

# 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: 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.

## OCTOBER, MONTH OF THE ROSARY



To those not familiar with the Rosary and to those who have never actually picked one up and prayed it, the Rosary can seem as a prayer form of bygone days or a tool for the superstitious. However, it is neither. I call it, “chain-driven” prayer and, for my own personal preference, best prayed privately rather than with a crowd. My reason for preferring the Rosary as an individual prayer is that with a group or crowd one can easily become swept away by the “let’s get through this” idea. As each of the five mysteries of every Rosary has an individual mystery announced at the beginning of each decade, for example in the Sorrowful Mysteries, the first is Agony In The Garden, usually the one leading the Rosary states the title of the mystery and then begins the *Our Father* which follows. However, for the Rosary to become meditative one must have time to do so. Now, if someone were to say that the Rosary isn’t meant for meditation, they would have overlooked the last prayer said at the conclusion of the recitation: “...that meditating upon these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary...”. Yes, *meditating* because meditation takes time, silence, quiet. I’m not suggesting that the Rosary can’t be prayed in a group as in the right situation this can be most effective as recently seen when an estimated 1.5 million Poles prayed the Rosary along their borders for Mary’s intervention and protection against the forced immigration policies of the EU. In this instance this would be regarded as the importance of praying together a common and known prayer.

There is something about the tactile nature of holding a string of beads with a crucifix on the end in our hands as we say prayers appropriate to the lengths of beads (decades) and reflect on the mysteries of Christ’s life, death and resurrection as well as the events of His Blessed Mother, Mary. Sitting or kneeling or standing to pray is possible but much more satisfying when we are holding on to something, our fingers and thumb steadily moving along the beads as these keep count for us in the rhythm of prayer and as our accompanying prayers of Our Father’s, Hail Mary’s, Glory Be’s and other prayers are uttered either in silence and within or aloud.

One thing is for certain: beyond its mild appearance and repetitive prayers the Rosary is a powerful form of prayer and a weapon against the sin and evil of this world. The late Fr. Amorth who had faithfully served as the official Vatican exorcist, spoke of that power when he said, “*One day a colleague of mine heard the devil say during an exorcism: “Every Hail Mary is like a blow on my head. If Christians knew how powerful the Rosary was, it would be my end.”* The Rosary consists of 1 Apostles Creed, 5 Our Fathers, 53 Hail Mary’s and the prayer which follows each decade and the Glory-Be: “*O my Jesus, forgive us our sins; save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven and help especially those most in need of Thy mercy.*” We think of our sins as we recall the One who saved us from them and their consequences and that we desire not to be ever removed from God. We ask to be spared the hellish torments of those who do not know God and perhaps refuse to come to Him. We also ask to be saved from the fires of hell whose doors are locked from the inside as hell is the torment of those who chose not God. We ask Jesus to lead us into heaven and for His mercy to be upon us and all sinners. Anyone can easily learn how to pray the

Rosary by going online and finding a program which will teach you one. (Fr. Charles)

## CATHOLIC CEMETERIES AND THE LOST CHILDREN IN PREGNANCY



While I’ve written about this topic before it is well worth repeating here once more the fact that Catholic Cemeteries will provide free burial of children who have died through miscarriage or for some other reason. The policies of individual dioceses and Catholic cemeteries within them differ only slightly one from another and generally there is a great deal of respect for the unborn child who has died. In the Archdiocese of Toronto any and all stillborn babies may be

buried in a Catholic cemetery in a common plot free of charge, though it will have no marker, or in an individual grave in the children’s section of the cemetery which can have a marker/headstone.

For women and families who suffer the grief of a child that has died before birth it is an even lonelier journey as few people often know that a mother has lost her baby or sometimes others aren’t able to articulate sympathy when a couple loses a child it never knew except through maternal, fraternal and familial love. Burial affords the rightful dignity the unborn child has as a beloved child of God. Sadly, in a throw-away society human babies who die before birth are not seen as of value when in reality they are souls God has made and are of infinite value. I urge any parent who suffers the loss of their child at any stage of the pregnancy to ask for the body of their child so that the child may be buried in a Catholic cemetery and its dignity held intact.

In the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, their Catholic cemeteries state the following in their information to parents and families:

In harsh clinical terms, hospitals will call them products of conception. At the Catholic Cemeteries, we prefer babies. Rather than disposal, we offer burial. They are children who do not come to full-term development in the womb. Within our Catholic Christian faith tradition, we believe that God’s eternal love offsets the children’s lack of earthly viability. In God’s sight, a human person is loved and cherished for being, not for doing; for simply existing, not for the number of days alive. Shortness of life and weakness of body mean nothing to our God who transcends these limitations. So, we look upon the babies, in their smallness and vulnerability, like any child of God — long-lived or not. For at some point all of us will die, our viability will cease.

I recall my mother telling me about the little brother three years younger than me whom I never met who didn’t survive birth. My mother recalled how she didn’t hear the baby cry once she had delivered and the silence that was broken by our family doctor, Dr. Jacew, who said, “ I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” His name is Michael and he is buried near our dad and with his dad in heaven.

***“The longest walk Home that any parent will ever take is the one after their child has ‘run’ ahead of them.”***

**EDGE LIFE TEEN  
YOUTH MINISTRY**

Teens in grade 6 thru 12, please join us weekly for Edge and Life teen nights. Mark your calendars for our next big social events. October 26<sup>th</sup> Edge "Holy-ween", November 11th Lifeteen "Illuminate". Don't miss out on all the fun and fellowship!

**Edge Nights each Thursday evening for grades 6, 7 & 8**  
**- Next Edge Night Oct 26th, 6:30 - 7:45pm.**  
**Lifeteen Nights each Saturday evening for grade 9 - 12**  
**- Next Lifeteen Night is Oct 28th, 6:15 - 7:30pm**

To register go to our parish website [stleothegreat.ca](http://stleothegreat.ca) and download and print the registration form. You can find it under the Youth Ministry tab on the home page. Registration forms are also available in the vestibule or can be picked up at the office during business hours. The nominal annual registration fee for both programs is \$40 per youth. You can bring the form with you to any of the nights or you can drop off the registration form with the fee at the parish office. If the office is closed, simply leave it in the outside office mailbox. Our Youth Ministry would like to thank the Knights of Columbus for their support and generosity in giving us a cheque for \$500. This money is greatly appreciated and will be used to help offset the costs of running many of the social events that take place throughout the year. Our Lifeteen group will be present at this year's Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Dinner. What a great way to introduce our teens to many of the parishioners whom we don't always get a chance to see and talk to. I also would like to mention an act of kindness by one of our anonymous parishioners. This person generously purchased (10) tickets for our youth to attend the Spaghetti Dinner free of charge, thank you so much from all of us in Lifeteen, God bless you for your kindness. For all Youth ministry inquiries please contact me, Dennis Wardle, personally at the church by calling (905) 655-3286 ext. 103 or email me at [youth@stleothegreat.ca](mailto:youth@stleothegreat.ca). Thank you everyone for your continued prayers and incredible support, (Dennis Wardle, Youth Director)



The Sunday 11:00 am mass choir is looking for new members to join this already wonderful group. All ages and vocal abilities are welcome.

The only requirement is that you need to like singing. The choir sings at the 11:00 mass on Sundays and we rehearse on Thursday nights from 7:30 -9:00 pm. If you have been thinking about joining the choir, then now is the time to give it a try. Also, if you know someone who may be interested in joining, please encourage them to try it out too. For more information about joining this talented and fun group, please see Ted, the director, after the 11:00 mass or come out to the church on Thursday night at 7:30pm. He can also be reached by phone at 647-302-6996. Thank you.

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

Tue, Oct 24	8:30 a.m.	Intentions of Margaret Forget
Wed, Oct 25	7:00 p.m.	
Thur, Oct 26	8:30 a.m.	
Fri, Oct 27	8:30 a.m.	
Sat, Oct 28	5:00 p.m.	Steven Closs +
Sun, Oct 29	9:00 a.m.	Intentions of Josefina Felipa
	11:00 a.m.	Gerard Brennan +

**THE LIVING ROSARY**

Please come join us as we offer a night of prayers for those who are dealing with the recent natural disasters in the south. St. John's CWL is hosting the Living Rosary on **Thursday, October 26th at 7:30 pm - 8:15pm** in the Parish Centre. All are welcome including beginners and children gr.2+. All prayers and pictures provided through slideshow. Participants are welcome to say the Rosary in their native language! This Rosary includes colourful ropes, colourful lights, music, coffee/tea and of course cake!

**FALL BAZAAR**

A big thank you to all St. Leo Parishioners & Friends who were able to support this year's Bazaar. Your participation was greatly appreciated. Thank you to all the hardworking bazaar volunteers who spent many hours preparing for and cleaning up after the event. Thank you one and all! The Gourmet Christmas Tree Prize Raffle winner is Brenda Beriault!

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Ever wonder what St. Vincent de Paul is all about? The St. Leo the Great Conference of St. Vincent de Paul has been working to help the needy for many years. They are a group of volunteers who gather each month to pray, plan their charity work for the upcoming month and to report on the previous month's activities. From the generous donations they receive, they are able to assist numerous families year around. If you would like to get involved please call Peggy Primeau 905-655-9692.

**CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP**

Come join us for some faith and friendship! St. Leo the Great's Catholic Moms Group is meeting every second Thursday of each month at 8 pm in Boardroom 1.

**\*Next meeting on Nov 9\***

All those called to Mothering are Welcome! To be added to our email list contact: [annalisa@catholicmomsgroup.com](mailto:annalisa@catholicmomsgroup.com)  
 Check out: [www.catholicmomsgroup.com](http://www.catholicmomsgroup.com)

**VOCATION SEEDS**


Give ... to God the things that are God's." That includes you! Is God calling you to service as a priest, deacon, brother or sister? Contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. email [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)  
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905-620-0724  
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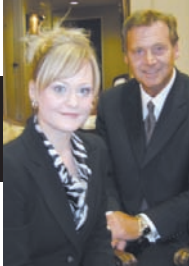
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