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# St. Leo The Great

#### **ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

130 Watford Street, Brooklin, ON L1M 1H2 905.655.3286 www.stleothegreat.ca e-mail: officeatstleothegreat@gmail.com

Pastor: Father Mounir El- Rassi Parish Secretary: Gianella Lazaro 905-655-3286 ext. 1



Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations by the guidance of a star. Lead us to Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.

# MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

Saturday, December 23rd

4:30 p.m. Intentions for Anita Delmedico

Sunday, December 24th

9:00 a.m. Pro populo

4:30 p.m. Pro populo

8:00 p.m. Pro populo

Monday, December 25th

*9:00 a.m.* Pro populo

*11:00 a.m.* Pro populo

Tuesday, December 26th

No Mass Closed

Wednesday, December 20th

7:00 p.m. ♣ Fawzi Eissa

♣ Loretta Tahaan

**†** Patricia Shaughnessy

Thursday, December 28th

8:30 a.m. ♣ Innocenzo & ♣ Vincenzina (Mammone)

🕆 Attilio & 🕆 Maria (Tuzi)

Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

Saturday, December 30th

₱ Fawzi Eissa

Int. Maria Aloise Family & ₽ Fred Aloise

Sunday, December 31st

9:00 a.m. Pro populo

Sanctuary Light: Two week starting Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> – Jan 5<sup>th</sup>

For the Deceased Fawzi Eissa

For: Sanctuary Light Request.

For: Vigil Light for Mary.

For: Visiting Statue of Blessed Virgin Mary.

**For a visit by the parish priest.** Father is available on Monday, Friday and Saturday afternoon and evening.

Make your request at the office.

#### On this week @ St. Leo's Bulletin

- This is our 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
- Saint Teresa of Ávila: The Our Father

Link to our archdiocesan church second website: https://stleothegreatbr.archtoronto.org

**Reminder:** Church and Office are closed the 1<sup>st</sup> week of January from Tuesday to Frinday. Open again on Saturday for 8:30am Mass, and Evening 4:30pm Mass.

### **Dinner And Dance Song Requests**

There is no more tickets available for our New Year party. If you wish to have a song played for you or your children, please make your request on a piece of paper and drop it at the mailbox outside the office or email it to us at the office. Thank you.

## This is our 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 24<sup>th</sup>

This year (2023) Advent is very short with Sunday being the only day in the fourth week. In the General Roman Calendar, today is the last day of Advent, Christmas Eve, and (beginning with the vigil Mass) is the first day of Christmas time. The liturgical texts express wholehearted confidence in the imminent coming of the Redeemer. There is much joyous expectation. Most families have their own observances, customs that should be preserved from generation to generation. Today is the last day of our Christmas Novena.

For those following the Jesse Tree, you can either continue through Christmas Eve following Catholic Culture's Jesse Tree, or use symbols based on the "O" Antiphons (see <u>Jesse Tree Instructions</u> and <u>O Antiphons</u>).

#### **Christmas Eve at Church**

The entire liturgy of Christmas Eve is consecrated to the anticipation of the certain and sure arrival of the

Savior: "Today you shall know that the Lord shall come and tomorrow you shall see His glory" (Invitatory of Matins for the Vigil of the Nativity). Throughout Advent we have seen how the preparation for Jesus' coming became more and more precise. Isaiah, John the Baptist, and the Virgin Mother appeared throughout the season announcing and foretelling the coming of the King.



We learn today that Christ according to His human nature is born at Bethlehem of the House of David of the Virgin Mary, and that according to His divine nature He is conceived of the Spirit of holiness, the Son of God and the Second Person of the Trinity. The certitude of His coming is made clear in two images. The first is that of the closed gate of paradise. Since our first parents were cast forth from the earthly paradise the gate has been closed and a cherubim stands guard with flaming sword. The Redeemer alone is able to open this door and enter in. On Christmas Eve we stand before the gate of paradise, and it is for this reason that Psalm 23 is the theme of the vigil: Lift up your gates, O princes,

Open wide, eternal gates,

That the King of Glory may enter in. . . .

Taken from: <a href="https://www.catholicculture.org/">https://www.catholicculture.org/</a>

## Saint Teresa of Ávila: The Our Father

"As we repeat the Our Father so many times ... let us delight in it." -- Saint Teresa of Ávila

## GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

(Holy Communion)

For the love of God let us realize the meaning of our good Master's petition.

We know that until the accidents of bread have been consumed by our natural heat, the good Jesus is with us. If, while He went about in the world, the sick were healed by merely touching His clothes, how can we doubt that He will work miracles when he is within us, if we have faith? Or how can we doubt that he will give us what we ask of Him since He is in our house? His Majesty is not wont to offer us too little payment for His lodging if we treat Him well.

## FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE ...

Notice that Our Lord does not say: "as we shall forgive." The good Jesus might have said: "Forgive us, Lord, because we are doing a great deal of penance, or because we are praying often, and fasting." But He has never said any of these other things He might have said. He simply says: "Because we forgive."

It is such a serious and important matter that God should pardon us our sins, which have merited eternal fire, that we must pardon all ...

#### AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION

Let us always beseech God that temptation may not be strong enough for us to offend Him.

From any sin, however small, committed with full knowledge, may God deliver us, especially since we are sinning against so great a Sovereign and realizing that He is watching us! Take this advice, which comes, not from me, but from your Master – Strive to walk with love and fear, and I guarantee your safety. Love will make you quicken your steps. Fear will make you look where you are setting your feet so that you may not fall.

It will be a great thing at the hour of death, when we are going we know not whither, to realize that we shall be judged by One Whom we have loved above all things. Remember the greatness of the gain which comes from this love, and of our loss if we do not possess it, for in that case we shall be delivered into the hands of the tempter ... What will become of the poor soul when it falls into these hands after emerging from all the pains and trials of death? How it will be torn as it goes down to hell! A pampered person (and most of those who go to hell are that) can hardly bear to spend a single night in a bad inn. What, then, will be the feeling of that wretched soul when it is condemned to such an inn as this and has to spend eternity there? What, then, Eternal Father, can we do but flee to Thee and beg Thee not to allow these enemies of ours to lead us into temptation?

#### **DELIVER US FROM EVIL**

If we try to banish bodily ills and trials, is it not right that we should ask to be delivered from sin?

O my God and Lord, deliver me from all evil and be pleased to lead me to that place where all good things are to be found.

God's will is for us to desire truth, whereas we desire falsehood; His will is for us to desire the eternal, whereas we prefer that which passes away; His will is for us to desire great and sublime things, whereas we desire the base things of earth; He would have us desire only what is certain, whereas here on earth we love what is doubtful.

What a mockery it all is, unless we beseech God to deliver us from all these perils forever and to keep us from evil!

**AMEN** 

By the word "Amen", as it comes at the end of every prayer, I understand that the Lord is begging that we may be delivered from all evil for ever.

Taken from: <a href="https://thecarmelitelibrary.blogspot.com/">https://thecarmelitelibrary.blogspot.com/</a>



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B.Sc., LL.B. **Barrister & Solicitor** 

Family, Criminal, Wills 2A-119 Consumers Drive Whitby, Ontario L1N 1C4

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