

# 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: francavascol@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

Peter Darcy Grand Knight 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, December 20th

4:30 p.m. + Edward Fox

### Sunday, December 21st

9:00 a.m. + Harold Coker

11:00 a.m. Family of Harold Coker

### Tuesday, December 23rd

8:30 a.m. Living intentions for Joan & Tom Barker

### Wednesday, December 24th

4:30 p.m. + Eleanor McVeigh

8:00 p.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Thursday, December 25th

9 a.m. + Cosimo Timpano

11:00 a.m. Anne & Karen Olejniczak

### Friday, December 26th

No Mass---

### Saturday, December 27th

4:30 p.m. + Antonio Tamburro

### Sunday, December 28th

9:00 a.m. Pro Populo

11:00 a.m. Janice Fernihough

**Pray for our deceased parishioners:**

**For: Sanctuary Light Request**

**For: Vigil Light for Mary.**

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

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

*Make your request at the office*

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### **Christmas Bake Sale**

A special thank you to all those who baked, organized and supported our Bake Sale.

Proceeds from the sale approximately \$ 1500 is going towards our Building Maintenance Fund.

### **Thank You!**

To all the volunteers that helped with the Christmas decorations, we are grateful and thank you for giving of your time.

### **Cornerstone Durham**

The Knights of Columbus are collecting new pairs of socks, gloves, underwear, toothbrushes, deodorant and other non-perishable toiletries for Cornerstone Durham. Please donate your items in bin in the vestibule.

### **\*Parking - Carson Avenue**

Gentle reminder! Please try to avoid parking your vehicle on Carson Avenue. We have plenty of parking in our west parking lot

### **Kitchen & Hall Floors**

We are in the process of getting quotes for our Kitchen & Hall Floors. Your Comments or suggestions are welcome.

### **ST. LEO THE GREAT CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Saturday December 20  
Featuring the Clarington Concert Band  
Starts at 7:00 PM.  
Admission: Freewill Offering

### **CWL Christmas Basket**

CWL Christmas Basket worth over \$600 featuring Maple Leaf

Max Domi Jersey on sale in the vestibule. \$ 2 each or 3 for \$ 5.  
Draw at noon on December 21st.

### **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. For PAG Parishioners requiring special envelopes, please put your name down on the sheet.

### **Employment Opportunities**

Looking for work, please check the board next to the Welcome Centre for Job Postings.

### **Closing Mass for the Jubilee Year**

Archdiocese of Toronto Year of Jubilee Committee wish to extend a warm invitation to the faithful of the archdiocese to join with Cardinal Leo for the Closing Mass for the Year of Jubilee on **Sunday, December 28, 2025**, at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica at 5 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available with numerous priests present from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. All are most welcome. Each Jubilee Pilgrimage Church will also celebrate a Closing Mass for the Year of the Jubilee on Sunday, December 28, 2025, at a regularly scheduled mass of their own choice. Please visit the pilgrimage church websites for further details: <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/year-of-prayer/home/pilgrimage-churches/>

### **Year-End ShareLife Parish Campaign & Matching Gift**

#### **Program**

Amplify your love through ShareLife! Your gift will double in value! From November 3 until year end, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000.  
Right now, there's a mother

wondering how she'll feed her child, a senior hoping someone will remember them, a family praying for a way forward. Your support for ShareLife and the Food Security Grants is not only a source of hope but a tangible lifeline, ensuring that food finds its way to the tables of those who need it most. Your Christmas gift will go twice as far, providing twice the hope, twice the comfort, and twice the love to those who are counting on your support. If you donate online by December 31, you will receive a 2025 tax receipt.

Please support the work of ShareLife agencies through [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate) or by giving at our parish using a ShareLife envelope. Thank you for living the Gospel!

### **Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Prayer Service 2026**

Sunday, January 18, 2026, 4 p.m.  
Venue: Runnymede United Church, 432 Runnymede Rd, Toronto, ON M6S 2Y8  
Theme: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the hope of your calling" (Ephesians 4:4)

Join Bishop John A. Boissonneau and a wide representation of Christian leaders to pray for the restoration of full visible unity willed by Jesus Christ for the Church. This event is jointly organized by the Office for Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations and the GTA Council of Christian Churches.

### **Christmas Octave Gloria in Excelsis Deo! Solemnity of Christmas Day**

The angel said to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I

proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” Luke 2:10–14

Glory to God in the highest! The celebration of the glorious birth of Christ the Lord has begun...Merry Christmas!

Try to put yourself in the shoes of these shepherds. Little excitement would have regularly come their way. They were poor, simple shepherds who spent their days and nights tending the sheep of the fields. That night, a group of them had gathered together for camaraderie. It's easy to imagine the scene of normal talking, laughing and being together. Little did they realize what was about to happen.

As they were gathered, an angel of God appeared to them announcing “good news of great joy!” They must have been stunned. But that's only the beginning. The angel announced that the Savior of the World had been born and then, much to their surprise, they witnessed the whole host of heavenly angels singing praises: “*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*” “Glory to God in the highest!”

These humble shepherds were the first to be called by God to go and greet the newborn King. What's amazing is that God did not first call the “important” of the age to come

worship. He called these poor shepherds.

One thing this tells us is that, in the eyes of God, all are equal. God does not pick favorites from among those who are seen as important in the eyes of the world. No, He sees the great value and dignity of each and every person and desires all of us, rich or poor, powerful or weak, to come to Him in adoration and love.

Christmas is a time filled with many exciting things. Often there are gifts and gatherings, food and good times. But more than anything else, Christmas must be seen as a time for us to step back and take in the deep and rich meaning of this sacred event. We must see, first, that God entered our human condition and, in doing so, is able to identify with all that we experience in life. God understands human life! He lived it.

Second, we must understand that the birth of the Savior of the World and His appearance to shepherds reveals that each and every one of us is invited to come and meet Him. God humbled Himself in the most profound way so that we could come to know Him and His perfect love for us. “Do not be afraid,” as the angel said, to come and behold the Christ who came as your Savior. Do not be afraid to come to meet Him, love Him, adore Him and get to know Him. God is given to us, today, as an infant. Small, weak, fragile and innocent. Do not be afraid to gaze upon His humble presence and to give glory to God for His blessed coming.

*Lord, I love You and adore You. I thank You for the unfathomable gift of Your divine presence among us. I thank You, especially, for the invitation You offer me to join the poor shepherds as they come to*

*adore You. May this Christmas celebration be one in which I understand, more deeply, the incredible love You have for all Your children. May I know that You came for me, to save me and to invite me to worship. May I, this day, enter into that worship and adoration with all the Heavenly Host. Jesus, I trust in You.*

<https://mycatholic.life/>

### **Merry Christmas!**

May the light of Christ's birth illuminate your heart this Christmas, bringing you the peace and joy that only the Prince of Peace can offer. As we celebrate the Incarnation, may you open yourself to the surprises of God's love, welcoming the Savior who comes as a humble child to renew our lives with hope and mercy. We wish you a holy and peaceful Christmas, and a New Year full of good fruits. May God fill with his love each of you!

***Fr. Mounir & Office Staff***



Dear Jesus,  
Fill our families with joy and peace,  
like the light of the Christmas star.

Teach us to share Your love with everyone, with our parents, brothers, sisters, and friends, and especially with those who are sad, lonely, or in need.

May we be like little messengers of Your  
peace, helping others,  
just as You came to save us all.



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