



## ST. LEO THE GREAT PARISH & SCHOOL

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 23, 2018

**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 Thursday ~ 9:00AM—7:00PM

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 through Thursday ~ 7:30AM

Friday ~ 8:30AM

#### HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

8:30AM and 7:00PM

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual confessions are heard on Saturday, from 2:45PM—3:30PM or anytime 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.



### DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP!

Read the latest bulletin, Pastor's blog and find other useful information on your mobile device.

Instagram @leothegreatorg 

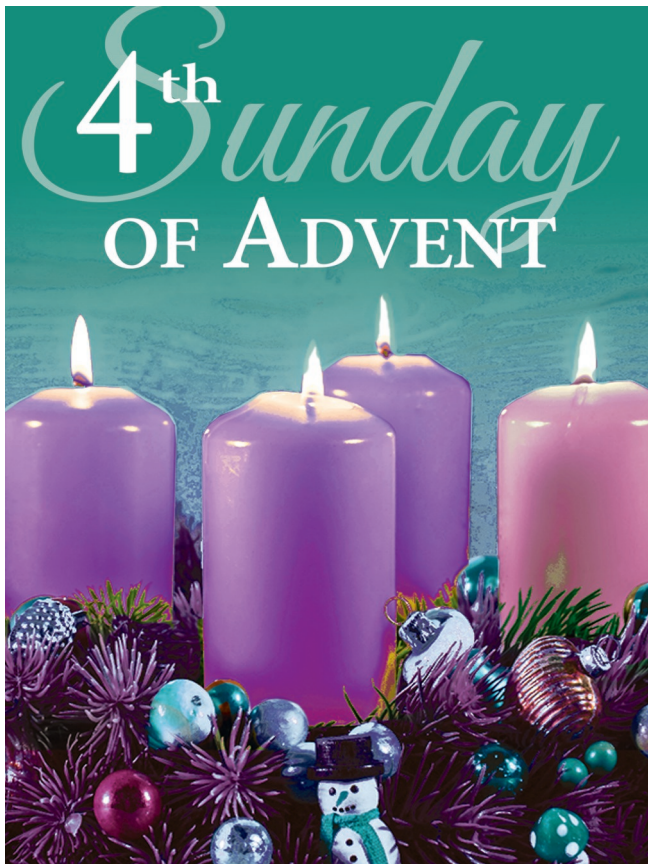
Facebook—leothegreatorg



Twitter @leothegreatorg







#### HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

##### Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24th:  
4:00pm, 7:00pm, & 10:00pm  
(Vigil Masses)

##### Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 25th:  
11:00am

##### New Year's Day - Solemnity of Mary :

Holy Day of Obligation

Monday, December 31st—4:00pm Vigil Mass  
No 7:30am Mass

Tuesday January 1st—11:00am

#### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Individual confession each Saturday during  
Advent: 2:45pm to 3:30pm

#### REMEMBRANCE TREES



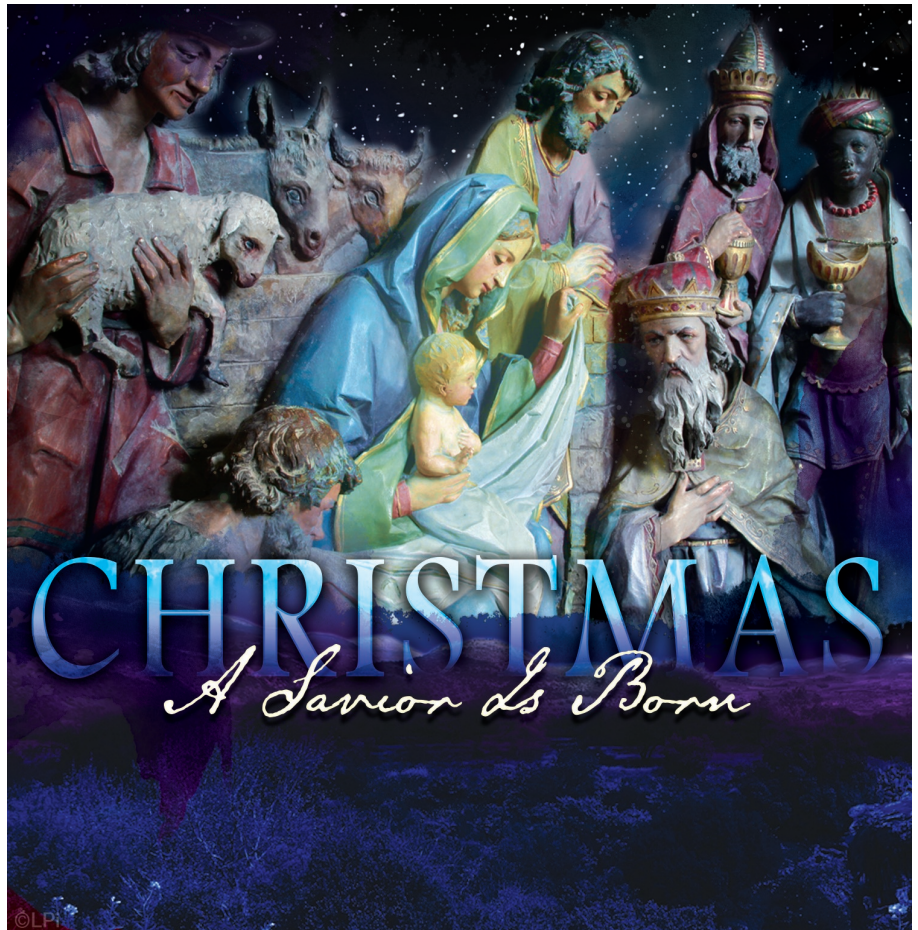
Ornaments in remembrance of loved ones will be available before and after all of the Masses this weekend Dec. 22nd & 23rd. Names of loved ones can be written on the ornaments and hung on the trees in the sanctuary for the Christmas season. The ornaments can be taken home in January at the conclusion of the Christmas season.

#### HOMEBOUND



Do you have a loved one confined to home or in a local nursing home? Would they like a visit from the pastoral staff at St. Leo the Great? Contact Deacon Pat or Joan Berigan at the rectory (216-661-1006) and leave us the details.

Contact Deacon Pat or Joan Berigan at the rectory (216-661-1006) and leave us the details.



## ST. LEO THE GREAT—CLEVELAND, OHIO

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...



Sarah Geier, Edward P. Gorczyca, Betty Jayne Glover, Bob McLaughlin, Theresa Pauloski, Annamae Sironen, Jo Hoffman, John Risko, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Diane Soler, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Ruth Frohlich, Ron Vokac, Charles Hakaim, Walter Milewski, Harriet Watson, August Bublavy, Dennis Badar, Carol Rucinski, Cara Prokop, Pat Chopka, Serena Jacobs, Bill Hinton, William Rebello, Cecilia Doris, Lori Stossell, Louise Horvath, Caitlin Soucek-Kacher, Elaine Houseknecht, Diane Kalus, Gloria Karich, Marie Stankiewicz, Irma Zappitelli, Eugene Parks, Rudy Dejele, Dianne Toronski and Rick & Barb Miliam.



### WEDDING BANNS

**II Gillian Halusker (SLG) and  
Patrick Cooley**



### GREAT SWEEPSTAKES



**Now is the time to BUY your tickets. Only \$30.00 a ticket for our weekly drawing. New Years Day will be our first drawing.**

The drawing will go from January 1, 2019 thru November 10, 2019 (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, 2019. Forms are available at the Information Desk in Church or at the Rectory Office.

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

**Benjamin Jackson  
St. Mary, Hudson  
First Year, Borromeo**



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

### PARISH SUPPORT

Due to the early publication deadline, financial information for December 16th will be in next weeks bulletin.

**THANK YOU**  
for your generosity



### SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

#### Monday, December 24th: CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00pm People of the Parish

7:00pm People of the Parish

10:00pm People of the Parish

#### Tuesday, December 25th: NATIVITY OF THE LORD

11:00am People of the Parish

#### Wednesday, December 26th: St. Stephen

7:30am +Diane Soler (Friend, Rose Pelley)

#### Thursday, December 27th: St. John

7:30am Intention to be announced

#### Friday, December 28th: The Holy Innocents

8:30am +Charles Sexton (Wife)

#### Saturday, December 29th: St. Thomas Becket

4:00pm +Alberta Nicholson (Melody Halsey)

#### Sunday, December 30th: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00am People of the Parish

11:00am +James Zwolenik (Godley Family)

#### First Reading: Micah 5:1-4a

The prophet Micah, writing some 700 years before Christ, attacked the social injustices of Israel. He looked ahead to a day when the tiny city of Bethlehem, where David had been born, would bring forth a new shepherd—a good shepherd—who would unify the people and bring peace.

#### Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

The Letter to the Hebrews constantly looks to the Old Testament and shows how Jesus surpassed its laws and sacrifices. In Old Testament times, the people offered animal sacrifices over and over in atonement for their sins. But this could not compare to the God-made flesh who gave his life *once* for the sins of all.

#### Readings for the Week of December 23, 2018

**Monday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

**Tuesday:** Vigil: Is62:1-5/Ps89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts13:16-17, -25/Mt 1:1-25

**Midnight:** Is9:1-6/Ps96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti2:11-14/Lk2:1-14

**Dawn:** Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

**Day:** Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:5, 9-14

**Wednesday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Friday:** 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

**Next Sunday:** 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10/1 Jn 3:1-2, -24/Lk 2:41-52



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

Since we don't have a separate bulletin for Christmas Day, allow this Fourth Sunday of Advent bulletin to double as our Christmas bulletin. With that in mind, I want to welcome all who will be with us on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Whether you are a regular at St. Leo's or not, we are so glad you are here! God's love and mercy is extended to all. Indeed, that is the very message of this great feast. As the priest pours a drop of water into the wine that has been poured into the chalice at the Preparation of the Gifts (the "offertory") at every Mass, he prays "Through the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity." So we remember this great mystery of the "Incarnation," God's coming in the flesh to share fully in our human nature. On behalf of Deacon Pat & Joan Berigan and in the name of Fr. Vesely, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas. And the parish wishes Fr. Vesely a happy belated 64th Anniversary of his ordination which we celebrated on December 18th.

As I type this on the Monday of the week before Christmas, I am preparing to watch the Nativity Play put on by the Kindergarten children of our Parish School. There is such joy in watching them act out this incredible story as they show in such a simple way the profound mystery of this feast. I also look forward to the School Christmas concert where we can enjoy the sacred music of this season.

What I do not enjoy, however, is the blue sky and warm weather that is evident outside of my office window right now. I know that some of you Grinches will rejoice in the absence of the white stuff that usually falls from the heavens at this time of year. But not me. While I am done with winter by February or March at the latest, I still remember the snowy days of my childhood which meant we stayed home from school, went sledding down hills & got away with throwing snowballs at our enemies under the ruse of just having some innocent winter fun. Of course I have no idea if we will be blessed with a white Christmas when you read this, but you can be sure that I'll be praying hard for one while you pray for spring. We'll see who's prayers the Lord listens too!

Once again we want you to go home on Christmas with the gift of a book that I've read & enjoyed. I'm sure that God will speak to you through it too so read it with your eyes & listen to it with your heart.

*Fr. Jim Schmitz*

## THIS WEEK AT ST. LEO'S

**Monday, December 24th**  
**Christmas Eve**

**Tuesday, December 25th**  
**The Nativity of the Lord**



**Wednesday, December 26th**

Rectory Office Closed

3:00pm 3rd Gr. Boys B-Ball Practice Lux

4:00pm 4th Gr. Girls B-Ball Practice Lux

5:30pm 6th Gr. Girls B-Ball Practice Lux

7:00pm 4th Gr. Boys B-Ball Practice Lux

**Thursday, December 27th**

1:00pm Woman's Knitting Conference

4:15pm 5th/8th Grade Boys B-Ball Practice Lux

7:00pm Knights of Columbus Basement

**Friday, December 28th**

3:00pm 6th Gr. Boys B-Ball Practice Lux

7:30pm Recovery International Basement

**Saturday, December 29th**

2:45 to 3:30 pm Confessions Church

3:00pm Grapevine Basement

**Sunday, December 30th**

11:00am PRS Mass Church



**We will be closed on:**

**Monday, December 24th —Christmas Eve**

**Tuesday, December 25th—Christmas Day**  
**& Wednesday, Dec. 26th**

We will reopen at 9:00am Thursday, December 27th.

**Monday, December 31st—New Year's Eve**

**Tuesday, January 1st— New Year's Day**

We will reopen at 9:00am Wednesday, January 2nd



## SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTION

December 23rd to January 6th



**In Loving Memory of**  
**Mary & Robert Blum**

From Audrey Puszak & Family

**GIFT CARD PROGRAM  
INVENTORY REDUCTION CLEARANCE SALE**



We are looking to reduce our gift card inventory. We are offering the following cards at a discount. The discounts will be in effect until we are sold out.

**Eat-n-Park \$10—selling for \$8**

**Overstock \$25—selling for \$20**

**Rite Aid \$25—selling for \$20**

We encourage everyone to participate in Our Gift Card Program, as it is an excellent, easy and convenient way to help support our Parish. There is great potential in this program. Purchase cards for all needs, including everyday purchases, travel, and a wonderful way to say thank you to someone. A complete list of the gift cards is available at the Information Desk in the vestibule of the church, on the website or at the Rectory Office.

**PLEASE STOP BY AND  
SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM.**

**HELP THE HOMELESS THANK YOU**



Your overwhelming generosity provided 2 SUV's packed full of donations for the homeless. Malachi Center thanks you so much for your generous gifts of duffle bag donations and your ongoing support. With your help, Malachi Center is able to provide life changing services for children, men and women in need. It is a safe haven where the homeless, low income families and their children can build on their strengths and resiliency, access community resources and take positive steps toward their lives.

**ADOPT A CHILD THANK YOU**



Thank you for your truly overwhelming generosity this year on behalf of the Adopt a Child for Christmas program. We distributed about 500 gifts to families from our own parish community, St. Aloysius School, Maggie's Place, Malachi Center and Catholic Charities sponsored refugee families.

Contributions totaled \$2200., plus \$600. in matching funds will be donated by the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. We are deeply grateful to all.

These contributions were shared with our St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization, Providence House, Womankind, St. Colman's Parish, Malachi Center and the Backdoor Ministry of St. Malachi's Parish.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Christmas time is that time of the year for reflecting on all the good we have been blessed with and a time for holding family and friends close. But for many in our community this special day is spent quite different. Please pray for peace in our world, but also remember that "peace" means not being hungry or alone, cold or homeless, sick or afraid. Help your St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization give our neighbors that true sense of peace with a donation in the Poor Boxes. Thank you very much for your help throughout the year and Merry Christmas to you all!

**JENNINGS COMMONS FIRE**

We are saddened that one of our clients died in a fire on Thanksgiving morning in the Jennings Commons fire. As the St. Vincent de Paul Organization we are attempting to offer funds to assist with some of their needs. If you would like to assist us please put your donation in an envelope marked "Jennings Fire" and drop it in the collection basket or take it to the rectory office. We sincerely thank you very much for assisting us with this endeavor.

**ONLINE GIVING IS HERE!**



Online Giving is available here at St. Leo the Great. Look for this icon on our website ([www.leotheadgreat.org](http://www.leotheadgreat.org)) to sign up. If you have any questions or need help, call the parish office at 216-661-1006.



**REGISTER WITH US**



Have you moved into the area recently, or have you been joining us for Mass? We would love to have you as a registered member of our parish family. Please stop at the information desk in the vestibule of the church, at the rectory office, or call 216-661-1006.

**PARISH COMMUNITY CENTER**

**GREAT  
ROOM  
FOR RENT**

The Great Room, located in our Parish Community Center is available to **rent for special events, all types of parties, meetings, funeral luncheons, etc.**

For information or to book, please contact Mina Rolando at 216-544-0190 or visit our parish website at [leotheadgreat.org](http://leotheadgreat.org).



## St. Leo the Great School Newsletter

Church Bulletin Edition

*O Come Let Us  
Adore Him*



On behalf of the Faculty, Staff and Students of St. Leo the Great School, we wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas.

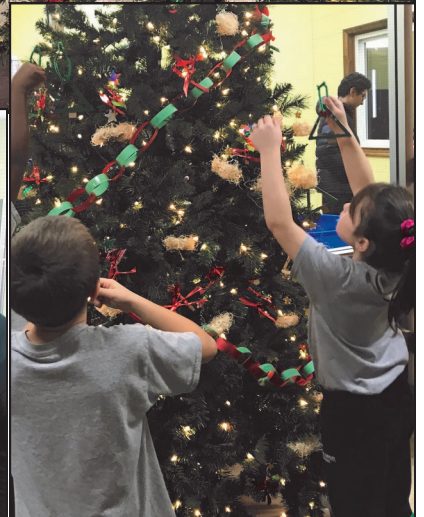
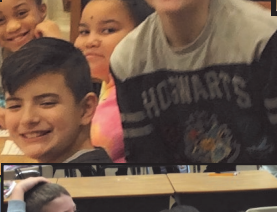
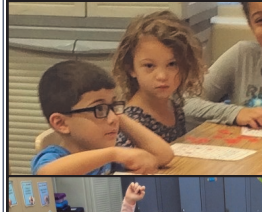
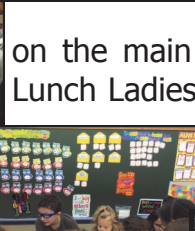
May you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope, and the peace of His love at Christmas and always.

The Christmas tree in the main hallway was decorated entirely by the students own hand-made ornaments.



Our 8th graders attended the play "A Christmas Carol" at Playhouse Square. The 5th Grade hosted "Christmas Bingo" with our Preschool students. They had fun together playing bingo and doing crafts! Our 2nd graders are busy hanging their ornaments

on the main hall Christmas Tree. Even our Lunch Ladies are in a Festive mood wearing their own custom made Tshirts!





**Please remember Geraldine  
in your prayers**



In Loving Memory of

**Geraldine N. Piotrowski**

December 7, 1930 – December 1, 2018

**Services**

Tomon & Sons Funeral Home

Wednesday – December 12, 2018 at 11 a.m.

**Burial:** Holy Cross Cemetery  
Section 39 Lot 735 Grave 3

*God saw you getting tired, and a cure was not  
to be. So he put his arms around you and  
Whispered, "come to ME". With tearful eyes  
We watched you, and saw you pass away.  
Although we loved you dearly, we could not  
Make you stay. A golden heart stopped  
Beating, hard working hands at rest.  
God broke our hearts to prove to us,  
He only takes the best.*

Tomon & Sons Funeral Homes  
4772 Pearl Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109 - 216-741-6661

**BRING IT  
TO THE BIN**

Did you know you can help our school earn \$\$? Just bring it to the bin. Bring your Mail, Newspapers, Hard and Soft Bound Books, Phone books, Brown Paper Bags, and Flattened Cardboard. Tell your family, friends and neighbors to save their paper too!



**SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**



The Davis Foundation has once again awarded scholarship money from the Davis Foundation for students and graduates of St. Leo the Great School. Students in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades have received information about the Davis Service Scholarship. However, if you are a graduate of St. Leo the Great School and interested in participating in the Service Scholarship program, please contact Ms. Dodson, mdodson@leothegreat.org or by phone, 216-661-2120, ext. 221. If there are any parents or parishioners who are interested in sponsoring a student, please contact Ms. Dodson for information. The project ends on January 25, 2018. Thanks and God bless.

**BUS TRIPS—COLUMBUS OHIO  
BACK TO BACK**

**SCIOTO DOWNS—Wednesday, January 16, 2019**

Report: 8:30am — Depart 9:00am — Arrive 12:00pm

Casino bonus: \$20 free slot play & 1/2 off the buffet

Depart 5:00pm (rest stop enroute-on own)

Return: approx. 8:00pm

**HOLLYWOOD CASINO—Tuesday, February 12, 2019**

Report: 8:30am — Depart 9:00am — Arrive 12:00pm

Casino bonus: \$5 free slot play & \$5 food

Depart 5:00pm (rest stop enroute-on own)

Return: approx. 8:00pm

Cost: 32.00 per person for both trips



ALL ARE WELCOME!

**Contact Joanne Todd at 440-526-3505**  
for more information or to book your trip.

**CLUSTER CORNER**

**MARY QUEEN OF PEACE**—Bingo every Friday in the Parish Center. Doors Open 4:30pm. Food & snacks available.

**ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO**—Breakfast Scripture Study on Wednesday Mornings, January 16 to February 27 @ Pappou's Restaurant (Snow rd.) 8:00-9:15am. Call Parish Office by Jan. 13th. \$5/per person.

**ST. THOMAS MORE**—Please join us every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. in the Marian Chapel to pray the rosary for world peace.