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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor: Rev. Charles T. Forget

Director of Catechetics: Patrick Sullivan • Parish Secretary: Maureen Holly
905-655-3286 x 103 905-655-3286 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 pick up a baptism package from Fr. Charles after mass.

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.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND AUTHORITY



I am a priest and a so-so writer. There are so many who are not priests and are excellent writers, and a handful of excellent writers who happen to be priests. One such man is Fr. Dwight Longenecker. He was an American fundamentalist Protestant who eventually

joined the Anglican Church and then moved to England to study to become an Anglican priest. He soon discovered, however, that he and the Anglican church were on divergent paths as he was more and more drawn into the beauty and truth of Catholicism. In 1995 he, his wife and four children were received into the Catholic Church. In December 2006 he was ordained a Catholic priest under the special pastoral provision for married former Anglican clergy. He ministers at St. Joseph's, and in the parish of St. Mary's, Greenville, U.S.A.

In the readings for the next few weeks we will hear of the issue of authority. In a world of political correctness there is little room for any talk about authority because there is an assumption that authority divides and allows for "an" authority, such as God or the Holy Father. Over the next few weeks I will post an article by Fr. Longenecker which deals with authority as he has come to see it and respect it in the Catholic Church.

My conversion to the Catholic faith began in the world of Protestant fundamentalism. After being brought up in an independent Bible church, I attended the fundamentalist Bob Jones University. While there I became an Anglican; later, I went to England to become an Anglican priest.

My pilgrimage of faith came to a crisis in the early 1990s as the Anglican Church struggled over the question of the ordination of women. By instinct I was against the innovation, but I wanted to be positive and affirm new ideas rather than reject them just because they were new. I decided to put my prejudices to one side and listen as openly as possible to both sides of the debate.

As I listened I realized that from a human point of view, both the people in favor of women's ordination and those against it had some good arguments. Both sides argued from Scripture, tradition, and reason. Both sides argued from practicality, compassion and justice. Both sides honestly considered their arguments to be persuasive. Furthermore, both sides were composed of prayerful, church-going, sincere Christians who genuinely believed the Holy Spirit was directing them. How could both be right?

From a human point of view, both arguments could be sustained. This led me to a real consideration of the question of authority in the Church. I realized that the divisions over women's ordination in the Anglican Church were no different, in essence, than every other debate that has divided the thousands of Protestant denominations.

Some groups split over women's ordination; others split over whether women should wear hats to church. Some split over doctrinal issues; others split over moral issues. Whatever the issue and whatever the split, the basic problem is one of authority. If Christians have a sincere disagreement, who decides?

Wobbly Three-Legged Stool

Evangelical Protestants say the Bible decides, but this begs the question when the two warring parties agree that the Bible is the final authority. They eventually split because they can't agree about what the Bible actually teaches. I had moved away from the Protestant understanding that Scripture is the only authority, and as an Anglican, believed that authority rested in Scripture, tradition, and reason.

Anglicans call this the "three-legged stool." By turning to Scripture, tradition, and human reason they hope to have a secure teaching authority. I came to realize, however, that this solution also begs the question. Just as we have to ask the Protestant who believes in *sola scriptura*, "Whose interpretation of Scripture?" we have to ask the Anglican, "Whose reason and whose tradition?" In the debate over women's ordination (and now in the debate over homosexuality), both sides appeal to human reason, Scripture and tradition, and they come up with wildly different conclusions.

In the end, the Anglican appeal to a three-legged stool relies on individual interpretation, just as the Protestant appeals to *sola scriptura*. The three-legged stool turns out to be a theological pogo stick.

A Son of Benedict Speaks

About this time I had a conversation with the Abbot of Quarr Abbey (a Catholic Benedictine monastery on the Isle of Wight). He listened to my situation with compassion and interest. I explained that I did not want to deny women's ordination. I wanted to affirm all things that were good, and I could see some good arguments in favor of women's ordination. He admired this desire to affirm all things but he said something that set me thinking further:

Sometimes we have to deny some lesser good in order to affirm the greater good. I think you have to deny women's ordination in order to affirm the apostolic ministry. If the apostolic authority says no to women's ordination, then to affirm the greater good of apostolic authority you will have to deny the lesser good of women's ordination. Because if we deny the greater good, then eventually we will lose the lesser good as well.

He hit the nail on the head. His words led me to explore the basis for authority in the Catholic Church. I already had read and pretty much accepted the Scriptural support for the Petrine ministry in the Church. I also had come to understand and value the four-fold marks of the True Church—that it is "One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic." As I studied and pondered the matter further, however, I saw twelve other traits of the Church's authority.

These twelve traits—in six paired sets—helped me to understand how comprehensive and complete the Catholic claims of authority are. I came to realize that other churches and ecclesial bodies might claim some of the traits, but only the Catholic Church demonstrated all twelve fully.

(Next week's bulletin will continue this article as Fr. Longenecker speaks of the 12 Traits of the Catholic Church's claim to authority.)

BECOMING A CATHOLIC – R.C.I.A.

Once again in our parish we take up the invitation for anyone who is not presently a Roman Catholic to consider coming to find out what the Church founded by Christ 2000 years ago is really all about. If you've got cold feet because you are afraid you might be one of only a couple of people attending this year, fear not. It seems there have been quite a few people who have recently contacted the parish with an interest in learning about the Catholic faith, so you won't be journeying alone.

Whether you have already been baptized in one of the mainline Christian denominations or if you are not baptized at all, the RCIA led by our gifted parish Catechist, Patrick Sullivan, will be a journey you will be glad you embarked upon.

We are planning on beginning the *Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults* in our parish in the month of October so now is the time for you to contact Patrick at the parish (Ext. 103) to inquire about dates, times and the process itself.

Come and see where Jesus has established His Church, founded on Peter the first pope, the refuge of sinners and the home that has fostered the great saints and martyrs of history. Do not be afraid but trust in the One who is calling you to the fullness of life in Him. Call 905-655-3286 ext. 103.

Children's Liturgy Begins Again A Call for Leader-Volunteers

This Sunday we resume the Children's Liturgy of the Word which takes place every Sunday 9:00 am mass throughout the year from Kindergarten to Grade 2. As always, we are very excited about this ministry because it helps some of our youngest parishioners become more involved in understanding the Gospels and the Church's mission.

In order to have a Children's Liturgy every Sunday, **we need a few more volunteers.** Being a C.L. leader only requires one or two hours of your time a month. You do not need experience as an educator to help out – just a love and appreciation for the Word of God and children. We have a great team.

In this time of the New Evangelization, what better way to renew your relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church than by helping our children experience the joy of being Catholic.

Please contact the parish office if you are interested in being a part of this ministry or would like to know more about it and I will contact you. Thank you. *(Robert Fortin, CL Coordinator)*

You're Invited! – Wednesday October 1 Guest Speaker: Thomas Cardinal Collins

Cardinal Collins is speaking on the important topic of "Challenges for Catholic Education in the Current Culture". Cardinal Collins is an engaging, witty and inspirational speaker who has a deep love for our Catholic schools. Come join the discussion.

This inaugural event is sponsored by the newly-formed Catholic Teachers Guild of Durham. Doors open at 6:00 pm, Event begins at 7:00 pm at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in Parish Hall, 130 Watford Street, Brooklin. Please enter by Carson Street.

Holy Family's 2014 Taste Festival-Saturday Sept. 20 from 10 am-3:30 pm call Maureen Licsi 905-426-0851 for more info.

CATECHIST CORNER

Why does T. John the evangelist (a Jew) use a Greek term to explain Jesus' importance at the beginning of his Gospel?

Answer: The Word is also highly significant in Hebrew thought as well. While you are right that the *word* (or in Greek the *Logos*) is highly significant in Greek thought, we tend to forget that the chosen people (what we tend to call the Jews) also had a rich history around the word (in Aramaic the *memra*).

By the time of Jesus for example the Jews were used to talking about the Word of the Lord was a walking, talking, eating God. Philo of Alexandria for example, a Jewish philosopher contemporaneous to Jesus would describe the *memra* as *ton deutron theon* (a second God).

So as you see, John the evangelist was not just appealing to Greek thought when he opened his Gospel with the now famous, "In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God." He was in fact being a faithful Jew, and using the language that his people knew.

Join us today at 12:30 pm here in the Church for a talk by our own Patrick Sullivan entitled, ***Building a Family of God, one step at a time.***

MASS INTENTIONS

Tues., Sept. 16 – 8:30 am – Fred Rochford+

Wed., Sept. 17 – 7:00 pm – Marion McGetrick+

Thurs. Sept. 18 – 8:30 am – No Intention

Fri., Sept. 19 – 8:30 am – Gerard Willcott+

Sat., Sept. 20 – 5:00 pm – Elizabeth Heiler+

Sun., Sept. 21 - 9:00 am – Rodrigo Nieto+ & Rosalie Reyes+

Sun., Sept. 21 – 11:00 am – For the intentions of Fr. Charles

Please return the baby bottles for **Rose of Durham** to the Quiet Room by Oct. 12th with the completed form if you wish a tax receipt (donations of \$10 or more). St. Leo's C.W.L. thanks you for your help with this project.

PARISH FALL BAZAAR-Saturday Sept. 20

The Parish Fall Bazaar will be held on September 20 from 9 am to 3 pm in the parish hall. New this year will be a Kids Zone outside (weather permitting) for the children.

LIFE CHAIN SUNDAY- Sunday October 5, 2014
Location: Dundas St East & Thicksn Rd - 2:00 - 3:00 pm

We are called to be Involved

We are looking to build a substantial team of volunteers to help with Youth Ministry. Individuals that are interested in helping our youth with meaningful and effective faith formation.

We need men and women who have made a commitment to Christ and helping others to grow in their own relationship with God. Individuals with high energy, imagination, compassion and playful spirit to show our youth that we can be faithful and have fun at the same time.


Youth Ministry is a great way to give your time and serve the Lord. If you are interested in helping out by becoming a volunteer for our Youth programs such as EDGE, Alpha Youth and other youth related events such as Kidzone please email the Youth Minister, Carly Thistel at carlythistel@gmail.com




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