

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: 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.

Five minutes devotions before Mass: This past week the devotion of Our Perpetual Help Prayer has started. It is recited before the Wednesday evening Mass (7pm).

Also, a devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is recited before Mass every Friday (8:30am). You will find the prayer cards for these devotions at the back of the church for your use.

Wednesday 7:35pm Prayer Cenacle:

Spiritually satiate your appetite for prayer and meditation after the Wednesday evening Mass (7pm). It is the "Divine Mercy, Lectio Divina" Prayer Cenacle led by fr. Mounir. It starts with the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a reading from the diary of St. Faustina, and free sharing of your thoughts around the table on the reading; this is followed by the reading of the coming Sunday gospel and a sharing on it amongst the group members. We close with a prayer of conseration (1 hour total time). There is no registration for this prayer group. Everyone is invited and is welcome to join the Prayer Cenacle. This meeting takes place at our parish hall right after the Wednesday evening Mass.

9 Ways to Celebrate the Month of Mary

Many things can be said about Catholics, but it can never be said that we don't honor our Mother! In addition to the myriad feast days honoring Our Lady in her many titles and virtues, the entire month of May is especially given to her praise. May, when the earth blooms in springtime beauty, is an ideal time for our thoughts and sentiments to be directed towards this supremely lovely Queen of Heaven and Earth, who busily labors from her heavenly throne to conquer hearts, minds, and souls for the greater glory of her Son. In the words of Pope Paul VI, May is "a month which the piety of the faithful has long dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God." So, how can you honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in a special way this month, and allow her to conquer your own heart? Here are nine ideas.

1. Flower Your Mary Statue

May crownings are one of the most popular ways to celebrate the month of Mary. Make a crown of flowers for your Mary statue and adorn your indoor and outdoor Mary statues with fresh blooming flowers this month. Add a candle too for an extra touch. If you don't have a Mary statue, now would be a good time to get one. Even if it's just a small statue for your desk or nightstand, no Catholic should be without it!

2. Pray a Novena to Our Lady

Sometime during the month of May, pray a novena to the Blessed Mother for a particular intention that you want to entrust to her Immaculate Heart, for yourself or for someone else.

3. Spread Devotion to the Rosary

Outside of the Mass, there is no prayer more pleasing to Our Lady and more efficacious for her intercession than the Holy rosary. If you don't already have the spiritual discipline, make an effort to pray the rosary daily.

If you already do this, consider encouraging others to do the same throughout this month. Get inspired by reading **Our Lady's fifteen promises to those who pray her rosary** and hand out rosaries with Rosary instructions to others as the opportunity arises. There are many graces to be gained for those who preach the power of the holy rosary!

4. Learn About a New Marian Devotion

Our Lady is the Mother of the Universal Church. There are many ways she has affected Christians in various times and places during these nearly 2,000 years since she walked the earth. It is fascinating to read the stories behind each one, and many are associated with miracles, apparitions, saints, and holy images. Will one of them touch you in a special way? This month consider researching and adopting a special devotion to Mary under one of her many titles. For example, Our Lady of Fatima (whose feast is May 13th), Our Lady of Sorrows, Our Lady Undoer of Knots, Our Lady of Guadalupe, or Our Lady of Perpetual Help. This could be come an annual tradition for you and your family to learn about a new Marian devotion each May. There are more of them than years in your life! Our Lady of Perpetual Help

5. Share the Miraculous Medal

When Our Lady appeared to St. Catherine Laboure and gave her the vision of the Miraculous Medal in 1830, she promised great graces to those who would wear the medal. It was called "Miraculous" by the faithful for good reason, as it became the means of conversion for even the most hardened of atheists to the truth of the Catholic faith. Mary changes lives through the power of her sacramentals!

6. Memorize a Marian Prayer or Hymn

You may already know the *Memorare* and the *Hail Holy Queen* by heart, and this month you can add more Marian hymns and prayers into your mental index. These prayers and hymns become a great solace during trying moments and can be recited often. You can memorize this beautiful Prayer of Praise to Our Lady composed by St. Ephraim, or learn to sing traditional Marian hymns such as the *Regina Caeli* and the *Salve Regina* (the Hail Holy Queen in Latin). The below video is an excellent guide to learning to sing the *Salve Regina* for those who didn't grow up knowing it. It is an incredibly beautiful melody, and supernaturally consoling. Then you can sing this prayer after finishing your rosary instead of reciting it; and, as St. Augustine says, "He who sings prays twice."

7. Get Invested in the Scapular

If you haven't been invested in the scapular, Mary's month is a good time to do it. A scapular is basically a mini religious habit for the laity, an outward symbol of your consecration to the Blessed Mother, that you wear daily underneath your clothes. The original and most common scapular is the Brown

Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel which has special prayers and graces associated with it, namely the famous “Scapular Promise” that those who die wearing Our Lady’s scapular will not spend eternity in hell. Most scapulars come with the proper prayer for investment (or enrollment) that the priest prays for you while blessing the scapular; if not, you can find it at the link immediately above.

8. Read a Book About Mary

The best way to increase your devotion to the Blessed Mother is simply by reading more about her. There is no shortage of great Catholic books on Mary that unpack the mysteries of her life, virtues, and perfect union with her son, Jesus, and the treasures of grace this unfolds in the life of every Christian who turns to her in faith. Make a goal to read one this month.

9. Pray the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary is like the Divine Office (Liturgy of the Hours) in that it is comprised of prayers said at various hours throughout the day, but different in that they are all in praise of Our Lady. Once upon a time in Church history the Little Office was the preferred way to pray the Hours for the laity.

How Will You Celebrate the Month of May?

Pope Paul VI wrote a beautiful encyclical on the Month of May in which he describes how the faithful reserve this month to honor Mary in a special way: *“For this is the month during which Christians, in their churches and their homes, offer the Virgin Mother more fervent and loving acts of homage and veneration; and it is the month in which a greater abundance of God’s merciful gifts comes down to us from our Mother’s throne.”* Pope Paul VI goes on to say that May is an opportune time to let our petitions fly to Our Lady—especially for the needs of the Church and the whole human race—that most urgently require our Blessed Mother’s intercession. . .
By Gretchen Filz, O.P.



The most important person on earth is a mother. She cannot claim the honour of having built Notre Dame Cathedral. She need not. She has built something more magnificent than any cathedral—a dwelling for an immortal soul, the tiny perfection of her baby’s body. The angels have not been blessed with such a grace. They cannot share in God’s creative miracle to bring new saints to Heaven. Only a human mother can. Mothers are closer to God the Creator than any other creature; God joins forces with mothers in performing this act of creation. . . What on God’s good earth is more glorious than this; to be a mother? Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty

Join us for our next meeting on Wednesday May 20th at 8pm in the Youth Room. Email: annalisa@catholicmomsgroup.com or shannon@catholicmomsgroup.com to stay in touch.



Saturday, May 7th

8:30 a.m. † Evelyn Mullaney
 4:30 p.m. † Vince Corvinelli

Sunday, May 8th

9:00 a.m. † Sadie Hallihan
 11:00 a.m. † Tomasina & Francesco Parente

Tuesday, May 10th

8:30 a.m. † Edna, Andrew & Michael Higgins

Wednesday, May 11th

7:00 p.m. Intentions of Ema & Cristian Gitej
 † Mary & James Gallagher

Thursday, May 12th

8:30 a.m. Deceased family members of Benedetto Tuzi

Friday, May 13th

8:30 a.m. Intentions of the Johnson Family
 Intentions of Juanita Simmons & family

Saturday, May 14th

4:30 p.m. † Antonio Tamburro

Sunday, May 15th

9:00 a.m. † Faye Dezan
 11:00 a.m. † Fr. Oliver Maloney & Fr. Phil Jones



**Welcome Home BBQ
 One Parish Many Groups.**

We are so glad to welcome back all our parishioners and a little sense of normal. Join us Sunday June 5th 12:30 for what we hope is our first of many parish community events. Tickets on Sale after all Masses May 21/22 & 28/29 Weekend \$5.00 each or Family \$15.00

Children Liturgy

We would like to resume Children Liturgy after at least one of the Sunday Masses. Please speak to Fr. Mounir, if you would like to volunteer and help with this ministry.

Save the Date - Thursday May 12 at 7pm

St. Leo’s church hall (enter through the office door)
 For ALL Parishioners, families, neighbours and friends. Regardless of age, this informative session requires your attendance. John Gallop, a Field Agent with the Mullin Agency, will be presenting on the timely topic of Extended Care: What is it; What is the process when needed; Should we rely on family; Why we shouldn’t rely on family; What is expected from the government; What is needed to prepare; Is it too early (or too late) to look at the options? With over 75% us needing Extended Care at some point in our lives, this seminar will help guide you and your family through the maze, and make sure it doesn’t ruin you financially. A presentation for everyone, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus St. Leo Council. Invite everyone you know.




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