



November 27, 2022

Father James P. Schmitz

Pastor

4940 Broadview Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44109



PARISH STAFF | 216.661.1006

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RECTORY/OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday | 9:00am—3:00pm

Saturday | 12:00pm—5:00pm

Sunday | 9:00am—12:30pm

SCHOOL STAFF: 216.661.2120

Denise Burns, *Principal*

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Joann Deranek, *Director of Religious Education*

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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 can be heard Saturdays from 3:00pm-3:30pm, Sundays from 10:00a-10:30a and after the 11:00am Mass, 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.

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](https://www.instagram.com/leothegreatorg)



Facebook—[leothegreatorg](https://www.facebook.com/leothegreatorg)



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



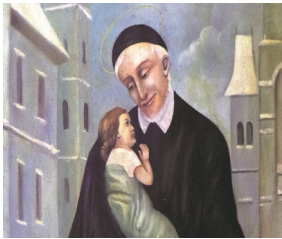
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, December 2, 2022

Please join us for *First Friday* from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. St. Leo the Great has had a long history of Eucharistic Adoration of First Fridays. Part of our Commitment as a parish is that when we have Adoration, Jesus in the Eucharist should not be left alone. We need your presence for as much or as little amount of time as you are able to spend in the presence of Jesus. The Eucharistic Adoration will conclude with Benediction at 5:00p. Can you spend just one hour with Jesus?



We welcome you to make use of the books in the Chapel area to help guide your prayers and reflections



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Thanksgiving is a time for loving and sharing what we have with others. Because of your generous donations of food and money, your St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization was able to make this Thanksgiving holiday brighter for the 36 families we serve. Your response to our requests for food and money was very much appreciated. We thank you so much!



ST. EDWARD HIGH SCHOOL
—HONOR ROLL—
Shawn Komora

SENIOR MEETING

Just a note that our next meeting will be
Wednesday, November 30, 2022



Please arrive around 11:00a
Lunch will be served at 12:00p
It's GAME DAY !



Bloodmobile will be at St. Leos Lux Hall on Sunday, December 4th, from 7:30a-12:00p. Please consider donating due to the critical need for blood. Schedule your appointment at redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins **will be accepted**; however, those who have a scheduled appointment will be taken first. Therefore, there may be some wait depending on when you walk in. Thank you for your support. God Bless and stay healthy.



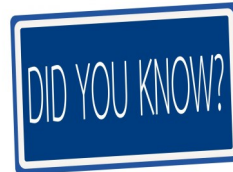
Are you a former student of St. Leo School? Is your child a former student of St. Leo School? Please let us know by completing a form on the parish website — leothegreat.org — under *Organizations - Alumni Association*. We hope to hear from you!

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

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



YOUR PHOTO HERE



This house on Broadale Road was the site of St. Leo's daily Masses in its early days. At the time it was the home of the Bill Heminger family, who played a prominent role in getting the parish up and running. The house was also the site of the first meeting of the St. Leo Holy Name Society.



ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

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, Sally Herman, Gary Skelley, Virginia Soflkancs, Evelyn Bastian, Mary Lou Neuendorf, Joseph Bublav, Kristen Eble, Ana Mendoza, Marianne Kucinski-Powers, Denise Warnock, Edith Lysyj, John Geiger, Rosie Colucci, Buzzy Miano, Judy Bruzshinsky, Carol Broze, Stan Wasacz, Joe Barr, Mary Ann & Doug Kiesel, Marcia Bailey, Jim Tisch, MaryLou Durfee, Chris Grdosic, Kathy Svoboda, Matt Pauloski, Kelley, Tootie, Megan Arena, Judy Kucia, Lena Sunyak, Chuck Pacanovsky, Theresa Truxall, Susan Fenski, Glen Balog, Antoinette Jakosh, Rose Arlia, Liz Woisnet, MaryKay Simonek, Betty Popow, R.Rosario, Margarita Quinones, and Allen Phillips

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 28th—Advent Weekday

8:30am +Theresa Kowal (Tony & Chris Lizzini)

Tuesday, November 29th—Advent Weekday

8:30am +Pat Staab (Karin Staab)

Wednesday, November 30th—Saint Andrew, Apostle

8:30am +Eleanor Gravette (Denise Konieczka)

Friday, December 2nd—Advent Weekday

8:30am +Joseph Schmitz (Fr. Jim Schmitz)

Saturday, December 3rd —Advent Weekday

4:00pm +Deceased of Siekaniec (Family)

Sunday, December 4th —Second Sunday of Advent

8:00am +Elizabeth & +Scott Novak (John Chris)

11:00am People of the Parish

**Per Bishop Malesic, Communion Services should not be scheduled at the parish when the priest is away. The faithful should participate in the weekday Mass at the closest neighboring parish.*

St. Charles 7:00a

St. Barbara 7:30a

St. Francis de Sales 8:45a

Mary Queen of Peace 8:00a

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 2:1-5

The Prophet Isaiah dreamed of a day when Jerusalem (sometimes called Zion) would be the center of the world, and all people would come there to receive instruction from God. In today's reading, Isaiah presents a vision of peace and prosperity for the whole world.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 13:11-14

Behind everything Paul wrote was his strong belief that the hour of Christ's return in glory was near at hand. In this passage, Paul uses the image of darkness and light to describe how Christians ought to live as they await the coming.

SUNDAY Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

MONDAY Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

TUESDAY Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

THURSDAY Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

SATURDAY Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1,



DC. DAVID VERBSKY
ST. MARY, CHARDON
V 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.

REST IN PEACE



CC CHOROMANSKI
NOVEMBER 6, 2022

LOLITA IGNACIO
NOVEMBER 10, 2022

CAROL CLEMENS
NOVEMBER 12, 2022



Sanctuary Candle Intention

November 20th—December 4th



In Loving Memory of
RALPH RATH

ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

ENCOURAGE A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

NOVEMBER 27, 2022 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gospel Meditation

We can embrace and relish each moment of our lives as a sacred sacrament or nonchalantly and robotically attend to what life presents. We have our feet in two worlds. One is holy and sacred, and the other is profane and secular. Which one has the greater claim on us? To what do we devote most of our energy? We can easily be consumed with the particular demands and essentials of daily life: family, work, obligations, and the like, that we don't really notice anything more than what is right before us. We become masters at "doing" and neglect our need to "savor." Jesus reminds his friends that "as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away."

While certain things require our daily attention, we cannot become so consumed with them that we fail to see the larger picture of what is coming. For the Christian, Advent is the time to pause, reflect, and savor. It is a time to see life as a sacrament of the moment and not just an investment in secular interests, pleasures, and personal obligations. It is easy to get distracted, lazy, preoccupied, and tired. Apathy can quickly wreak havoc on the most dedicated of souls. Whatever we can do this Advent season to be more attentive, focused, alert, and watchful will serve us well. It will make us eager and well-prepared to meet our Lord when he comes. It is for certain that he will come.

Who made me? What is my purpose? What will happen to me when I die? These are pivotal questions that, in life's busyness, we hardly find time to ask and answer. They define who we are, and the answers we provide serve as guideposts and anchors in the seas of our lives. Advent is the perfect time to make friends with our souls. It is a time to perk ourselves up, open our eyes, ears, and hearts and seek God's presence in the simple moments of our lives. God is with us. Ask God to grant you a deeper appreciation for His presence and the gift of attentiveness.

SEEING GOD IN OUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

"Being Surprised by Christ"

Some people hate surprise parties. There are those who are uncomfortable with a last-minute vacation or even an unexpected travel upgrade. If it wasn't part of the plan, it's a cause for consternation.

There is a temptation to view these folks as curmudgeonly — sticks in the mud, obsessed with predictability. But I think if we're being honest, there's a little bit of the surprise-averse in all of us.

Deep within the very heart of the element of surprise is a kernel of shock. And shock, in the moment, can feel similar to trauma. If we reflect on the most traumatic occurrences of our lives — a loss, an accident, a calamity — it is likely that we will say this: "It was the shock more than anything that got to me." Grief or fear, those feelings were overwhelming as well, but they came later. In the first moment, all we knew was we were going about our lives on one path until we were thrust on a different one and then the whole future changed.

This is the natural rhythm of our life here on earth. We never know what is coming — which is to say, in a beautiful way, we always know what is coming. More importantly, we know Who is coming.

Like the early riser who sets the "pre-alarm" (the one on which he knows he's going to hit snooze just to take the edge off the disappointment of waking up), we are always being given a heads-up in Scripture. From the earliest prophecies of the Messiah to Jesus' reminders in the Gospel to the very last words of Revelations, God has communicated to His stewards: You know the time. The time is now.

We are called to constant vigilance, perpetual renewal, steadfast accountability. In the end, the coming of Christ may be the only event in history that was a surprise, but not a shock — and so it will only be beautiful, even for those who hate surprise parties.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

QUESTION

The Church teaches that, through our baptism, we are made priest, prophet, and king like Christ. What does it mean for us to be prophets in the world today?

ANSWER

We are indeed sharers in the threefold mission of Christ. We live our "kingship" when we serve others in justice, work for the common good in society, and overcome sin in our own lives. Our "priestly" mission is lived when we unite our lives to Christ's sacrifice on the cross, offering them up as a gift of love. We are also called to be prophets. Our lives may not look like Isaiah and Jeremiah of old — and perhaps desert living and locust eating like St. John the Baptist might feel out of reach — but this doesn't nullify our invitation and obligation.

As baptized Christians, we have accepted the Gospel in faith. We're also called to proclaim the Gospel as well. This may mean by giving Christ-centered advice to another person or defending truth when it's threatened. It also means living our faith in deeds.

St. John Paul II writes that we are "called to allow the newness and the power of the Gospel to shine out every day in [our] family and social life" (On the Lay Members of Christ's Faithful, 14). A prophet points to a higher truth beyond himself or herself. We live prophetically when we treat others as Christ treated people and when we arrange our schedule to prioritize those to whom we have the greatest obligation, including our families, as well as the poor and vulnerable around us. We live prophetically when we think critically about the culture around us and we allow our faith to inform our public life.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

I wanted to remind you that as of this weekend, the first Sunday of Advent, we will once again be offering the Precious Blood of Christ for you to receive through the use of the communion cup. This option comes from the office of the Bishop who writes, *"After proper consultation with my advisors from the Catholic Medical Association, I am lifting the restriction on the use of the Communion Cup that was implemented during the pandemic as a precautionary measure in order to protect the public health. The distribution of the Blood of Christ to the faithful is now an option...effective immediately."* He also quotes from the American Journal of Infection Control which has said that *"the risk for infectious disease transmission by a common communion cup is very low, and appropriate safeguards—that is, wiping the interior & exterior rim between communicants, use of care to rotate the cloth during use, and use of a clean cloth for each service—would further diminish this risk. In addition, church may wish to consider advising their congregations that sharing the communion cup is discouraged if a person has an active respiratory infection (ie, cold or flu)."* Again, receiving from the cup is entirely optional as the full presence of Christ is received when one consumes the sacred host alone.

Though I am writing this a full week before Thanksgiving, you will be reading it after the holiday so I hope you enjoyed the time spent expressing gratitude to God and to others for all the blessings we receive. As we enter into Advent this weekend, we focus initially on the 2nd coming of Christ in the future, where Christ the King (celebrated last weekend) will finally come to bring to fulfillment the kingdom established by Christ at his first coming, when he became flesh. This second coming of Christ should bring us hope, not fear, as we wait and long and pray for the end to all sin and evil, so that we may live forever in the happiness of God's kingdom. Perhaps that sounds like a fairy tale or an impossible dream—but it is the promise of Christ which I believe in completely. It is worth remembering, celebrating & praying for as we enter every year into these days before Christmas. Of course, the hope of the eternal kingdom began with the birth of Christ the King in time, on our earth. And that is what we also prepare to celebrate during Advent. As we pray during the blessing of the Advent wreath, may He come quickly and not delay!

I'll include here a blessing for an Advent wreath that you can use at home, which comes from the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent. When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

**Lord God,
Let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.
May He come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

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 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 December 7, 2022, and January 4, 2023 and February 1, 2023.**

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.**

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.



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, Zelig's Home (formerly Maggie's Place) and Catholic Charities Refugee Families.

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 Westenburg 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 19-20.

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-3pm; Sat, noon-5 pm; Sun, 9 am-12:30 pm. If purchasing gift cards, please take them to the rectory. All gifts are due by Thursday, Dec. 8.

CAN I GIVE MONEY OR GIFT CARDS?

Monetary donations or gift cards may be dropped in the boxes by the church doors or 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!



With the Holidays upon us, be sure to stop by the rectory to purchase gift cards—a great way to check off your holidays shopping list while supporting the parish.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Thursday, December 8th, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception -- a holy day of obligation. The title "the Immaculate Conception" was bestowed upon the Blessed Virgin Mary because of the Church's belief that Mary was conceived without original sin since she was destined to be the Mother of God. Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is also the patron saint of the United States. The Mass schedule for this holy day of obligation is 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on December 8th.

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 November 27, 2022. 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

Fr. Jim Huvane and the Maryknoll Society wrote to us to express gratitude from Maryknollers around the world for how receptive and supportive the parishioners of St. Leo the Great were last weekend during his visit to the parish. Needless to say, your generosity is a great help towards their efforts to bring the "Good News" to all nations. There will be a grateful remembrance in their Masses and prayers.

November 27, 2022— FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SENIORS SERVING SENIORS

The 8th Graders were delighted to serve our St. Leo the Great Senior Group with a pre-holiday Thanksgiving meal last week. The menu consisted of the traditional food items of turkey and stuffing. However, there was an interesting "twist" with an addition of pierogies made and donated by Mrs. Horvath. The time spent together for the Seniors and students was truly a blessing for all involved. We thank God for the opportunity that was given to us to celebrate the holiday season together!

