

St. Leo The Great ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

KOMAN CATHOLIC CHUKCH

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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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

PARISH LENTEN POVERTY MEAL



This Friday March 27 will be your last opportunity to literally 'break bread' with fellow parishioners at our Lenten Poverty Meal from 5 - 6:15 pm. A small donation to the SVDP would be greatly appreciated.

(Please enter through the Carson Street doors.)

A big THANK YOU to our CWL for this great project.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS are held every Friday in our parish throughout Lent beginning at 6:30 pm. followed by Mass at 7 pm. Come, join in this weekly communal reflection and

prayer on the Mystery of Christ's suffering and Death.

A FIGHT TO KEEP CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CATHOLIC IN SAN FRANCISCO

(By Ryan T. Anderson and Leslie Ford March 5, 2015 (Wall street Journal)



In San Francisco, the archdiocese is under fire for teaching according to Church doctrine. San Franciscans are currently debating a simple question:

Should the government respect the right of Catholic schools to be authentically Catholic?

"San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone thinks so. But eight California senators and assemblymen sent the archbishop a letter last month, saying that his actions in issuing new faculty guidelines "foment a discriminatory environment in the communities we serve." On Feb. 23, two of the signers even asked the California Assembly Labor and Employment Committee and the Assembly Judiciary Committee to investigate the archdiocese's actions.

Here's the back story. During contract renegotiations with nearly 500 staff members last month, the archdiocese issued an updated faculty guide for its Catholic high schools. The addendum introduced three new clauses—which staff members are required to "affirm and believe"—denouncing pornography, same-sex marriage, contraception and other issues that, in line with Catholic teaching, are described as "gravely evil." These beliefs shouldn't surprise anyone familiar with the Catholic Church—the 2,000-year-old institution has clearly defined its

moral teachings throughout the years. Yet lawmakers objected, contending in <u>a Feb. 17</u> letter to the archdiocese that the new These beliefs shouldn't surprise anyone familiar with the Catholic Church—the 2,000-year-old institution has clearly defined its moral teachings throughout the years. Yet lawmakers objected, contending in <u>a Feb. 17</u> letter to the archdiocese that the new guide is "divisive." They asserted that by spelling out the teachings of the Catholic Church and requiring high-school staff to not publicly undermine those teachings, teachers could be dismissed for private decisions not in accord with Catholic teaching.

The archbishop responded, calling the idea that the clauses could apply to an employee's private life a "falsehood" in a Feb. 19 letter. Then he put a question to the lawmakers: "Would you hire a campaign manager who advocates policies contrary to those that you stand for, and who shows disrespect toward you and the Democratic Party in general?" Of course they wouldn't, and Archbishop Cordileone summed up the problem: "I respect your right to employ or not employ whomever you wish to advance your mission. I simply ask the same respect from you."

Archbishop Cordileone also explained that the mission of Catholic education is to ensure that students receive a complete education: intellectually, spiritually and morally. If teachers are to fulfill this goal, they must be consistent in what they teach in the classroom and in what they advocate in the public square.

American business and civic institutions frequently make choices to remain true to principles even when it is unfashionable or may hurt their bottom line—for example, CVS last year pulled cigarettes from shelves, calling the sale of tobacco "inconsistent with our purpose—helping people on their path to better health." This choice is even more essential for religious schools, which must be able to have teachers who support—or at least don't publicly attack—the school's beliefs. Lawmakers shouldn't be using threats of governmental investigation to control those decisions.

Yet similar coercion is taking place throughout the country. Last year, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges opened an investigation into Gordon College—a Christian school. The association gave the college a year to review its conduct standards, which ask all members of the Gordon community to live by the Christian virtue of chastity—with the implication that Gordon could be at risk of losing accreditation. Gordon is currently undergoing that internal review and says it plans to submit a report later this year.

Elsewhere, the Department of Health and Human Services' contraception mandate has created a comparable threat for Notre Dame and Wheaton College—both of which are plaintiffs in ongoing lawsuits. That mandate forces religious schools to provide and pay for coverage of abortion-inducing drugs, contraception and sterilization regardless of a school's religious objection. The law would compel these colleges either to stop offering health insurance altogether—and incur steep fines—or to violate their deeply held beliefs.

In January, Washington, D.C., Mayor Muriel Bowser signed the euphemistically titled "Human Rights Amendment Act." The bill would compel Washington's private religious schools to violate their beliefs about human sexuality by recognizing LGBT student groups or hosting a "gay pride" day on campus. The bill is currently under congressional review.

Provided private schools meet basic standards of safety and education, the government shouldn't be in the business of coercing them to conform to someone else's moral beliefs. After all, many families send their children to private schools precisely to escape government moral indoctrination. It is because of these schools' distinctive creeds that families sacrifice to afford sending their children to private religious schools. Government officials should respect the ability of such schools to witness to their faith.

This is why public policy should protect Archbishop Cordileone's decision to ensure that Catholic high schools retain an authentic Catholic identity. The revisions to the school handbook foster an equalibrium between institutional integrity and personal liberties. This freedom is exactly what allows all Americans—in whichever school they choose to attend—to live in a diverse and civil public sphere."

Mr. Anderson is the William E. Simon Fellow and Mrs. Ford a research assistant in the Heritage Foundation's DeVos Center for Religion and Civil Society.

Please keep Archbishop Cordileone in your prayers as he and so many Catholic leaders these days are on the frontlines against what St. John Paul II called a *Culture of Death*. Perhaps the greatest threat today is spiritual death when one is no longer receptive to the working and love of the Holy Spirit. (*Fr. C.*)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR 2 RCIA ELECT & 5 CANDIDATES AS EASTER APPROACHES

The two women who are to be baptized at the Easter Vigil are:

JENNIFER DE GRACE KELLY HUGHES

The five candidates who are already baptized from other Christian churches who wish to be received into Full Communion into the Catholic Church are:

CORNELIS MALAN
JACQUELINE MALAN
CORINNE MALAN
JOSEPH MC QUAT
CORINNA MC QUAT

Pray that God who is calling them may help them to know His rich blessings and continued care for their lives as they pursue the will of the Lord which has led them into life in the Catholic Church.

MASS INTENTIONS – WEEK OF MARCH 24 - 29, 2015

Tues 24 – 8:30 am – Int. Eugene McCanny

Wed 25 -7:00 pm - Int. Linda & Tim Hutton

Thurs 26 -8:30 am - Int. Michael Felix req. Madge St. Denis

Fri 27 - 6:30 pm – Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm – For the RCIA Candidates

Sat 28- 5:00 pm - Tullio Caprio+ req, Caprio Family

Sun 29 - 9:00 am – Noura & Joseph Karam+ req. Karam Family

11:00 am - Desmond Kennedy+ On behalf of

Brendan Kennedy

Children Preparing for First Holy Communion

Reminder: How to Receive Communion Training is being offered at the parish. Parents please choose one of the two dates to bring your child to this half-hour session in the church.

Tuesday March 24, 6:30 – 7:00 pm <u>or on</u> Thursday March 26, 6:30 – 7:00 pm.

5th Sunday of Lent - March 15

Unless a seed first dries out and dies, it cannot be planted in the earth to grow. Unless we die to our selfish ways, we cannot expect to be people who will "lay down their lives for their friends". If you think god is calling you to lay down your life as a priest, religious or deacon for His Church, call Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto 416-968-0997.

SHARELIFE 5th Sunday of Lent

Working wonders for children with special needs ...

We have always tried to expose our deaf children to both communities. As their parents, we have talked to them and tried to answer their questions when they saw someone using sign language and they had basic sign language books. Then one day our oldest son, Ethan, said he would like to learn sign language. We discovered Silent Voice's Sign Language Summer camp and enrolled him in the program. The following year Gavin joined his older brother and they both want to go again. We also put our name in for the Family communication program because we wanted to support our children. These opportunities increased the boys' awareness of the deaf community and also helped them gain respect for different ways of communication. They enjoyed both experiences as did we. We hope to take part in the Family program again. Last year more than 600 deaf children received support through Silent Voice's Sign Language Camps.

The Rosary Apostolate

The Rosary Apostolate in the schools is seeking volunteers, male or female, who have devotion to the Mother of God and who are willing to visit our elementary schools to pray the Rosary with the children once a month. Please contact Judy at 905-655-0227.

CWL Up-coming Parish Events

Pope Francis DVD - **On Thursday March 26** at 7:30 pm, parishioners are invited to come and get to know Pope Francis – "The Pope from the New World" through a 40 min. DVD presentation, while enjoying coffee and sweets. Please enter the parish hall by Carson Street.

Coffee Sunday, April 19 following both Sunday Masses

All parishioners are invited to come and enjoy coffee, tea, juice and sweets while getting to know our fellow church community.

Family Fun Night, Saturday April 25 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Come and join other families in the parish hall for an evening of trivia and other fun game challenges, while enjoying pizza, sweets, tea and coffee, only \$5.00 per family.

Fashion Show, Saturday May 23 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Fashions by the all Canadian Peach Tree Originals of Markham. \$15.00 per person. Tea, coffee and sweets will be served. Call Donna 905-620-0724 or Jeananne 905-579-6118 for tickets.



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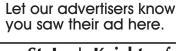
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