



# 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:** Sandy Yatabe 905-655-3286 ext. 1

### Office Hours (Summer Schedule)

Monday, Saturday & Sunday: closed

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 - 4:00 pm

### Daily Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 8:30 am

Wednesday: 7:00 pm

First Saturday: 8:30 am

### Benediction and Adoration

Friday: 9:00 am to 10:00 am

### Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am - with Children's Liturgy

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday: 9:15 am - 9:45 am

Saturday: 9:00 am - 9:30 am

### Ave Rosarium Cenacle Prayer Group

Every Wednesday at 7:30pm. All are welcome.

Contact: francavasco1@gmail.com

### Sacrament of Baptism

Go to our website Forms

### Sacrament of Marriage

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 15 minutes before your mass if possible. Please register children for this ministry at the Welcome Centre.

### Knights of Columbus

Contact: stleokoc@gmail.com

### Saint Vincent de Paul

President: Maureen Kerr maureen.kerr100@gmail.com

905-655-3286 ext 3

### Catholic Women's League (CWL)

President: Shannon Rogers smarogers@gmail.com

### Catering Services

Franca Vasco 905-621-9658

### Federation of North American Explorers (FNE)

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

**To become a Catholic** Please contact the parish office

### 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

## MASS INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

### Saturday, September 13th

4:30 p.m. + Adele Giardillo

### Sunday, September 14th

9:00 a.m. + Quentin D'Mello

11:00 a.m. + Nicole Pirone

### Tuesday, September 16th

8:30 a.m. + Larry Hallihan

### Wednesday, September 17th

7:00 p.m. + Larry Hallihan

### Thursday, September 18th

8:30 a.m. + Innocenzo & + Vincenzina Mammone

+ Attilio & + Maria Tuzi

### Friday, September 19th

8:30 a.m. + Visidor

+ Peter Vachon

### Saturday, September 20th

4:30 p.m. + Eduardo & + Elena Talag

### Sunday, September 21st

9:00 a.m. Eva Orlandi, Thanksgiving for Prayers answered

11:00 a.m. + Maria Tullio & + Toni

**Pray for our deceased parishioners:**

**For: Sanctuary Light Request**

**For: Vigil Light for Mary.**

**For: Visiting Statue of Blessed Virgin Mary.**

**For a visit by the parish priest.**

*Make your request at the office*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection**

*Needs of the Church in  
Canada  
September 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025*

**Knights of Columbus**

**Sunday, September 14, 2025.**

KofC Breakfast Sunday after  
the 9am and 11am Masses. All  
are welcome!

**International Food Tasting**

**Sunday, Sept 21, 2025**

Our successful food tasting festival is  
back again, after 11:00am Mass from  
12 to 2:00 pm!

Please let us know if you are  
interested in a table to showcase your  
country's cuisine. Make small  
samples suitable for just tasting and  
keep the price to max \$2 per portion  
or take out as priced.

Our office volunteers will sell tokens  
for \$2 each. We are looking forward  
to having 10 or more different  
cuisines so our congregation can  
sample a wide range of foods and  
celebrate our cultural diversity. We  
suggest you decorate your table with  
cultural icons like flags etc. The table  
is free, but we want you to reserve a  
table with the office. The proceeds  
will go to St. Leo's Building  
Maintenance Fund.

**CATERING**

Franca Vasco, parishioner, would  
love to use her talents of cooking  
to do fundraising for our parish.  
Contact Franca at **905 621 9658**

**RCIA**

Rite of Christian Initiation,  
(RCIA) enables you to enter the  
Catholic Faith. Classes are on  
Thursday evenings, starting  
October 16, 2025. Contact the  
office for Registration Forms.

Email:

officeatstleothegreat@gmail.com

**Marriage Prep Course**

**Classes on April 30, May 1 &  
May 2, 2026 (evenings).  
Contact the office at 905 655  
3286 ext.1**

**Rosary Apostolate in the  
Schools**

Do you love Jesus & Mary? Do  
you love Children? Do you love  
to pray the Rosary? Are you  
willing to dedicate 2 hours a  
month to pray the Roary with  
school children. **Contact**

**Jeananne Ralph at 905 431 8497**

**Durham Catholic District  
School Board**

The Foundation is seeking to add  
three community representatives  
to its talented group of volunteers  
on its Board of Directors. To  
learn more about the Foundation  
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of Board members, please visit  
**[durhamcatholicfoundation.ca](http://durhamcatholicfoundation.ca)**

**Saints call us to look to God,  
make masterpieces of our lives:**

Presiding over the Mass and  
canonization of Pier Giorgio Frassati  
and Carlo Acutis in Saint Peter's  
Square, Pope Leo XIV paid tribute to  
their extraordinary witnesses to faith,  
hope, and trust in God, and to the  
Lord's great plan for eternal joy and  
happiness. The Pope declared the  
two young Italians Saints at the start  
of the celebration on a stunningly  
beautiful late summer day, Sunday 7  
September.

**In his homily**, the Pope reflected on  
the extraordinary witness of both  
new Saints. Recalling words from  
the first Sunday reading from the  
Book of Wisdom, the Pope observed  
that, like King Solomon, these young  
men sought the gift of wisdom to  
better understand God's plans for our  
lives and world and follow them  
faithfully. And in doing so, they used  
their gifts to bring others to God  
through their example, words, and  
actions.

**Giving ourselves to the Lord**

In the Gospel reading, Jesus speaks  
to us of God's plan, to which we  
must commit wholeheartedly,  
abandoning ourselves "without  
hesitation to the adventure that he  
offers us, with the intelligence and  
strength that comes from his Spirit,"  
the Pope recalled. Young people  
often face crossroads in their lives  
and have to make difficult choices,  
the Pope observed; and, recalling the  
example of Francis of Assisi, he  
pointed out that the Saint opted for  
"the wonderful story of holiness that  
we all know, stripping himself of  
everything to follow the Lord, living  
in poverty and preferring the love of  
his brothers and sisters, especially  
the weakest and smallest, to his  
father's gold, silver, and precious  
fabrics."

**Saying "yes" to God**

So many saints down through history  
have made similar courageous  
choices, looking up to God, and,  
while they were very young, the  
Pope recalled, offering their "yes" to  
God, giving themselves complete to  
Him, "keeping nothing for  
themselves." The Pope recalled how  
Saint Augustine felt a voice deep  
within him that said: "I want you",  
and "God gave him a new direction,  
a new path, a new reason, in which  
nothing of his life was lost."

**Pier Giorgio Frassati, beacon for  
lay spirituality**

Describing the life of Saint Pier  
Giorgio Frassati, a young Italian man  
of the early 20th century, his  
participation in Catholic associations  
and service to the poor, the Pope said  
that also today "Pier Giorgio's life is  
a beacon for lay spirituality," since  
faith was not a private matter and  
could be lived in community in with  
membership in ecclesial associations  
and through generous commitment  
to political life and service to the  
poor.

**Carlo Acutis, witness of holiness in  
simplicity**

Speaking about the witness of young Italian Saint Carlo Acutis, a teenager of our own day, the Pope spoke about how he encountered Jesus in his family, thanks to his parents, Andrea and Antonia, recalling their presence at this celebration along with his two siblings, Francesca and Michele. Saint Carlo also found and lived his faith through school, but especially the sacraments celebrated in the parish community, the Pope went on to say, noting how “he grew up naturally integrating prayer, sport, study and charity into his days as a child and young man.”

Cultivating love for God and neighbour

Daily Mass, prayer, and especially Eucharistic Adoration, marked the lives of Saints Pier Giorgio and Carlo in cultivating their love for God and neighbor through simple acts of charity, the Pope said. And even as illness struck both of them, cutting their lives short, they continued to bear witness to hope and offer themselves to God, the Pope added, recalling how Pier Giorgio once said: “The day of my death will be the most beautiful day of my life”; and how young Carlo often remarked that “heaven has always been waiting for us, and that to love tomorrow is to give the best of our fruit today.”

In conclusion, Pope Leo underscored how both Saints Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis invite everyone, “especially young people, not to squander our lives, but to direct them upwards and make them masterpieces.”

<https://vaticannews/en/pope/2025//>

### **The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, September 14, 2026**

But may I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ~Galatians 6:14

**Reflection:** The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, also known as the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, commemorates three

historical events: the discovery of the True Cross in 326, its initial exaltation for public veneration in 335, and the recovery of the Cross from the Persians in 628. Nowadays, this feast also celebrates the boundless impact of Christ’s Cross upon all of creation.

### **Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows, September 15**

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. John 19:25

Our Blessed Mother, the Mother of the Son of God, loved her Son with a perfect love. She enfleshed every virtue to perfection. Her love for her Son was a love that was beyond what we could ever imagine. She conceived Him miraculously, bore Him in her womb, gave birth to Him, nursed Him, raised Him and loved Him throughout His life. It’s difficult to even imagine the depth and beauty of the love she had for Jesus. Generally speaking, a mother’s love is powerful, unwavering, deep and filled with tenderness. Try to imagine the Immaculate Heart of Mother Mary and the amazing depth of love alive in her heart.

Imagine also the scene depicted in the Gospel passage quoted above. This loving mother stood at the foot of the Cross, gazing upon her crucified Son, continuing to exude every motherly virtue. And because it’s hard to fathom the depth of her love for her Son, it’s also very hard to imagine the depth of sorrow and interior suffering she endured as she watched the cruelty toward Jesus unfold. All she could do in that moment was stand by Him and with Him in this moment of extreme agony. Her love was expressed, in that moment, by her fidelity to Him. What’s beautiful to know is that love, sorrow, compassion and suffering were united as one within her Immaculate Heart. Within the beauty of her heart was every human

emotion, fueled by God’s grace, enabling her to give to her Son the greatest gift she had: her motherhood. She was a true mother throughout her life, and, in this moment, as her Son hung on the Cross, her motherhood culminated in a perfect human expression.

We all long to be loved by another. To give and receive love is the greatest gift that we can give and receive. Love is what we were made for and is the source of our fulfillment in life. We can be certain that as Mother Mary stood at the foot of the Cross, her human heart experienced the greatest fulfillment ever known. Her heart was fulfilled because she exercised her motherly love to perfection.

Gaze upon the image of the Mother of God this day. Ponder, especially, all that she would have experienced within her human heart. Though theologians could write volumes on this meditation, the best way to understand her heart of love is through prayerful meditation. Ask our Blessed Mother to reveal her heart to you today. Find some time to sit in silent adoration of this holy image of perfect motherly love. As you do, know two things. First, know that Mother Mary has this same depth of love for you. Do not doubt it. Her heart burns with compassion as she gazes upon you, even in your sin. Second, know that our Blessed Mother’s love must also fill your heart and overflow into the lives of others. We all must allow her compassion, concern, fidelity and mercy to flow through our hearts. Who do you need to love with the heart of our Blessed Mother? Seek to receive the love in the heart of the Mother of God and seek to give that love. Receive it in and then allow it to flow forth. There is truly nothing in this world more beautiful and awe inspiring than the holy image of this love.

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