

St. Leo The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

130 Watford Street, Brooklin, ON L1M 1H2

905.655.3286

www.stleothegreat.ca

e-mail: officeatstleothegreat@gmail.com

Pastor: Father Mounir El- Rassi

Parish Secretary: Gianella Lazaro 905-655-3286 ext. 1

Office Hours

Monday: closed
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am- 3:00 pm
Sunday: closed
Lunch break: 12 noon- 1:00 pm

Daily Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 8:30 am
Wednesday: 7:00 pm
First Saturday: 8:30 am

Church Doors During the Day Open

Check our parish website or parish doors for the schedule.

Benediction and Adoration of the Eucharist

Friday: 9:00 am to 10:00 am

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30 pm - Youth mass
Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am - with Children's Liturgy

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday: 9:15 am - 9:45 am
Saturday: 3:45 pm - 4:15 pm

Sacrament of Baptism

Please download the Baptism Information form from parish website and follow the instructions.

Sacrament of Marriage

The Archdiocese of Toronto requires that you contact your parish priest at least one year in advance. 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.

Altar Servers' Ministry

Altar servers/Children serve the mass they attend. Arrive at 15 minutes before your mass if possible. Please register the children for this ministry at the welcome desk.

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight: Larry Hallihan
lgba2008@yahoo.ca

Saint Vincent de Paul

President: Maureen Kerr
maureen.kerr100@gmail.com
905-655-3286 ext 3

Catholic Women's League (CWL)

President: Donna Shaddick
dmshaddick@gmail.com

Catholic Moms Group

Leaders: Lindsay & Shannon
stleosmg@catholicmomsgroup.com

Federation of North American Explorers (FNE)

Founder: Paul Ritchi
paul.ritchi@gmail.com
416-435-6593

Prayer Group: Divine Mercy Lectio Divina

Wednesdays at 7:30 pm in the lounge.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Please contact the parish office to register for 2023/2024. The program runs from September to April on a weekly basis.

Local Hospitals & Emergency Pastoral Visits

There is a full-time Catholic priest assigned to these three hospitals at various times of the week: Oshawa, Whitby and Port Perry. Simply ask hospital staff to inquire as to whether Hospital Chaplain is present in the hospital or when he will be. If there is an emergency, please call St. Leo the Great Parish at 905-655-3286, ext.8



Saturday, December 16th

4:30 p.m. † Luis Raposo

Sunday, December 17th

9:00 a.m. Pro populo

11:00 a.m. † Maria & † Attilio Bianco

Tuesday, December 19th

8:30 a.m. † Innocenzo & † Angela

† Giuseppe & † Maria (Mammone)

Wednesday, December 20th

7:00 p.m. Living Intentions for wedding anniversary

Of Jeevan & Analisa Aranha

† Lorna George

Thursday, December 21st

8:30 a.m. † Innocenzo & † Vincenzina (Mammone)

† Attilio & † Maria (Tuzi)

Friday, December 22nd

8:30 a.m. † Jose Matallana & † Cecilia Miranda

Living Intentions for Maria & Joseph Karam

Living Intentions for Maria, Joseph & Giselle

Saturday, December 23rd

4:30 p.m. Intentions for Anita Delmedico

† Higgins & † Barker

Deceased Family Members`

Sunday, December 24th

9:00 a.m. Pro populo

11:00 a.m. † Fawzi Eissa

4:30 p.m. Pro populo

8:00 p.m. Pro populo

For: Sanctuary Light Request.

For: Vigil Light for Mary.

For: Visiting Statue of Blessed Virgin Mary.

For a visit by the parish priest. Father is available on Monday, Friday and Saturday afternoon and evening.

Make your request at the office.

On this week @ St. Leo's Bulletin

- This is our 3rd Sunday of Advent
- Saint Teresa of Ávila: The Our Father

Link to our archdiocesan church second website:

<https://stleothegreatbr.archtoronto.org>

This is our 3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17th

"Rejoice: The Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated Veni ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

December 17 marks the beginning of the O Antiphons, the seven jewels of our liturgy, dating back to the fourth century, one for each day until Christmas Eve. These antiphons address Christ with seven magnificent Messianic titles, based on the Old Testament prophecies and types of Christs. The Church in these following Golden Nights travels through the centuries recalling the longing for the Redeemer. Today begins with O Wisdom (O Sapientia).

Christ Even Now on the Way to Bethlehem Evidently, in the mind of holy Church, neither the prophecy concerning Bethlehem Ephrata nor its fulfillment in the day of Caesar Augustus is to be considered merely a glorious divine disposition and achievement. No, the prophecy of Micheus is still being verified every day, but predominantly during the annual Advent season; for the selfsame incarnate eternal Son of God who journeyed to Bethlehem to be born there physically, now to the end of time comes to human souls as to spiritual Bethlehem's, there to be born anew, again and again.

But be sure to picture these merciful spiritual journeyings of Christ to the Bethlehem of souls as all too often sadly realistic spiritual repetitions of His first long journey over the rugged road from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Meditate long on the wanton and malicious opposition He encounters on His way to them from souls that leave their senses and heart and mind to be ruled by earthly vanities, and their whole selves to be willing victims of the sensual and selfish illusions and witcheries of the seven capital vices.

Can you still fail to see why Isaias and the Baptist compare the hardships of the way of the world's Messiah-King to souls with a rough, crooked, and almost impassable road up steep hills and down precipitous valleys and through dangerous mountain passes? Do you

wonder that these prophets of His coming insist so strongly that merely sentimental longings and routine prayers, however multiplied, cannot prepare us worthily for the entrance He must expect and the welcome He craves?

Pray very honestly, therefore, that you may begin to see the practical reasons for the Church's crying out in the desert world, and even into your own interior soul and heart:

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord: Make straight in the wilderness His paths; Every valley shall be exalted; Every mountain and hill shall be made low; And the crooked shall be made straight; And the rough ways plain" (Is. 40:3, 4). Then shall you see the salvation of God!

Excerpted from *Our Way to the father* by Rev. Leo M. Krenz, S.J.

Taken from: <https://www.catholicculture.org/>

Saint Teresa of Ávila: The Our Father

"As we repeat the Our Father so many times ...

let us delight in it." -- Saint Teresa of Ávila

OUR FATHER: What son is there in the world who would not try to learn who his father was if he had one as good and of as great majesty and dominion, as ours?

Were God not all this, it would not surprise me if we had no desire to be known as His children; for the world is such that, if the father is of lower rank than his son, the son feels no honour in recognizing him as his father.

Being our Father, God must bear with us however great our offences. If we return to Him, He must pardon us, must comfort us in our trials, and must sustain us, as such a Father is bound to do, for He must needs be better than any earthly father.

We must talk to Him very humbly as we should to our father, ask Him for things as we should ask a father, tell Him our troubles, beg Him to put them right, and yet realize that we are not worthy to be called His children.

WHO ART IN HEAVEN: Do you suppose it matters little what Heaven is and where you must seek your most holy Father?

Wherever God is, there is Heaven ... and GOD IS WITHIN US. Remember how important it is to understand this truth – that the Lord is within us. I assure you that for minds which wander it is of great importance not only to have a right belief about this but to try to learn it by experience ... I knew perfectly well that I had a soul, but I did not understand then, as I do now, how this great King really dwells within this little palace of my soul, I should not have left Him alone so often. How wonderful it is that He whose greatness could fill a

thousand worlds, and very much more, should confine Himself within so small a space, just as He was pleased to dwell within the womb of His most holy Mother.

HALLOWED BE THY NAME: Realize that you are doing much more by occasionally repeating a single petition of the Our Father than by repeating the whole of it many times in a hurry and not thinking what you are saying. He to Whom you are praying is very near you and will not fail to hear you; and you may be sure that you are truly praising Him and hallowing His name ...

THY KINGDOM COME: Let us understand this thing that we are asking for, and how important it is that we should pray for it without ceasing and do all we can to please Him Who will give it to us.

We, exiles, are making a sea-voyage and are still on the journey. But there are times when we are wearied with travelling and the Lord grants our faculties tranquillity and our soul quiet. The body experiences the greatest delight, and the soul is conscious of a deep satisfaction.

Persons in this state will spend a whole hour on a single repetition of Our Father ... They are close to God ...

They are in the palace, near to the King, and they see that He is already beginning to give them His Kingdom on earth. It looks as though I were saying that we must be angels to make this petition – ‘Thy Kingdom come.’ This would indeed be our Divine master’s wish, since He bids us make so sublime a petition. You must be quite sure that he never tells us to ask for impossibilities, so it must be possible, with God’s help, for a soul living in this state of exile to reach such a point ...

THY WILL BE DONE: Thy Will be done – Do people say this because everyone else says it and not because they want it to be done? That would not be right. The more we show Him by our actions that the words we use to Him are not word of mere politeness, the more and more does Our Lord draw us to Himself and raise us above all petty earthly things.

They Will be done - that is, may the Lord fulfil His Will in me, in every way and manner which Thou, my Lord, desirest. If Thou wilt do this by means of trials, give me strength, and let them come ... The Lord knows what each of us can bear ... When He sees a soul who loves Him greatly, He knows that soul can suffer much for Him...

Dispose of me as of that which is Thine own, in accordance with Thy Will – What power this prayer has. If it be made with due resolution, it cannot fail to draw the Almighty to become one with our lowliness ...

Words on the Lord’s Prayer from:

‘The Way of Perfection’ by Saint Teresa of Ávila

Taken from: <https://thecarmelitelibrary.blogspot.com/>




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