending to meet in the parish hall before the Mass and then we will process to the church at 7:00 pm. for mass. After mass there will be a reception in the parish hall.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tues., Nov. 4 – 8:30 am – For the intentions of Barbara Storey
Req. by Wesley Family

Wed., Nov. 5 – 7:00 pm – Kamlesh Mehta+ Req. by Yatabe Family

Thurs., Nov. 6 – 8:30 am – For the Intentions of Collette Dobbin

Fri., Nov. 7 – 8:30 am – For the intentions of Kathleen Kelly

Sat., Nov. 8–5:00pm–Jennifer Samways+ Req. by Samways Family

Sun., Nov. 9 – 9:00 am – Eugene Crouse+ & Violet Blight+
Req. by Larry & Brenda Beriault

Sun., Nov. 9 – 11:00 am – Colin McKenzie+ Req. by Larry &
Brenda Beriault

The Rosary Apostolate in the Schools

Through the Rosary Apostolate, children are experiencing the power of the Rosary! Dedicate your time to praying the Rosary with children once a month in our Catholic Elementary schools. The Rosary Apostolate is welcoming new members. Please call Judy Delaney at (905) 655-0227.

**2015 SUNDAY MISSALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE IN THE VESTIBULE. COST IS \$5.00.**

Holy Family Parish, Whitby - Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 8. Breakfast at 8:00 am, followed by luncheon of homemade soup, chili, sandwiches and dessert.

Raffle tickets are available for sale the day of the Bazaar. 1st prize \$500, 2nd Handmade Quilt, 3rd, \$100.

St. Mary of the People, Oshawa - CWL will be hosting their annual "Tree Lights Bazaar" on Saturday November 8 from 9:30 – 2:30 pm in the parish hall. Baking, penny sale, flea market & tea room.

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 the masses.

Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services - Archdiocese of Toronto wishes to invite all families to participate in the All Souls' Day Mass on Saturday November 8, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at Resurrection Cemetery Mausoleum in Whitby. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Holy Land Wood Art – HLWA Inc.

The main income for the 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 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 Nov. 15 & 16, we will be having some of their beautiful art held for sale at St. Leo the Great Parish.

**The Shrine of Our Lady of Grace Marylake – 50th
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Be part of a new beginning. Celebrate the spiritual heritage of the Augustinian Community at Marylake and hear about our glorious plans for the future, such as the stunning new 20-acre Rosary Path. Will be held at Bellvue Manor, 8083 Jane St., Vaughan, ON L4K 2M7 on Friday, Nov. 14, 2014 at 6:30 pm Reception and 7:30 pm Dinner. Business/Formal attire \$125 per ticket and \$1250 per table of 10. www.augustinians.ca 905-833-5368




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