

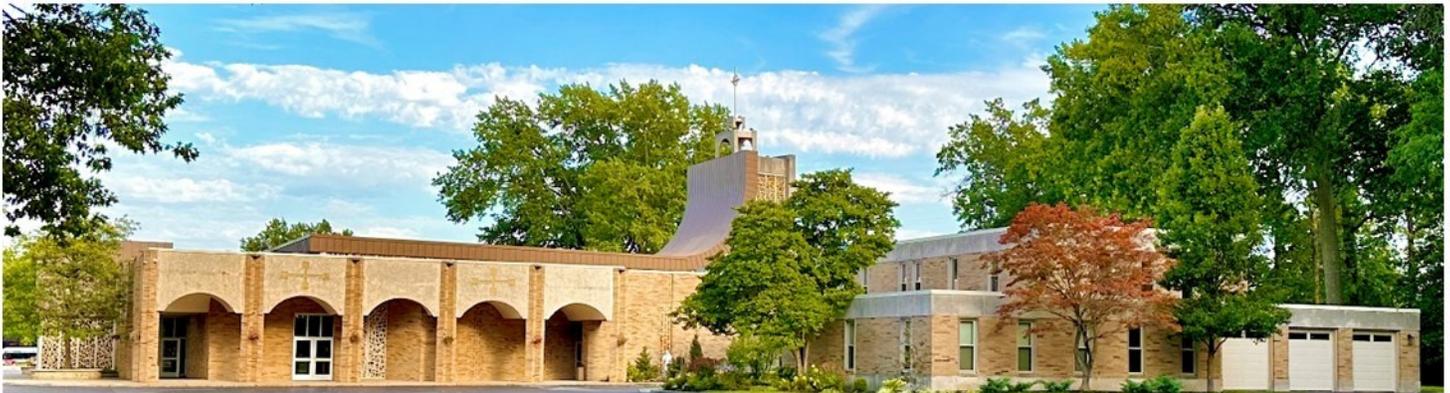
**Fr. James P. Schmitz**

*Pastor*

4940 Broadview Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

**NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

**THE 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



**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 & Social Media Manager**

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

**Mary Piechowski, Associate Musician**

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

**Miss Nadia, Parish Center Coordinator**

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

**Judy Strodtbeck, Facilities Manager**

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

**Shelly Eslick, Rectory Housekeeper**

[seslick@leothegreat.org](mailto:seslick@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, Dir. Of Religious Education**

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

**Dan Trainer, Athletic Director**

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

**SCHOOL HOURS:**

Monday-Friday | 8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

**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.

Read the latest bulletin and find other useful information by visiting our website today.

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



[Leothegreat.org/flocknote](http://Leothegreat.org/flocknote)



Instagram [@leothegreatorg](https://www.instagram.com/leothegreatorg)



Twitter [@leothegreatorg](https://twitter.com/leothegreatorg)

FOUNDING PARISHIONERS

Mildred Beebe	Edward McCabe
Elroy Cerny	Beatrice Money Penny
Blanche Chester	Michael & Ann Mraz
Josephine Galmarini	Frank Nemec
Eleanor Good	Coletta Pacholik
Edward Gorczyca	Charles & Helen Prohaska
Leo Granzeier	Myron Rosby
Mildred Habrat	Anna Seuffert Grebe
John Hrutkai	Irene Shrimplin
Mary Hudak	Marjorie Stewart
Andrew & Estelle Janko	Evelyn Temple
Eleanor Lux Jones	Roberta Heminger Tuma
Al & Olga Kalish	Joseph Verbiar
Anthony Kamps	Jean Werle
Leo Kudlaty	Ernest Wittinger
Victor & Mary Kuznik	Grace Zindroski
Millie Maraldo	Joseph & Josephine Zorn

75TH ANNIVERSARY CLOSING MASS

The 75th parish anniversary celebration will conclude on Sunday, November 12th, at the 11:00 p.m. Mass. Please plan to join us at this special Mass.

FEAST OF ST. LEO THE GREAT

The Feast of St. Leo the Great, patron saint of our parish, is celebrated on November 10th. St. Leo the Great was elected pope in 440. During his tenure as pope, he fought heresies, convened significant councils of bishops, and saved the citizens of Rome by confronting Attila the Hun. St. Leo accomplished so much during his term as pope that he became one of the few popes with the distinction of “the Great”. Though he died in 461, his legacy lives on in his profound writings. He was made a doctor of the church in 1754. *St. Leo the Great, pray for us.*

ROSARY

Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Please join us in praying the rosary. Make this part of your hourly prayer for the day. If you do not know how to say the rosary, we will provide you with everything you need. Please enter the church through the doors closest to the rectory.

ALL SOULS HOLY HOUR

Sunday, November 19, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Join us for an All Souls Holy Hour to memorialize and pray for those who have passed away, most especially those within this past year. Come gather with others who, like you, are grieving. May you find comfort and healing in the quiet, prayerful commemoration.



Mark your calendars to join us for Mass, events & activities throughout the year!

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” tab select *Alumni Association*. We hope to hear from you!

Photos taken in August, September, or October can be picked up in the rectory during the week or in the main vestibule of the church after the weekend Masses.

Closing 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass | Sunday, Nov 12th @ 11am

Closing 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner | Sunday, Nov 12th @ 12pm

Rosary | Thursday, Nov 16th @ 7pm

Holy Hour for All Souls | Sunday, Nov 19th at 6:00pm

Thanksgiving Day Mass | Thursday, Nov 23rd, at 9:00am

MEMORIES

*Forty Hours was usually held by the parish around the Feast of St. Leo. The Eucharist was placed in the monstrance and put on the altar after a Mass, and the church would be open for adoration until a closing service was held forty hours later. The church that was connected to the school was often filled to capacity for the closing service with people standing in the vestibule and along the side walls of the church. The priests were accompanied in procession by the Knights of Columbus and some of the school students, particularly the ones who made their First Holy Communion just months previously.*

*The statue of St. Leo the Great was in the old church which was connected to the school. When it was moved to the current church, the statue did not have a permanent place. The statue has been in the choir area, in the sanctuary, in the main vestibule, and in the stained glass area adjoining the main vestibule. Thanks to Fr. Jim’s vision of changing the old confessionals into shrines at the back of the church, the statue of our patron saint now has a permanent home.*

Share *YOUR* memories with us! Submit them to [nzola@leothegreat.org](mailto:nzola@leothegreat.org) or write it down on a piece of paper and turn it in to the Rectory Office. We also welcome PHOTOS throughout the year of the people and events taking place. Send *YOURS* to [photos@leothegreat.org](mailto:photos@leothegreat.org).

## ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

### PRO-LIFE MEETING

The Pro-life group will be meeting on Wednesday November 15, 2023 at 1:00 pm in the Parish Center. This month we will be studying and discussing the reactions and repercussions of the November election.

**ALL ARE WELCOME  
AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!**

If you have any questions about the group, the meeting or its content, please contact either Dennis Badar at 216-398-2830 or Chris Rath at 216-394-5803.

Because our country remains under constant attack from evil, we ask all to continue praying to St. Michael the Archangel, as often as you can. He can help us defeat the enemy.

*St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke them, we humbly pray, and cast into Hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR

## PRAYERS

Mary Niec, Alivia Kobal, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Amelia Rebello, Larry Kuznik, Irma Zappitelli, John Sofcheck, Irene (Ernie) Santiago, Gary Skelley, Virginia Sofkancs, Evelyn Bastian, Mary Lou Neuendorf, Joseph Bublavy, Anna Mendoza, Marianne Kucinski-Powers, Edith Lysyj, John Geiger, Rosie Colucci, Buzzy Miano, Judy Bruzshinsky, Carol Broze, Stan Wasacz, 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, Betty Popow, Allen Phillips, Ruth Bublavy, John O'Malley, Jesse Kazimer, William Wollard, Claudia Wollard, Carol Rucinski, Joe Deranek, Ben Wheelock, Janice Smith, Lesley Uffman, Dorothy Pazdernik, Sandie Stefanchik, Jordan Sierra Lionberger, Dottie Barr, Joe Barr, Brett Stewart, Allison Dusenbury, Mary Ann Perry, Mary Ann Corlett, Shawn Calvey, Gloria Madonia, Sharon Rock, Anthony Bozek, Joe Brodzinski Suzanne Brown, Joyce Stevens, Victoria Fischer, John Gierlach, Dylan Greve, Ken Perry, Dayna Hansen, Leo Hansen, Betty Hinton, Eileen Johnson, Judy Towalski, Susan Mante, Vicki Przylski, Kristi Burkhart, Barb Pavlick.



**Megan Henle**

*Mercedarian Sisters*

*of the Blessed Sacrament, Postulant*

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

November 5th—November 19th

"Tony, I miss you so very much."

Love, your wife, Rose

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, November 13th—St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin**

8:30am **NO MORNING MASS**

**Tuesday, November 14th—Weekday**

8:30am **NO MORNING MASS**

**Wednesday, November 15th—St. Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor**

8:30am **NO MORNING MASS** of the church

**Friday, November 17th—St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious**

8:30am **NO MORNING MASS**

**Saturday, November 18th—Weekday**

4:00pm +Bob Zarko ("love you lots", Rose Zarko)

**Sunday, November 19th — The 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00am People of the Parish

11:00am Dave & Denise Eller (on their 41st Anniversary)

*Notes: The + before a person's name indicates that they are deceased. There is no Mass here at St. Leo's on Thursdays. You can visit another nearby parish for weekday Mass including St. Charles Borromeo (7:00a & 7:00p), Mary Queen of Peace (8:00a), St. Columbille (8:15a) or St. Francis de Sales (8:45a).*

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

#### FIRST READING: WISDOM 6:12-16

The book of wisdom was written by a teacher, who lived in Alexandria, Egypt, a center for Greek philosophy in the ancient world. Fearful that the Jewish people might be captivated by the secular thought, the author contrasts it with the true wisdom of God. In today's passage, wisdom is personified as a woman.

#### SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 4, 13-18

Paul wrote his first letter to the Thessalonians some 20 years before any of the gospels were written. In the passage, we are about to hear, we have the earliest written teaching about the resurrection. Some of the Thessalonians were worried about those who had already died. They expected the second coming of Christ very soon, and we're concerned that those who had died would miss out on the resurrection.

**SUNDAY** Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (2b)/1 Thes 4:13-18  
or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

**MONDAY** Wis 1:1-7/Ps 139:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10/Lk 17:1-6

**TUESDAY** Wis 2:23—3:9/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/Lk 17:7-10

**WEDNESDAY** Wis 6:1-11/Ps 82:3-4, 6-7/Lk 17:11-19

**THURSDAY** Wis 7:22b—8:1/Ps 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135, 175/Lk  
17:20-25

**FRIDAY** Wis 13:1-9/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5ab/Lk 17:26-37

**SATURDAY** Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43/Lk  
18:1-8

*WELCOME! Have you moved into the area recently or joined us for Mass and would like to register with our Parish family? Please stop by the rectory office or give us a call at 216-661-1006. You can visit our website [leothegreat.org](http://leothegreat.org) for more information. We look so forward to meeting you!*

## A BEAUTIFUL BLEND OF SCRIPTURE AND MENTAL HEALTH

In this weekend's Gospel, we hear the challenging words of Jesus about being ready at all times. Life is fragile and we must be ready at all times for our judgment. As I reflect on this in the context of mental health, it reminds me of our great capacity to ignore problems, delay addressing them, or fail to acknowledge their existence. Whether they are problems present in relationships, ourselves, or the world around us, addressing and changing them can be difficult, exhausting, and discouraging. However, ignoring problems rarely works very well, if ever. Ignoring problems is like ignoring an infected wound and hoping that it eventually feels better or heals on its own. While there are times in our lives when we are too tired or busy to really dig into a problem and address it, we need to prioritize it and find the time, often sooner rather than later. For example, there might be a problem present in a marriage that is difficult to address due to Boy Scout trips, work obligations, or errands that need done. While this problem may be easy to put off or ignore due to not having the time, the problem is likely only going to worsen over time if not addressed. There are always a million reasons not to do something. The same is true about doing something about the problems in our lives. If we address our problems and really engage in their resolution, we can find healing and peace. While we may not view the problem as severe enough or painful enough to do anything about it, I find that people are often surprised to find how much better life, prayer, and relationships can be after they have addressed it. There are many problems that will not be fully resolved in this lifetime. However, if we at least address them and reflect on them, we can find greater peace within ourselves, greater love for the people around us, and a deeper ability to receive the love of Christ.

—Luke Brown, LCC

Holistic Catholic Counseling  
www.sacredheartcleveland.com  
440-305-6192



## HELP THE HOMELESS

Malachi Center at W. 25th St. and Detroit Ave. provides many services to help homeless men and women throughout the year. This Christmas season, the Center is distributing reusable plastic and/or canvas grocery bags to help our less fortunate friends.

The bags will be filled with personal items such as heavy socks, hats, gloves, scarves, soap, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, toothpaste, lotion, snacks, hand and foot warmers, extra-large and larger sweatshirts, and many other similar items.

If you would like to donate bags and/or other items, please bring your donation to the rectory by Nov 26th. Items should be tagged "Help the Homeless." Your overwhelming generosity last year to this cause was heartwarming. Let's do it again this year. Thank you so much.

Questions? Call Jeanne Sabol at 216-351-6247

## SHARING YOUR CHRISTMAS LOVE



*St. Leo's Adopt -A-Child Program* is an ideal way to share your Christmas joy and love with others who are less fortunate. This year more than ever we need to help each other.

### *Who are we helping?*

Recipients of your Christmas gifts include families from our own parish community, children from St. Aloysius School, and Zelig's Home (formerly Maggie's Place).

### *How can I participate?*

To participate, you would purchase and wrap a \$15-\$20 gift for a needy child. To obtain the names of these children, please call Jeanne Sabol at 216-351-6247 or Judi Westergurg at 216-642-0134. You can also complete and submit the form on our parish website, or sign up after Masses in church during the weekend of November 18-19.

### *When is drop-off?*

Gifts are to be wrapped, tagged and dropped off at the Parish Rectory or the church at Mass times. Rectory hours are: Mon-Fri, 9 am-4 pm; Sat, noon-5 pm; Sun, 9 am-noon. If purchasing gift cards, please take them to the rectory. All gifts are due by Thursday, Dec. 7.

### *Can I give money or gift cards?*

Monetary donations or gift cards may be left at/sent to the Rectory. Please mark all contributions "Adopt-A-Child" and make checks payable to St. Leo the Great and write Adopt-A-Child on the memo line.

Once again, please take the time and opportunity to help others this Christmas season. Thank you and may God bless you.

*FCSLALife* (First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association) Jr. Branch 014 is a sponsor of Adopt-A-Child this year and will donate up to \$600 in matching funds!

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

As many of you know, I not only lost my voice for the feast of All Saints, but for a few days afterward & so could not celebrate Mass last weekend. I'm grateful to the priests from Holy Family Hospice for filling in for me and hope that the many others who are ill at this time as well will recover soon.

I want to congratulate the parents of the children being baptized here this weekend...Gabriel Cooley and Bernard Miller, who are first cousins. A few years ago, I witnessed the marriages of their mothers who are sisters and have been members of our parish for some time so I'm glad we're able to welcome these 2 children into the Church at the same time. May God bless them and their parents who are raising them in the practice of the faith.

This Sunday we are bringing our celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish to a close. Last year Bishop Malesic celebrated Mass with us and then many of you were able to meet him in Lux Hall as we shared some refreshments. Today (Sunday), we will celebrate the closing of our anniversary year as we offer prayers of thanksgiving at the 11am Mass and then join for a meal over in Lux Hall right afterward. This past Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, I celebrated Mass with the school students and shared with them some of the history of our parish and school. It was a great day to do so as November 10<sup>th</sup> is the feast of our patron, St. Leo the Great. So I thought I could remind you of some of the important milestones that have taken place these past 75 years...

The First Mass of the new parish was celebrated at Ben Franklin School in their auditorium on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1948 (the official founding date of the parish is October 10, 1948...I like that date as October 10<sup>th</sup> is my mom's birthday, and in 1948, she had turned 21 years old on October 10<sup>th</sup>. So perhaps she had an alcoholic drink on day of our founding!). There was a simple announcement regarding the beginning of this new parish in the bulletin of Our Lady of Good Counsel (now know as Mary, Queen of Peace). It gave the parish boundaries for our parish, which was not only to guide the faithful to attend the Catholic Church according to the street they lived on, but was also meant to let the pastor of each parish know that they were responsible for the spiritual and pastoral welfare of the people in a particular territory.

The Diocese had already bought land from Alvin to Portman on the other side of Broadview Road, close to Schaaf Road. It was all empty and full of weeds at the time. However, Father Lux (our founding Pastor) said he had land picked out (at our present location) but said it was a swamp and that the woman who owned this property would never sell it to a Catholic. Father Lux had connections and had someone else (a non-Catholic) buy the land. He bought enough of the property right up to the railroad tracks, knowing that a highway (presently 480) would be growing through.

Our Lady of Good Counsel had a 6am Mass on Sunday mornings so Father Lux decided to have a Mass at 5:30am for those who liked an even earlier Mass. It was a clever move. The home of a man named Bill Heminger was used for Mass on holy days which is the white house near the corner on the east side of Broadview. It was used later as the first rectory (priest residence) of the parish and then later became the first convent (residence for the nuns). Father Lux had its little porch extended so that it could be used for daily Mass.

I'll share a bit more with you next week. For now, enjoy the meal & give thanks to God!

*Fr. James Schmitz*

## 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 MONDAY 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.

Feel free to join us—no reservations needed!

### Upcoming Meetings:

December 4th

**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.

**PARISH SUPPORT**

*Sunday, November 5, 2023*

Sun. Envelope	\$	8,075.50
WeShare	\$	2,405.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,475.00</b>

**Thank you for  
you continued  
generosity and  
support of  
St. Leo the Great  
Parish !**

Cap. Improv	\$	505.00
WeShare	\$	345.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>850.00</b>

**October Totals**  
World Mission  
Sunday:  
\$539.00

SVDP	\$	120.00
WeShare	\$	120.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>240.00</b>



**BONUS WEEK RECYCLING**

Our Parish receives \$2.00 more per/pound of paper that is recycled in our bin out back on certain weeks of the year. If you have any papers or boxes please feel free to drop them off, especially during the following week of 11/13—11/17. We thank you!



**THE GREAT SWEEPSTAKES**

November 6, 2023

*Congrats, Kevin & Denise Siemborski!!!*

**GET YOUR GIFT CARDS HERE AT ST. LEO'S!**

With the Holidays almost upon us, be sure to stop by the Rectory Office to purchase gift cards for those “stocking stuffers”—a great way to check off your holidays shopping list while supporting the parish and school!

Note: Newly added gifts cards include *McDonald's, AMC Theatre, Meijers, Home Goods and Sierra* (an extension of T.J. Maxx)

**UPCOMING BUS TRIPS**



For reservations or questions contact  
Sandy Diaddario at 216-926-3123

**JACK CASINO | Christmas Lights Display**

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Cost: \$34 per person

Casino Bonus: \$10 | \$5.55 Senior Lunch

Public Square & Christmas Story House

**Deadline : November 17, 2023**

**Reminder: Please park your vehicles closest to W.25th (back entrance) on the day of the event to keep access to our church and rectory office easy for daily visitors.**

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Thanksgiving is a time for loving and for sharing what we have with others, however meager it may seem. Each Thanksgiving your St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization works to help those in need. Please be as generous as you are able with your donations. Place your donation in an envelope marked “SVDP Thanksgiving” and drop it in the collection basket or drop it off at the Rectory Office. The need is great. We thank you for your thoughtfulness.



**THANKSGIVING DAY MASS**

*Thursday, November 23rd at 9:00a.m.*

All are encouraged to attend a special Thanksgiving Day Mass to give thanks to God for all the blessings we have received this past year. A special collection will be taken by the St. Vincent de Paul Organization of gifts of non-perishable food (canned or boxed goods) and money which will be donated to the hungry. Anyone wishing to provide a Thanksgiving meal for a needy family may put their cash/check donation in an envelope marked “SVDP Thanksgiving” and place it in the donation basket or drop it off at the Rectory.

**Join the St. Thomas More Ministry of Consolation**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023**

**At 2:00 PM-In Utopia Hall for**

**Tidings of Comfort & Joy  
Hope for the Holidays**

**OUR GUEST SPEAKER,**

**Cassandra Zabor of ZABOR FUNERAL HOME**

will do a presentation on  
grief management throughout the holiday.

Please invite your family and friends.

If you have any questions,  
please call Peggy at 216-402-2773

Please come and allow us to help heal your hurting hearts.

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

### *Seeking Wisdom*

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

I think if any of us were asked the question, “Do you love wisdom? Do you seek wisdom?” we would, at first, be a little taken aback. And then we would answer quickly “Of course!” with absolutely no doubt in our minds.

But a different way of asking the question is this: “Are you making wise choices?” That’s a question that would put a fair few of us on the back foot.

The virgins who went out to meet the bridegroom were all the same. They had the exact same intentions. They had the exact same stamina, or lack of it. They had the exact same knowledge of the night being dark and lamps being necessary.

What made five foolish, and five wise?

It was their choices. Only their choices set them apart.

We may rely upon the wisdom of another — the parent who reminds us to go to confession, the friend who demurs when we start speaking gossip, the priest who preaches boldly from the pulpit against an injustice we lack the courage to denounce ourselves. But even if we feel safeguarded by their good influence, their wisdom won’t save us.

We may possess a little wisdom ourselves — we may know well that a dark night is hard to navigate, and that we need the assistance of a lamp. We may go to Mass once in a while, read the Bible when we have time and serve others when it’s convenient.

But a lamp needs oil to burn in the darkness, just as wisdom requires action to be brought forth into the world.

We may love God just as much as we should — our flesh may pine, our soul may thirst. But a parched field never brought rain on itself just by being dry.

We must make the choice.

***“Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.”***

***— Psalm 63:4***



## Called to

# Sainthood



Join us on retreat to hear about the lives of the six African Americans on the road to sainthood, to understand our role in the process of canonization, and to embrace our personal call to sainthood.

Presenter: Deacon Allen Stevens,  
Archdiocese of New Orleans

Register at  
[dioceseofcleveland.org/bcm-events](http://dioceseofcleveland.org/bcm-events)

Free lunch and handouts provided!



**November  
25, 2023**



**9:30am-  
1:30pm**



**St. Agnes/Our  
Lady of Fatima  
Parish Center**

6800 Lexington Ave  
Cleveland, OH 44103

### LIVING IN FAITH TOGETHER

There was wonderful attendance again for the LIFT meeting back on Tuesday, November 7th. Ladies, all ages, no matter where you are in your faith journey, please, join us next month on **Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 6:15p.m. in the Parish Center**. We are meeting to connect and *LIFT* each other up as we grow our relationship with God and learn to live more intentionally and prayerfully in our Journeys as women of the faith. For more information contact Pat (216-403-1523) or Barb (216-302-5454) or email Nina at the rectory office at [ncapone@leothegreat.org](mailto:ncapone@leothegreat.org). **Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts, etc. of students at St. Leo School, please consider joining us one evening and witness the powerful, prayerful support of friends in faith.**

