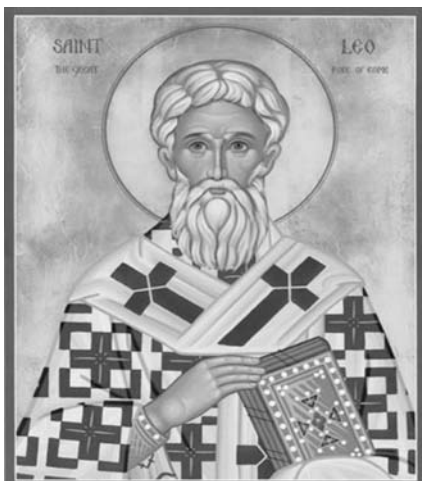




St. Leo The Great

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, November 29th

4:30 p.m. + Rosalia & + Antero Reyes

Sunday, November 30th

9:00 a.m. + Mario Orlandi & Deceased Members of the family

11:00 a.m. + Vincenzo Guzzo-Foliaro

Tuesday, December 2nd

8:30 a.m. + Ruth, Harry & Mary Pascal Mott

Wednesday, December 3rd

7:00 p.m. + Peter Vachon
Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, December 4th

8:30 a.m. + Rosalba Mammone

Friday, December 5th

8:30 a.m. + Claire Magtoto
+ Deceased Members of the Costa Correr & O'Connor Families

Saturday, December 6th (1st Saturday of the Month)

9:00 a.m. + Harold Coker
Living intentions for Fr. Taras

4:30 p.m. + Edward Fox

Sunday, December 7th

9:00 a.m. Hallihan Family

11:00 a.m. + Vince Corvinelli

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2nd Collection

Sunday, December 7, 2025
Building and Maintenance Fund

Pizza Sunday by "Pizza Hut" **November 30th**

Come and join us after the 9am & 11am Masses. Individual vegetarian or pepperoni pizza & pop or 8 chicken nuggets & pop for \$ 5.00. Funds from this Social helps our Parish Community.

Cardinal Leo's Message for Advent

Message for Advent
30 November 2025

His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of
Toronto

Please visit our website:
<https://stleothegreatbr.archtoronto.org>
for Cardinal Leo's Message for
World Youth Day

Ministry Appreciation Dinner

Thanks for yet another incredible evening. The dinner was delicious and the evening enjoyable. A special thank you to "Bella Notte" for their generosity, to the "Events Committee" and to all who helped make the evening unforgettable.

Knights Breakfast Sunday **December 7, 2025**

After the 9am & 11am Masses

Christmas Bake Sale **December 13th & 14th**

We are asking all parishioners who enjoy baking to help with our Christmas Bake Sale. Bring your baked goods to the kitchen on Friday, Dec 12 between 9am to 12pm or 1pm to 5pm. Sale of baked goods will take place after the weekend Masses on Dec 13 &

14. Proceeds from the bake sale will go towards the Building Fund

CWL Christmas Party

The Catholic Women's League (CWL) of St. Leo wishes to invite all women of the parish to attend their Christmas Party.

Date: Wednesday Dec 17th, 2025

Time: 6pm -10pm

Place: Kedron Dells Golf Club
2400 Ritson Road
North, Oshawa

The evening will include a Traditional Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings and a carol sing-along in a private room with festive decorations.

Cost: 65\$ per person and includes all taxes and gratuities. Bar drinks will be available for purchase. For additional details and to register please contact Margaret McIntyre at mcintyremanda@gmail.com

St. Leo The Great **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Saturday December 20

Featuring the Clarington Concert
Band

Starts at 7:00 PM.

Admission: Freewill Offering

2026 Offertory Envelopes

Kindly pickup your 2026 Offertory Envelopes that are on a table in the vestibule. If you need any help finding your box of envelopes, please ask an Usher.

Kitchen Cabinets & Counters

St. Leo's church has procured a contractor for our kitchen cabinets & counters. Structural work (removing of freezer) has been discouraged by a couple of contractors as this may cause damage to the building. And to do this is extremely expensive. This work will commence in early December. We are communicating this date with our various groups in the parish.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHOIR SCHOOL

December 13 at 7PM

Toronto's Christmas Tradition.
Jubilee Celebration: 60 Years at
Massey Hall

Tickets \$ 40 - \$ 125.

www.masseyhall.com

How to "Advent Has Arrived"

Now Streaming!

Advent sometimes just feels like that time that is sandwiched between Thanksgiving and Christmas – life is hectic with Christmas shopping, parties, the school year ending, and so much more. But as Catholics we really ought to enter into this season of joyful anticipation with purpose and intention! In How to Advent, we will discover the rich traditions that mark this season and how they aid us in preparing our hearts for the birth of the child Jesus at Christmas. Guided by priests, religious, professors, and a charismatic host, you will gain practical tips and spiritual reflection on the practices of the Advent calendar, Advent wreath, Jesse tree, and nativity scene. There are four episodes in this show that are between 12 and 15 minutes.

An Offering from the Augustine Institute – <https://app.formed.org>

Parishioners receive free access to formed.org

Advent Reflection with Sacred Art

All are invited to attend an online Advent reflection using works of sacred art such as Philippe de Champaigne's The Dream of St. Joseph. Mr. Les Miller, author of Northern Lights, will lead the reflection. There is no cost, but registration is required.

POSTER: <https://bit.ly/VDAW-PosterDec2025>

REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/VDAW-RegisterDec2025>

CONTACT:
formation@archtoronto.org or
437-900-4287

First Sunday of Advent **November 30, 2025**

“So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” Matthew 24:44

Once again, we enter into the holy season of Advent. Advent, more than anything else, is a time of spiritual preparation by which we dispose ourselves more fully to receive the greatest Gift we could ever receive: Christ Jesus Himself!

The readings for this First Sunday of Advent remind us that the Savior of the World will one day return to earth. We are reminded that He will return in all His splendor and glory and that this coming will be “at an hour you do not expect...”

Though it's true that our Lord could return to earth for the Last Judgment and the re-creation of Heaven and earth at any time, most people do not expect this to happen anytime soon. And though that may be the case, our Lord goes to great lengths to encourage us to always be prepared for this final coming, stating clearly that it truly could be at any time.

How prepared are you if that day were to be today? Ignore the rationalization that it most likely will not be today and simply consider your preparedness for that definitive moment in time. This preparedness is one of the central keys to our holy living. If we were able to live today and every day hereafter as if it were that day, the day of our Lord's return, then there is little doubt that our holiness of life would greatly increase as we live with this ongoing anticipation and preparedness.

One of the effects of living day after day, year after year, in a state of perpetual preparedness is that we are not only ready if our Lord does indeed

return today, but, just as importantly, we remain perpetually attentive to the countless ways that He does come to us each and every day. This form of perpetual preparedness forms within us a spiritual habit of hearing and responding to the voice of God and the countless graces He sends to us every day. This habitual preparedness is a virtue by which the coming of Christ transforms who we are, here and now, and enables Him to live more fully within us, accomplishing His mission of redeeming the world in and through us.

Reflect, today, upon the burning desire in the heart of Christ that we form this holy habit of always being attentive to Him and always remain in a state of constant reception of His holy presence in our lives. Let Him come to you, today, now, and do not wait. Put your eyes on Him today. Do not put off to tomorrow that which Jesus is asking of you today. Doing so will not only prepare you for His final and glorious coming at the end of the world, it will also prepare you for the daily and total transformation of your life.

<https://www.mycatholiclife.org/>

Four Advent Candles: Colors & Meanings

The Advent season, a time of anticipation and preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ, is rich with symbolism and tradition in the Catholic Church. One of the most recognizable symbols of this season is the Advent wreath, adorned with four candles, each representing a specific theme and liturgical color. Understanding the significance of these colors—three purple and one pink—offers deeper insight into the spiritual journey of Advent.

The Significance of the Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath, typically made of evergreen branches, symbolizes eternal life and the unending love of God. The circular shape represents God's infinite nature, having no

beginning or end. Placed within the wreath are four candles, each lit on successive Sundays leading up to Christmas. Some traditions also include a fifth, white candle in the center, known as the Christ candle, lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to signify the arrival of Christ, the Light of the World.

The Four Advent Candles: Colors and Meanings

Each candle on the Advent wreath has a specific color and associated meaning, reflecting the spiritual themes of the season:

1. First Candle: Purple – Hope

The first candle, lit on the first Sunday of Advent, is purple and symbolizes hope. Known as the “Prophecy Candle,” it represents the anticipation of the coming Messiah and the hope that Christ brings to the world. This color aligns with the liturgical use of purple during Advent, denoting penance and preparation.

2. Second Candle: Purple – Peace

The second candle, also purple, is lit on the second Sunday of Advent and represents peace. Often called the “Bethlehem Candle,” it reflects on the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem and the peace that Christ's birth brings to humanity.

3. Third Candle: Pink – Joy

The third candle, lit on the third Sunday of Advent, is pink and symbolizes joy. This Sunday is known as Gaudete Sunday, derived from the Latin word “gaudete,” meaning “rejoice.” The pink candle signifies a shift from a penitential spirit to one of joyful anticipation of Christ's coming.

4. Fourth Candle: Purple – Love

The fourth candle, lit on the fourth Sunday of Advent, returns to purple and represents love. Referred to as the “Angel's Candle,” it symbolizes the love of God and the message of love and good news brought by the angels announcing Christ's birth.

<https://www.freedailydevotional.com>



ST. LEO THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday December 20



Giancarlo Binetti
Music Director



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Lisa Heitzner
Vocalist

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