



St. Leo The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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www.stleothegreat.ca • e-mail: st.leos@bellnet.ca

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.

CHOOSING A BABY NAME ?

Is the bearing of a child a parent's license to get creative with the name? Word On Fire contributor Elyn von Huben examines a recent news item about a child's controversial name change, and what could be avoided if parents just give the process a little more thought, and perhaps a little more saintly intervention.

“A rose by any other name would smell as sweet,” could have been a plea that Adrian Williams would make to both his mother and the Wisconsin State Appeals Court when he petitioned to change his name to Romanceo Sir Tasty Maxibillion back in 1995. The State of Wisconsin didn’t buy it; though it actually could have made him easier to find as a parolee (did I mention he was incarcerated at the time?). His mother’s response? Maternal intuition leads me to think that she would also take umbrage at the choice. “Sir Tasty,” as I like to call him, asked the court to allow him a name that is unique, creative, and the embodiment of his aspirations. In this respect, the criminal’s mind was working with thought processes not unlike many soon-to-be parents preparing for a new arrival.

Talk of the trend of modern creative naming has come into prominence once more in the news in the past few weeks. A judge in Tennessee disallowed the name Messiah for a young child. What received a lot of attention was judicial over-involvement and the judge’s decision to order that Messiah not be the child’s legal name. Judge Lu Ann Ballew became involved because this was a case of parental indecision on what should be the baby’s surname. I saw little outrage over the tragedy of the child’s unmarried parents haggling over choice of surname — a sorry intimation of discord to come in his young life. In the course of this decision the judge decided that Messiah was not an appropriate first name. Many people have been shocked and irate with the judge’s pronouncement that Messiah is an offensive name, in that it only belongs to Jesus Christ, thus raising this essentially to another debate about Church/State separation. (To add to the Judge Ballew’s opinion, I would interject that “Messiah” might also be a name that is offensive to Jews who believe the Messiah is still to come.)

I was more shocked to read that “Messiah” is fourth among the fastest trending names in popularity according to the U. S. Social Security Administration. There were close to 800 little Messiahs born in the United States in 2012. So, while one child has been spared an unusual and inappropriate name, this well-publicized case has made no contribution to pushing back the trend of unfortunate names. American freedom allows parents to pull out all the stops when giving one of their first and most permanent gifts to their children. Many parents feel no constraints when deciding baby names. Even our constitution’s “Title of Nobility clause” has not interfered with the Princes, Barons, and Queenies that have populated hospital nurseries.

Here I must confess that as a child I was somewhat appalled and confused when I learned that Jesus was used as a man’s name. It was many years before I learned that Jesus is such a popular Hispanic name because it dates back some centuries to a trend of special devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus in Spanish speaking countries. This began most assuredly from a pious movement and not parental ego.

So what’s a parent to do? Catholic Canon law helps us by giving a

definitive directive to parents choosing a name for their child. (Can. 855: *Parents, sponsors, and the pastor are to take care that a name foreign to Christian sensibility is not given.*) That still allows quite a bit of latitude for parental decision-making. Helping to protect a child from parental idiocy and crass cultural and commercial influence it also guides the new parent toward an opportunity to create for the child a close personal bond with a particular member of the Communion of Saints.

It is traditional in many Catholic countries for children to celebrate their “name day” with the same, and sometimes *more*, joy-filled gravitas as birthdays. In Italy, for instance, the name day or “onomastico” is given as much importance as a birthday. Before I was familiar with some of these ethnic traditions I also tried in my own way to celebrate the children’s name days. Morning Mass – “Hey, pay attention, the priest will say *your* name during the prayers!” – followed by breakfast out or a special dessert at dinner. And, naturally, talk of the saint with whom the name is shared.

Of course, some of my children would game the system. Bridget, for instance. Is it Bridget of Ireland or Sweden? How about both? Sure, why not. As the children are now grown I still try to make some sort of recognition of their name day — even if it was only this summer’s last minute posting of a cartoon of St. Martha, with the addition of a plea to the rest of the family, “It’s July 29! Give Martha a break — somebody else do the dishes today!”

Our affinity for traditional names made our transition to Catholic life easy. Each of my children has a saint’s name. Except for our Emily, none of the names has made the Social Security Administration popularity list for about a century. One of my criteria for naming a baby has been the degree of timelessness; that it should look as good on a baby announcement as on a business card and eventually a senior citizen’s discount card.

There is endless room in the Communion of Saints. A day may come when there is a Prince or a Pilot Inspektor canonized. The array of saints whose names we have to draw upon have grown over the years and will continue to grow. For now there is a treasury of holy names to draw from. Though there are so many areas in which sentiment should not become confused or burdensome to our faith, the choosing of a child’s name can be an exception. Just as we hand along family stories along with names — an aunt with the middle name of Frances or Aunt Martha from Chicago — we are privileged to help our family build a similar kinship and affection with the saints in Heaven.

One of the first gifts a child receives is intangible yet enormously weighty. As Judge Ballew said of the child in the controversial case, “at this point he has had no choice.” This happy yet serious choice should not be undertaken as a chance for the parents to express wit and creativity. Our laws respect the effect of permanent, life altering decisions to the extent that in most states a minor cannot get a tattoo, even *with* parental permission. A name is another permanent mark, though the only ink work is on official documents.

Wit and whimsy have traditionally been relegated to nicknames. I joke that if I knew I would have four daughters in a row I would have named them Flora, Fauna, Merryweather, and Briar Rose. But I wouldn’t make a legal, permanent joke of it, no more than I would sign birth certificates naming my sons Chazmataz and Sir Tasty. (My second son, now a young man of normal proportions,

managed to quadruple his nine-pound birth weight in six months and Sir Tasty was a good nickname.)

A thoughtful parent of any faith should be able to understand the lifelong influence of a name. The Christian is blessed to have the legacy of the Church for help; being informed by faith and deliberating with reason. Good sense should prevail. My family vetoed my choice to name our husky puppy Romanceo Sir Tasty Maxibillion – or even just Sir Tasty. Don't the youngest humans deserve as much concern?

Ellyn von Huben is a writer and contributor to the Word On Fire

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION UPDATE:

- WEEKLY COST OF RUNNING OUR PARISH - \$6755
- **LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION**
- Envelopes, Loose bills and change - \$3757
- Pre-Authorized Giving (PAP) - \$1554 (August)
 - ➔ TOTAL COLLECTION LAST WEEK: \$5311
 - ➔ **Deficit in last week's collection: \$1444**

MASS INTENTIONS

Tues., Sept. 17 - 8:30 am – Mary Fry+

Wed. Sept. 18 – 7:00 pm – For the intentions of the Euchre & CWL Volunteers

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

Fri., Sept. 20 – 8:30 am – Tony Tamburro+

Sat., Sept. 21 - 5:00 pm – Nicolas Iuglio+

Sun., Sept. 22 - 9 am – Mary Theresa Fry+

Sun., Sept. 22 – 11 am – For the intentions of Nellie Floris

ANNUAL BAZAAR – Saturday, October 26, 2013

The Annual Bazaar is Saturday, October 26. Please mark this date on your calendar. Please remember the Crafts table and the Country Store table and make an extra jar or two of your favourite preserves/jam/pickles, etc. Volunteers are always needed. SOLD raffle tickets should be returned ASAP and you can drop them off via the collection plate.

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. This weekend (Sept. 14 & 15) there will be members of the Rosary Apostolate in the Church vestibule. If interested in volunteering for this, please see the ladies or phone Judy Delaney 905-655-0227.

Second Parents Transitional Home – 3rd Annual Retreat – Healing the Woman's Heart & the Hearts of her Family

On Saturday, September 28, 2013 - 9 am to 6 pm – Admission \$20. Please see Church bulletin board for detailed information.

St. Michael's Choir School Christmas Concert to be held in our parish on: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29 AT 7:00 P.M. More details to follow.

CATECHIST CORNER

I went to confession for the first time in a long time and I was given a penance, what is that?

The short answer: The medicine needed to help rebuild your spiritual life.

When we sin it is like breaking a window. Something needs to be repaired and someone has to take responsibility for the damage. Confession is the place where we can do both.

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation (a.k.a. Confession) we fess up 'It was me!' And we take full responsibility for what we have done or have failed to do. When we do this God forgives us but still requires us to begin repairing the damage we have done to ourselves and others.

And so God's priest gives you a penance, the first steps to repairing a spiritual life that is heaven bound. He will say something like, 'your penance is to say this prayer or do this thing.' It may seem easy or quite difficult but remember that its purpose is to train your soul for heaven by making it stronger.

Baby Bottle Boomerang Leaves Empty but Returns Filled with HOPE

From next weekend until Thanksgiving weekend (Oct. 13) our parish is participating in the Baby Bottle Boomerang community fundraiser for Rose of Durham. Proceeds support young parents served by Rose of Durham. Getting involved is easy. You can participate by signing for a numbered baby bottle to fill during the next few weeks. It can be returned to the box when you check off your name on the forms provided. Please return by Oct. 13. For further info. about services offered by Rose of Durham go to www.roseofdurham.com Please participate: **Your change helps change lives.**

Church Bulletin Advertising

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in November, 2013 & supports the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service. Contact the parish office if you would like to advertise in our parish bulletin and we will give you the contact number of Liturgical Publications.

Support for Recently Separated or Divorced Catholics


Catholic Family Services of Toronto is offering a 10-week group program for adult men and women coping with the many struggles involved in the process of separation and divorce. Group participants will receive support and guidance as they move through this difficult period of transition. The group will run on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 pm beginning September 24th at our Central Office 1155 Yonge Street (Summerhill Subway Station). For further info. please contact Ian Singer at 416-921-1163.




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