

# st. leo's parish

WEEKLY BULLETIN

## CONTACT

277 Royal York Rd.  
Toronto, ON M8V 2V8

t: 416-251-1109  
e: stleoset@archtoronto.org  
w: StLeoset.archtoronto.org

## OFFICE HOURS

Tues thru Thurs - 9am to 4pm  
Fri - 9am to 12pm

## SCHOOLS

St Leo's School  
159 Stanley Av.  
Toronto, ON M8V 1P1  
t: 416-393-5333

St. Louis School  
11 Morgan Av.  
Toronto, ON M8Y 2Z7  
t: 416-393-5331

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
Meeting every fourth Monday  
of the month at 8pm

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**  
Assisting families in need  
t: 416-855-9002

**CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**  
t: 416-733-8544  
w: thecatholiccemeteries.ca



## PASTOR

Fr. Nicola Defina

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Sunday Masses

Saturday | 5pm  
Sunday | 8:30am; 10am & 11:30am

### Weekday Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday | 8am

Wednesday 7pm with  
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Rosary begins at 6:30pm

Magnificat Charismatic Prayer Group (Polish)  
Thursday 7:30pm

## SACRAMENTS

### Baptism

Sunday after the 11:30am Mass  
Register three months in advance

### Marriage

Contact the Pastor  
one year in advance

### Reconciliation

Wednesday - 6pm to 7pm  
Saturday - 4pm to 5pm  
or call to arrange a time

### Pastoral Care of the Sick

Please notify the Parish Office  
for arrangements

### Eucharistic Adoration

Every first Friday of the month  
following the 8am Mass

### Devotions

First Friday and Saturday 8am

### Scriptural Rosary

Friday 6:30 pm

## MINISTRIES

Altar Servers | Altar Society  
Extra Ordinary Eucharistic Ministers  
Hospitality | Ushers  
Lectors | Readers  
Music | Choir

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

R.C.I.A.  
R.C.I.C.  
Adult Faith Study  
Movie Night  
Finance Council  
Quilters' Club

## NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit/Apt.: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Weekly Offering Envelopes

☐ New Parishioner

☐ Change of Address

☐ Moving Out of Parish

ST. LEO'S PARISH IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

 <b>Mass Intentions for the Week</b>		
Sat Jan 10	5 pm	† Dominic & Carmela Ruggiero (Donna Micco)
Sun Jan 11	8:30 am	† Theresa Dalla Costa (The Family)
	10 am	† Giorgio Franco (Norm Davis)
	11:30 am	PRO POPULO
Mon Jan 12	8 am	Blessings & Thanksgiving Aida Manlangit
Tue Jan 13	8 am	† Gloria Felaire (Agnes Martinez)
Wed Jan 14	7 pm	† Joe McMullen (St. Leo's St. Vincent de Paul)
Thu Jan 15	8 am	Birthday Blessings Jane Spada (The Family)
Fri Jan 16	8 am	† Biagio, Civita, Elena & Mariano Forte (The Family)
Sat Jan 17	5 pm	† Matthew Fusaro (Raffaella, Francisco & Olivia)
Sun Jan 18	8:30 am	† Vittorio Foschini (Fiorina Foschini & Family)
	10 am	PRO POPULO
	11:30 am	Special Intentions (Anonymous)

### Why did Jesus ask to be baptized?

Neither John nor Jesus invented baptism. It had been practiced for centuries among the Jews as a ritual equivalent of Confession. Until the fall of the Temple in 72 A.D. it was common for Jewish people to make a spiritual cleansing in a special pool called a MIKVEH-literally a "collection of water". This was said to remove spiritual impurity and sin. Men did this weekly on the eve of the Sabbath. Women did it monthly. Converts were also expected to do it before entering Judaism. Orthodox Jews still retain the rite. John preached that such a bath was a necessary preparation for the cataclysm that would be wrought by the coming Messiah. Jesus transformed this continual ritual into the one single, definitive act by which we begin our faith. (Lonsdale Commentaries & Clip-art)



### Thank you

We want to say "Thank you" to our Parishioners for your continuing devotion and commitment to the life of our parish. Thank you for the time, energy and talents you give so freely as well as for your financial support. Without such generous giving our church could not survive let alone develop and grow. We know that many of you find it inspiring, rewarding and enjoyable to be a part of our church community, and we thank God for your faith, love and service. God Bless you all!



Eucharistic Adoration  
First Friday of the month February 6, 2026  
Following the 8 am Mass  
Rosary at 7:30am.  
Adoration concludes with Holy Mass  
Saturday morning February 7, 2026 @ 8 am  
Come. See. Hear. Encounter.  
Experience the Real Presence of Jesus

### Ordinary Time Begins

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (this weekend January 11<sup>th</sup>) officially brings the Christmas Season to a close. Tomorrow we return to the season of Ordinary Time. During Ordinary Time the Church celebrates the fullness of the mystery of the Lord Jesus. We listen to the stories of his life and ministry and ponder his words. The liturgical color for Ordinary Time is green.



### Serra Vocation

As John the Baptist introduced the people of his time to Jesus "a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'" Perhaps God is calling you to do the same in our time as a priest, deacon, brother or sister contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)

### Communion Etiquette

The Church allows us to receive communion on the tongue or in the hand. The bishops of Canada ask that we make a simple bow before receiving Holy Communion. Please make this act of reverence as the person ahead of you receives the Eucharist. By this gesture we show our respect and love for Jesus, truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

### Adult Faith Education Continuing

For a deeper understanding of the word of God, interested parishioners can participate in this faith development program. Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 @ 7 pm in the church basement hall.



## Volunteer Appreciation Night Friday February 13<sup>th</sup>

We take the time to thank all volunteers in our community, who dedicate their time and talents to serve our parish. We are fortunate for their continued service and support. A special appreciation get-together night is planned for all volunteers, for Friday February 13<sup>th</sup>. Holy Mass @ 7 pm and buffet dinner following Mass. The invitation is extended to all volunteers and guest.



*In Loving Memory Of*

*The Sanctuary Lamp for the month of January is reserved by Anna Maria Cerullo.*

*In Loving Memory of  
All Deceased Members of the Cerullo Family*

## The St. Leo's Quilting Group

The Quilters meets every Monday from 10 am to 2 pm. They would love to have you join them. If you cannot stay for the entire time, you are welcome to come and stay for as many hours as you wish. If you do not know how to quilt but would like to learn, they will be glad to teach you. They also have beautiful baby quilts for sale that would make lovely gifts

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:  
And for the souls of the deceased:

**Olivia Barrucco**

**Rev. Mons. Eduardo Resendes, P.H.**

Communion for the homebound upon request,  
anointing of the sick with the seriously ill, or  
those undergoing surgery. Please call the parish  
office

## Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026

Sunday, January 18, 2026, 4:00 p.m. EST

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.

*save*  
**THE DATE**

**Saturday January 31<sup>st</sup> @ 7 pm**  
**Movie Night in the parish hall**

## Please note:

Your 2026 offering envelopes are made up of two parts; **ordinary offering** and **building fund**; after you write your name and address, write in the amount for the offertory and the amount designated to the building fund, it is easier for our counters to allocate the funds that way. And please remember to use your blue envelopes every month so we can continue to raise much needed funds for the new rectory. Thank you!



## Update from St Leo's St Vincent de Paul

Over the Christmas season, we assisted a total of 48 households made up of 58 adults and 59 children. Fourteen of our families were sponsored very generously by Bishop Allen Academy and St Gregory's Parish. We held a very successful drop-in and hosted members of 34 of the households in the church basement for a light lunch and distribution of \$4,350 in grocery store gift cards as well as assorted other donated gift cards and presents. Overall it was a wonderful experience to be able to share the great generosity of our community with so many people who are experiencing hardship at this time of year. The proceeds from the Christmas collection of 2025, of \$3,413.00, help us to continue this work of charity. God bless all of you!

## Bake Sale Thanks

A special thank you to all our volunteers who took part in the Parish Bake Sale making it a great success. There is an enormous amount of work in the set up and the clean-up, the time you donate and your hard work is very much appreciated. We also thank our parishioners who generously donated baked good for the sale, it was great to see so many goodies and treats. The bake sale generated an income of \$1,165.50. **THANK YOU!** Mike Cerullo is the winner of the Quilt, Robert Long and Mary Surman raffle winners of the Crosses donated by parishioner Janice Saulnier. God Bless!



## Lakeshore Youth Ministry – EDGE & LifeTeen

As we begin the New Year, Lakeshore Youth Ministry is pleased to welcome youth back for another season of faith, fellowship, and community. Our Friday youth nights are held at St. Ambrose Church Hall at 6:00 PM and alternate between the following programs:

**EDGE** – for students in Grades 5–8

First session: Friday, January 9

**LifeTeen** – for students in Grades 9 and up

First session: Friday, January 16

All youth are welcome, including those attending for the first time. We look forward to beginning this New Year together as a parish family.



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