



**Father James P. Schmitz**

Pastor

4940 Broadview Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

**January 1, 2023**  
**Mary, the Holy Mother of God**



**PARISH STAFF | 216.661.1006**

**Father James Schmitz, Pastor**

[jschmitz@leothegreat.org](mailto:jschmitz@leothegreat.org)

**Deacon Patrick & Joan Berigan**

[pberigan@leothegreat.org](mailto:pberigan@leothegreat.org)

[jberigan@leothegreat.org](mailto:jberigan@leothegreat.org)

**Brenda Basalla, Business Manager**

[bbasalla@leothegreat.org](mailto:bbasalla@leothegreat.org)

**Nina Capone, Office Manager**

[ncapone@leothegreat.org](mailto:ncapone@leothegreat.org)

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[mstitt@leothegreat.org](mailto:mstitt@leothegreat.org)

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[mpiechowski@leothegreat.org](mailto:mpiechowski@leothegreat.org)

**Miss Nadia, Parish Center Coordinator**

[missnadia@leothegreat.org](mailto:missnadia@leothegreat.org)

**Judy Strodbeck, Facilities Manager**

[jstrodbeck@leothegreat.org](mailto:jstrodbeck@leothegreat.org)

**RECTORY/OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday—Friday | 9:00am— 4:00pm

Saturday | 12:00pm—5:00pm

Sunday | 9:00am—12:00pm

**SCHOOL STAFF: 216.661.2120**

**Denise Burns, Principal**

[dburns@leothegreat.org](mailto:dburns@leothegreat.org)

**Robin Salem, Assistant Principal**

[rsalem@leothegreat.org](mailto:rsalem@leothegreat.org)

**Eileen Breitmeyer, School Secretary**

[ebreitmeyer@leothegreat.org](mailto:ebreitmeyer@leothegreat.org)

**Joann Deranek, Director of Religious Education**

[jderanek@leothegreat.org](mailto:jderanek@leothegreat.org)

**SCHOOL HOURS:**

Monday—Friday 8:00am—3:00pm

[www.leothegreat.org](http://www.leothegreat.org)

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**WEEKENDS**

Saturday Vigil | 4:00pm

Sundays | 8:00am and 11:00am

**WEEKDAYS**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday | 8:30am

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION**

8:30am and 7:00pm

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Individual confessions are celebrated Saturdays from 3:00pm-3:30pm, Sundays from 10:00a-10:30a , or anytime by request or appointment.

**NEW TO THE PARISH? WELCOME!**

New parishioners and those moving from the parish or changing addresses are asked to contact the Rectory Office or use our website.

**BAPTISMS**

Parents desiring Baptism for their child are asked to contact the Rectory Office to make arrangements.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Preparations and arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance with a priest. Only then can a wedding date be confirmed.

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?**

If you are interested about becoming Catholic or have questions about the Catholic Faith, please call the Rectory.

If you or a family member are ill or homebound please let us know so that our priest or deacon can visit and provide spiritual care.



Instagram @leothegreatorg



Facebook—leothegreatorg



Twitter @leothegreatorg



Read the latest bulletin and find other useful information on your mobile device by downloading the app.



Please join us for Mass for the Feast of the Solemnity of Mary -- 4:00 p.m. December 31st and 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on January 1st.

Please mark your calendars to join us for Mass and the events and activities throughout the year!

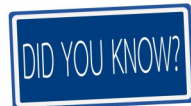
**MEMORIES**

*“I remember walking to and from school, in the morning, home for lunch, back after lunch and home after school. If you lived within a mile of the school, you were required to go home for lunch, unless your mother was working. Then it was brown bag it, with milk provided. No cafeteria. Very few lived too far away or had a working mom.”*  
—Chris Rath

Do you have a favorite memory from the past 75 years? If so, please submit it to [nzola@leothegreat.org](mailto:nzola@leothegreat.org).

Are you a former student of St. Leo School? Is your child a former student of St. Leo School? Please let us know by completing a form on the parish website -- [leothegreat.org](http://leothegreat.org) -- under Organizations - Alumni Association. We hope to hear from you!

We welcome photos throughout the year of the people and events taking place. Please forward your photos to [photos@leothegreat.org](mailto:photos@leothegreat.org).



Fr. John Fiala, second pastor of St. Leo's, cultivated lilacs. He developed over 50 varieties of lilacs, authored the book “Lilacs--The Genus Syringa”, and was a founder of the Members of the International Lilac Society.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**






Please join us for Eucharistic Adoration on January 6, 2022 beginning after the 8:30am Mass and concluding with Benediction at 4:45pm. You are invited to spend some time with the Lord in a quiet, prayerful atmosphere.

This devotion is held every First Friday of the month at St. Leo's, in the chapel area of the church.

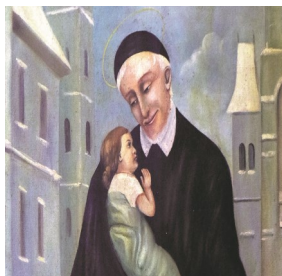
Thank you for your continued generosity.

**PARISH SUPPORT**

Dec. 11, 2022    Dec. 18, 2022

	Sunday Envelope	\$	5,911.02	5,718.30
	WeShare	\$	2,053.50	2,655.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,964.52</b>	<b>8,373.30</b>
	Cap. Improv	\$	438.00	309.00
	WeShare	\$	20.00	125.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>458.00</b>	<b>434.00</b>
	SVDP	\$	40.00	0.00
	WeShare	\$	20.00	60.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>60.00</b>	<b>60.00</b>

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL**



“Out of Sight”

When the weather turns bad, people who are out of work or sick seem to drop out of sight and sometimes out of mind. Hopelessness is a chronic problem of the needy. Let others know that you care by helping your St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization bring light and hope into lives that seem so dark with a donation into the Poor Boxes located at the entrances of the church or put your donation in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket or take it to the rectory office. It will be very much appreciated .



## ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, January 2nd—Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen**

8:30am **NO MASS**

**Tuesday, January 3rd—Christmas Weekday**

8:30am + Stanley, Katherine & Stanley Jr. Gierlach (Family)

**Wednesday, January 4th—Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton**

8:30am +Ruth DeCesare (Marie and Allen Phillips)

**Friday, January 6th—Christmas Weekday**

8:30am Joice Krakora (Joice Krakora)

**Saturday, January 7th—Christmas Weekday**

4:00pm +Dennis & +Catherine Black (Pam & Theresa Lincheck)

**Sunday, January 8th--The Epiphany of the Lord**

8:00am People of the Parish

11:00am John McNamara (Maura Norton)



Since there is no Mass here at St. Leo's on Thursdays you can attend Mass at one of our other local parishes; St. Charles (7am), St. Barbara (7:30am), St. Francis de Sales (8:45am) or Mary Queen of Peace (8am).

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR

# PRAYERS

Mary Niec, Alivia Kobal, Taylor Corbett, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Amelia Rebello, Irma Zappitelli, Dianne Toronski, Don Donelon, Larry Kuznik, John Sofcheck, Ireneo (Ernie) Santiago, Rob Blum, Gary Skelley, Virginia Soflkancs, Evelyn Bastian, Mary Lou Neuendorf, Joseph Bublavy, Kristen Eble, Anna Mendoza, Marianne Kucinski-Powers, Denise Warnock, Edith Lysyj, John Geiger, Rosie Colucci, Buzzy Miano, Judy Bruzshinsky, Carol Broze, Stan Wasacz, Joe Barr, Mary Ann & Doug Kiesel, Marcia Bailey, Jim Tisch, MaryLou Durfee, Chris Grdosic, Kathy Svoboda, Matt Pauloski, Kelley, Tootie, Megan Arena, Lena Sunyak, Chuck Pacanovsky, Theresa Truxall, Susan Fenski, Antoinette Jakosh, Rose Arlia, Liz Woisnet, MaryKay Simonek, Betty Popow, R.Rosario, Margarita Quinones, Allen Phillips, Ruth Bublavy, John O'Malley, Kenneth Lees, Tina Sunday, and Karen Horvath, Jesse Kazimer, William Woolard, Carol Rucinski and Teresa Bozek



**DC. CONNOR HETZEL**  
DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN  
V THEOLOGY, SAINT MARY

Every week we pray for those discerning a vocation in religious life. Pray that they may continue to persevere and that others may respond to God's call.

### Sanctuary Candle Intention

January 1, 2023 — January 15, 2023

**PATRICIA CHOPKA**

We Love You,  
Andy & Family

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

#### FIRST READING: NUMBERS 6:22-27

The fourth book of the bible is called the Book of Numbers simply because in describing the wanderings of the people in the Sinai Desert, it gives two census reports. In this section, we hear how God instructed the priestly leaders to bless the people.

#### SECOND READING: GALATIANS 4:4-7

Galatia was a Roman province in what is now central Turkey. Paul had visited there and founded a Christian community. In this section of his letter to them, he explains that all people, not just a select few, are called to be sons and daughters of God.

**SUNDAY** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

**MONDAY** 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

**TUESDAY** 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

**WEDNESDAY** 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

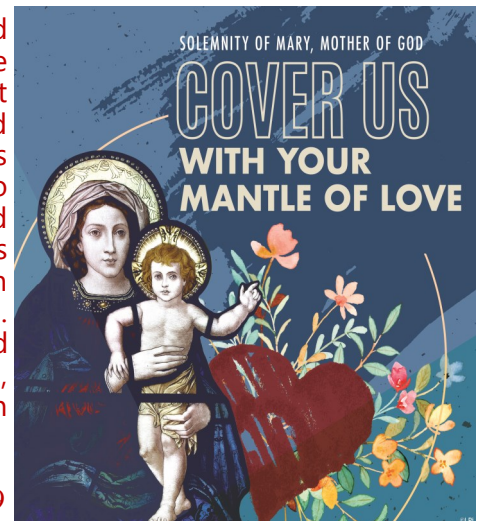
**THURSDAY** 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

**FRIDAY** 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11

**SATURDAY** 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a, and 9b/Jn 2:1-11

<sup>17</sup> When they had seen *Him*, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it were amazed about the things which were told them by the shepherds. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart.

— Lk 2:17-19



## ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

### ENCOURAGE A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 1, 2023 | Mary, The Holy Mother of God

*Gospel  
Meditation*

We hide ourselves and our secrets from God because we are afraid. Even Mary can seem too perfect to approach. The shepherds find the strength to speak to Mary and Joseph at the moment they see the child in the manger. They open their hearts and share what they've experienced. Saint Luke writes of the shepherds, "When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child."

When I was a college student, I visited Rome. Beggars often approached and said, "Mangia? Mangia?" I didn't speak Italian and thought, "Why are they speaking about the Christmas nativity scene?" My friend said, "Mangia means eat. They're hungry." That's when I realized more deeply than ever before that Mary puts her baby in a place designed for hungry animals to eat.

See that baby in the manger in your heart. Imagine Mary kneeling nearby looking at you with love. She doesn't cling to God for herself. In that cave, from the beginning, she quietly offers her son to hungry souls. The manger means vulnerable self-offering love. That's the sign. This week that same manger opens our hearts to tell Mary about our lives, too.

— Father John Muir

#### SEEING GOD IN OUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

*She Kept All of These Things in Her Heart*  
By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorma

"What was my first word? Who was there when I was born? When did I start to walk? Which toys did I play with? What made me cry when I was a baby?"

My oldest has reached the age where she has started to ask questions like this. As she grows up, she is realizing that, in order to understand the world around her, she must first understand herself. This makes her insatiably curious about her own identity, her history — her "origin story," as they say in the movies.

I've got most of it documented either in writing or in photos, but even if it's a detail that wasn't scribbled in a baby book or saved to my digital cloud, it's a memory that I can quickly summon and make real for her as we snuggle and talk about who she was, who she is, and who she may become.

I'm the mom. I have kept all of these things in my heart.

The Blessed Mother knew more about God before opening a book than most of us could discover after a lifetime of study and prayer. There is no one whose knowledge of Christ was so intimate, so deep, so simultaneously ordinary and extraordinary, as the human woman who bore him, birthed him, nursed him, raised him and eventually gave him up.

In the way that I can tell my daughter everything there is to know about the part of her life she cannot recall, Mary can tell us everything we need to know about Christ. All we have to do is ask.

*"Mary kept all of these things in her heart."* — Luke 2:19

#### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

*Listen. Think. Act.*

That is a mantra or slogan for many different groups. Some seek to battle prejudice and bias. Other groups hope to eliminate poverty or reduce crime. I have even found some companies use it as a way of increasing engagement among their employees. In a nutshell, it is about taking in what you have heard and then reflecting on it before you act. The most fruitful actions are those that take place after careful reflection.

This is an important thing to remember for those trying to live a stewardship way of life. If we are honest with ourselves, too often most of us jump to conclusions too quickly or act in ways that cause friction because we didn't really think about the consequences of our actions. We are moving too fast in a world that seems to be moving ever faster.

When the shepherds came to visit Jesus, the newborn King, they told Mary everything that the angels had told them. Luke tells us that after hearing all this, she "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." No response. No panic. No action. Her reflection was the appropriate response.

In this New Year, you and I would do well to remember this Gospel account of Mary, the Mother of God. Let us resolve to listen more, reflect often, and then act accordingly. We are called to use our gifts wisely, sowing them in good soil. If we just throw them out, allowing them to simply fall wherever they may, have we really used them for God's glory? We need to listen. Think. Then act.



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

Happy New Year everyone! I say that with gratitude to God as this is the beginning of my 10<sup>th</sup> year as Pastor of St. Leo the Great. I can hardly believe that as I write it because it seems like it was yesterday when I first arrived here with dog & cat in tow (and both still living, gratefully). It's been a wonderful time getting to know people of this parish and as time goes on, I have the opportunity to get to know even more people, and the ones I already know, I come to know even better. It is with that same gratitude that I thank you for your prayers, Christmas cards and support throughout the year. I am also very thankful for all who continue to bless us with a beautifully decorated church each year at Christmas and to Mickey & Mary & all the cantors & choir members who enhance our worship so much by their musical & vocal talent. I am especially grateful to those added musicians both from our parish and from other parishes who play for us at Christmas & Easter. As the psalms call for repeatedly, we need to praise God with every musical instrument at our disposal. This music lifts our hearts in union with the prayers that lift our minds to God in prayer and praise.

I have to confess that I struggle to find words to write from time to time in this column when I have to submit them to the publisher weeks in advance (due to the holidays) & when nothing too out of the ordinary is happening in the parish. So again I'm going to share some words that come from my spiritual reading. I try to read from a spiritual book every day & can't get enough of what others have learned and shared regarding faith, the Catholic Church, and the incredible works of God. And since an important part of my ministry as a priest is to preach the Word of God to you, I am always grateful for the opportunity to share the words of others that have enriched me, whether I share them with you from the pulpit or here in this column. Right now I'm reading a book from my favorite author and evangelist, Bishop Robert Barron. It's called "Light from Light" and he takes each line (& sometimes each word) from the Nicene Creed which we recite each Sunday at Mass & goes into its history & meaning. So I wanted to share a few thoughts from that book which really sheds light (excuse the pun) on this bold statement of our belief which we proudly proclaim each weekend. This Creed has developed over centuries and is the result of much debate, discussion, even arguments between those who have been faithful stewards of the Church's teaching and those who have been found to be heretics (people who profess what the Church has proclaimed to be untrue). So much conversation and prayer has gone to make up this Creed that the Church insists it be recited in every solemn liturgy.

This Creed was developed from the Council of Nicaea (hence called the "Nicene" Creed) in the year 325 (so obviously, very ancient!). It was slightly elaborated at the Council of Constantinople in 381 (so sometimes also called the "Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed"...say that 3 times fast, or even once!). But while these statements about God as Father, Son & Holy Spirit are very precise and descriptive, we must remember that God is such a transcendent mystery that we struggle to find the right words to describe who God is. In fact, St. Augustine said, "Si comprehendis, non est Deus" which means, if you think you understand God, it is not God. But we can be confident in what we profess about God not just because of human reason but mainly because God has chosen to reveal Himself to us. All we must do then is believe what God has told us about Himself. And this we do when we say each Sunday, "I believe..."

*Fr. James Delmonico*

### BEREAVEMENT SHARING GROUP

Have you recently lost a loved one—a spouse, sibling, a parent, other relative or a close friend? Join the St. Leo the Great Bereavement Sharing Group. We are a group who have a common bond—the loss of someone close to us. All are welcome to come and share with us on the first Wednesday of every month at 2:00 PM in the Parish Center. We meet for about an hour and share our feelings and memories of our loved ones. **The next meeting dates will be January 4, 2023, February 1, 2023 and March 1, 2023.**

Feel free to join us—no reservations needed.

**If you have any questions, contact Joan Berigan at 216-661-1006 or by email: [jberigan@leothegreat.org](mailto:jberigan@leothegreat.org).**

### PRE-PLANNED FUNERAL

Do your loved ones know what your wishes are for your funeral Mass? Have you thought about the readings you'd like to have at your funeral Mass?

If so, contact Joan Berigan at the rectory (216-661-1006) or [jberigan@leothegreat.org](mailto:jberigan@leothegreat.org) for help in pre-planning your funeral Mass.

### HOW YOU CAN CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

We are grateful that so many of you have continued to contribute. Here are a few ways to help you with your contributions:

- 1) Mail your contribution envelope(s) to us, either for the week or the month. (St. Leo the Great, 4940 Broadview Rd., Cleveland, OH 44109)
- 2) Drop your contribution envelope(s) in the mail slot of the rectory office door.
- 3) Online Giving is available here at St. Leo the Great. Look for this icon on our website [www.leothegreat.org](http://www.leothegreat.org) to sign up. It's incredibly easy and you have many options: weekly, monthly or one-time contributions, the ability to use a checking/savings account direct withdrawal (you just need your account and routing numbers) or you can use a debit or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover). It is simple and secure.

If you have any questions or need help, call the parish office at 216-661-1006 and we will gladly assist you.



ST. LEO THE GREAT



2023

**THE GREAT SWEEPSTAKES**

2023

**\$30 GETS YOU A CHANCE TO WIN MULTIPLE TIMES!**

**JANUARY 1, 2023 — NOVEMBER 10, 2023**

<b><u>WEEKLY DRAWING</u>    \$ 100.00</b>		<b><u>SPECIAL DRAWINGS</u>    \$ 200.00</b>	
JANUARY	2ND, 9TH, 16TH, 23RD & 30TH	NEW YEAR'S DAY	JANUARY 1ST
FEBRUARY	6TH, 13TH, 20TH & 27TH	EASTER SUNDAY	APRIL 9TH
MARCH	6TH, 13TH, 20TH & 27TH	MOTHER'S DAY	MAY 14TH
APRIL	3RD, 10TH, 17TH & 24TH	FATHER'S DAY	JUNE 18TH
MAY	1ST, 8TH, 15TH, 22ND & 29TH	INDEPENDENCE DAY	JULY 4TH
JUNE	5TH, 12TH, 19TH & 26TH	<p align="center"><b><u>SUPER DRAWING</u></b></p> <p align="center"><b>\$ 1,000.00</b></p> <p align="center"><b>NOVEMBER 10, 2023</b></p> <p align="center"><b>FEAST DAY OF ST. LEO THE GREAT</b></p>	
JULY	3RD, 10TH, 17TH, 24TH & 31ST		
AUGUST	7TH, 14TH, 21ST, & 28TH		
SEPTEMBER	4TH, 11TH, 18TH, & 25TH		
OCTOBER	2ND, 9TH, 16TH, 23RD & 30TH		
NOVEMBER	6TH		



ST. LEO THE GREAT  
PARISH & SCHOOL

2023

**THE GREAT SWEEPSTAKES**

2023

Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this stub with your payment of \$30.00. Checks are to be made out to St. Leo the Great.

Questions? Please call the Rectory Office at 216-661-1006 or visit our website at [www.leothegreat.org](http://www.leothegreat.org)



January 1, 2023— MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

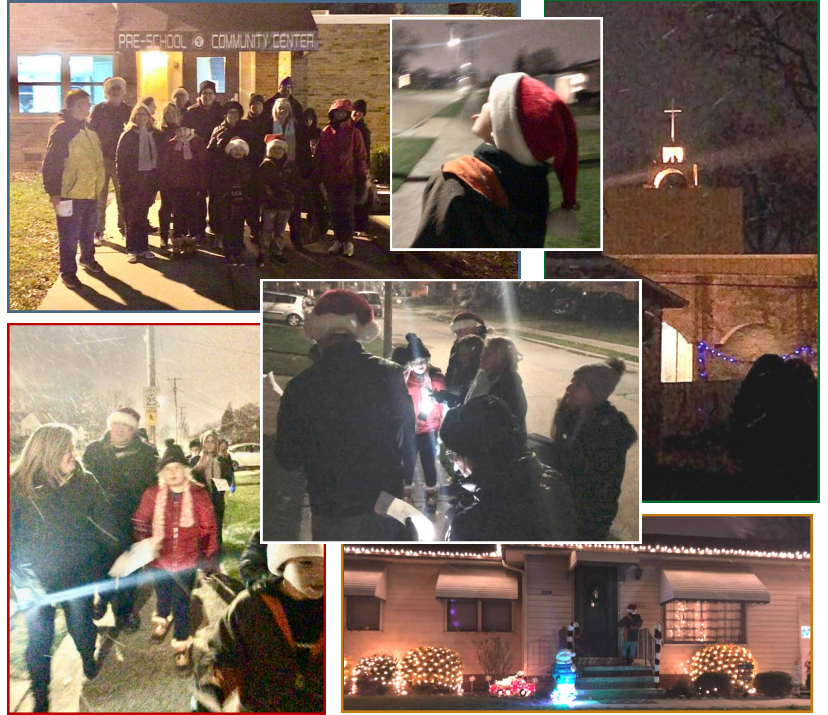
—REMINDER—

There will be NO MASS on Monday, Monday, January 2, 2023.  
Please note that the Rectory office will also be closed.

**SINGING  
JOY TO THE WORLD**



Those who signed up for caroling this year had fun singing up and down the side streets closest to St. Leo's Church on the weekend before Christmas. They sang the sounds of the season, wishing everyone in their homes a Merry Christmas and provided them a beautiful photo of our Nativity in the Church complete with a list of our Christmas Mass times on the back —to welcome and encourage our neighbors to join us for the celebration of Christ's birth. Delicious soups, bakery and hot chocolate were shared back at the Parish Center while playing a few fun games and connecting with fellow parishioners. We hope more of you will consider this experience next Christmastime in good Old Brooklyn. Big thanks to Pat Dolezal who organized this fun event.



Have you moved into the area recently, or have you joined us for Mass? We would love to have you as a registered member of our parish family. Please stop by at the rectory office, go online at [leothegreat.org](http://leothegreat.org) or call the Rectory Office at 216-661-1006.



Catholic Diocese  
of Cleveland

**MASS FOR LIFE**

As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Roe versus Wade decision, as well as its overturn this past year, we need to pray now, more than ever for the right to life. Join us for the Annual Youth Mass for Life at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

**Friday, January 20 from 10:00am - 11:00am**

Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist | 1007 Superior Ave. Cleveland, Ohio 44114

