



St. Leo The Great

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

130 Watford Street, Brooklin, ON L1M 1H2

905.655.3286 • Fax: 905.655.4519

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.

LENT in the PARISH

SOUP AND BREAD POVERTY MEAL



We hold our **Lenten Soup & Bread** each **Friday** throughout Lent in the parish hall from **5 pm. to 6:20 pm.** featuring a variety of hearty homemade soups and bread and organized by our

Catholic Women's League. This is a great way to have fellowship with one another and the proceeds from the freewill offering from participants goes to our St. Vincent de Paul Society. See you there for some of the best soups around!

Each Friday the Soup & Bread will be followed by

- **6:30 pm. STATIONS OF THE CROSS** and
- **7:00 pm. MASS**

Please note: **MASS TIME CHANGE THROUGHOUT LENT**
The regularly scheduled Holy Hour and morning Mass each Friday is cancelled during Lent as there is the Stations of the Cross and Mass each Friday evening.

“DECISION BECOMES IDENTITY”:

Finding our Mission Within Lent

(Each year Bishop Robert Barron (wordonfire.org) presents every-day Lenten reflections which, if you sign up for them, will appear in your email box every day throughout Lent. This is his opening introduction to this series of Lenten Gospel Reflections this year. It is an excellent challenge to all of us for Lent and life itself.)

Friends, during Lent, we apprentice to Jesus in his forty-day sojourn in the desert. We stubbornly stay with him, doing what he did there, facing what he faced there.

The desert is the place of clarification. When we have been stripped of the relatively trivial desires that preoccupy us, we can see, with a somewhat disturbing clarity, who we essentially are and what most pressingly matters. Blaise Pascal said that most of us spend our lives seeking *divertissements* (distractions), for we cannot bear the weight of the great questions. We play, gossip, eat and drink, seek the most banal entertainment—so that we don't have to face the truth about ourselves, the reality of death, and the demands of God. The Spirit drives holy people into the desert because it is the place where *divertissements* disappear: “He fasted for forty days and forty nights.”

At the end of the Lord's fast, the tempter arrives—because decision follows clarification. How often in the Scripture the

theme of decision arises. Jesus himself provokes the stark choice: “Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.”

And then Jesus is ready for mission; immediately after the temptations, he gathers his disciples around him and commences the ministry that will reach its culmination only on the cross.

So this Lent, let us resolve to rid ourselves of *divertissements*, going a bit hungry and thirsty, purposely running on empty—so that the great questions may be asked with clarity. Let us allow the devil to come, tempting us with the love of pleasure, the ego, and power— for in temptation comes decision. And in the desert with Jesus the Master, let us realize that we too are people on mission—because decision becomes identity. *Bishop Robert Barron* (Feb. 11, 2020)

A WORD FOR LENT (Our Parish Lenten Lottery)

For several years now our parish has begun Lent offering parishioners an opportunity to do a simple thing, which is to take a single little piece of paper with a word on it from a basket in the vestibule. The word that you randomly take becomes your Word for Lent and in this season you can reflect, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to come to know what that word speaks to you.

Sometimes, puzzled by their word choice, parishioners will ask me to interpret what their word means for them but I always tend to point them in the direction of the Holy Spirit again, to ask the Spirit of God to show them in the days and weeks ahead what that word means for them personally, by the grace of God.

I remember getting the same word three years in a row and realized that God was really trying to hammer something home to me that I should give careful thought.

So, if you haven't already done so on Ash Wednesday or this First Sunday of Lent, I invite you to choose a word, from the Lenten information table in the vestibule, that you can carry in your pocket, put on your nighttable or remember in your heart as you go through your life routine in the season of Lent. Pray to the Holy Spirit and simply ask to be shown what that word might be saying to you about your life, your choices, your decisions, your situation, how God sees you or perhaps something you need to move toward.

Please note that there are both separate batches of words for Adults and for Children, so make sure you don't get-off-easy with a child's word as an adult. ;-)

If, for example, you got the word KNOWLEDGE, that word might address the knowledge you have that is largely about the world, your career, your interests, etc., yet might pose the question to you about your knowledge of the things of God, the Bible, the Church, the Church's teachings, etc. We heard in the second reading of St. Paul to the Corinthians from last Sunday “*For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God*”. What wisdom or knowledge of the Kingdom of God do you have in comparison with what you know and understand about the stuff of this world only? It would be a great question to ponder. (Fr. Charles)

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Tuesday, March 3^d

8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, March 4th

7:00 p.m. † Margaret Forget
Intentions of James Gallagher Jr
† Vickie Hunkit Sousa

Thursday, March 5th

8:30 a.m. † Joe Camarata

Friday, March 6th

7:00 p.m. † Margaret Forget

Saturday, March 7th

4:30 p.m. † Rose, Nate & Marg Cirignano

Sunday, March 8th

9:00 a.m. † Fred Molica

11:00 a.m. † Michele Cavallari

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for intentions of
Enoia Pacheco
Week of February 28 – March 5

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food"

As part of the Knights of Columbus 'Food For Families' program, we are inviting the St. Leo the Great community to donate NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS/CANNED ITEMS DURING THE SEASON OF LENT. The reality is that food insecurity is a year-round problem and the numbers of people accessing food banks across Durham Region is sadly increasing. Our local food banks and kitchens depend on the generosity of others to provide food to those who cannot afford food and often struggle to purchase these items as well. The Knights of Columbus hope you can donate to this worthy endeavour. The food drive will begin on Wednesday February 26th and will end on Palm Sunday April 5th. Donations can be dropped off in the vestibule.

OFFICE OF CATHOLIC YOUTH

The *re:gen* mission of the Archdiocese of Toronto is currently hiring young adults to become chastity or campus missionaries for 15 months starting in June 2020 until August 2021. If you or someone you know would be interested in this great opportunity, please contact Genicia Dabu at regen@ocytoronto.org

You can count on our prayers as you discern joining our team!

You can also find this employment opportunity online at www.archtoronto.org/contact-us/employment-opportunities To learn more about *re:gen*, visit their website at www.ocytoronto.org/regen



SNACKS ON SNACKS:

The NET Team needs snacks for their impact youth night on Tuesday's and Edge Youth night on Thursday's. Please consider supporting the NET Team through donating

snacks. Thank you!!

Calling All Youth Grades 6-12:

The NET Team has open office, which is a time to hangout with the NET Team, play games, eat snacks and enjoy some good company! We have our open offices on Wednesday's 3-5pm, Friday's 3-5pm, and Saturday's 1:30pm-4pm, 5pm-6:30pm. We would love to see you there!

Join the 11:00 a.m. choir.

The Sunday 11:00 am choir would like to invite all members of the congregation to think about joining our wonderful choir. We are regularly looking for new members to join the ranks. All ages and vocal abilities are wanted. Music is taught on a weekly basis in a fun and simple way for those who don't read music. If you have been thinking about joining, come out for a week or two and give it a try. Bring a friend with you. The choir sings at the 11:00 mass on Sundays and we rehearse on Thursday nights from 7:30 - 9:00 pm. For more information about joining the choir, please see Ted, the director, after the 11:00 mass, call 647-302-6996 (cell) or come out to the church on Thursday night at 7:30 pm. Thank you.

VOCATION SEEDS

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life-commitment God has prepared for you? If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, **contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. email vocations@archtoronto.org www.vocationstoronto.ca**



Living the Gospel by sharing our blessings

"The needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ are greater than ever before. In order for ShareLife agencies to continue their vital work, it is crucial we meet our parish campaign goal of \$13.8 million.

Our goal can be met, but only with your help. As you contemplate the blessings God has entrusted to you, please join me in giving to ShareLife to the best of your ability." – *Cardinal Thomas Collins*

March 29 is ShareLife Sunday. Please give generously.




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