

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.

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Time To Admit It: The Church Has Always Been Right On Birth Control

Someone sent me the following article which is from – of all places – a business magazine. The *Business Insider* article which appeared online on February 8, 2012, written by Michael Brendan Dougherty and Pascal-Emmanuel Gobry addresses the Catholic Church as being right about its totally unpopular and mostly ignored teaching on contraception. You never know where you'll find the truth. Written with a more secular tongue this article (I think) hits the nail on the head and should prove to be good fodder to foster interesting conversations (when people aren't talking about the Sunday Homily. *Fr. Charles*

Painting the Catholic Church as "out of touch" is like shooting fish in a barrel, what with the funny hats and gilded churches. And nothing makes it easier than the Church's stance against contraception.

Many people, (including our editor) are wondering why the Catholic Church doesn't just ditch this requirement. They note that most Catholics ignore it, and that most everyone else finds it divisive, or "out-dated." C'mon! It's the 21st century, they say! Don't they SEE that it's STUPID, they scream.

Here's the thing, though: the Catholic Church is the world's biggest and oldest organization. It has buried all of the greatest empires known to man, from the Romans to the Soviets. It has establishments literally all over the world, touching every area of human endeavor. It's given us some of the world's greatest thinkers, from Saint Augustine on down to René Girard. When it does things, it usually has a good reason. Everyone has a right to disagree, but it's not that they're a bunch of crazy old white dudes who are stuck in the Middle Ages.

So, what's going on?

The Church teaches that love, marriage, sex, and procreation are all things that belong together. That's it. But it's pretty important. And though the Church has been teaching this <u>for 2,000 years</u>, it's probably never been as salient as today.

Today's injunctions against birth control were re-affirmed in a 1968 document by Pope Paul VI called Humanae Vitae.

He warned of four results if the widespread use of contraceptives was accepted:

- 1. General lowering of moral standards
- 2. A rise in infidelity, and illegitimacy
- 3. The reduction of women to objects used to satisfy men.
- 4. Government coercion in reproductive matters.

Does that sound familiar?

Because it sure sounds like what's been happening for the past 40 years. As George Akerloff wrote in Slate over a decade ago, By making the birth of the child the *physical* choice of the mother, the sexual revolution has made marriage and child support a *social* choice of the father.

Instead of two parents being responsible for the children they conceive, an expectation that was held up by social norms and by the law, we now take it for granted that neither parent is necessarily responsible for their children. Men are now considered to be fulfilling their duties merely by paying court-

ordered child-support. That's a pretty dramatic lowering of standards for "fatherhood."

How else are we doing since this great sexual revolution? Kim Kardashian's marriage lasted 72 days. Illegitimacy: way up. In 1960, 5.3% of all births in America were to unmarried women. By 2010, it was 40.8% [PDF]. In 1960 married families made up almost three-quarters of all households; but by the census of 2010 they accounted for just 48 percent of them. Cohabitation has increased tenfold since 1960.

And if you don't think women are being reduced to objects to satisfy men, welcome to the internet, how long have you been here? Government coercion: just look to China (or America, where a government rule on contraception coverage is the reason why we're talking about this right now).

Is this all due to the Pill? Of course not. But the idea that widely-available contraception hasn't led to <u>dramatic societal change</u>, or that this change has been exclusively to the good, is a much sillier notion than anything the Catholic Church teaches.

So is the notion that it's just OBVIOUSLY SILLY to get your moral cues from a venerable faith (as opposed to what? Britney Spears?).

But let's turn to another aspect of this. The reason our editor thinks Catholics *shouldn't* be fruitful and multiply doesn't hold up, either. The world's population, he writes, is on an "unsustainable" growth path.

The Population Bureau of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations sees (PDF, h/t Pax Dickinson) the rate of population growth slowing over the next decades and stabilizing around 9 billion in 2050...and holding there until 2300. (And note that the UN, which promotes birth control and abortions around the world, isn't exactly in the be-fruitful-and-multiply camp.)

More broadly, the Malthusian view of population growth has been resilient despite having been proven wrong time and time again and causing lots of unnecessary human suffering. For example, China is headed for a <u>demographic crunch</u> and <u>social dislocation</u> due to its misguided one-child policy.

Human progress is people. Everything that makes life better, from democracy to the economy to the internet to penicillin was either discovered and built by people. More people means more progress. The inventor of the cure for cancer might be someone's fourth child that they decided not to have.

So, just to sum up:

It's a good idea for people to be fruitful and multiply; and Regardless of how you feel about the Church's stance on birth control, it's proven pretty prophetic.

MARK THE DATE! BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

The world renowned **St. Michael's Choir School** is coming to our parish once again to perform their **Christmas Concert** right here in Brooklin at St. Leo the Great Church. Get your tickets now!

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2014 at 7:00 pm. Adults - \$25. Children Gr. 1-8 - \$5.

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION UPDATE:

- WEEKLY COST OF RUNNING OUR PARISH \$6755

 LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION
- Envelopes, Loose bills and change \$4134
- Pre-Authorized Giving (PAP) \$1929 (October)

→ TOTAL COLLECTION LAST WEEK: \$6063 → Deficit in last week's collection: \$692

MASS INTENTIONS

Tues., Nov. 5 – 8:30 am – Mass

Wed., Nov. 6 - 7:00 pm – For all deceased members of St. Leo's Knights of Columbus

Thurs., Nov. 7 - 8:30 am - Mass

Fri., Nov. 8 – 8:30 am – Mass

Sat., Nov. 9 – 5:00 pm – For the intentions of the Tamburro Family Reg. by Iolanda Tamburro

Sun., Nov. 10 – 9:00 am – Mario Capizzano+ Req. by the Sgroi Family

Sun., Nov. 11–11:00 am – Imelda Cote+ Req. by Lorraine Ebata

St. Michael's Choir School Christmas Concert to be held in our parish on: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29 AT 7:00 P.M. Tickets available after all weekend masses. Adults - \$25 and children (Gr. 2 to Gr. 8) \$5.00.

Ladies of the Parish – The St. Leo CWL would like to invite you to attend our meeting on Sunday, Dec. 1 following 11 am Mass.

IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE

The Book of Remembrance, in which parishioners can record the names of their deceased family members, is on the lectern (on the right-side of the altar) in front of the statue of Mary. You may enter the names of those you wish remembered. During the month of November all the Holy Souls will be remembered at all the masses.

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).

- **St. Vincent de Paul Conference** of St. Leo the Great Parish is seeking members who are interested in serving the needs of the poor. Please call Tony 905 655-2933 or Donna 905-620-0724 for more info.
- **St. Mary of the People Catholic Women's League** will be hosting their annual "Tree Lights Bazaar" on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm in the Parish Hall at 532 Stevenson Rd. N., Oshawa. Events featured will be Baking, Penny Sale, Flea Market & Tea Room.

CATECHIST CORNER

Why do Christians wear crosses around their necks?

Answer: Because Jesus also wore a cross.

The cross was the Roman torture reserved for those who went against Roman rule. And although Jesus did not pick a fight with the Roman Empire, he did pick a fight with the culture and thought of the time. Christians call Jesus Lord. And by doing so they challenge the current culture about what is true and good, beautiful and life's ultimate purpose. They wear crosses on their necks because they know that the way they speak and live could send them to their own Calvary. Do you believe that Jesus is Lord? Then say it, live it and show the world the sign that saves them.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land - February 4 – 13th, 2014 Contact Patrick Sullivan for more information - 905-655-3286 ext. 103 - Patrick.sullivan@utoronto.ca

EDGE NIGHT

Last week started out with a bang as we had yet another EDGE night! It was great to see so many familiar faces and to see quite a few new ones as well. We had a lot of fun with our judgment theme and it was awesome to see many kids start to understand it's importance to Christ. We played team games, told some stories and to end off the night we prayed as a group for ourselves, others and people in need.

Our next EDGE night will be on Tuesday, November 12th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. We hope to see everyone again and that everyone brings a friend with them so that they can experience this wonderful opportunity as well! It's a terrific way to make new friends and learn about Christ in a new and exciting way!

Kassia, EDGE CORE TEAM LEADER

VENDOR'S FAIR

The Vendor's Fair will be held on Saturday, Nov. 9th from 9 am 3 pm in the Parish Hall. Christmas Shopping Made Easy.

A big thank you to all St. Leo Parishioners and friends who were able to support this year's **BAZAAR**. Whether you bought or sold raffle tickets, donated or bought books, candy, crafts, home baking, preserves, games, toys, plants, classy collectables, Christmas items, gourmet basket items, penny social items, bought breakfast and/or lunch, your participation was greatly appreciated. Thank you to all the hard working bazaar volunteers who spent many, many hours preparing for/and cleaning up after the event. The lucky winners of the raffle were: 1st prize Bill and Barb Howe, 2nd prize Craig Bushell, 3rd prize Barb Martinez. Our Net Profit for the day was \$9,934.17, which is approximately \$1,000.00 up from last year. Good work all. It's always good to see so many people working together and enjoying each other's company. We hope everyone had a good time.



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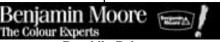
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