



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: Sandy Yatabe 905-655-3286 ext. 1

Office Hours (Summer Schedule)

Monday, Saturday & Sunday: closed
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 - 4:00 pm

Daily Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 8:30 am
Wednesday: 7:00 pm
First Saturday: 8:30 am

Benediction and Adoration

Friday: 9:00 am to 10:00 am

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am - with Children's Liturgy

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday: 9:15 am - 9:45 am
Saturday: 9:00 am - 9:30 am

Ave Rosarium Cenacle Prayer Group

Every Wednesday at 7:30pm. All are welcome.
Contact: francavascol@gmail.com

Sacrament of Baptism

Go to our website Forms

Sacrament of Marriage

Contact your parish priest at least one year in advance. Please call the Parish Office.

Parish Registration

All families attending St. Leo's are requested to register with the Parish. Registration forms are available in the vestibule of the church.

Altar Servers' Ministry

Altar Servers / children serve the mass they attend. Arrive 15 minutes before your mass if possible, Please register children for this ministry at the Welcome Centre.

Knights of Columbus

Peter Darcy Grand Knight Contact: stleokoc@gmail.com

Saint Vincent de Paul

President: Maureen Kerr maureen.kerr100@gmail.com
905-655-3286 ext 3

Catholic Women's League (CWL)

President: Shannon Rogers smarogers@gmail.com

Catering Services

Franca Vasco 905-621-9658

Federation of North American Explorers (FNE)

Founder: Paul Ritchi Paul.ritchi@gmail.com 416-435-6593

To become a Catholic Please contact the parish office

Local Hospitals & Emergency Pastoral Visits

There is a full-time Catholic priest assigned to these three hospitals at various times of the week: Oshawa, Whitby and Port Perry. Simply ask hospital staff to inquire as to whether Hospital Chaplain is present in the Hospital or when he will be. If there is an emergency, please call St. Leo the Great Parish at 905-655-3286, ext 8

MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

Saturday, February 7th -1st Saturday

8:30 a.m. + Gabrielle Cannistraci
4:30 p.m. All Married Couples

Sunday, February 8th

9:00 a.m. All Married Couples
11:00 a.m. + Attilio & Maria Bianco

Tuesday, February 10th

8:30 a.m. Olia

Wednesday, February 11th

7:00 p.m. Rose Lieski

Thursday, February 12th

8.30 a.m. Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

Friday, February 13th

8.30 a.m. + Lydia Pobre & + Fe Ruelos

Saturday, February 14th

4:30 p.m. + Edward Fox

Sunday, February 15th

9:00 a.m. + Kenise Kilbride
11:00 a.m. + Irene Copiozo

Pray for our deceased parishioners:

For: Sanctuary Light - Maria Mastropietro

For: Vigil Light for Mary.

For: Visiting Statue of Blessed Virgin Mary.

For a visit by the parish priest.

Make your request at the office

**Knights of Columbus
Breakfast Sunday
February 8, 2026**

Knights of Columbus breakfast in the hall this weekend after 9am and 11am mass on February 8, 2026

**Knights of Columbus Annual
Valentines Dance**

Date: Feb 21, 2026 @ 6:45 in the Church Hall
Refreshments @ 7:00 PM,
Dinner @ 7:30 PM
Apps/Dinner(Greek Tycoon)/DJ
Dance/Tea-Coffee/Dessert
Spot Prizes & 50/50 Draw
Price \$40/person
Tickets available before / after mass in the vestibule,
We hope to see you there at this popular event.

Dishwasher

A new commercial dishwasher has been purchased and installed in the kitchen for our various committee use at a total cost of \$6,490. The Knights of Columbus generously donated \$3,000 toward this purchase, for which we are very grateful.

2025 Tax Receipts

The Archdiocese requires parish tax receipts to be processed by February 11, 2026. Receipts will be distributed by mail shortly thereafter.

2026 Offertory Envelopes

Reminder to kindly pickup your 2026 Offertory Envelopes that are on a table in the vestibule. If you need any help finding your box of envelopes, please ask an Usher. For PAG Parishioners requiring special envelopes, please put your name & telephone number down on the sheet.

Community Board & Posts:

We are introducing a new bulletin board primarily to serve as a centralized, visual display for sharing information, announcements, schedules, and notices within our parish boundaries. It can include services, jobs, rentals, or sales.

Parking Advisory: Carson Avenue

We would like to gently remind all parishioners to avoid parking on Carson Avenue during the heavy snow season. This precaution is for everyone's safety, as snow accumulation can make street parking hazardous and impede traffic flow. Please remember that we have ample parking available in our west parking lot. We encourage you to use these designated spaces to help ensure safe and convenient access for all.

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

Come & See – Discernment Weekend Retreat – February 27 – March 1, 2026, at St. Augustine's Seminary

Fr. Matthew McCarthy, Director The Office of Vocations will be hosting a Come & See Weekend Discernment Retreat for men 18 years and older, at St.

Augustine's Seminary on Friday, February 27 (6:30 p.m.) until Sunday, March 1 (2 p.m.). This

Retreat offers a way for men to discern a possible call to priesthood at our seminary.

Registration must be done online at www.vocationstoronto.ca/comesee

For more information, please email vocations@archtoronto.org

**LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY
NO GREATER LOVE**

Lift Jesus Higher Rally registration is now OPEN!

For more than thirty years, the Lift Jesus Higher Rally has brought together Catholics of all ages from the

Greater Toronto Area and beyond for a day of fellowship, inspiration, and drawing closer to the Lord. We often hear from attendees that the rally is the highlight of their year! The 2026 rally will be held Saturday, March 14, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. A youth rally will be held at the same time in the John Basset Theatre.

<https://ljhr.ca/>

**Worldwide Marriage
Encounter Experience - March
7-8, 2026**

Fall in Love Again!

Are you ready for more growth and happiness in your marriage or priesthood?
Join us on March 7-8 at Queen of Apostles for a weekend that could change your life.

Discover the Secrets to a Lasting, Supportive, and

Transformational Marriage!

This weekend is for couples, whether you are newlyweds or have been married for decades.

It's also perfect for priests looking to deepen their relationship with their community.

Contact us NOW: Christian & Elizabeth Arroba, 416-554-4439 or 416-554-7062

christian.elizabeth.arroba@wwme.org

**Life-Giving Wounds: A
Healing Retreat for Adult
Children of Divorced or
Separated Parents**

The Life-Giving Wounds retreat invites participants to move through the broken image of love that appeared to them in their parents' relationship to their deepest origin and identity as God's beloved, capable of great love. The next retreat will

be from Friday, May 15 at 6 p.m. to Sunday, May 17 at 3:30 p.m. at St. Augustine's Seminary (2661 Kingston Rd., Scarborough). Must be 18 or older to attend. Cost: \$325 per person (\$225 for students), which includes meals, lodging and retreat material.

Limited subsidies are available if cost is a concern. Please contact lgwtoronto@proton.me.

For university/college students, contact your campus minister for more information. Space is limited. To register, visit: bit.ly/LGW-TO-Retreat-Register2026.

Sunday's Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples:

"You are the salt of the earth.

But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned?

It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world.

A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house.

Just so, your light must shine before others,

that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."

<https://mycatholic.life/>

Gospel Reflection

Flavor, Preservation, and Purity

Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot." [Matthew 5:13](#)

Sodium chloride, also known as salt, is one of the most commonly used substances in the world, used for

seasoning, preserving, and purifying. Sodium chloride is a very stable compound and cannot lose its flavor unless there is a chemical reaction or dissolution. Why, then, did Jesus suggest that salt could lose its taste? One likely explanation is that the salt used in ancient Palestine could indeed lose its flavor due to impurities and the conditions in which it was stored. The Dead Sea, located in modern-day southeast Israel, contains a massive deposit of salt and other minerals. According to biblical history, Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt in this region. Because of the vast salt and mineral deposits, the area surrounding the Dead Sea is desolate. Salt extracted from the Dead Sea was never pure sodium chloride. Gypsum and other minerals were also present, making the salt impure. If this salt were stored improperly or came into contact with water, the sodium chloride could dissolve and wash away, leaving behind the solid residue of minerals. These residual substances, like gypsum, had the appearance of salt but were tasteless and useless for flavoring, preserving, and purifying purposes. When this happened, the "salt" lost its taste. In light of this explanation, Jesus' teaching becomes especially clear.

The first notable feature of salt is its ability to add flavor to food. By calling His disciples the "salt of the earth," Jesus was instructing them to enhance the "flavor" of the world by bringing the truth of the Gospel and the joy of His message to others. A Christian life lived in fidelity to Christ would make the world a better and more virtuous place, just as salt enhances the flavor of food.

Salt is also commonly used for preservation. Before the age of refrigerators and freezers, salt was mixed with food to prevent corruption, by drawing out moisture and hindering bacteria and other microorganisms. Though this practice is still used today, it was especially vital in ancient times. By being the

"salt of the earth," Jesus was calling His disciples to preserve the world from moral decay. Through their witness and proclamation of the Gospel, they were to act as a preservative against sin and spiritual ruin. If they were to "lose their taste," they would become indistinguishable from the rest of the world and ineffective in their mission. Hence, Jesus was exhorting them—and us—to avoid becoming watered down and bland in our witness to the Gospel.

Lastly, salt held a significant role in Jewish religious practices, symbolizing purity and consecration. In sacrificial rituals, salt was used to consecrate offerings, as commanded in Leviticus: "You shall season all your grain offerings with salt. Do not let the salt of the covenant with your God be lacking from your grain offering. On every offering you shall offer salt" ([Leviticus 2:13](#)). By seasoning their offerings with salt, the Israelites preserved the sacrifices from decay, making them pure. This practice reflects the disciples' role in purifying the world through their example of holiness, their lives of self-sacrifice, and their participation in Christ's redemptive work. They were to live lives of integrity, leading others to God through the purity of their hearts and their unwavering commitment to His will.

Reflect today on this powerful metaphor of being the salt of the earth. The world desperately needs the enriching "flavor" of God's grace. Without Him, the world is left to corruption and decay. With God, we, and those we serve, are preserved as pure and holy offerings, adding to His glory and growing in holiness. Be the salt of the earth. Do not become watered down in your faith. Remain steadfast in your fidelity to Christ and His Gospel, and you will transform the world around you. In doing so, you will not only glorify God but will also share in His eternal joy.

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