



# 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.

**ATTENTION! NEW MASS TIME  
FOR SATURDAY 5:00 PM. MASS:  
BEGINNING SATURDAY NOV. 11  
MASS WILL BE AT 4:30 PM.  
AND EVERY SATURDAY**

## HOLY HOUR RESTORED TO A NEW TIME

**FRIDAY MORNINGS FROM 7:30 – 8:30 AM.  
FOLLOWED BY 8:30 AM. MASS**

## FEAST OF ST. LEO THE GREAT Wednesday November 8 - Mass at 7:00 pm. followed by a Reception

Our parish's Feast Day of St. Leo the Great will be marked with Mass celebrated at 7:00 pm. with a reception to follow. Celebrating our parish's namesake we ask his prayers and intercession upon all our families, members, ministries and life, entering into Word and Sacrament, the highest form of prayer in the Church, to give thanks to the Lord for St. Leo's tremendous witness to us who are under his spiritual patronage – and what a great saint he is! Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the Mass and reception following.

## HAVING YOUR HOUSE BLESSED



Hey, did you hear the one about the guy who didn't pay his exorcist fee? He was repossessed. All kidding aside, while many people have experienced the blessing of a new home it seems there are many Catholics who aren't sure what this is really all about and why they would have it

done. There are plenty of good reasons to have your house blessed, whether it's a brand new building or an older home that has had several previous owners.

### **INVITING GOD**

We Catholics incorporate God into all aspects of our lives from beginning to end and as with all prayer, the blessing of a home is an opportunity to invite God to reign over your dwelling and to bless you and your family's going and coming, rising and sleeping and all you will do in your home. A house blessing also sees the priest committing anything in the house or surrounding it or even under it, to the Lord and to make safe and holy the dwelling place of God's holy people.

Let's face it – this is a spiritual world with spiritual realities. As a priest I can't tell you the number of times I have been approached, often by non-Catholics, and asked if I believe in ghosts. Immediately, I know what is coming next. They will then relate how they have experienced strange phenomena in their house, perhaps certain noises,

shadows, the sound of someone walking across the floor upstairs while the family is in the basement watching TV. I always tell them that since the world we live in is spiritual there may be restless souls which haven't been commended to God, bumping into the things, as it were, in this world. I tell them that they should have their house blessed.

Years ago when I was pastor of St. John Vianney parish in Barrie, one of my late father's aunts, Marie, was living in Hillsdale, Ontario. She was in her eighties and was spry with a clear mind and enjoyed good health. Her husband had died several years before and she bought a house next door to her son. She was a woman of great faith, a regular Mass-goer and one who prayed the Rosary with dedication.

One day her son drove all the way to Barrie to meet with me and he expressed his concern about his mother who had told him that she heard strange sounds in her house at night to the point where it sounded like someone was tearing the attic apart. He had checked out the attic and found everything undisturbed. A few days later she told him that an old man and woman appeared in her bedroom and as she lay in bed, the man approached her but then went to her dresser and moved her rosary from in front to behind a picture of her late husband. She sat up in her bed, fed up with these intrusions and said to them, "This is my house. Kindly leave now!" And with that, they disappeared through the wall though not without knocking on the wall three times as they did so.

Apparently, according to aunt Marie, the disturbances continued after that as well. So her son was really asking me what so many other people ask, and not only me but most priests from time to time: "Is this real?" He was starting to think that perhaps his mother was imagining these things, especially when there was no proof that anything in the house had been disturbed except for his mother. Again, I explained to him about the solution of me going to bless the house and commending any souls in the house to God. He seemed relieved to know that there was something I could do as a priest.

The following week, while both of my parents were up visiting me, I took them to my great aunt's home. My dad's aunt told us what she had been experiencing and that while her faith wasn't shaken in the least she was growing weary of the pesky intruders. She made it sound like her complaint was that she had squirrels in the attic. I explained that I would bless the house but first we would enter into prayer asking that any wandering, homeless souls in the house be commended to God and then I would go throughout the house and property blessing it and us with Holy Water. And this I did, followed by a lovely lunch prepared by Aunt Marie.

A few weeks later I saw Aunt Marie with her son at Sunday Mass and afterward I spoke with them. Aunt Marie said that she insisted her son drive her to Barrie to thank the Lord at Mass and express her appreciation to me that ever since I had blessed the house and commended the souls to God, the house was serenely quiet. It turns out that the previous owners, a couple, had both died but there was no funeral for

them. My sense is that they were somehow 'trapped' in this world and were simply bumping into things in the home they had lived in. I did at my aunt's house what we Catholics do at every Catholic Funeral Mass – commend the soul of the deceased to God's mercy, forgiveness and to life with God forever. It's that important but increasingly being overlooked altogether in our time.

When people buy a house they have no idea what the house is built on, who lived in the house before, what went on in that house, etc. Asking God to bless the house is allowing God to sweep that house clean of anything that is not of God and praying that God's blessing will be upon not only the house itself but on all those who will come and go and live in that house. And more importantly we ask that God bless those who live in the home that they will no God's peace and blessing as well as His protection on their lives. Everything that is comes from God's hands and we are mere stewards of them. Yet God wants us to invite Him into our lives, our homes, our cars and every dimension of our living.

### **HOUSE BLESSING**

Having your house blessed is as simple as calling the parish and making a request for me, Fr. Charles, to visit your home at an agreed upon time and I will be happy to bless your home. It only takes a few minutes for a house blessing and it usually begins at the front door with the family members gathered together for prayer. Then I ask to be led through the house where I bless each room and every door that leads to the garage or outside of the home. Sometimes I'm offered a coffee afterward, if there is time, which is ample payment for the blessing visit. (And don't worry that your house might look like a tornado went through the previous day. I will simply add "God bless this mess" to my prayers of blessing.) Motor vehicles can also be blessed and often I do this following a weekday or weekend Mass right in front of the church. If you would like your car blessed it is still best to call the parish office first and the secretary, who knows my schedule, can offer you a time that will suit both my and your schedule.



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 also reached by phone at 647-302-6996. Thank you.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Tue, Oct 31	8:30 a.m.	
Wed, Nov 1	7:00 p.m.	The Solemnity of All Saints
Thur, Nov 2	8:30 a.m.	All Souls' Day Victor Athaide +
Fri, Nov 3	8:30 a.m.	All Souls in Purgatory
Sat, Nov 4	5:00 p.m.	Valerie Moore +
Sun, Nov 5	9:00 a.m.	Minda Figuracion +
	11:00 a.m.	Deceased members of the Mammone Family

### **BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

The Book of Remembrance is on the lectern in front of the statue of Mary for the month of November. Parishioners may write the names of their deceased relatives & friends in the book

### **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS (TIME CHANGE)**

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> daylight saving time ends. Please remember to set your clocks ONE hour back.

### **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)

### **SPANISH MASS at ST. JOHN the EVANGELIST**

St. John the Evangelist, 903 Giffard Street Whitby  
CHRIST IS WAITING FOR YOU! Come and be a part of the Spanish Community. Mass every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. beginning November 5, 2017. Celebrant: Fr. Francisco Fernandez Siles

### **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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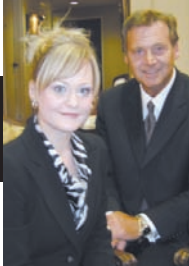
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