



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2019

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

4940 Broadview Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

St. Leo the Great Church
1969 - 2019



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 Thursday ~ 9:00AM—7:00PM
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 through Thursday ~ 7:30AM
Friday ~ 8:30AM

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

8:30AM and 7:00PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual confessions are heard on Saturday, from 2:45PM—3:30PM or anytime 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.



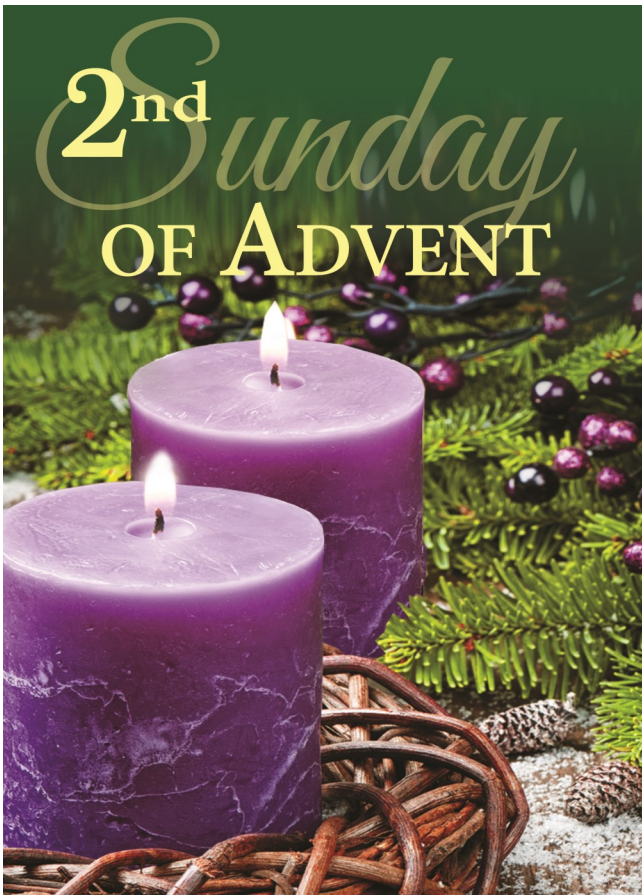
DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP!

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

Instagram @leothegreatorg

Facebook—leothegreatorg

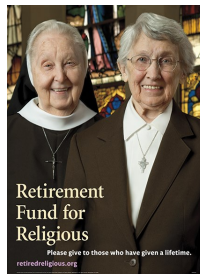
Twitter @leothegreatorg



2nd Sunday OF ADVENT

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

World, church, and local events continue to challenge our faith. This is all the more reason to continue to come together and find encouragement and hope in God’s word, sacraments, and our faith community. We are people of hope who are called to persevere, even in the midst of confusion and darkness, as we wait for what is to come. We are asked to repent, especially from our tendency to fall into doubt and despair. We are asked to repent and place our trust in Isaiah’s words that God’s world of innocence will be restored. We need to hear John the Baptist’s words today more than ever: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” Rather than being disappointed by what human beings and world cannot give, let us commit anew to what God can and will provide.



Retirement Fund for Religious
Please give to those who have given a lifetime.
retireforreligious.org

SUPPORTING AGING RELIGIOUS...

Today we are collecting for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” (Mt 3:1-2)

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Alleluia, Alleluia!
For Robert life has not ended but merely changed.
Praise God for His Mercy.



In Loving Memory Of:

ROBERT JAMES ZARKO

Born: May 21, 1939

Entered Into Rest:
Monday, November 18, 2019

Funeral Mass:
St. Leo The Great Church
Saturday, November 23, 2019

Interment:
St. Mary Cemetery
Sec.: T Row: 8 Grave: 32

Golubski Funeral Home
Cleve: 216-341-0940/ Parma: 440-886-0200
Golubskifuneralhome.com



Oplatki is now available in the rectory office for a donation of \$2.00 while supplies last. One per family please.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception (the patron of our country) is celebrated on December 8th. As explained by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, since the solemnity falls on the Second Sunday of Advent, the feast day is transferred to Monday, December 9th. The obligation to attend Mass does not transfer. While the Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Monday, there is no obligation to attend Mass.

HELP THE HOMELESS



Malachi Center at West 25th St. and Detroit Ave. provides many services to help homeless men and women throughout the year. At Christmas, the Center distributes duffel bags at a breakfast for the homeless.

If you would like to donate bags and/or other items, please bring your donation to the rectory by **THIS Monday, December 9th**. Items should be tagged “Help the Homeless”.

Questions? Call Jeanne Sabol at 216-351-6247.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...



Ed Gorcyka, Robert McLaughlin, Annamae Sironen, Jo Hoffman, John Risko, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Ruth Frohlich, Ron Vokac, Carol Rucinski, Pat Chopka, Serena Jacobs, William & Amelia Rebello, Louise Horvath, Diane Kalus, Marie Stankiewicz, Irma Zappitelli, Dianne Toronski, Steve Kostrubanic, Marge Menge, Bill Hinton, Linda Debaltzo, Anna Mendoza, Anthony Arlia, Kathleen & Richard Svoboda, Sharon Kobal, Jeanne Karasek, George Aloschen, Herb Mayville, Mary Suder, Charles Hakaim, Jeanne Karasek, Denise Sisley, Walter Milewskii, Dorothy Forister & Larry Kuznik.



Monday, December 9th - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30am +Edwin Niec (Family)

Tuesday, December 10th - Advent Weekday

7:30am +William Lagodney (Wife & Son)

Wednesday, December 11th - St. Damasus I

7:30am +Aramita Caraballo (Family)

Thursday, December 12th - Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:30am Communion Service

Friday, December 13th- St. Lucy

8:30am +Helen Inez Franko & Alan Franko
(Sisters: Harriet & Wilma)

Saturday, December 14th - St. John of the Cross

4:00pm +Deceased Members of Siekaniec Family
(Carol Siekaniec)

Sunday, December 15th- Third Sunday of Advent

8:00am People of the Parish
11:00am +Mildred Handlovic & David Handlovic (Family)



First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

The prophet Isaiah lived 750 years before Christ. Despite the political unrest of that period, he looked forward to a kingdom so wonderful that even nature is at peace. This perfect world would be ruled by a descendent of King David. (As you listen to this reading, it helps to know that "Jesse" is the name of David's father.)

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

In the early days of the Church, some Jewish converts to Christianity continued to practice their Jewish traditions. Many of them were members of the church in Rome, along with others who were Gentiles. They sometimes found it hard to get along. As Paul nears the end of his letter to them, he encourages them to live in harmony by drawing upon the Scriptures they had in common —what we have called the "Old Testament."



Readings for the week of December 8, 2019

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 19/Rom 15:4-9/ Mt 3:1-12

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4,8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

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

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/ Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/ Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11



Our NEW Great Sweepstakes weekly drawing will start January 1, 2020.

We are now selling Great Sweepstakes tickets. Forms are available at the Rectory Office or at the Information Desk in the back of the Church.

The drawing will go from January 1, 2020 thru November 10, 2020 (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, 2020.

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

Donald Brandt
St. John Neumann, Strongsville
Year 4—Diaconate Program



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



Sunday, November 24th

Basket Collection.....	\$ 5,735.01
WeShare (online)	670.00
Total	\$ 6,405.01

Capital Improvement (November, 2019)..\$ 1,841.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



Dear Parishioners,

Today would normally be our celebration of the feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation for us in the United States since she is the patroness of our country under that title, but the 2nd Sunday of Advent takes precedence over all other feasts. It has been transferred to this Monday, December 9th, but while it is still a holy day, it is not a day of obligation so we will have our usual Monday morning Mass at 7:30 but there is no obligation to attend Mass.

We have some other special celebrations taking place in the next week too. First, Fr. Vesely will be here for Mass next Saturday, December 14th. Thursday, December 18th is his 65th Anniversary of Ordination and on Monday, December 16th, Bishop Perez will celebrate Mass at Mount Alverna for Fr. Vesely and his classmates so please remember him in your prayers.

Secondly, December 12th is the 100th birthday of my step mother, Mildred. We will be celebrating with a luncheon in her honor this weekend. My dad is a mere 92 ½ years old. It's nice to have a centenarian in the family, though it would be nicer if she was my own flesh & blood so that I could have inherited her genetic makeup for longevity. The scripture says, "Our life is 70 years, 80 if one is strong." Well Mildred far exceeded that so we are grateful for how strong she is and pray she may continue to bring great happiness to my dad in the years to come. By the way, prayers for my dad would be appreciated as he is in the hospital as I write this with some internal bleeding, possibly from an ulcer. So thank you in advance for that.

Just a reminder that there are little Advent meditation books called "The Little Blue Book" available at the doors of the church. Please be sure to take one (or more) as they contain a short reflection for each day of Advent.

This is also the week when we make homemade ravioli's and noodles for our chicken soup, both of which are the highlights of our Christmas dinner. Last year my cousin Fr. Dan Schlegel helped but I think he ate more than he actually made, and now has the secret family recipe. So I'm not inviting him to help this year and will be curious to see if he posts pictures of these on his Facebook wall. If I see them there, I'll have to take legal action to have them removed for copyright infringement. But I don't want to get ahead of myself. For now I have to concentrate on the family duty to provide for a great Christmas dinner.

While you're doing your Christmas shopping, make it easy on yourself and buy someone a great gift while helping out your parish at the same time. You can purchase a Sweepstakes ticket or gift cards from us by seeing the receptionist at the Information Desk in the vestibule of the church after Mass or by coming to the rectory office today or during the week.

Fr. James Schmitz

THIS WEEK AT ST. LEO'S



Monday, December 9th

4:30pm 3rd Gr. Girls BB Practice Lux
 5:30pm 6th Gr. Boys BB Practice Lux
 6:45pm PSR School
 7:00pm 5th Gr. Boys BB Practice Lux

Tuesday, December 10th

4:00pm 8th Gr. Boys BB Practice Lux
 5:30pm 5th Gr. Boys BB Practice Lux
 7:00pm 7th Gr. Boys BB Practice Lux
 7:00pm AA Group Basement

Wednesday, December 11th

11:00am Senior's Meeting Great
 3:00pm 3rd Gr Boys BB Practice Lux
 4:30pm 5th Gr Girls BB Practice Lux
 6:30pm Choir Practice Church
 6:30pm High School Boys BBall Lux

Thursday, December 12th

1:00pm Women's Knitting Group Conference
 4:30pm 3rd Gr. Girls BB Practice Lux
 5:30pm 6th Gr. Boys BB Practice Lux
 7:00pm 7th Gr. Boys BB Practice Lux
 7:00pm Knights of Columbus Basement

Friday, December 13th

3:00pm 3rd Gr Boys BB Practice Lux
 4:30pm 5th Gr Girls BB Practice Lux
 6:00pm 8th Gr Boys BB Practice Lux
 7:00pm Rosary Church
 7:30pm Recovery International Basement

Saturday, December 14th

3:00pm to 7:00pm Adopt-A-Child Drop Off Great
 2:45 to 3:30pm Confessions Church
 3:00pm Grapevine Basement

Sunday, December 15th

11:00am CYO Basketball Site Centers Lux

REMEMBRANCE TREES



Ornaments in remembrance of loved ones will be available before and after all of the Masses the weekends of December 14th & 15th and 21st & 22nd. 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.



SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTION

December 9th to December 22nd



In Loving Memory of
Thomas Kinder

From: Johanna Kinder

ST. LEO THE GREAT—CLEVELAND, OHIO

ADOPT-A-CHILD FOR CHRISTMAS WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! PLEASE CALL



40 NAMES are still available for St. Leo's Adopt-A-Child for Christmas program. This is the last week to call. If you wish to purchase a gift for a needy child, please call Jeanne Sabol at 216-351-6247 or Judi Westerburg at 216-642-0134.

GIFTS ARE TO BE WRAPPED AND DROPPED OFF AT THE PARISH COMMUNITY CENTER NEXT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14th, FROM 3 TO 7 P.M.

If you cannot drop off your gifts at this time, you may leave them at the rectory anytime before December 13th.

If you would like to help deliver gifts on Sunday morning, December 15th, please call Jeanne Sabol at 216 351 6247.

Monetary contributions may be placed in the collection basket. Please mark "Adopt-A-Child" on check payable to St. Leo Parish.

This year we are again very fortunate to have The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Jr. Branch 014, as a sponsor of Adopt-a-Child. They will donate up to \$600 in matching funds. We are most grateful for their generosity.

Jesus teaches us that "Whatever you did for the least of my brothers, you did for me."

PARISH COMMUNITY CENTER

GREAT ROOM FOR RENT

The Great Room, located in our Parish Community Center is available to **rent for special events, all types of parties, meetings, funeral luncheons, etc.**

For information or to book, please contact Mina Rolando at 216-544-0190 or visit our parish website at leothegreat.org.

GIFT CARD PROGRAM

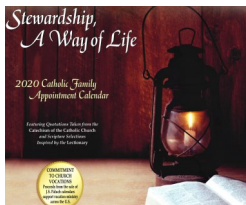


The Gift Card Program is an excellent way to help support our Parish. A complete list of gift cards is available at the rectory office or on our website at leothegreat.org. Remember, Gift

Cards make great Christmas gifts, and can be used for all your holiday shopping,

CALENDARS

Thank You to Yurch Funeral Home for once again providing our beautiful St. Leo the Great Calendars. The 2020 Catholic Family Appointment Calendars will be available this weekend in the church and rectory.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



To "live and let live" is all right in its own way, but to "live and **HELP LIVE**" is much better. You can help others live by sharing our goods and our prayers with those in need

through your St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization. Next weekend, December 14th & 15th, is our monthly food collection. Our cupboard is in need of **BAKED BEANS, CANNED BEANS, SCALLOPED POTATOES, CANNED PASTA, PASTA SAUCE, CEREAL, FRUIT, GRAVY, JELLY & PEANUT BUTTER, PANCAKE SYRUP, RICE & NOODLE SIDES, SKILLET DINNERS, SOUPS, JELLO & PUDDING, BAR SOAP, TOILET PAPER AND LAUNDRY SOAP.** Let others know that **YOU** care by helping your Organization bring light and hope during this Christmas Season.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

SENIORS

Please Join Us

Plan on joining us this Wednesday, December 11th at 11:00am in the Parish Community Center. This will be our only meeting this month due to the Christmas holiday. If you are not a member,

this would be a great time to check us out and hopefully become part of our group. We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month and our dues are only \$5.00 for the year. Hope to see you December 11th.



We will be closed on:

**Tuesday, December 24th —Christmas Eve
Wednesday, December 25th—Christmas Day
& Thursday, Dec. 26th**

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

**Tuesday, December 31st—New Year's Eve
Wednesday January 1st— New Year's Day**

We will reopen at 9:00am Thursday, January 2nd

St. Leo the Great School Newsletter

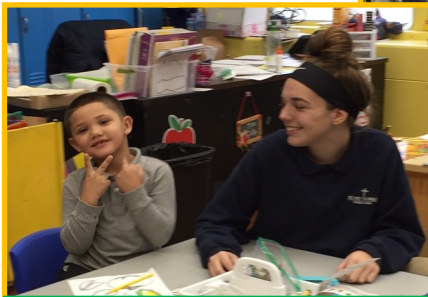
Church Bulletin Edition



Filled with the Spirit!
8th Graders from the day school and PSR participated in the Confirmation Retreat on Wednesday, Nov. 20th. The retreat was facilitated by Terry Bataglia. The Confirmandi spent time deepening their relationship with God through prayer, discussions and activities. Fr. Jim visited with them during their pizza snack!



Our 8th Grade and Kindergarten students spent time together doing a Thanksgiving craft.



Pilgrims make butter at St. Leo's School

Wait, those are not Pilgrims - these children are Mrs. Lammers' First Grade Students!

The students were attempting to make butter for their Thanksgiving Feast!

The students put Heavy Whipping crème in a jar and took turns in the job of shaking the jar!

It may not have worked perfectly, but the students enjoyed their Feast of muffins, fruit and popcorn anyway!





HOLIDAY Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24th:
4:00pm, 7:00pm, & 10:00pm
(Vigil Masses)



CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25th:
8:00am & 11:00am

Confession Schedule

Each Saturday during Advent:
2:45pm to 3:30pm

Saturday, December 21st
both Fr. Schmitz & Fr. O'Grady will be
available for confessions.

Monday, December 23rd—11:00am

**New Year's Day - SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD :**
Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 31st—4:00pm Vigil
Mass
(No 7:30am Mass)

Wednesday, January 1st—11:00am



Please join us in the church to pray the rosary this Friday, December 13th at 7:00pm.

BUS TRIP—DICKENS CHRISTMAS Cambridge, Ohio Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Report: 8:30am Depart: 9:00am

Guided Tour w/story of Dickens Victorian Village, Tea with the Queen at Cambridge Country Club (lunch included), National Museum of Cambridge Glass, Kennedy's Bakery, Dickens Courthouse Light Show.



Cost: \$100 per person
Return: Approx. 9:30pm

Contact Joanne Todd at 440-526-3505
for more information or
to book your trip.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

CLUSTER CORNER

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE—Children's Rosary on Tuesday, December 10th at 6:30pm. Join us for a 30-minute evening of prayers and teachings about Our Blessed Mother.

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO—Ladies Guild Lottery tickets for February, 2020 are available for \$5 in the Parish Office. Any questions, Please call Jacki at 440-884-3030.

ST. THOMAS MORE - Please join us every Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Marian Chapel to pray the rosary for world peace.



