

St. Leo's Parish

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Pastoral Team

Pastor: Fr. Nicola Defina



**The Lord has Risen,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION



Masses For The Week

Sat Apr 4 Holy Saturday	7 pm	Easter Vigil Mass PRO POPULO
Sun Apr 5 Easter Sunday	8:30 am	† Biagio, Civita, & Bruno Forte (The Family)
	10 am	† Ana Gornik (Son Tony)
	11:30 am	† Edwin Dalli (The Family)
Mon Apr 6	8 am	† Carla Suppa (S. Suppa)
Tue Apr 7	8 am	† Maria Concetta, Giuseppe & Donato Zita (Lucy Zita)
Wed Apr 8	7 pm	Special Intentions Adele Hickey (S. Suppa)
Thu Apr 9	8 am	† Donato, Concetta & Giuseppe Zita (Lucy Zita)
Fri Apr 10	8 am	Birthday Blessings Rita Galardo (Anna Maria Cerullo)
Sat Apr 11	8 am	† Irwin Coutinho (Lynnore)
	5 pm	PRO POPULO
Sun Apr 12	8:30 am	† Lorenza & Raffaele Ducentino (Fiorina Foschini)
	10 am	† Angelo Gugel (Franceschini Family)
	11:30 am	† Eduardo Pontes (Infancia Pontes & Family)

A little yeast

In bible times, people made their own yeast (leaven or "sour dough") for bread. Since it took several days to grow the yeast plant, they always saved a starter batch. This "seed" hastened the process. After a wet winter the yeast might go bad--develop mold spores. Middle East women made a rule of throwing out the old yeast in the spring to prevent this decay. The custom was eventually connected with Passover, when unleavened (yeast less) bread was baked until the new yeast could be grown. Paul suggests that Christians should periodically throw out old ways of thinking. Thus we can view the message of the Resurrection from a renewed point of view.

(Lonsdale Commentaries & Clip Art)



Easter Blessings

Easter is a joyful, and peace filled time of coming together to celebrate the mystery of our faith with family and friends. Through Our Blessed Lord's suffering and death on the cross He has given us an opportunity to take part in His sufferings; and through it, we shall bear in His fruits which lead us to life eternal. By choosing to conform our way of life to Christ's, we are reminded to, "lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus who endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:1-2). For Christ has shared His Life with us and through His Resurrection from the dead, points to the resurrection of all humanity. As we celebrate this joyous time, let us set our minds and hearts on the Risen Lord. Think of what is above, not what is on earth" (Col 3:1-2). Our future lies with Him, for Christ is Risen, Alleluia!!!



Wishing you and your family a blessed Easter and may our Risen Lord Jesus Christ keep you always in His Peace.

Fr. Nick Defina ~ Pastor St. Leo's Church

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of the month May 1, 2026

Following the 8 am Mass

Rosary at 7:30am.

Adoration concludes with Holy Mass

Saturday morning May 2, 2026 @ 8 am

Come. See. Hear. Encounter.

Experience the Real Presence of Jesus

Serra Vocation

"He has been raised from the dead!" Through our baptism He calls us to proclaim new life to the world. Pray for those who herald the Good News as priests, deacons, brothers or sisters. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997. Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

First Eucharist & Confirmation at St. Leo's Church

Our children are preparing to receive First Eucharist and Confirmation. The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will take place on the following times: Sunday April 19th Sunday April 26th & Sunday May 3rd always at the 11:30 am Mass. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Sunday May 17th and Sunday May 24th also at the 11:30 am Mass. Please keep our youth in your prayers as they continue to prepare for their upcoming Sacraments.



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

Pasquale Galardo
Rev. Edward Joseph Smith

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

Adult Faith

For a deeper understanding of the word of God, interested parishioners can participate in this faith development program. Friday, April 10th @ 7 pm in the church basement hall.



2026 National March for Life

Join us May 14, 2026

Our theme for the 2026 National March for Life is **"FOLLOW ME"**

And He said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.' Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. (Matthew 4:19-20) These are words that changed history. "Follow Me" is first and foremost an invitation to be disciples of Jesus and fishers of men.

Show your love by giving ShareLife

Jesus' love for us invites us to give to others, especially those most in need. ShareLife agencies continue to support the most vulnerable in our community through services that are only possible through your kind and generous donations. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.



Welcome home Catholics

No matter how long you have been away from the Catholic Church, you can always come home. Whether you are just beginning to think about returning to Church or can't wait to get involved, we are glad you are here!

Welcome to the faith, RCIA candidates

The Rite of Initiation is celebrated at the Easter Vigil. By the water of Baptism a person passes into the new life of grace and becomes a member of the Body of Christ. Those who are already



baptized and have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation are given Holy Communion and are confirmed. Anointing with Holy Oil called Chrism seals the initiation by the power of the Holy Spirit and participation at the Table of the Lord in the Eucharist marks full membership in the church. We welcome our candidates; we are delighted that you have chosen to journey in faith with our parish community through the RCIA process, this is a time of grace for all of us as we pray and learn together.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 12TH

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30, 10 & 11:30 AM

3 PM DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

Easter Season

The Easter season begins on the evening of Easter Sunday and continues for fifty days, ending on the evening of Pentecost Sunday. The eight days following Easter are observed as the Octave of



Easter. The fifty days between Easter and Pentecost are a time of joy and thanksgiving for what Christ has done for humanity. The paschal candle is in a prominent place in the sanctuary of the church and is lit for all liturgical celebrations. The Sundays of this season rank as the Sundays of Easter and, after Easter Sunday itself, are called the Second (also called Divine Mercy Sunday), Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Sundays of Easter. On the fortieth day after Easter the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated, except in places where, not being a holy day of obligation, it moves to the Seventh Sunday of Easter. One week after the Ascension, the 50th day after Easter, the feast of Pentecost is celebrated. The liturgical color of most of the Easter season is white. The liturgical color for Pentecost is red, symbolizing the Holy Spirit and the tongues of fire which appeared above the heads of the apostles when they received the Holy Spirit.

The Sanctuary Lamp for the month of April
Is offered by: **Joanna Bak**
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