

St. Leo The Great ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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www.stleothegreat.ca • e-mail: office@stleothegreat.ca

Pastor: Father Mounir El-Rassi

Parish Secretary: Magda Nowak 905-655-3286 ext. 1001

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday & Thursday 8 am to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday & Friday by appointment only.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 8:30 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Friday 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (followed by 8:30 a.m. Mass)

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday 4:30 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 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 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 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 *Hospital Chaplain* is present in the hospital (or when he will be). If the Hospital Chaplain 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. Mounir 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. Mounir, please call the parish office and leave a message with the parish secretary at 905-655-3286 ext. 1001.





Saturday, September 18th

4:30 p.m. † Wanda Danielewski

Sunday, September 19th

9:00 a.m. † Fred Molica

11:00 a.m. + Anka & Sam Babic

Tuesday, September 21st

8:30 a.m. † Stephen Jakabfy *Wednesday, September 22*nd

8:30 a.m. For the people of the parish

Thursday, September 23rd

8:30 a.m. † Armenio Medeiros and all souls in

Purgatory

Friday, September 24th

8:30 a.m. † Innocenzo Mammone

Saturday, September 25th

4:30 p.m. † Lionel Bourgeois

Sunday, September 26th

9:00 a.m. † Armenio Medeiros

11:00 a.m. † Maria, Tullio, Tony Caprio

Last Sunday reflection:

St. James tells us today, faith without works is dead. Jesus also tells us in the gospel we need to have a living faith. It is a faith that is active, otherwise such faith amounts to nothing.

St. Faustina is considered the saint for our times, she has lots to say about a living faith. The Lord gave her three Ways to exercise faith and show mercy. "You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse or absolve from it... By these means a soul glorifies and pays reverence to my mercy. It is to be a reminder of the demands of My mercy. Even the strongest faith is of no benefit without works." (Diary, 742).

The 1st degree: are such as deeds, acts, and works of charity - service and kindness towards others. The 2nd degree is by words or counsel or faith sharing. The 3rd way is prayer.

Jesus said this to St. Faustina about prayer, "The prayer of a humble and loving soul disarms the anger of God. Prayer draws down an ocean of blessings upon others and the world..." The Lord

recommended to her (us) meditations on his passion. He said to her, "this brings him great joy." "In prayer we confide all things to God, our joys, fears, and petitions. It is speaking to God about everything in a completely simple and human way; Jesus understands us because He is God-Man. This simple language of our heart is more pleasing to Him than hymns. The simpler our speech is, the more we attract the Lord to us... even the smallest details."

Jesus treasures and values our love and our friendship greatly. "He said to her, to love God is to dialogue with him, One act of pure love pleases me more than a 1000 imperfect prayers. One of your sighs of love atones for many offenses. And the smallest act of virtue has unlimited value to God because of our love for him." (Diary on love) With these three: deeds, words, and prayer, we are made pleasing to God. There is one more higher way above all else, it is loving God and our neighbor, with these two we will fly with eagle wings to the throne of God each time we act. Amen.

<u>This Sunday Sep. 19, 2021:</u> "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me." MK. 9.37

New coming proposed initiatives in our parish:

- 1. <u>Prayer Group:</u> Divine Mercy Chaplet, passage from the diary of St. Faustina, passage from the New Testament, and short sharing around the table. Then an act of Consecration to God through Mary.
- 2. <u>Scripture Study series:</u> Watching a DVD, then discussion and a small prayer.Both of these initiatives will have <u>optional</u> preparation time but not required.
- 3. Rosary Of our Lady Prayer group.

These three initiatives above will be offered both virtual and face to face simultaneously. If you are interested in being a coordinator, or you just want to attend please send the office a note or an email about your particular interest. The pastor will be

involved and present to these initiatives. Time of the sessions will be in the evening time - TBD.

FR. MOUNIR EL-RASSI

Our Lady of Sorrows

For a while there were two feasts in honor of the Sorrowful Mother: one going back to the 15th century, the other to the 17th century. For a while both were celebrated by the universal Church: one on the Friday before Palm Sunday, the other in September.

The principal biblical references to Mary's sorrows are in Luke 2:35 and John 19:26-27. The Lucan passage is Simeon's prediction about a sword piercing Mary's soul; the Johannine passage relates Jesus' words from the cross to Mary and to the beloved disciple.

Many early Church writers interpret the sword as Mary's sorrows, especially as she saw Jesus die on the cross. Thus, the two passages are brought together as prediction and fulfillment.

Saint Ambrose in particular sees Mary as a sorrowful yet powerful figure at the cross. Mary stood fearlessly at the cross while others fled. Mary looked on her Son's wounds with pity, but saw in them the salvation of the world. As Jesus hung on the cross, Mary did not fear to be killed, but offered herself to her persecutors.

Rosary Coast to Coast Canada 2021

Please join the world in prayer, for world peace, by praying the **Rosary Coast to Coast on October 10, 2021 (Sunday), at 3 p.m. EDT**. This is how you can get involved: Become a prayer captain by organizing an event in your parish or neighborhood or light a candle and pray the Rosary at home, organize a prayer cenacle at 3 p.m. EDT, united with the rest of the world. If you are interested in becoming a prayer captain for your church or school and/or neighborhood, please visit us online at www.rosarycoasttocoast.ca for information on how to sign up on our website. Your event will be added to the list of Canadian events for others to join.

OCTOBER 3, 2021 at 2:00 pm Meet at corner of Dundas & Thickson

The fist Sunday in October is Life Chain Sunday, It is a time to stand in peaceful, prayerful public witness alongside other local believers.

This is a family-friendly event appropriate for people of all ages and backgrounds.

The Story of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Savior's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head: Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on."

To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, 15 years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER

MONDAY – FRIDAY

9:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm



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