

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MYSTIQUE, MYSTIC or BOTH?

There are times when I am awakened in those hours between dusk and dawn as my half of the earth slumbers on in its nightly unconsciousness and all is still and dark. Sometimes it is from a restlessness of the heart when an issue or a memory from a recent interchange with another is lurking at the surface of my thinking and some sorting needs to be done. But there are other times when it is as if I wasn't really sleeping at all and even if I had been, someone had roused me with a calm and gentle awakening, calling me from my bed in that pre-dawn dimness of my room to prayer, reflection or to just 'be' in that moment. At those times when I am not worrying or troubled by something, I rather treasure these risings from sleep as personal, intimate moments within the silent presence of the Lord. It is holy, but not exactly prayer. It is a wordless realization of the fact of my existence, not in some void of space and time, but the consciousness that I exist in this space and this time, here, now, right where I am at the moment. I consider these times gifts when they are not accompanied by a strong and nagging desire within myself to get back to sleep, when they are times of placid inner peace and communion with my God.

It is often at these times when I think about my many blessings my family, close friends, this parish, priesthood, the gift of faith, good health, or the overall sense that people I have met can be so wonderful in a world where often 'wonderful' only conjures up images of Louis Armstrong's blissful view of a loving, peaceful world where everyone gets along - though I know differently. Sometimes my thoughts turn to the problems and situations of others when, as I consider my own beatitude, I am so keenly aware of the troubles they have or are experiencing and how I would love to be able to 'fix them', yet know that I can't.

I believe that it is in these moments of solitude when I am closest to the true experience of the contemplative; where the mind works and studies the stuff of existence itself and is led to the palpable presence of the veritable God of Jesus Christ.

In the hours of night when this side of the world slumbers- when I am given over to thought more than sleep, I have a vivid sense that I abide with the Lord and He with me. Yet this basking in the silent but sensed presence of the Lord, rather than bringing me an overall sense of inner peace, often is an occasion for me to give pause to my life thus lived and take stock. Most of our lives are filled with a hundred things we are supposed to pack into one day and so often the only times we slow down are when we are forced to do so, either by illness and exhaustion or by some outside incident or loss which forces us to stop and smell the roses.

I cherish these moments of contemplation and visitation when I know I am 'in tune' with the Lord's voice. (Fr. Charles)

MIRACLES IN OUR TIME

I read a newspaper article a few years ago called *Easier Miracles?* and this is what it said:

"The Bishop of Tarbes and Lourdes in France has announced a 'reform' of miracles at the Catholic shrine of Lourdes. Henceforth,

there will be new categories of 'healing' recognized that take into account advances of modern science. These will include 'unexpected healings,' 'confirmed healings' and 'exceptional healings.' Critics say Msgr. Jacques Perrier is 'devaluing' God's interventions in order to counter increasingly fierce competition in France from evangelical and Pentecostal churches, but the cleric denies this. The problem for Lourdes, says the London Observer, is that there have not been many miracles recently. A total of 67 miraculous healings have been recognized since 1858, however, there have only been four miracles since 1978-- the most recent last year when an Italian woman was said to have been healed of acute rheumatism."

This is a most interesting situation as one contemplates the movement of God. Is something lacking in the people of our time? Is God not granting miracles as He once has? Why would miracles in a place of miracles suddenly trickle where once there was a flood?

I think this is interesting because in our own parish we have witnessed wonderful healings and tremendous and outstanding answers to prayer over the last couple of years, as well as movements among our youth and a congregation that is steadily growing, yet we are anything but a shrine. God is not subject, of course, to geographical boundaries and place. God can and does move in great and wonderful ways among those who call on his name. What is most important is that we have a welcome and open spirit and attitude towards God as the center of our lives. So often we don't receive because we don't ask.

In all of the wonderful things the Lord has done among us it will always be most important that God is glorified in what has taken place and that He gets and deserves all the credit for it. If we build the forms the Lord will fill them, but we must ask and we must also thank him for the gifts we have received. If God were to touch me and wonderfully grant me something I had been asking for, he will also do it in such a way that others will know about it as well. When others know they in turn will give witness to what God has clearly done and the experience even for them will lead them to a deeper relationship with the Lord and a realization of his presence among us.

There exists an exciting fruitfulness which seems to be taking our parish, not by storm but with the softness of a gentle breeze – the breath of the Spirit. Healings, conversions, a return to the sacraments, a lively sense of community and welcome, all stand as visible gifts from God that can so easily be taken for granted. That is not to say that we are a perfect parish with every ministry and every parishioner working in perfect harmony with one another. There is always plenty more in us which needs to be subject to the power of God, things we need to improve upon within ourselves and our community.

God is doing some wonderful things in our presence and we need to be grateful to the Lord for this gracious time of visitation and power.

A BELATED 'THANK YOU' to those who decorated and set up for Easter: Magda & Matthew Nowak; Paula and Matthew Podesta; Ferma, Stephanie & Adam Collings.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL THE MOTHERS IN OUR PARISH!

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION UPDATE:

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes, Loose bills and change - \$4339

• Pre-Authorized Giving (PAP) - \$1987 (April)

→ TOTAL COLLECTION LAST WEEK: \$6326

MASS INTENTIONS

There are no daily masses from Tues., May 13 – to Fri., May 16 as Fr. Charles will be attending the Priests' Retreat.

Sat., May 17 – 5:00 pm – Sebastian Aprile+ Req. by
Maud Corallo & Family
Sun., May 18 – 9:00 am – Paul Ponce de Leon+ Req. by his family
Sun., May 18 – 11:00 am – Luigi Giardullo+ Req. by the

Congratulations and Blessings to all the children who have made their First Communion over the last three weekends.

Giardullo Family

I'm Not Being Fed - Jeff Cavins

Are there people in your life who you feel are slipping away or have fallen away from the Catholic faith? Maybe they have expressed themselves by saving, "I'm not getting anything out of it!" "It's boring and irrelevant!" "The Church is behind the times!" Why are these people "not being fed"? The answer is simple: a misunderstanding of the Mass and of The Holy Eucharist In his talk, Cavins explores the reasons why many Catholics do not seem to understand and appreciate the Holy Eucharist and have followed other "tracks" to look for spiritual nourishment. Focusing on the clear biblical evidence for the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, Cavins points out that it is impossible to read the sixth chapter of John's Gospel literally without recognizing that the Eucharist is more than just a "symbol" or "metaphor" of God's love. Rather, it is the very heart of Christianity, the only food that truly satisfies our souls. What we need to ask ourselves and answer are these two questions...Who is ultimately responsible for feeding me? And What will I eat? Francesco Bianco

St. Leo Knights of Columbus will be distributing Roses for Life before and after all Masses on Mother's Day this weekend. All donations are given to Rose of Durham, who supports young Mothers, and your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Fourth Sunday of Easter – May 11, 2014 – World Day of Prayer for Vocations

The Good Shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them. Is He asking you to help others to find Him? Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life, especially for our archdiocese, that God will raise up good shepherds in our midst. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Hansoo Park – 416-968-0997 email vocations@vocations.ca.

CATECHIST CORNER

Is it Cardinal Thomas Collins or Thomas Cardinal Collins?

Answer: Thomas Cardinal Collins

A good way to remember it is to understand that the word *cardinal* means *hinge*, like that found on a door. A Cardinal in the Catholic Church then is a hinge on which many key functions operate. Without their service, the door and the Church do not operate as smoothly. This idea is also represented in the placement of the title cardinal within the Bishop's name. The first and last name of the Bishop swing on the hinge found between them.

Fourth Sunday of Easter – May 11, 2014 Working wonders is our livelihoods...

Men who have responded to God's call to dedicate their lives to His service come from all walks of life. Those who enter the priesthood come from different ages and backgrounds, economic situations, skill sets, and ethnic communities. At ShareLife-funded agencies such as Serra House, Redemptoris Mater, and St. Augustine's Seminary, they undergo extensive theological education and practical field training. Through ShareLife, you are helping sustain the vocations for priesthood and inspire discernment for God's call. Last year ShareLife helped support over 70 priests and seminarians in their formation studies.

Next ShareLife Sunday – June 1, 2014
Please give generously. You can work wonders!

Totus Tuus is coming!

The children and youth of the parish are invited to join us for Totus Tuus (Latin for Totally Yours) this summer from July 20th to July 25th. Totus Tuus is an Archdiocesan program whereby seminarians and college students travel to different parishes, spreading the Good News of our Lord through catechetical instruction, Mass, confession, songs and games! The grade school program, for children entering grades 1-6, runs Monday-Friday from 9 am - 2:30 pm. The Intermediate/High School program for grades 7-12 runs Sunday-Thursday from 7 pm - 9 pm. The cost is only \$50 per person for the entire week. To register or for more information, please contact Carly Thistel (Totus Tuus Co-ordinator) at carlythistel@gmail.com

More information about the program is also available at www.totustuustoronto.ca

Do not be sad and alone any longer. We can help. Call 416-629-8264 or email projrachelinfo@gmail.com. A weekend retreat for women whose hearts have been broken by abortion: June 6-8, 2014. Project Rachel – Private and Confidential. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (John 10:10)

Crohn's and Colitis are lifelong diseases that can have a devastating impact on one's quality of life and life expectancy. 'GUTSY WALK' – Crohn's and Colitis Canada is organizing fundraising walks in many locations across Canada. There is a local 5 km walk on **Sunday**, **June 8** at Heyden Park, at the foot of Water Street in Whitby.

If you are interested in participating or able to support this event with a monetary donation of any amount, please go to the website www.gutsywalk.ca Team Huppe or call Karen Martin 905-655-4945 or Cathy or Don Huppe 905-655-9140. Your prayers for a cure would be most welcome.

Please remember in your prayers the following men who will be ordained on Saturday, May 10th: Rev. Mr. Scott Birchall, Rev. Mr. Neiman D'Souza, Rev. Mr. Michael Simoes, Rev. Mr. Omar Alejandro Daza Hernandez and Rev. Mr. Marijan Sisko.



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