

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: 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.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

A MOMENTOUS DAY FOR DAD



The passing of time could be as a blur if it weren't for the moments that mark a beginning or an ending or perhaps a turning point in one's life and among ones family members. Such an occasion came this past Wednesday for my father as his deteriorating health and inability to be on his own and take care of himself has quite suddenly forced him to leave his home of 55 years to join my mother in a nursing home - Fairview Lodge in Whitby. My mother, Margaret,

been at Fairview Lodge for 2½ years though she was diagnosed with Dementia fifteen years ago. My father was my mother's sole caregiver for over eleven of those years and I'm sure that in part it took its toll on him. Once he recognized that he was no longer able to care for my mother himself and at home, the decision was made that she would have to go to a nursing care facility.

After one year in her former nursing home we managed to get my mother transferred to Fairview Lodge, an admittedly aging and worn out facility but with a tremendous reputation and staff to match who make all the difference in the world to people like my mother who are in need of 24/7 care. Fairview has been my mother's home and it is soon to be replaced by the brand spanking new building now well into construction. And now my father has joined my mother there leaving behind the house they bought in 1959 and where they worked and lived and raised their seven children. My mind is flooded with memories of growing up at 904 Bayview Avenue in Whitby.

My father is glad that he's going to Fairview both because my mother is there and because he knows he needs the care. He told me and my siblings at a family meeting recently that "it was like a load lifted off of my shoulders" when he got the news he was on the waiting list for nursing care. He won't be driving any longer but will be free to come and go as he likes according to his health. It is heartening to know that my father doesn't feel he's been forced or even driven from his home like those who, sometimes as victims of their own family's machinations, have been manoeuvered out of their lives, placed in a home, their houses sold and where they are largely left alone and forgotten. The poor among us can so often be the elderly and those who live out their last years without family or friends or peace.

The Irish writer and clergyman Jonathan Swift wrote:

"No wise man ever wished to be younger." It is true most especially for the believer who sees this mortal life as a journey toward a fulfillment that is not realized on the earth but in heaven, though it necessarily must begin here. My mother and father have always had a strong Catholic faith with an assurance of not only 'where' they

were headed but to 'Whom'. They did a good job of truly raising their children in the practice of the faith they held dear and laid a firm foundation of faith for their children to follow on their own and of their own choosing. No parents could ever do more for their children than to pass on their lived and precious faith.





(I searched throughout my pictures to find a photo of both of my parents together but could only find individual pictures of them holding my then pup, 'Bear' way back in 2005.)

Alas, time marches on for all of us and the standard by which we measure our own aging is most often in seeing our parents grow older and more frail and in seeing the younger generations push us along that slide rule of life by their own rapid maturing. I am reminded by my father's present placing in Fairview Lodge on just how quickly one can go from independent living to the necessity of nursing care and in my father's case it was just a mere matter of months. Life is precious and a gift from God.

My parents have lived busy, productive and meaningful lives and have passed on so much by their own living to those who have come to know them and know them still. That is a tremendous and lasting legacy in itself.

In the Book of Wisdom (4:7) it says:

For old age is not honoured for length of time, or measured by number of years; but understanding is gray hair for anyone, and a blameless life is ripe old age.

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION UPDATE:

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

- Envelopes, Loose bills and change \$3737
- Pre-Authorized Giving (PAP) \$1535 (January)
 - → TOTAL COLLECTION LAST WEEK: \$5272

MASS INTENTIONS

Tues., Feb. 4, 2014 – 8:30 am – No Intention Wed., Feb. 5, 2014 – 7:00 pm – Paul Ponce de Leon+

Req. by Gladys Ponce de Leon

Thurs., Feb. 6, 2014 – 8:30 am – For the Intentions of Joan Bushell Req. by the Bushell Family

Fri., Feb. 7, 2014 – 8:30 am – Tony Vonk+ Req. by Madelaine Vonk Sat., Feb. 8, 2014 – 5:00 pm – Stefan Danielewski+

Req. by the Karp Family

Sun., Feb. 9, 2014 – 9:00 am – No Intention

Sun., Feb. 9, 2014 - 11:00 am - Maria Bianco+

Req. by the Giardullo Family

Nine Words – **GENEROSITY** – If **generosity** is joy, why is it so difficult to give joyfully?

We Need EDGE Leaders

Our Edge Program is designed for the purpose of helping each individual grow personally and spiritually. Learning about the Catholic faith while having fun. The team pays attention to what God is doing with Edge, helping us to spread the Good News to others and striving to be o ur best selves for them. Our team is praying so that God might bring us more Leaders. Be courageous and ambitious. Come support our Edge program in the New Year.

Team Leader - Carly

For more information or to sign up as a Leader call Patrick Sullivan at 905-655-3286 ext. 103.

Presentation of the Lord – February 2, 2014

"Jesus did not come to help Angels, but the descendants of Abraham." If God is calling you to consider the priesthood or religious life, contact Fr. Hansoo Park 416-968-0997, email – vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca

Come Celebrate Marriage Sunday Mass in the Archdiocese of Toronto with His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins – St. Paul's Basilica, 8 Power St., Toronto – Feb. 9, 2014 at 4 pm. All are welcome to join in this celebration. Special blessing will be given to couples celebrating 25, 40, 50 and 60+ years in the calendar year 2014. For more info. go to www.archtoronto.org/marriage or contact wwwmecouple@gmail.com.

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. Please call Judy Delaney (905-655-0227).

Members of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank parishoners for their generous donations of \$730 for Christmas as well as gifts for 73 individuals assisted this year. We plan to do the Christmas Angel Project again next year with your help. Please consider joining our conference, you would find it most rewarding. Call Tony at 905-655-2933 or Maureen at 905-655-5150 if you have any questions.

CATECHIST CORNER

I had some Jehovah Witnesses come to My door and say that Jesus is not God. Can you recommend one text from the Bible that I should show them?

A: Sure.

Read John 12:37-43 together with the Jehovah witness and then ask, who is it that the prophet Isaiah saw in Isaiah 6? The answer is Jehovah / Yahweh. Go to Isaiah 6 and read it together just to be sure.

Now, who is it that John thinks Isaiah saw? Reread the section from John above. The answer is Jesus.

So Isaiah saw Jehovah, but John says that Isaiah saw Jesus. Hmmmm...is it possible that Jesus *is* Jehovah?

Offertory Envelopes 2014

The 2014 offertory envelopes are available for pick up from the table in the Chapel. **DO NOT USE 2013 ENVELOPES.** Parishioners who are currently on the Pre-Authorized Plan please pick up your envelopes at the Welcome Table.

St. Leo Knights of Columbus Breakfast - Feb. 9th. following 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses. Everyone is invited to enjoy another full breakfast of eggs, sausages, baked beans, pancakes, biscuits, coffee and juice in the Church hall. Prices are: Adults \$5.00, Children ages 4 – 12 - \$3.00, Children under 4 are free.

St. Leo's Card Party Schedule for 2014

Doors open at 6:15 pm. Parking available (behind church, enter from Carson Ave.) \$10.00 per person – 15 Games – Starts at 7:00 pm **SHARP**. Euchre Dates for 2014 (First Friday of Every Month). February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 4, August 1, September 5, October 3, November 7 and December 5, 2014 For more info. contact Donna at (905) 620-0724 or Jeananne at (905) 579-6118.

Canadian Blood Donor Clinic on Monday, February 3rd – 4 pm to 8 pm in the parish hall. Please enter from Carson Street entrance.

Is there a God? This question will be explored at the inaugural event of the Chesterton Debate Series, sponsored by the Office of Catholic Youth and the Archdiocese of Toronto. The debate takes place on Friday, Feb. 7, 2014 at 7 pm at the Isabel Bader Theatre (93 Charles St. W.) Tickets cost \$10. Online registration at www.ocytoronto.org.



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