



ST. LEO THE GREAT
PARISH & SCHOOL

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29, 2020

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

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

Mary Lou Hauck, Office Manager
mlhauck@leothegreat.org

Brenda Basalla, Business Manager
bbasalla@leothegreat.org

Mickey Stitt, Music Director
mstitt@leothegreat.org

Mary Piechowski, Associate Musician
mpiechowski@leothegreat.org

RECTORY/OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday ~ 9:00AM—3:00PM

Saturday ~ Noon—5:30PM

Sunday ~ 9:00AM—12:30PM

SCHOOL STAFF:

216.661.2120

Denise Burns Principal
dburns@leothegreat.org

Eileen Breitmeyer, School Secretary
ebreitmeyer@leothegreat.org

Jennifer Robinson, Preschool Director
jrobinson@leothegreat.org

Joann Deranek, Director of Religious Education (DRE)
jderanek@leothegreat.org

Cindy Funari, Tuition Manager
cfunari@leothegreat.org

SCHOOL HOURS:

Monday through Friday/School Day ~ 8:00AM—2:45PM

Main Office ~ 7:30AM—3:30PM

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS

Saturday Vigil ~ 4:00PM

Sundays ~ 8:00AM and 11:00AM

WEEKDAYS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday ~ 8:30AM

Thursday - Communion Service ~ 8:30AM

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

8:30AM and 7:00PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual confessions can be heard after Mass by request or any time by appointment.

NEW TO THE PARISH? WELCOME!

New parishioners and those moving from the parish or changing address are asked to contact the Rectory office.

BAPTISMS

Parents desiring Baptism for their children are asked to contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Preparations and arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance with a priest. Only then can a wedding date be confirmed.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

If you are curious about becoming Catholic or have questions about the Catholic Faith, please call the Rectory.



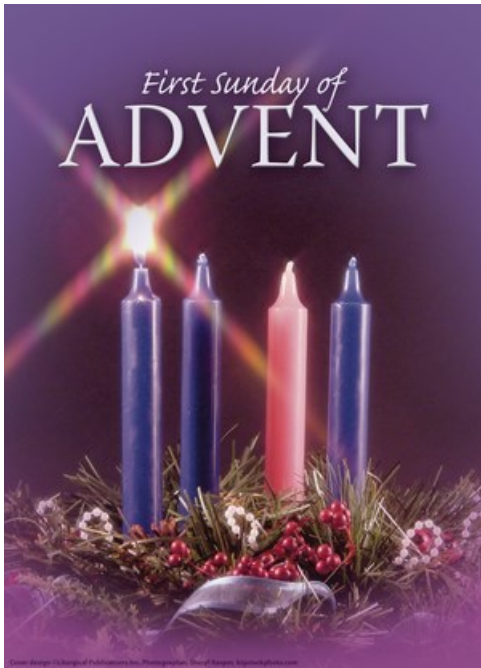
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1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on Him to be there with you. He is now and forever, Emmanuel, "God with us." He is the expected in all things unexpected.
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE



You are at the eye doctor and it's time for the peripheral vision test. You know the one. It's where you put your head up to a contraption and have to click a switch every time you see a squiggly line. If you don't concentrate and maintain optimal focus, you will miss them and skew the outcome of the test. You

can easily find yourself with a diagnosis that really isn't accurate! Concentration and focus are key to succeeding with this evaluation. They are also key to developing a healthy, vibrant spiritual life. If we do not bring our full consciousness to the task, concentrate with all our might, be watchful and vigilant, we are not going to see God's loving presence flashing before our eyes!

That's why we need Advent. Let's face it. We can easily get distracted, focus on nonessential and superficial things and lose touch with what really matters. Our attentions wander. We daydream and even become a bit overwhelmed and tired. All of the stresses and demands of life consume us and we find ourselves constantly trying to play catch up rather than relishing the moment of the now. "Now" moments are so fleeting. They flash before us like those squiggly lines on a screen. Present moments go as quickly as they come but it is important to discover them and rest in them as often as we can. Though gone in a flash, these now moments of encounter with God teach powerful lessons and offer a grounding in truth that can be found nowhere else. It's the grace of Advent to become watchful and attentive because we are never sure when God will surprise us.

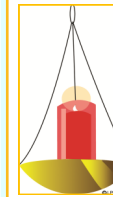
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, December 4th



Please join us for Eucharistic Adoration beginning after the 8:30am Mass and concluding with Benediction at 5:00pm. You are invited to spend some time with the Lord in a quiet, prayerful atmosphere. May you find peace during this time.

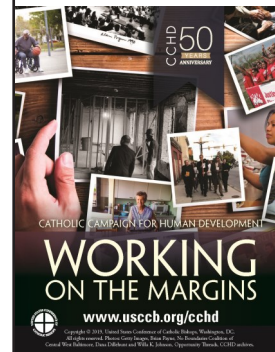
SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS



We are taking intentions for **Sanctuary Candle Intentions for 2021**. The donation for the candle will be \$10.00. 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.

THANK YOU



Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! The money we collected will go to support those on the margins who are living in poverty in the United States. If

you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.



REGISTER WITH US

Have you moved into the area recently, or have you joined us for Mass? We would love to have you as a registered member of our parish family. Please stop by at the rectory office, go online at leothegreat.org or call the Rectory Office at 216-661-1006.

ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...



Bob McLaughlin, Annamae Sironen, John Risko, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Carol Rucinski, Pat Chopka, William and Amelia Rebello, Louise Horvath, Diane Kalus, Marie Stankiewicz, Irma Zappitelli, Dianne Toronski, Linda Debaltzo, Anthony Arlia, Kathleen & Richard Svoboda, Jeanne Karasek, Denise Sisley, Don Donelon, Larry Kuznik, Antoinette Jakosh, Ralph Mlady, Ralph Rath, Walter Alflen, Joseph Mackey, Diana, John Sofcheck, Roger Horvath, James Cook & Rob Blum.



WEDDING BANNS

III Jason Jogan & Kayla Johnson



Our NEW Great Sweepstakes weekly drawing will start January 1, 2021.

We are now selling tickets. Forms are available at the Rectory Office or our website leothegreat.org.

The drawing will go from January 1, 2021 thru November 10, 2021 (Feast of St. Leo). There will be (44) \$100 Weekly Drawings, (5) \$200 Special Drawings and (1) \$1,000 Super Drawing on the Feast of St. Leo on November 10, 2021.

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

JOSEPH HERRERA, JR.

Blessed Sacrament Formation Program Senior, Borromeo



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

Parish Support

Sunday, November 15th

Collection	\$ 4,984.00
WeShare(online).....	\$ 1,837.50
Total.....	\$ 6,821.50

All Saints	\$1,028.00
All Souls.....	\$1,324.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



Monday, November 30th - St. Andrew
8:30am +Jim Hocevar (Family)

Tuesday, December 1st - Advent Weekday
8:30am +Joseph Schmitz (Fr. Jim Schmitz)

Wednesday, December 2nd - Advent Weekday
8:30am +Family & Friends (Dina Family)

Thursday, December 3rd - St. Francis Xavier
8:30am Communion Service

Friday, December 4th - St. John Damascene
8:30am +Bob Zarko (Rose Zarko)

9:00am to 5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, December 5th—Advent Weekday
1:00pm WEDDING—Jason Jogan & Kayla Johnson
4:00pm +Catherine Black (Terry Pensis)

Sunday, December 6th - Second Sunday of Advent
8:00am +David Day Sr. (Dorothy Day and family)
11:00am People of the Parish

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

The Israelites had just returned from exile and were suffering economic hardship and persecution. The prophet expresses their expectation that God will intervene in human history in a dramatic way to help them. At the end of this reading, we will hear a familiar image.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

In the letter-writing style popular in Paul's day, writers would begin by extending greetings and then thank the gods for the blessings *they themselves* had received. But Paul begins his first letter to the Corinthians by thanking God for the blessings his *converts in Corinth* have received. (It may help to know that the phrase "day of the Lord" refers to Jesus coming again in glory.)

Readings for the week of November 29, 2020

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 /1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

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

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

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a,3b-4,5,6/Mt 15:29-37

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, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12,13-14/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8



"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning." (Mk 13:35)



Dear Parishioners,

The staff and I were planning on seeing a play at St. Edward High School last Sunday but alas, it was postponed until the spring due to COVID. I would not have guessed earlier in the year that this pandemic would have persisted so many months. And of course it appears it will take us well into the new year. I just want to thank you again for your cooperation with the guidelines when coming to church. You've really been wonderful about that. I know how tiring all this can be but let's keep praying for the vaccine which we hope will help us get through this pandemic more quickly and safely.

One blessing that has come from this has been the opportunity to get a live-streaming camera in the church so that many people could be "present" with us while yet at home as we celebrate Mass. It will continue to be useful even after the pandemic is behind us as those who are homebound or who have moved away from the area will still be able to join us "in spirit" whenever we gather. My only fear is that some may mistaken the use of a livestream video as a suitable replacement for actually attending Mass when able. While the ability to "watch" (& by that I mean "participate in") Mass at home is certainly a better option than the alternative, there are several drawbacks to it. For one, we are not physically present to the other members of the community. It's great being able to communicate with my dad over the phone, but I miss being able to be physically present to him & visa versa (though we will be together for a doctor's appointment soon). Of course the other big disadvantage to live-streaming is the inability to receive Holy Communion. Catholics have believed from the beginning of the Church the Lord's words that "this (the bread) is My Body" & not just a symbol of the Lord's presence with us. So not being able to feed on the Lord's "Real Presence" is again, a big disadvantage. Though we can make a "spiritual communion" with the Lord during that time, it is hardly the same. I just ask that you keep these things in mind so that when we can come together again without fear for our health, we will really appreciate again the importance of our "real" presence with the Lord and with each other.

We just received word from the Diocese that they are in the process of reviewing the recently released guidelines regarding social gatherings due to the sharp rise of COVID cases and hospitalizations. They will let us know how that may affect our Christmas plans. I will keep you informed of course but wanted you to know that we are waiting for such guidance. Having missed the public celebration of Easter this year, it's hard to imagine the same could happen for Christmas.

I hope you were able to have a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday. I will be having dinner with my sisters Judy and Janet at the latter's home in Akron. In a year like this, we must increase our gratitude for each other and for our health. Let's not give in to bitterness and fear and anger but always be grateful that God remains with us in all things.

Jr. James Schmitz

WATCHFUL



Please join us in church on **Tuesday, December 8th**, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the patron saint of our country, as we say the rosary at 7:00pm. What is a rosary? The rosary is the recitation of the Hail Mary, Our Father and other traditional prayers in a particular order. Don't own a rosary? Don't know how to say the rosary? Please join us anyway, and we will provide you with what you need.

MASS INTENTIONS

The 2021 Mass Intention Book is open. Please come to the Rectory Office where masks and social distancing will be required, and schedule your 2021 Masses. You may also call the Rectory at 216-661-1006 to schedule your intentions. Each parishioner household may have four Mass Intentions (one weekend and three weekdays). The Mass stipend is \$10.00.



Oplatki is now available in the rectory office for a donation of \$2.00.

LITTLE BLUE BOOKS

The Little Blue Books for the Advent and Christmas Season are available at the tables by the doors of the church. Please take one home with you. They will also be available in the Parish Office

BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please have all bulletin articles in two weeks in advance of the publish date. Articles can be emailed to mlhauck@leothegreat.org. Thanks!



ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO



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, St. Aloysius School, Zelig's Home (formerly Maggie's Place), Catholic Charities Refugee Families and Malachi Center.

How can I participate?

To participate, you would purchase and wrap a \$15 gift for a needy child or purchase a gift card for a St. Aloysius School family.

To obtain the names of these children, please call Jeanne Sabol at 216-351-6247 or Judi Westerburg at 216-642-0134. Or you can complete and submit the form on our parish website.

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-5:30pm; Sun, 9am-12:30pm. If purchasing gift cards, please take them to the rectory. All gifts are due by Thursday, Dec. 10.

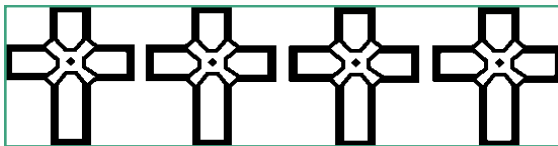
Can I give money?

Monetary donations 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.

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

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



ALL SAINTS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

SKIP A PAYMENT



All Saints Federal Credit Union is running a Skip a Payment during the month of December! Sign up for an All Saints FCU Visa Credit Card today and become eligible for this promotion! Visit or call any of our three branch locations for more information; for hours, addresses, and phone numbers, please visit our website at www.allsaintsfcu.com, or call 216-524-0414, 216-587-0631, or 440-888-3663.

HELP THE HOMELESS



Malachi Center at W. 25th St. and Detroit Ave. provides many services to help homeless men and women throughout the year. At Christmas, the Center distributes duffle

bags to help our less fortunate friends.

The 18-inch duffle bags are 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 December 6th. 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.



If you shop on Amazon.com, a portion of each of your purchases could benefit St. Leo the Great. Just go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/34-07145> to designate St. Leo the Great for your donations, and then do all of your online shopping at Smile.Amazon.com.

Have YOU been purchasing your...

Gift Cards



THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING!

Are you planning on using gift cards for your shopping needs? If so, you can place your order in early to assure we have your favorite cards on hand.

Supplies may be limited as we try to keep our inventory to a minimum. Cards can be ordered and received in a couple of days.

PLEASE STOP BY OUR RECTORY OFFICE AND PURCHASE SOME TODAY!

School News

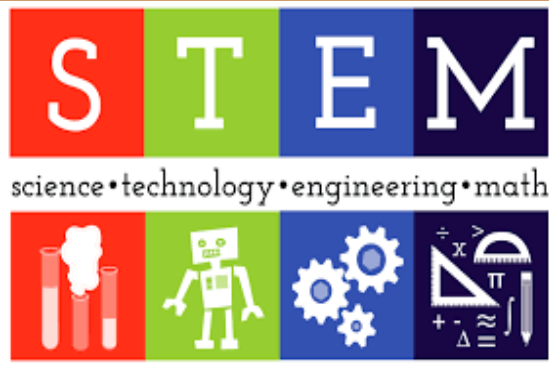


4th Grade Weekly STEM Challenge:
Flying Ghost Challenge.

- Materials given:**
- 4Ft. of String
 - Dixie cup
 - 4 Straws
 - Paper cups
 - Masking Tape
 - Square of Poster Board
 - Coins (for weight)



While engaged in collaboration, using critical thinking and problem solving strategies, the 4th grade students' challenge was to safely transport their ghost using a zip line and do it within 4 seconds.



A PRAYER FOR PERSONS SUFFERING FROM THE CORONAVIRUS



*You shall not fear the terror of the night
nor the arrow that flies by day,
nor the pestilence that roams in darkness,
nor the plague that ravages at noon.*
Ps 91:5-6

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus.
May those who are infected receive the proper treatment
and the comfort of your healing presence.
May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded
from the onslaught of the virus.
Give solace to those who grieve the loss of loved ones.
Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure,
that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health.
Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes,
and in the name of your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

(from Catholic Health Association Prayer Library)

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

