

CHURCH OF ST. LEO THE GREAT

4940 BROADVIEW RD. CLEVELAND, OH 44109 | 216-661-1006 | LEOTHEGREAT.ORG

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

Fr. James P. Schmitz, Pastor
jschmitz@leothegreat.org

Patrick Berigan, Deacon
pberigan@leothegreat.org

Joan Berigan
jberigan@leothegreat.org

Denise Burns, Principal
dburns@leothegreat.org

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

OVERJOYED AT SEEING THE STAR

MATTHEW 2:10

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

The St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization food and staple collection to assist those in need is next weekend, January 13th and 14th. Items that we are most in need of are:



Canned Corn	Spaghetti Sauce	Scalloped Potatoes
Instant Mashed Potatoes	Canned Mixed Vegetables	Canned Baked Beans
Canned Pasta	Pancake Syrup	Canned Diced Tomatoes
Assorted Soups	Ramen Noodles	Tuna Fish
Rice & Noodle Sides	Peanut Butter & Jelly	Cereal
Canned Fruit	White Rice	Dishwashing Soap & Bar Soap

Because of you we are able to ensure that others do not go without. Thank you very much!

2024 GUIDE BOOKS

You'll be receiving your 2024 Guide Books in the mail sometime this month. Please note, we are working to update our records as best we can to ensure the most accurate information is provided to our parishioners. That being said, you will notice a significantly less amount of parishioners are included. We decided to submit the information for only those of you who completed your request to be included in this year's edition. Books in the recent past have included many individuals that have not been an active part of the parish for quite some time, are deceased or have not reported moving from our area. Though it's a drastic change we are confident this will generate a more accurate source of information to you all. A form will be made available at a later date to submit your request for 2025. Thanks for your understanding!

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

To receive a copy of your 2023 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. You can also include your name on this slip and return it to the office or drop it in the offertory basket.

Name: _____

☐ I will pick up in the office

☐ I will pick up in the back of church

☐ Send it to the eMail address listed on the line below:

☐ Send it via the United States Postal Service

We thank you for your patience as we work to fulfill your request!

REMEMBRANCE TREES



Ornaments that were placed on the remembrance trees on the altar can be taken home in January at the conclusion of the Christmas season -- January 6th and 7th. Ornaments not taken will be placed in the main vestibule and may be picked up until January 21st.

ROSARY



Please join us in praying the rosary on :
Thursday, January 18th, at 7:00 p.m. in the church
Please enter through the doors closest to the rectory.
If you are unfamiliar with praying the rosary, we will provide you with everything you need.

JANUARY PRO-LIFE MEETING

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 2:00 pm in the Parish Center.
PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE.

The topic for discussion is *Capital Punishment regarding the Church's teaching on life*. ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

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.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

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.

PHOTOS ARE AWAITING YOUR PICK UP

Please stop by the Rectory Office during the week, or the back vestibule after weekend Masses, and pickup your 75th Anniversary portrait that you had taken this past Fall.

2024 CALENDARS ARE IN!

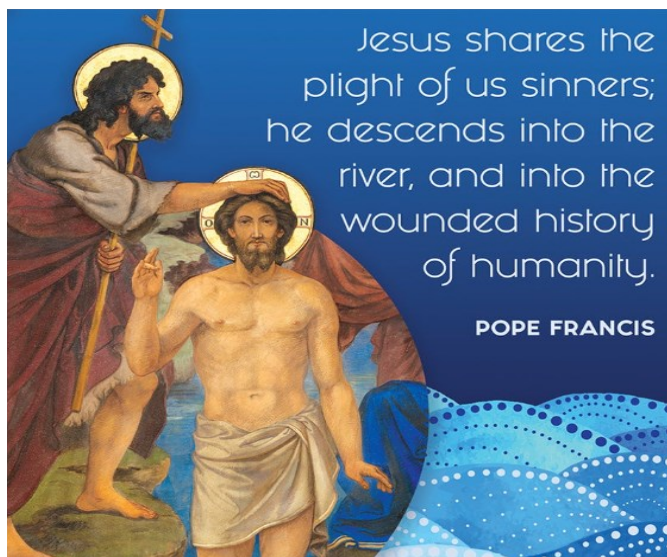
Caleendars for the New Year, generously provided to us by YURCH Funeral Home, are available on the tables at the entrances of the church and over in the Rectory Office. Be sure to get yours and keep up with important liturgical events celebrated throughout the year as well as keep track of important dates, appointments & any resolutions you are working on.



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 for more information. We look so forward to meeting you!

ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO



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 Bublav, 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 Bublav, John O'Malley, Jesse Kazimer, William 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 Przybylski, Kristi Burkhart, Maria Giangrande, Amanda Pacanavsky, Leslie Hahn Karen Horvath, Chris Geiger, Scott, Jesse Wilson, Kathy Patterson, Richard Baach, Jack Gibas and Christine Slaghter.



Sr. Mercedes Waters, HMSS

Mercedarian Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament | Temporary Vow

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

December 31st—January 14th

+CAROL SLADEWSKI

"You will always be remembered."

MASS INTENTIONS AND LITURGICAL EVENTS

SAT:	Jan 6th	Christmas Weekday
	4:00p.m.	+Angel Caraballo (Neida Ramos)
SUN:	Jan 7th	The Epiphany of the Lord
	8:00a.m.	+William Fischer (Kathleen Fischer)
	11:00a.m.	People of the Parish
MON:	Jan 8th	The Baptism of the Lord
	8:30a.m.	NO MASS
TUES:	Jan 9th	Weekday
	8:30a.m.	NO MASS
WED:	Jan 10th	Weekday
	8:30a.m.	NO MASS
FRI:	Jan 12th	Weekday
	8:30a.m.	NO MASS
SAT:	Jan 13th	St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
	4:00p.m.	People of the Parish
SUN:	Jan 14th	The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time
	8:00a.m.	+Douglas W. Kiesel (LaGodney Family)
	11:00a.m.	+Rudy T. Dejele (Cora Dejele)

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. Columbkille (8:15a) or St. Francis de Sales (8:45a).

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6 | The last part of the book of Isaiah contains the words of a prophet who lived after the Jews returned from exile in Babylon (which is modern-day Iraq). They found their temple destroyed and the city leveled. But with great faith the prophet envisions a wonderful future for Jerusalem.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 | The Ephesians were a community in which Jewish converts to Christianity lived side-by-side with Gentile converts. The author of this letter confirms that God's saving grace is available to everyone, whatever their background.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 2024

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7- 11

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/

WEDDING FEAST & EPIPHANY Q & A

How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration? Answer: The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana. The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers. Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C. These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life.

REFLECTIONS | SACRED HEART COUNSELING

How do you relax and unwind? When I ask this question to clients, I use the word recreation. The word recreation is derived from the Latin root recreare or re-create. I specifically use that word because our leisure time should re-create and nurture our sense of meaning, purpose, and motivation. A good way to find out if you are recreating yourself is by reflecting on the outcome of your leisurely activities. Do you feel better afterwards? Are you motivated to go back to work? Do you feel more capable of loving others? If not, maybe it is time to consider a new activity. On weekends, a temptation can be to watch Netflix for about ten hours straight. When I have spoken to people who spend their weekends this way, many say that Mondays loom larger, they do not want to be around others, and they feel badly about themselves. Compare this to spending the weekend watching Netflix for a bit, then exercising, grabbing coffee with a friend, and praying. I would wager that the latter would result in feeling much more refreshed and rejuvenated than the former. Time spent on most activities is perfectly fine, but they can become an issue when they are our sole form of recreation. Some activities are like cheesecake- we feel very differently after we have eaten one piece versus the entire cheesecake. Balance is needed in life for health in all areas-physical, mental, and spiritual. This week, consider taking some time to reflect on your recreational activities and changes you can pursue to make your free time truly a time of recreation. —Luke Brown, LCC



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

REFLECTIONS FOR EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace." There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which. After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey. But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe. The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Sunday, January 28, 2024

10:30a.m.—12:30p.m. All are welcome!!!

Pre-K (3&4) Grades K-8

Scholarships available:

- Cleveland
- Ed Choice
- Ed Choice Expansion
- Jon Peterson



Come tour the School—Apply for Fall Enrollment

4900 Broadview Road Cleveland, OH | www.leothegreatschool.org

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Speaking of blessings...(I spoke of them in last week's bulletin which I'm sure you'll remember)...I have a large book called the "Book of Blessings" which I use on occasion for the blessing of our Nativity scene, the blessing of Mothers & Fathers on Mother's & Father's Day (respectively), etc. But there are so many blessings that the Church offers for so many different occasions. Here's a description of it: "*The Book of Blessings contains the blessings of the Roman Ritual for the Universal Church as well as additional proper blessings for use in the United States. This liturgical book includes blessings pertaining to persons, to objects, and to various occasions, as well as blessings and services connected with official parish events.*" I thought that in this new year of 2024, I would try to make better use of the many blessings the Church offers us. Blessings remind us of God's goodness, generosity, and desire that we enjoy his many graces and gifts. They also remind us that we need God's help. If January 1st had been a holy day of obligation this year, we would have heard these words from the Old Testament book of Numbers for our first reading:

The Lord said to Moses: "Speak to Aaron and his sons and tell them: This is how you shall bless the Israelites. Say to them: The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace! So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them."

So the blessing of others has a very long history. May God bless each of you in this New Year!

On Christmas I also spoke about angels, specifically about how they were seen as God's army sent to protect us in spiritual battle & to remind us of God's power and strength. I also pointed out the wonderful statue of St. Michael the Archangel that we have in our church in the chapel area. Again you'll notice the military clothing & footwear on him, but also the long, pointy spear that rests on the chin of the devil. I was thinking about how Father Vesely used to say the prayer to St. Michael at every Mass. This prayer was first introduced in 1886 by Pope Leo XIII. The prayer was initially part of the "Leonine Prayers," (so named after Pope Leo, but not OUR Pope Leo who was the First & the Great Saint Leo). These were a series of prayers recited after Mass. The prayer was later removed from the Mass in 1964 but is still widely used by many Catholics today. Here is the prayer that you may want to use when needing the power of God, especially when faced with temptation and evil:

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Congratulations to Brandon Robinson & Nichole Kirk who are being married this weekend. Some of you will know them as the faithful young couple who attend either the 8am or 11am Masses. Nicole was received into the Catholic Church about a year ago and received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. They both have become lectors in recent months. I am so happy to celebrate their wedding and ask you to pray for God's continued blessings on them. May they live a long and prosperous life together.

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 in 2024:
February 5th, March 4th, and May 6th

If you have any questions,
contact Joan Berigan at 216-661-1006 or by
email: 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 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



2024 THE GREAT SWEEPSTAKES 2024

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

JANUARY 1, 2024 — NOVEMBER 10, 2024

WEEKLY DRAWING **\$100.00**

JANUARY 1ST, 8TH, 15TH, 22ND & 29TH

FEBRUARY 5TH, 12TH, 19TH & 26TH

MARCH 4TH, 11TH, 18TH & 25TH

APRIL 1ST, 8TH, 15TH, 22ND & 29TH

MAY 6TH, 13TH, 20TH & 27TH

JUNE 3RD, 10TH, 17TH & 24TH

JULY 1ST, 8TH, 15TH, 22ND & 29TH

AUGUST 5TH, 12TH, 19TH & 26TH

SEPTEMBER 2ND, 9TH, 16TH, 23RD & 30TH

OCTOBER 7TH, 14TH, 21ST & 28TH

NOVEMBER 4TH

SPECIAL DRAWINGS **\$200.00**

NEW YEAR'S DAY JANUARY 1ST

EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 31ST

MOTHER'S DAY MAY 12TH

FATHER'S DAY JUNE 16TH

INDEPENDENCE DAY JULY 4TH

SUPER DRAWING

\$1,000.00

NOVEMBER 10, 2023

FEAST DAY OF ST. LEO THE GREAT



ST. LEO THE GREAT
PARISH & SCHOOL

2024 THE GREAT SWEEPSTAKES 2024

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

ST. LEO THE GREAT- CLEVELAND, OHIO



December 17, 2023

Sun. Envelope	\$	6,269.00
WeShare	\$	2,973.50
Total	\$	9,242.50
Cap. Improv	\$	859.00
WeShare	\$	515.00
Total	\$	1,374.00
SVDP	\$	0.00
WeShare	\$	425.00
Total	\$	425.00

*We thank you for your continued generosity
and support of St. Leo the Great Parish !*



THE 2024 GREAT SWEEPSTAKES

New Years \$200 Drawing Brian Murray
January 1st \$100 Drawing Bernadine Vance

A SNEAK PEEK AT THE 2024 BUS TRIPS

The Sanctuary Museum | Lakewood, Ohio
(formerly the Museum of the Divine Statues)
Wednesday, March 6, 2024

River's Casino | Pittsburgh, PA
Wednesday, April 17, 2024

More details will be posted at a later date.



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

LIVING IN FAITH TOGETHER

Ladies, all ages, no matter where you are in your faith journey, please, join us next month on **Tuesday, January 16, 2023 at 6:30p.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.

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.

PARISH INFORMATION

RECTORY 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 & Media Manager

ncapone@leothegreat.org

Mary Piechowski, Associate Musician

mpiechowski@leothegreat.org

Miss Nadia, Parish Center Coordinator

missnadia@leothegreat.org

Judy Strodbeck, Facilities Manager

jstrodbeck@leothegreat.org

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, DRE

jderanek@leothegreat.org

Dan Trainer, Athletic Director

dtrainer@leothegreat.org

RECTORY/OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Fri | 9:00am—4:00pm

Saturday | 12:00pm—5:00pm

Sunday | 9:00am—12:00pm

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 11:00am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon, Tues, Weds & Fri @ 8:30am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00pm-3:30pm

Sunday 10:00am-10:30am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday of the month 9a-5p

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

www.leothegreat.org



leothegreat.org/flocknote



Instagram @leothegreatorg



Twitter @leothegreatorg