Father James P. Schmitz



January 22, 2023 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor 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 Brenda Basalla, Business Manager bbasalla@leothegreat.org Nina Capone, Office Manager ncapone@leothegreat.org Mickey Stitt, Music Director mstitt@leothegreat.org Mary Piechowski, Associate Musician mpiechowski@leothegreat.org Miss Nadia, Parish Center Coordinator missnadia@leothegreat.org Judy Strodtbeck, Facilities Manager jstrodtbeck@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 Robin Salem, Assistant Principal rsalem@leothegreat.org Eileen Breitmeyer, School Secretary ebreitmeyer@leothegreat.org Joann Deranek, Director of Religious Education jderanek@leothegreat.org

SCHOOL HOURS:

Monday—Friday 8:00am—3:00pm

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.



Facebook—leothegreatorg

Instagram @leothegreatorg



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

Twitter @leothegreatorg

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL



The St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization thanks you very much for your generosity to our monthly food collection. Your donation of food and staples help us to fill the bags of those we serve. Also, your generosity is appreciated by those we serve. ALL that you do for us is very much appreciated. Thank you!

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS



We still have a few spots available for Candle Intentions for 2023. The donation for the candle will be \$10. 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.

MEETING REMINDER PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

For those of you who are going on the Trip to Italy in March, please note that there will be a meeting with Fr. Jim at the **Parish Center on Sunday, January 29th** @ Noon. Donuts and refreshments will be available for you to enjoy while getting to know fellow travelers and going over practical information in preparation for the big excursion.



ORNAMENTS

If you placed an ornament with the name of a loved one on one of the Christmas trees, the ornaments were removed and placed in containers in the main vestibule of the church. If a loved one passed away during the year, an ornament was made and placed on the tree closest to the tabernacle. Please pick up the ornaments before January 31st.

Record of 2022 Contributions

To receive a copy of your 2022 contribution statement, please email your request to info@leothegreat.org. You can also call the Rectory Office at 216-661-1006.

Please indicate how you would like to receive your statement — pick up in the office, pick up in the back of church, email or mail.

You can also include your name on this slip and return it to the office or drop it in the offertory basket and we will mail your statement back to you.



Are you or your child a former student of St. Leo School? Please let us know by completing a form on the parish website. Visit leothegreat.org Find *Alumni Association* under the *Organizations* tab. We hope to hear from you!

Respect Life Holy Hour Sunday, January 22nd, at 6:30 p.m. in the church.

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

Memories

"In June 2019 we had moved from Canton to Cleveland. I was very excited that our home was within walking distance of a Catholic church. On this particular Sunday, my husband and I were sitting near the front of the church and singing. After mass, Vicki Plata turned around and said, "You have great voices. You should continue joining the choir." I had not been able to join the choir at my old church because of working in the evening so I was delighted that I was able to join. It was also something my husband and I could do together. That extra encouragement from Vicki was all we needed." —Pat and Greg Dolezal

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

We welcome photos throughout the year of the people and events taking place. Please forward your photos to photos@leothegreat.org.



St. Leo's has an athletic program that participates in CYO sports. St. Leo's close proximity to highways makes it a convenient location to serve as a "site center" for weekend indoor CYO sports events.

He said, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19

ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live. st. JOHN PAUL II

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 23rd—Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of 8:30am +Unborn Children (Fr. James Schmitz) Unborn Children

Tuesday, January 24th—St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor 8:30am +Ann Hackstock & +Marianne Nimbach (Mary Piechowski)

Wednesday, January 25th—The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle

8:30am +Shirley Ferraro (Family) Friday, January 27th—Weekday

8:30am +Lora Mae Phillips (Marie & Allen Phillips)

Saturday, January 28th—St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor

4:00pm People of the Parish

Sunday, January 29th—Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am +Louis John Kazimer III (Mary Ann Berry)

11:00am + Marilyn Summers (Don Summers)

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, Virgina 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, 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, Claudia Wollard, Carol Rucinski and Teresa Bozek. Joe Deranek, and Ben Wheelock.



MAXWELL GIORGI Divine Word, Kirtland III 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 15, 2023 —January 29, 2023 In Loving Memory of +JOSEPH MACKEY We Love & Miss You, Judy and Family 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).



HOLY HOUR

Join us for a *Respect Life* Holy Hour in the Church on:

Sunday, January 22 at 6:30p.m.

Please join us for an hour of prayer for the respect and dignity of all human life.

Readings for the Week

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 8:23-9, 3

Zebulun and Naphtali were two Jewish Tribes who had settled in the northern area of the Holy Land. Eight centuries before Christ, this area experienced a bitter defeat at the hands of Assyria. The prophet Isaiah offers these defeated people hope by looking ahead to a day when they would be especially blessed. This northern area of the holy land was later known as Galilee, and Christians have seen Jesus as fulfilling this prophecy.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-13, 17

In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul deals with issues the Church faces in every age. After Paul had founded this community and moved on, he heard of polarizations among the Corinth Christians. In today's passage, he speaks bluntly to them about these divisions.

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SUNDAY Is 8:23—9:3/Ps 27:1,4, 13-14 (1a)/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/
Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17
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MONDAY Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mk 3:22-30

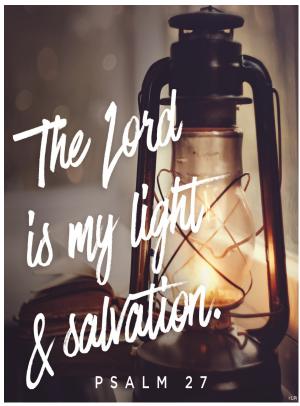
- **TUESDAY** Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 708a, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35
- WEDNESDAY Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Mk 16:15-18
 - **Thursday** 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Tit 1:1-5/12/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/Mk 4:21-25

FRIDAY Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34 **SATURDAY** Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Mk 4:35-41

ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Gospel

Meditation



SEEING GOD IN OUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Drop Your Nets and Be Free

There are times I wish I had no obligations. It would be great to take my wife's hand, hop in the car, and drive into the sunset. Where we were going would not matter as much as the fact that we would have nowhere we had to be. There would be nothing we had to do. No bills. No commitments. No problems. Freedom!

Life doesn't work like that, however. When Jesus came along and asked some fishermen to drop their nets and follow him, they did just that. Wow! In some ways, they experienced true freedom. That is what Jesus offers all of us. Yet, true freedom looks quite different than my dream scenario.

In living in the true freedom that Jesus offers, there are things we must do and places we must go. That is because freedom only exists in following God's will, not our own. We are called to be and called to give ourselves completely to God without reservations. We always have the free will to not respond to His call, but we will find that a negative answer may complicate our lives even further. God's path for us calls on us to give freely of what we have been given. Saying no to that call means we carry the weight of those gifts. We were never meant to keep them. The path of God's will may seem long and winding, but it is the one that leads us into that sunset. It is the way to true freedom.

ENCOURAGE A DEEPER Understanding of Scripture

January 22, 2023 | Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

When I was a young seminarian, I asked a wise old priest how to pray better. He said simply, "Don't lie when you pray." He helped me to see how much energy I waste in trying to appear acceptable to God when I pray. For me, prayer was showing off for God and hiding what was ugly.

It's stunning that the Gospel of Matthew tells us of Jesus, "He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulon and Naphtali..." This isn't just the Lord's relocation up north. It's his moving into places of shame and defeat. This region was where the enemy invasion of Israel began centuries before. Jesus left the comfortable confines of Nazareth and sought out a place of darkness, not to bring shame, but to announce the dawning of his light.

When we pray, we usually prefer Jesus to stay put in our little Nazareths — where we feel comfortable, successful, and in control. But he moves. He re-locates into the Zebulons and Naphtalis of our shame, embarrassment, fear, and sense of being defeated. The question for us is: will we allow him to take up residence in those places in our prayer time? Will we talk to him honestly about our places of darkness? If we do, we're no longer lying when we pray.

Father John Muir

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

The Art of Retreat

Social media has made it far too easy for me to share my opinion. These virtual spaces tend to strip our words of all empathy. Someone will post something that I think is nonsense, and I just have to tell them why — and quickly! Hurry! Before they delete it!

Nine times out of ten, when the dust is settled, I find that I've said too much and listened too little. As I've gotten older, the motto I try (not always successfully) to live by is this: You do not have to be on the attack all of the time, even if it's for what you think is the truth.

I can't help but notice that the first thing Jesus does when he hears of the arrest of John the Baptist is to retreat. He doesn't punch a hole in a wall or take to the streets in protest. He withdraws. And what does he do after withdrawing? A lot of praying, I would imagine. A lot of thinking, a lot of reflecting. A lot of listening to the voice of his Father.

Sometimes we mistake stillness with vulnerability. But Christ shows us that to withdraw, to contemplate, can actually be a tremendous show of strength. Even the fiercest dogs wait for the command of their master before they act.

—Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman, LPI

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with the wisdom of human eloquence. — 1 Corinthians 1:17

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

Some of you who follow us on social media may have noticed that we are no longer on Facebook. We hope for this to be a temporary absence. Our parish's Facebook account was linked with my own personal account which made it difficult to keep the two separate and to have a parish staff member update our parish account. So we are looking to setup a new Facebook account exclusively for the parish. I know that some of you depended on viewing our livestream Masses through a reminder or link from Facebook, but please know that you can continue to view our livestream by going to the parish website at <u>leothegreat.org</u>. We continue to have links and notifications to our livestream Masses via Instagram and Twitter and both of these parish social media accounts can be found on our website. Today, January 22nd, the Church normally holds its annual Day

Today, January 22nd, the Church normally holds its annual Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children though since it falls on a Sunday, this year the Day of Prayer will be held on Monday, January 23rd. For more information about this, you can go to the website of the USCCB (the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) which is linked in our parish website but is also included here: <u>https://www.usccb.org/events/2023/day-prayer-legalprotection-unborn-children</u>. That website contains these words of Pope St. John Paul II: "A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer." (Evangelium vitae)

It continues: On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the US in its companion decisions Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives, and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion.

On June 24, 2022, the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision overturned Roe v. Wade, and we praise God for the great opportunity state and federal legislators now have to protect pre-born children. While God, in His mercy, ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide regime of abortion on demand, right now state and federal laws, in many instances, are still hostile to pre -born children. So, great prayer and advocacy is very needed.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children": In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday as it does this year) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

As it states above, on June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. But this is only a beginning. We must not only pray for a change in the law, but most importantly, a change in hearts. May I ask you this weekend to once again take this issue to your own personal prayer and to ask the Lord to guide your heart toward his will concerning the sacredness of all life, from "the womb to the tomb." I recently heard a pro-life activist say, "When the Church stands up and points, with a very clear finger, 'This is evil,' that is not the Church being political; that's the Church being the Church!" I couldn't agree more. Let us be faithful to the Gospel of Life.

Jr. James / Ochmitz

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: February 1, 2023, March 1, 2023 and May 3, 2023. <u>THERE WILL BE NO</u> <u>MEETING IN APRIL DUE TO HOLY WEEK.</u> 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.



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@leothgreat.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 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.

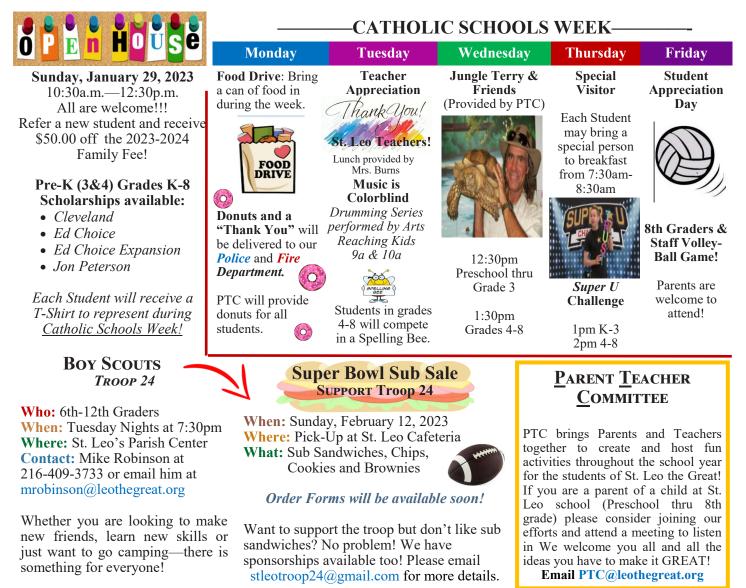
If you have any questions or need help, call the parish office at 216-661-1006 and we will gladly assist you.

ST. LEO THE GREAT—CLEVELAND, OHIO



Questions? Please call the Rectory Office at 216-661-1006 or visit our website at www.leothegreat.org

School News



Apply now for Fall Enrollment! Call 216-661-2120, visit www.leothegreat.org or please contact our Principal, Mrs. Denise Burns at dburns@leothegreat.org for more details.