

St. Leo The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

130 Watford Street, Brooklin, ON L1M 1H2

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www.stleothegreat.ca • e-mail: office@stleothegreat.ca

Pastor: Rev. Charles T. Forget

Parish Secretary: Magda Nowak 905-655-3286 x 101

Youth Director: Dennis Wardle x 109

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Closed for Lunch from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Friday Office Closed.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday 7:00 p.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 *Father Pius Alejo* is present in the hospital (or when he will be). If *Father Pius Alejo* 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. Charles 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. Charles, please call the parish office and leave a message with the parish secretary at 905-655-3286 x 101.

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU'S *continued*

Attending to the clean up after a party or an event is thankless work in so many ways. It is, of course, way more interesting to set up the church for Christmas rather than have to take it all apart and put it away for another year. Yet, we were blessed to have a few people come out and do the deed of putting away the Christmas trees and decorations last Sunday and Monday evening, unglamorous work to be sure. They were: Silvia & Joe Elek, Anthony Barrett, Andrzej, Matthew & Jacob Nowak, Allen and Cameron Frank, Larry Hallihan, Tom Bushell, myself, (Fr.C), Dennis Wardle and Savio Dias. Thank you.

THANK YOU FROM FR. CHARLES

I would like to express my appreciation to those who gave me gifts at Christmas. Unfortunately, as Christmas gift-bearers drop off their cards and packages at the office or in the vesting sacristy their name tags aren't always filled out and cards accompanying gifts get separated sometimes get separated so that I have a gift but don't know the name of the giver. If after I have sent out thank you's to those whose names I have and you don't receive one from me, know that I have not overlooked you but simply can't identify you with your gift. Please let me know if you are one of these people. Fr. Charles

**PARISH LENTEN RETREAT
WITH MARK MALLETT**

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25, MONDAY to
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 27
Each evening from 7-9 pm. in the church

Mark Mallett will be coming to our parish in Lent to give a three-evening Lenten Retreat. Mark is a Catholic singer/songwriter and evangelist who is like a modern day John the Baptist, calling Catholics back to their faith and faithfulness to God. He looks at the 'signs of the times' in light of the teachings of the Catholic Church, the popes of the last century and the events of our world all held up against the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ whom we follow.

Mark will be giving the retreat beginning on Sunday February 25th and concluding on Tuesday February 27th from 7-9 pm. each evening.

YOU BE NOAH



(Posted January 4, 2018 by Mark Mallett)

IF I could collect the tears of all the parents who have shared their heartbreak and grief of how their children have left the Faith, I'd have a small ocean. But that ocean would be but a

droplet compared to the Ocean of Mercy that flows from the Heart of Christ. There is no One more interested, more invested, or burning with more desire for the salvation of your family members than Jesus Christ who suffered and died for them. Nonetheless, what can you do when, despite your prayers and best efforts, your children continue to

reject their Christian faith creating all kinds of internal problems, divisions, and angst in your family or their lives? Moreover, as you pay attention to the "signs of the times" and how God is preparing to purify the world once again, you ask, "What about my children?"

THE RIGHTEOUS ONE

When God was about to purify the earth the first time by a flood, He looked the world over to find someone, somewhere who was righteous.

When the Lord saw how great the wickedness of human beings was on earth, and how every desire that their heart conceived was always nothing but evil, the Lord regretted making human beings on the earth, and his heart was grieved... But Noah found favor with the Lord. (Gen 6:5-7)

But here's the thing. God saved Noah *and* his family:

Together with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, Noah went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. (Gen 7:7)

God extended the righteousness of Noah over his family, shielding them from the rains of justice, even though it was Noah *alone* who held the umbrella, so to speak.

Love covers a multitude of sins. (1 Pet 4:8)

So, here's the point: *you be Noah* in your family. You be the "righteous" one, and I believe that through your prayers and sacrifice, your faithfulness and perseverance—that is, by participating in Jesus and the power of His Cross—God will extend the ramp of mercy to your loved ones in His way, His time, even if at the very last moment...

God's mercy sometimes touches the sinner at the last moment in a wondrous and mysterious way. Outwardly, it seems as if everything were lost, but it is not so. The soul, illumined by a ray of God's powerful final grace, turns to God in the last moment with such a power of love that, in an instant, it receives from God forgiveness of sin and punishment, while outwardly it shows no sign either of repentance or of contrition, because souls [at that stage] no longer react to external things. Oh, how beyond comprehension is God's mercy! —St. Faustina, *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, Diary, n. 1698

YOU BE NOAH

Of course, many parents will blame themselves for their children's fall from grace. They will remember the early years, the mistakes, the follies, the selfishness, and the sins... and how it is they who have shipwrecked their children, in some way, small or great. And so they despair.

Recall the first "father" that Jesus placed over His Church, which is the family of God: Simon, whom He renamed Cephas, Peter, the "rock". But this very rock became a stumbling stone that scandalized "the family" when by his words and actions he denied the Saviour. And yet, Jesus did not give up on him, despite his apparent weakness.

"Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep... Follow me." (John 21:16, 19)

Even now, Jesus turns to you fathers and mothers whom he has set over your sheepfold and He asks, "*Do you love me?*" Like Peter, we too may grieve at this question

because, even though we love Him in our hearts, we have failed in our words and actions. But Jesus, gazing upon you this very moment with an unspeakable and unconditional love, has not asked, "Have you sinned?" For He well knows your past, even the sins you are not fully aware of. No, He repeats:

"Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." (John 21:17)

"Then know this":

All things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. (Rom 8:28)

God will take your "yes" again, even as he took Peter's, and will make it work to the good. He simply asks now that you be Noah.

GIVE GOD YOUR GRIEF

Many years ago, I was driving with my father-in-law through his back pastures. One field in particular caught my attention because it was dotted with large mounds which we had to navigate. "What's with these little hills?" I asked him. "Oh," he chuckled. "Many years ago, Eric dumped piles of manure here but we never got around to spreading them." As we drove on, what I noticed most of all was that, wherever these mounds were, that was where the grass was greenest and where the most lush wildflowers were growing.

Yes, God can take the piles of crap we've made in our lives and turn them to something good. How? Be faithful. Be obedient. Be righteous. Be Noah.

Your misery has disappeared in the depths of My mercy. Do not argue with Me about your wretchedness. You will give me pleasure if you hand over to me all your troubles and griefs. I shall heap upon you the treasures of My grace. —Jesus to St. Faustina, *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, Diary, n. 1485

But Jesus told Faustina that these treasures of grace can be drawn by means of only one vessel—that of *trust*. For you may not see things turn around for a long time in your family or perhaps even within your lifetime. But that's God's business. To love is ours.

You are not living for yourself but for souls, and other souls will profit from your sufferings. Your prolonged suffering will give them the light and strength to accept My will. —Jesus to St. Faustina, *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, Diary, n. 67

Yes, love covers a multitude of sins. When Rahab the harlot protected two Israelite spies from being handed over to their enemies, God, in turn, protected her and her son—despite her sinful past.

By faith Rahab the harlot did not perish with the disobedient, for she had received the spies in peace. (Heb 11:31)

You be Noah. And leave the rest to God.

St Leo Knights of Columbus thanks all parishioners who attended the Knights December Breakfast in support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and who contributed so generously to the Cornerstone Community Centre. The value of your contributions will benefit very much those supported by each Charity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, January 16th

8:30 a.m. † Delia Marquez

Wednesday, January 17th

7:00 p.m. † Walter Labow

† Mary Mulcahy

Thursday, January 18th

8:30 a.m. Intentions of Joan Barker

Friday, January 19th

8:30 a.m. † Joan Love

† Jack Beck

Saturday, January 20th

4:30 p.m. Deceased members of the Mohammed Family

Sunday, January 21st

9:00 a.m. † Tomasina Parente

11:00 a.m. † Luis Raposo

Men of St. Leo's, have you been looking to get involved and give some of your time to help those in your parish and community? **Consider joining the Knights of Columbus.**

A group of parishioners who have fun, get involved and make a difference. Please come to the parish hall after the 9am and 11am masses on January 21st to learn more. Families are welcome.

VALENTINE DANCE

St. Leo Knights of Columbus invites everyone to attend its Annual Valentine Dance for an enjoyable evening of socializing in the Parish hall starting at 6:30 P.M. on Saturday, Feb.10th. A hot buffet will be served with dessert, coffee or tea: music will be provided by a disc jockey: cash bar will be available and spot prizes and 50-50 draw included.

POLICY FOR HANDLING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Archdiocese of Toronto has implemented a new policy regarding handling Special Collections. Effective immediately, when a Second Collection by the Archdiocese is mandated, the parish will conduct two separate collections at each Mass. The special collection will take place after communion.

VOCATION SEEDS

A good vocation prayer to say every day - from the time we are young until we are in our golden years - is found in today's first Scripture reading: "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening". Just try it with sincerity, starting today and, if you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call **Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997 or email at vocations@archtoronto.org**




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