



**ST. LEO THE GREAT**  
PARISH & SCHOOL

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 13, 2020**

**Father James P. Schmitz**  
Pastor  
**Father James J. Vesely**  
Retired

4940 Broadview Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109



**PARISH STAFF:**  
216.661.1006

**Father James Schmitz, Pastor**  
jschmitz@leothegreat.org

**Deacon Patrick & Joan Berigan**  
pberigan@leothegreat.org  
jberigan@leothegreat.org

**Mary Lou Hauck, Office Manager**  
mlhauck@leothegreat.org

**Brenda Basalla, Business Manager**  
bbasalla@leothegreat.org

**Mickey Stitt, Music Director**  
mstitt@leothegreat.org

**Mary Piechowski, Associate Musician**  
mpiechowski@leothegreat.org

**RECTORY/OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday through Friday ~ 9:00AM—3:00PM

Saturday ~ Noon—5:30PM

Sunday ~ 9:00AM—12:30PM

**SCHOOL STAFF:**

216.661.2120

**Denise Burns Principal**  
dburns@leothegreat.org

**Eileen Breitmeyer, School Secretary**  
ebreitmeyer@leothegreat.org

**Jennifer Robinson, Preschool Director**  
jrobinson@leothegreat.org

**Joann Deranek, Director of Religious Education (DRE)**  
jderanek@leothegreat.org

**Cindy Funari, Tuition Manager**  
cfunari@leothegreat.org

**SCHOOL HOURS:**

Monday through Friday/School Day ~ 8:00AM—2:45PM

Main Office ~ 7:30AM—3:30PM

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**WEEKENDS**

Saturday Vigil ~ 4:00PM

Sundays ~ 8:00AM and 11:00AM

**WEEKDAYS**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday ~ 8:30AM

Thursday - Communion Service ~ 8:30AM

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION**

8:30AM and 7:00PM

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Individual confessions can be heard after Mass by request or any time by appointment.

**NEW TO THE PARISH? WELCOME!**

New parishioners and those moving from the parish or changing address are asked to contact the Rectory office.

**BAPTISMS**

Parents desiring Baptism for their children are asked to contact the Parish 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 curious about becoming Catholic or have questions about the Catholic Faith, please call the Rectory.



**DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP!**

Read the latest bulletin, Pastor's blog and find other useful information on your mobile device.

Instagram @leothegreatorg

Facebook—leothegreatorg

Twitter @leothegreatorg



# ADVENT



HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.

©LPI

### INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, & memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response to the experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you.



The desire  
for God  
is written  
in the  
human  
heart.

### In Loving Memory of



#### WALTER T. ALFLEN

*Born:* April 24, 1937

*Entered Into Rest:* November 29, 2020

*Services:* Friday, December 4, 2020  
St. Leo the Great Church – Cleveland, Ohio

*Interment:* Holy Cross Cemetery  
Section 17 Lot 2788 Grave 2

God saw you were getting tired,  
And a cure was not to be.  
So, He put His arms around you  
And whispered, "Come to me."  
With tearful eyes we watched you,  
And saw you pass away.  
Although we loved you dearly,  
We could not make you stay.  
A golden heart stopped beating,  
Hard working hands at rest.  
God broke our hearts to prove to us,  
He only takes the best.

RIPEPI FUNERAL HOME  
Pearl Road at Snow Road

### In Loving Memory of



#### Marilyn C. Summers

*Born:* October 20, 1934

*Entered Into Rest:* November 29, 2020

*Services:* Friday, December 4, 2020  
St. Leo the Great Church  
Cleveland, Ohio

*Interment:* Holy Cross Cemetery  
Section 31 Lot 2894 Grave 1



**ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...**



Bob McLaughlin, Annamae Sironen, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Carol Rucinski, Pat Chopka, William & Amelia Rebello, Louise Horvath,

Diane Kalus, Marie Stankiewicz, Irma Zappitelli, Dianne Toronski, Linda Debaltzo, Anthony Arlia, Jeanne Karasek, Denise Sisley, Don Donelon, Larry Kuznik, Antoinette Jakosh, Ralph Mlady, Ralph Rath, Joseph Mackey, John Sofcheck, Roger Horvath, James Cook & Cherie Seitz.



**Monday, December 14th - St. John of the Cross**  
8:30am +Magda Noga (Family)

**Tuesday, December 15th - Advent Weekday**  
8:30am +David Lincheck (Pamela & Theresa Lincheck)

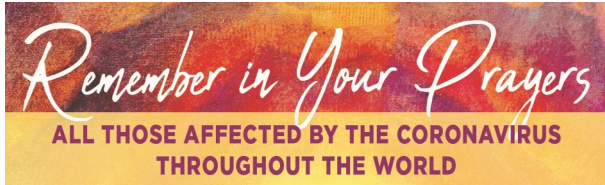
**Wednesday, December 16th - Late Advent Weekday**  
8:30am +Jacqueline Toth (Lizzini Family)

**Thursday, December 17th - Late Advent Weekday**  
8:30am Communion Service

**Friday, December 18th - Late Advent Weekday**  
8:30am Fr. James Vesely – Anniversary of Ordination

**Saturday, December 19th - Late Advent Weekday**  
4:00pm Seniors

**Sunday, December 20th - Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
8:00am People of the Parish  
11:00am Anniversary - Leo & Jeanette (Wife)



**Our NEW Great Sweepstakes weekly drawing will start January 1, 2021.**

We are now selling tickets. Forms are available at the Rectory Office or our website [leothegreat.org](http://leothegreat.org).

**THEY MAKE A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT!**

The drawing will go from January 1, 2021 thru November 10, 2021 (Feast of St. Leo). There will be (44) \$100 Weekly Drawings, (5) \$200 Special Drawings and (1) \$1,000 Super Drawing on the Feast of St. Leo on November 10, 2021.

Every week we pray for those discerning a vocation in religious life.

**Charles Cascino**  
**Capuchin Formation Program**  
**Third Year, Borromeo**



Pray that he may continue to persevere and that others may respond to God's call.

**Parish Support**

**Sunday, November 29th**

Collection .....	\$ 4,588.00
WeShare(online).....	\$ 1,326.50
Total.....	\$ 5,914.50

Thanksgiving (for SVDP).....\$ 216.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR**

**First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11**

The last part of the book of Isaiah contains the words of a prophet who preached after the Jews returned from exile in Babylon. They found their temple destroyed and the city leveled. In today's reading, the prophet describes how God called him to encourage the people in this desperate time.

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Our second reading comes at the end of Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians. Just as a parent might give last-minute instructions as their child heads out the door, so Paul has a list of last-minute instructions for these people whom he loves.

**Readings for the week of December 13, 2020**

**Sunday:** Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

**Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

**Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

**Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 7:18b-23

**Thursday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

**Friday:** Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

**Saturday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

**Next Sunday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



**"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'"**  
(Jn 1:23)

## ST. LEO THE GREAT- CLEVELAND, OHIO

Dear Parishioners,

Wally Alflen always sat in the first pew by the front door on the pulpit side. He sat all the way at the end of the pew closest to the door...not so that he'd be the first out but because he was usually the first one here on Sunday morning for the 8am Mass, along with his wife Aggie (Agnes). Sadly Wally passed away from cancer and we celebrated his funeral Mass on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. I always loved to see Wally before Mass because he was a kind man who loved to joke around & tease people. He was also a person of faith as I mentioned during the 8am Mass the Sunday after he died. He will be greatly missed and we pray not only for him but for his wife and their children and grandchildren. May he celebrate the birthday of Christ with St. Jude, his favorite saint, in the heavenly kingdom.

I also celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial for Marilyn Summers whom I anointed on November 29<sup>th</sup> after the 11am Mass. She and her husband Don, who have lived in the neighborhood for over 50 years, were married for 68 years! What a wonderful witness to us of the love of Christ for his bride the Church, as St. Paul reminds us marriage is a sign of. Marilyn was also loyal to her Catholic faith and had St. Anthony of Padua as her favorite saint. We extend our sympathy to Don and to his children and grandchildren and again pledge to keep Marilyn & her family in our prayers. It was strange that at Holy Cross cemetery, in order to get to Marilyn's gravesite, we needed to step over my mother's grave and the tombstone that bears my name & that of my parents. There's always the reminder that death (& resurrection!) awaits us all.

Last Monday I also celebrated a funeral service for Sgt. Riley Brandt who died suddenly. Again last weekend I mentioned how sad it is for a parent to lose their child, and even more painfully so when we are close to the holidays. We extend our sympathy to his family and assure them of our prayerful support. May God, who always knows our pain, reassure us that his loving mercy attends all those who have died as he fills us with the hope of eternal life where there will be no more tears but only peace in God's kingdom.

You heard us pray last weekend for Father Joe Piskura whom I'm sure many of you will remember as a classmate & friend of Father Vesely & who used to celebrate Mass here at St. Leo's from time to time. Fr. Piskura passed away on November 26<sup>th</sup> (Thanksgiving Day). Funeral services were private due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please remember Fr. Piskura in your prayers and thank God for his generous service to us and to other parishes in the Diocese during his retirement years.

I believe it will be best for us to alter the Christmas schedule for this year in this way: We will have the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass in the church, but when we hit 50% capacity (or perhaps even less), we will redirect people to Lux Hall (the gym) where Mass will be live-streamed on a large screen. Of course the chairs will be set up for social distancing and all will be expected to wear masks. Holy Communion will be brought over. We will not have a 7pm or 10pm Mass Christmas Eve Mass this year but will continue to have the 8am and 11am Mass on Christmas Day. Thank you for your understanding and willingness to adjust to the schedule due to the pandemic.

*Fr. James Schmitz*

# LIGHT



**WE WILL BE CLOSED ON:**

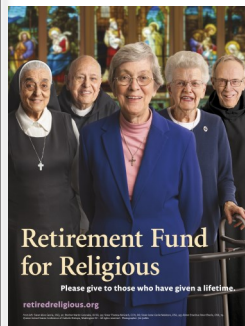
**Thursday, December 24th —Christmas Eve  
Friday, December 25th—Christmas Day  
& Saturday, Dec. 26th**

We will reopen at 9:00am Sunday, December 27th.

**Thursday, December 31st—New Year's Eve  
Friday, January 1st— New Year's Day**

We will reopen at 12 Noon, Saturday, January 2nd.

### 2020 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS



Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, & other necessities. Please be generous. **Make a difference.** "Every dollar makes a difference in covering our expenses," says a Trappist abbot. Hundreds of United States religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.



Oplatki is now available in the rectory office for a donation of \$2.00.

### REMEMBRANCE TREES



Ornaments in remembrance of loved ones will be available before and after all of the Masses the weekend of **December 19th and 20th ONLY.** Names of loved ones can be written on the ornaments and hung on the trees in the sanctuary for the Christmas season. The ornaments can be taken home in January at the conclusion of the Christmas season. If a loved one passed away earlier this year, their name has already been placed on an ornament and will be added to the tree.



## ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Have YOU been purchasing your...

# Gift Cards



**THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING!**

Are you planning on using gift cards for your shopping needs? If so, you can place your order in early to assure we have your favorite cards on hand.

Supplies may be limited as we try to keep our inventory to a minimum. Cards can be ordered and received in a couple of days.

**PLEASE STOP BY OUR RECTORY OFFICE AND PURCHASE SOME TODAY!**

Made with PosterMyWall.com

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

#### DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHARING EARLY...

Let your heart and your means dictate what to share. Your contributions will enable the St. Vincent De Paul Outreach Organization to deliver your Christmas message of good cheer to our needy neighbors. The Poor Boxes can be seen as the “bread boxes” of the poor.

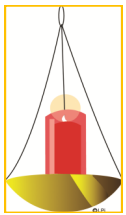


#### THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION

We would like to THANK YOU for your overwhelming donations of money that we used towards the purchase of gift cards and other Thanksgiving food for our clients. Your kindness to those who might not have had a turkey and other Thanksgiving food is very much appreciated. Thank you again!



#### SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS



We are taking intentions for **Sanctuary Candle Intentions for 2021**. The donation for the candle will be \$10.00. Please only one request per family.

You can stop by the Rectory Office to request a Sanctuary Candle Intention or call us at 216-661-1006.

## amazon smile

If you shop on Amazon.com, a portion of each of your purchases could benefit St. Leo the Great. Just go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-07145> to designate St. Leo the Great for your donations, and then do all of your online shopping at **Smile.Amazon.com**.



**CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION**  
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

#### CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION MONTHLY GRIEF SUPPORT Sunday, December 20th - 3:00pm

Catholic Cemeteries Association continues with our free monthly in-office grief support groups on December 20<sup>th</sup> with limited seating for social distancing. We offer a comfortable, private, and safe environment where you are free to talk about your grief. Meetings do not build off each other so you can stop in any month and fit right in. You do not even have to talk, but come and listen and be in the presence of those who understand. The December topic is “**The Gift of God’s Presence: You Never Walk Alone**” but discussions follow whatever is on your heart. December participants are asked to bring a picture or item that brings fond memories of their departed loved one. We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the following locations:

**Holy Cross Cemetery, Brook Park (office) — Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland (office)**

**All Saints Cemetery, Northfield (office) — All Souls Cemetery, Chardon (office)**

Meeting sites are sanitized and seating is arranged so everyone is at a safe distance. Participants are requested to RSVP so we can plan appropriate social distancing at each location. It is required that participants wear protective facial coverings. To RSVP or for questions, please contact **Rhonda** at 216-930-4866.

GREAT SWEEPSTAKES TICKETS  
MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS.



ST. LEO THE GREAT  
PARISH & SCHOOL

# The Great Sweepstakes - 2021

## \$30 per ticket

You can W\$N Multiple Times January 1, 2021 thru November 10, 2021

### DRAWING DATES—\$100

2021  
January 4, 11, 18, & 25  
February 1, 8, 15, & 22  
March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29  
April 5, 12, 19, & 26  
May 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

### Weekly Drawings

**\$ 100.00**

2021(cont.)  
June 7, 14, 21, & 28  
July 5, 12, 19, & 26  
August 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30  
September 6, 13, 20, & 27  
October 4, 11, 18, & 25  
November 1, & 8

### DRAWING DATES—\$200

New Years Day 2021  
Easter Sunday 2021  
Mother's Day 2021

### Special Drawings

**\$ 200.00**

Father's Day 2021  
4th of July 2021

ST. LEO'S FEAST DAY  
NOVEMBER 10, 2021

### Super Drawing

**\$1,000.00**



ST. LEO THE GREAT  
PARISH & SCHOOL

The Great Sweepstakes  
Please Print

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE & EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this stub with your payment of \$30. Please make checks payable 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)

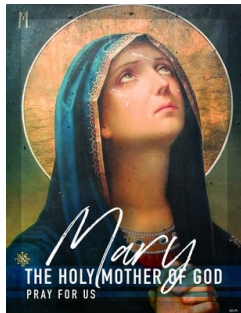
# HOLIDAY Mass Schedule

Reminder: There is still no obligation to attend on Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. This includes Christmas & New Years



**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Thursday, December 24th  
4:00pm in Church with overflow to Lux Hall (gym) for livestream with communion.

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Friday, December 25th  
8:00am & 11:00am



**New Year's Eve & Day SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

Thursday, December 31st  
8:30am - Communion Service  
Friday, January 1st  
8:30am - Mass

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

