



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

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.

HOW TO DRESS FOR MASS

Already, a parishioner has provided me with a few topics and questions for bulletin fodder. One of the topics was **How To Dress For Mass?** Now, I'll admit that this is a touchy subject and there may be many different approaches in answering this question. However, while there may be extremes in opinion I think we've all seen abuses throughout our church lives or dress that we would deem as inappropriate or at least distracting while at Mass.

Adore the Lord in Holy Attire On Proper Dress for Mass



(May 24, 2010 by Msgr. Charles Pope)

Last week we had a discussion on the women wearing veils in Church. One of the themes that emerged in the comments was that the discussions about what to wear in Church should be broader than just a veil. More specifically BOTH men

and women should consider how they dress when going into God's house. Hence I would like to explore some background issues and enunciate some principles. You of course will be able to add to them.

1. Scripture – There is very little in Scripture that seems to spell out the proper way to dress for sacred worship. There is the general directive to *Adore the Lord in holy attire* (Psalm 96:9; Ps 29:2) But this seems more an allusion to holiness (God's and ours) more than to clothing per se. There are directives for the Passover meal that one should have staff in hand, with loins girt and sandals on their feet (Ex 12:11). But this seems a specific rule for the Passover meal only and hardly something that would be done in the synagogue or temple. To gird one's loins meant to pull up the lower part of one's outer garment and tighten the belt. This exposed the lower legs and allowed greater mobility for them. It was a sign of being flight or of being at work. It is the ancient equivalent of "roll up your sleeves." (more [HERE](#)). As a general rule Jewish people would not show their legs unless circumstances strongly required it. They would surely not come to the synagogue or the Temple in this manner. Scripture also speaks of Phylacteries and Prayer Shawls. But these sorts of clothing and accessories seem to have come under some critique in the New Testament (Matt 23:5) and their use was not continued in the New Testament Church worship.

2. Church norms and rules – There are no official and specific Church norms or requirement for lay persons who attend Mass mentioned in Canon Law or the Sacramentary. Surely for priests and other clergy there are *many* rules and norms but I am unaware of any currently binding norms for the laity. Although the veils were once required for women, the 1917 Code of Canon Law was abrogated and the current code is silent on any requirement.

3. Hence it seems that Culture supplies most of the norms regarding what is considered appropriate attire for Church. And, alas our culture is currently quite unhelpful to us in this regard. Here in America we have become extremely

casual about the way we dress for just about everything. It seems we almost never dress up anymore. This has changed somewhat dramatically in my own life time of just less than 50 years. "Sneakers" or "tennis shoes" as we called them were for sports or running around and playing in the neighborhood. But we would never even think of wearing them to school and certainly not to Church. I remember having a special set of shoes just for church. In the 1960s, it was also expected that I would go to Church in formal, pressed trousers, a button down shirt, and, except in the hottest months, a tie and even a suit jacket in winter. My sister and mother always wore a dress. Pants would not even have been considered for them. For the younger girls a skirt and a blouse might be OK but preferably a dress with a hat or veil.

But things changed dramatically around 1970. The[ere is a photo I have and in the] photo above right was taken in 1969 at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Canton, Massachusetts. It was the end of an era. Within five years neckties were lost and jeans and a t-shirts came to be the norm. Most of the women as we discussed lost the veil, and dresses gave way to more casual pants suits and then also to other more casual things like jeans etc. Shorts for men and women, unthinkable in previous years also began to appear in church as did tank tops and other beach attire. Within ten years the culture of dressing up for Church was almost wholly abandoned. Now wearing a tie to Church would seem stuffy and formal.

But this is where our culture has gone. It is not just Church. Years ago when my family went out to eat we almost always dressed up. Maybe it wasn't a full neck tie but at least trousers and a button down shirt. Maybe not a formal dress for mom and sis, but at least a skirt and blouse. A restaurant was considered a semi-formal outing. School was also considered a place where things like jeans and informal t-shirts were out of place. Going down town to shop meant we changed out of shorts and put on something appropriate. Shorts were basically for running around the house, playing in the yard and such. But you just didn't go out to more public settings wearing shorts and flip flops or even sneakers.

Pardon me for sounding like an old fud but I am not really that old. My point is that culture has changed, and changed rather quickly. This has affected the Church as well. What were fighting is a strong cultural swing to the extremely informal. Most people don't even think of dressing up for most things any more let alone Church.

4. Hence at the cost of seeming old and stuffy I might like to suggest a few norms and I hope you'll supply your own as well:

Men should wear formal shoes to Church. We used to call these hard shoes (because they were) but today many formal shoes are actually quite comfortable.

Men should wear trousers (not jeans).

Men should never wear shorts to Church.

Men should wear a decent shirt, preferably a button down shirt. If it is a pullover shirt it should include a collar. Wearing a plain t-shirt without a collar is too informal.

Men should consider wearing a tie to Church and in cooler weather, a suit coat. Some may consider this a bit too stuffy and formal but who knows, you might be a trend setter!

Now as I talk about women I know I'll get in some trouble!

Women should wear decent shoes to Church. Flip flops, beach sandals etc. seem inappropriate.

Women should not wear shorts to Church.

Women, if they wear pants, should never wear jeans to Church. Some nice slacks that are not too tight can be fine.

Women should consider wearing a dress or at least a skirt in preference to pants. It just looks a bit more formal than pants.

Women should wear a nice blouse (if they are not wearing a full dress). The blouse or shirt they wear should not be too tight.

Sleeveless garments are pushing it a bit but can be acceptable.

Women should never wear tank tops, tube tops, spaghetti straps, or bare midriffs to Church.

Well, you may have at this list. Add or subtract as you will.

A final thought: Clothes say something about what we think, what we value. They also influence how we behave and feel. That our culture has become so casual about everything says something about us. I cannot exactly articulate it but it seems to say, "nothing is really all that important." But that is not true. Going to God's house IS important. Being ministered to by the King of Kings and Lord of Lords is astounding. Casual attire in these circumstances is simply inappropriate if we really think about what we are doing, where we are going and who it is we will meet. It does not necessarily follow that we must wear tuxedos and formal gowns. But decent semi-formal attire seems wholly appropriate. Sunday is special, God's House is special. Some things really ARE important and our clothing and demeanor ought to reflect this truth.



Want to Join our Choir???

The Sunday 11:00 am mass choir is looking for new members to join this already wonderful group. All ages and vocal abilities are welcome. The only requirement is that you need to like singing. The choir sings at the 11:00 mass on Sundays and we rehearse on Thursday nights from 7:30 -9:00 pm. If you have been thinking about joining the choir, then now is the time to give it a try. Also, if you know someone who may be interested in joining, please encourage them to try it out too. For more information about joining this talented and fun group, please see Ted, the director, after the 11:00 mass or come out to the church on Thursday night at 7:30pm. He can also be also reached by phone at 647-302-6996. Thank you.



St Leo Knights of Columbus is inviting everyone to its **Annual Spaghetti Dinner**, complete with meat balls, salad, dessert, tea, coffee and soft drinks with beer and wine cash bar in the Church hall. **Saturday, October 26, 2019.** Doors open @ 6:30 P.M. **Tickets sold after each Mass.** Adults - \$15.00, Youth 4 - 10 - 10.00, Children under 4 - Free. Please purchase Tickets in advance. No Sales at door on the 26th.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Tuesday, October 22nd

8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, October 23rd

7:00 p.m. † Marshal Beriault

Thursday, October 24th

8:30 a.m. Intention of Margaret Forget

Friday, October 25th

8:30 a.m. Special Intention

Saturday, October 26th

4:30 p.m. † Steven Closs

Sunday, October 27th

9:00 a.m. † Hebert Royer

11:00 a.m. † Ellen & Michael Sullivan



Edge Nights (Grades 6 – 8) on Thursdays, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. No pre-registration is required.

Highschool Youth Nights - IMPACT on Tuesdays, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. No pre-registration is required.

PARISH YOUTH

ALL SAINTS PARTY

PUT ON BY OUR NET TEAM

When? **Thursday, October 31**

Time? **6:30 – 8:30 pm.**

For Whom? **All ages Gr. 4 & up**

Music! Games! Food! Music! NET Team!

All we ask is that you come dressed as your favourite Saint! Please don't tell others what Saint you are dressed as, let them guess! The Catholic Church offers us so many holy examples of Saints and pictures of them and the way they dressed are easily found online. Enter through the Carson St. hall doors.

St Leo's Catholic Moms Group is hosting a SAINTS & ANGELS PARTY

on **Sunday October 27th, 1-4 p.m.** in the Parish Hall.

Grade 3 and under students are welcome to enjoy an afternoon of Games, Crafts and Prizes. Please come dressed as your favourite Saint (both kids and adults!) Volunteers (hours offered for highschoolers) and food/drink donations are needed! RSVP to annalisa@catholicmomsgroup.com/shannon@catholicmomsgroup.com as soon as possible to join the fun!



Come and See Weekend

Friday, November 1 (begins at 7:00 p.m.) to Sunday, November 3 (ends at 1:30 p.m.), at St. Augustine's Seminary: Inviting single Catholic men

17 years and older, to cultivate a deeper prayer life and relationship with Jesus Christ; leading to a better discernment of God's call for their lives. Time for prayer, reflection and information on the process of becoming one of Christ's disciples as a Catholic priest. Register online at www.vocationstoronto.ca. Registrants 17 years old require parental consent.

For more information, please contact (the Parish Priest) or the Office of Vocations at: 416 968 0997; email: vocations@archtoronto.org




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