

St. Leo The Great ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

KOMAN CATHOLIC CHUKCH

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: Maureen Holly 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. 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

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 Victor Amole* is present in the hospital (or when he will be). If Father Victor 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.

Parish 3-Day Lenten Retreat

Save the Dates –

Mon. Feb. 23 – Wed. Feb. 25

each evening at 7 pm.

Mass and a Retreat Talk
with Fr. Dominic Borg, OCD

And here's yet another set of good reasons why we <u>need</u> to go to church. Share it with someone who isn't practicing the faith, if you dare. It will be on the world wide web for all to see. (Fr. Charles)

CHURCH IN BED:

Why Leave Home on Sunday Mornings? (by Chad Bird from Wordpress.com)

I can experience almost every aspect of church from the comfort of my own bed. I can prop up my pillow, open my laptop, and enter my very own cyber sanctuary. The music of beautiful hymns can reverberate through my computer. I can read the Bible myself or listen to an audio recording of a trained professional narrate the Scriptures for me. Preachers from across the spectrum of Christianity can squeeze their pulpits within my computer screen. I can sing, pray, read the Bible, hear sermons, all without the hassle of getting dressed, driving across town, and sitting in a pew for an hour. So why leave home for church on Sunday morning when I can receive the word of God just fine under my own roof?

Suppose that's what I did. Honestly, what would I be missing? Only a few things.

I'd only be missing the participation of my whole body in worship. My feet worshiping as they stand on holy ground in the presence of Christ. My nose worshiping as it smells the varnish on the pews, the pages of the hymnal, perhaps even the incense as its smoke traces the upward trail of prayers ascending to the Father's ears. My tongue worshiping as it's painted Passover red by the blood of the Lamb who saves me from destruction. My hands worshiping as I clasp another's to say, "Peace to you." My muscles worshipping as I sit and rise, fold my hands, kneel and bow my head. My eyes worshiping as I view the pulpit, the altar, the lectern, the font, through which Christ forgives, heals, and enlivens His people with hope. All of who we are body and soul, eyes, ears and everything that makes us human-has been redeemed by Christ, blessed by Christ, and worships this Christ who become all of who we are in His incarnation.

If I stayed home, I'd only be missing the community of fellow forgiven sinners whom I need and who need me. The recently widowed woman who sits in front of me and listens as I sing a resurrection hymn that her

tear-drenched eyes and the lump in her throat won't let her sing herself. The teenager who's never said a word to me but secretly looks to me as an example. The grumpy old man whom God has placed in my path so as to give me an occasion for practicing charity and patience. My son and daughter who'll be watching and emulating what I teach them about their place in the body of Christ. I'd be missing these fellow believers who are Christ's gifts to me, and I to them.

In my cyber sanctuary, staring at my laptop, I'd only be missing face-to-face, ear-to-mouth contact with the man whom the Lord Himself chose to shepherd me as a lamb in God's flock. As useful as electronic communication is, there's a reason we call it virtual reality. I don't have a virtual need for a pastor; I have a real one. I need real encounters with him, where he looks me in the eye to call me to repentance, places his hand upon my head and speaks Christ's forgiveness into my ears, extends his hand to my open mouth to feed me the body broken and blood outpoured on the altar of the cross.

I'd only be missing these things, and more. I know that sometimes illness, old age, travel, and other situations in life prevent us from joining other believers around the font and altar and pulpit. But I also know that sometimes we simply forget about what we are missing when we can go to church, but choose not to attend.

Jesus never said, "Thou shalt go to church on Sunday morning." But He did send Paul throughout the Roman world to establish communities of faith and to appoint pastors and teachers in those churches. He did admonish us not to forsake our own assembling together (Hebrews 10:25). He did call us not to despise preaching and the word of God, but to hear it and learn it gladly. Most importantly, Christ said, "Come unto me, all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." He will do that 24/7, anytime and anywhere, but He lavishly pours out His rest in the waters of Baptism, in the spoken words of absolution from the pastor's lips, in the preaching of the cross and resurrection, in the consumption of heavenly cuisine from the table at which He is host and meal.

Around Jesus the Church gathers as sheep around their shepherd, as the dying and wounded around this great physician of soul and body, as earth-bound believers who join the angels and archangels and all the company of heaven in the song that never ends.

I don't know about you, but since Christ promises blessings like that, there's no place I'd rather be on Sunday mornings than out of bed and in a pew, basking in the forgiveness and peace and love of the God who merges heaven and earth within the four walls of His sanctuary to fill us with gifts of grace galore.

MASS INTENTIONS – WEEK OF Feb. 3 - 8, 2015

Tues. Feb 3 – 8:30 am – Int. Madge St. Denis

Wed. Feb 4 - 7:00 pm — Rita & Verna Pinard+ req.

MacChesney Family

Thurs. Feb 5 – 8:30 am – Int. Joe & Kathleen Mercer

Fri. Feb 6-8:30 am - For Vocations

Sat. Feb 7 – 5:00 pm – Lillian Mathurs+ & John Mason+ req. Mason Family

Sun. Feb 8 - 9:00 am - Joan Marie Williams+ req.

Rebelo Family

11:00 am – Maria Bianco+ reg. Giardullo Family

St. Leo Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Next Sunday February 8, 2015 following the 9:00 and 11:00 am masses come and enjoy a full breakfast of eggs, sausages, baked beans, pancakes, biscuits, coffee, tea and juice in the parish hall. Adults \$5.00, children 4-12 - \$3.00 and children under 4 - free.

CORNERSTONE DURHAM

Our St. Leo's Knights of Columbus would like to thank all the parishioners who gave so generously to the Cornerstone Hostel this past Christmas.

Also, our St. Leo Knights gave a \$500.00 cheque donation to Cornerstone Durham, which was greatly appreciated by both the staff, members of the Board and the residents themselves. This donation helped provide an excellent Christmas for more than 200 individuals who are supported by cornerstone in house and community based housing support programs. Thank you for the wonderful work you do in our community.

St. Leo's St. Vincent de Paul

The members of St. Leo's St. Vincent de Paul, would like to thank the parishioners for their most generous response to the Christmas Angel project again this past year. Not only did we help our own parish families, but we also made Christmas happier for 15 families of St. Philip's parish who are committed to helping 150 families each month of the year. Just a reminder that we will once again have the St. Vincent de Paul truck in the parking lot to receive gently used clothing and linens during the last weekend in April.

St. Leo's CWL Membership

CWL members are reminded that January is membership month. Fees are \$25.00 and can be placed in an envelope and dropped in the collection basket. If you are interested in joining or in obtaining more information, please contact Jeananne Ralph 905-579-6118 or Donna Shaddick 905-629-0724.

The Canadian Blood Donor Clinic

Blood Donor Clinic in the parish hall on Monday February 2 from 4:30 – 7:30 pm. Please enter by Carson Street.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 1, 2015

Pray to know how God wants to use your talents and abilities. Could it be He is calling you to consider priesthood, religious life or deaconate? If God is calling you to a Church vocation call Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, 416-968-0997.

Confirmation Candidates

Reminder: Confirmation Candidates - classes begin again this Wednesday February 4 from 7-8:30 pm in the parish hall. Please enter by Carson Street.

Also, a reminder to parents that sponsor forms need to be received no later than Wednesday Feb. 4. Please have your child bring it to class that evening and give to Robert LeBlanc. Thank you.

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated this weekend. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life and please thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation. All are welcome to attend a special Mass presided by His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins this Sunday February 1 at 3:00 pm at St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto.

Cardinal Collins Invites Feedback in Preparation for 2015 Synod of Bishops.

Cardinal Collins is inviting Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto to offer insights and feedback on issues that will be considered as part of the 2015 Synod of Bishops on "The Vocation and the Mission of the family in the Church and in the Contemporary World". Full details including background documents can be found at: www.archtoronto.org/synod - deadline for feedback is February 16, 2015.

Pilgrimage To Rome & Assisi 2015 "TO FRANCIS THROUGH FRANCIS"

Fr. Keith Wallace, Pastor of St. Bernadette's in Ajax will lead a Pilgrimage to Italy from April 11-18 which includes daily Mass, Air fare, two meals daily, coachbus, Hotel – steps from St. Peters – within walls of Assisi/Papal Audience at Vatican Square and more! \$2,795.00 plus tax. Phone Fr. Keith 905-683-1533, email kgmwjc@hotmail.com if interested.



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