

<i>Mass Intentions</i> FOR THE WEEK		
Sat Dec 28	5 pm	† Margrit Colonello (Nick Colonello) † John, Mary & Gerard Bolen (Jane)
Sun Dec 29	8:30	"In Onore al Bambino Gesù"
	10 am	† Silvio Ciccocelli (Lina Ciccocelli & Family) † Jack Innes (Jean Lipiec) † Frederick, Evelyn & Karen Haslan (The Family) † David Earle Varty (Tony & Cathy Dodds)
	11:30 am	PRO POPULO
Mon Dec 30	8 am	
Tue New Year's Eve	5 pm	† Walenty & Jadwiga Gorski (Family Member)
Wed New Year's Day	11 am	
Thu Jan 2	8 am	
Fri Jan 3	8 am	
Sat Jan 4	5 pm	† Pat Chisholm (The Family) † Mary Alves & Family (Marie Paul)
Sun Jan 5	8:30 am	† Biagio Forte (Civita Forte & Famiglia) † Mina & Carmine Rossi (Tony Rossi)
	10 am	† Gregorio Greco & Giovanna Boragina (Maria Greco) † Jack Innes (Norm Davis) † Michael Poudrier (Yvonne Ribeiro)
	11:30 am	PRO POPULO

Welcome and thank you for visiting our parish

As a Catholic Church and Faith Community, we give thanks to God for the gift of our Faith, for the gift of one another as Brothers and Sisters in Christ. We are all on a great journey, the journey of life itself to our heavenly homeland. If you are living in the area, we hope you will be able to come and join us in gathering as God's family each Sunday to give thanks, praise and worship to God, here is where we come to know one another and put our gifts at the service of God's family, the Church. We hope you will follow the stirrings of your hearts which have led you here.



HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
2020
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

New Year's Greetings!
 We wish our parishioners best wishes for a Peaceful New Year filled with great hopes!
 May the Lord accompany you always!

New Year's Mass Schedule

Tuesday December 31st 5:00 pm
 (No 8 am Mass)

Tuesday January 1st 2020
 Mass @ 11:00 am **ONLY**

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
 New Year Day is a Holy Day of obligation for all Catholics

A New Year filled with Hope and Joy

Today we stand on the doorstep of a new year. The old year is almost gone. May we leave behind all struggles, sorrows and pain and walk hand-in-hand with Jesus our Savior into a future filled with hope and joy. On New Year's Day we join our brothers and sisters all over the world in a prayer for peace and reconciliation among nations and peoples. We encourage every parishioner to seek the intercession of Mary, the Most Holy Mother of God. Pray the Rosary and ask her to intercede with Jesus her Divine Son. To all who call St. Leo's Parish their home we wish many blessings in the New Year! May God always keep you in his care!

Christmas Bells

Bells have many voices. Jingle bells are light and lively, sleigh bells promise fun. Today, Christmas bells of all kinds ring joyfully across the land. In the fifth century, bells were used to call monks to worship. Long ago, when bells were rung during or after worship services, the bell ringers looked through sighting holes or used mirrors so they could see the altar and determine when the bell should ring. These holes are still visible in old European church towers. In our world, bells and chimes have become part of the noise clutter that surrounds us: a bell rings when the microwave is done, dings when the oven is ready and wakes us in the morning. During the holidays, sleigh bells, jingle bells and church bells spread sounds of holiday cheer. Today, the Christmas bells ring with a single, joy-filled message: Rejoice! Jesus is born!





January 1st is the Solemnity of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and a Holy Day of Obligation. January 1st is also World Day of

Prayers for Peace. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 am

12 days starting when?

Some people think the Twelve Days of Christmas come to an end on December 25th. Wrong! They officially begin with the first Mass of Christmas and end on the Feast of the Epiphany (Jan 6). Don't take down the tree and the lights just yet. Savor the season.

Serra Vocation

By Baptism we are God's holy family today. Pray for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained or consecrated person. If God is calling you, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

Liturgical Publication

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin beginning January 2020. The advertisements make our bulletin possible. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service. Call Liturgical Publications at 905-624-4422.

New Season - New Prayer Book

The new prayer book "St. Joseph's Sunday Missal" for the 2020 season is now on sale. The cost of the Sunday Missal is the same as last year \$5.00. For a personal copy please see members of our social committee in the back of the church.

Tabernacle Flowers

Altar Flowers are a welcome offering to our worship. Flowers are alive. They are of God's creation. They are a fragrant offering to the God who created them. People give flowers in thanksgiving to God for a family member's birthday, wedding anniversary or other blessing. They are also given in memory of a departed loved one or friend. We give thanks to everyone who has already given flowers on a particular week or Sunday. Please call the parish office to make arrangements. The donation is \$50.00.

The Sanctuary Lamp and the Tabernacle Flowers for the month of December are offered:

In Loving Memory

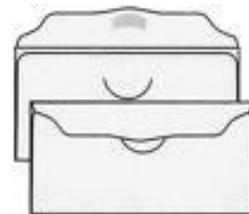
"Marcos G. Celis"

Anniversary Memorial & Birthday Remembrance

By wife: Shirley Hernando & Family

Parish Support Envelopes

The parish envelope weekly collection is the main source of income for our parish and it is vital that as many as possible parishioners use them. If it has not been your custom to use the weekly envelopes why not begin this year? New/Un-used boxes are available



for your convenience on the right side of the church by the right exit door. A very sincere "THANKS" to all our parishioners and friends of the parish who support us by their generosity and presence. This witness is deeply appreciated and we ask you for your continuing support.

What is a parishioner?

Many of you attend Mass often here at St. Leo, and give generously to our offertory/building fund and special collections. (Thank you). However that does not automatically make you a "Registered" parishioner. A "Registered" parishioner is one who attends Sunday Mass at St. Leo regularly and participates in our community-life. Using church envelopes helps us to confirm your membership in our parish for special occasion such, being asked to be a Godparent at Baptism or a Sponsor at Confirmation, or preparation for one of the Sacraments. Registration forms can be found on the front page of our bulletin, or visit the parish office during office hours

Thank you

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the parishioners Community of the 8:30 am Italian Mass for the contribution of \$100.00 for the Christmas Flowers for the Sanctuary; your support is very much appreciated.

He shall be called a Nazarene

The original language of the Bible was rich in word play. Several of the authors used what we would call puns. These had a practical as well as artistic purpose. Since few people could read, it was necessary to hold large sections of the scriptures in memory. Playing upon words aided this accomplishment. Sadly,



most translations fail to convey the puns. Today's gospel is a good example. In Hebrew the word "netser" means "branch". It can refer to a plant branch or to the "branch" of a family tree. The most important family in Israel was that of David. Isaiah 11:1 talks about a "shoot (or branch) sprouting from the stump of Jesse (David's father). Matthew seems to be connecting the name of the town, Nazareth with the netser of the royal family. (Lonsdale Commentaries & Clip Art)