



## ST. LEO THE GREAT PARISH & SCHOOL

### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 25, 2016

**Father James P. Schmitz**

Pastor

**Father James J. Vesely**

In Residence

4940 Broadview Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109



### PARISH STAFF:

216.661.1006

**Father James Schmitz, Pastor**  
jschmitz@leothegreat.org

**Mary Lou Hauck, Office Manager**  
mlhauck@leothegreat.org

**Brenda Basalla, Business Manager**  
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**Mickey Stitt, Music Director**  
mstitt@leothegreat.org

**Julie Slattery, Associate Musician**  
jslattery@leothegreat.org

**Macrina Dodson, Pastoral Minister**  
mdodson@leothegreat.org

**Robin Imbriotta, Pastoral Minister to Sick & Homebound**  
rimbriotta@leothegreat.org

### RECTORY/OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday ~ 9:00AM—7:00PM

Saturday ~ 9:00AM—5:30PM

Sunday ~ 9:00AM—1:30PM

### SCHOOL STAFF:

216.661.2120

**Sister Erin Zubal, OSU, Principal**  
ezubal@leothegreat.org

**Eileen Breitmeyer, School Secretary**  
ebreitmeyer@leothegreat.org

**Susan Poultney, Preschool Director**  
spoultney@leothegreat.org

**Mary Perry, Director of Religious Education (DRE)**  
mperry@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, 10:00AM and 12NOON

#### 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  
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 





# Christmas BLESSINGS

God bless all military, first responders, health workers, and all those who can't be with their families on Christmas Day.

*May the joy of our Savior's birth be with you,*  
**WHEREVER YOU MAY BE.**



**PLEASE REMEMBER...** Margaret Zisk, Sarah



Grier, Edward P. Gorczyca, Carol Sladewski, Betty Jayne Glover, Bob McLaughlin, Stella Sugalski, Robert Holshue, Donna Mlady, Mike Manzo, Cheri Minch, Theresa Pauloski, Annamae Sironen, Carol Frisco, Dorothy Forister, Ann Szpansky, Larry Kuznik, Rosemarie Hamski, Jo Hoffman, Anna Mendoza, John Risko, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Dianne Soler, Muffie Bone, Theresa Truxall, Gary LaBuda, Mary Ras, Janene Catanese, Denise Rooks, Bernice Kilcoyne, Jeanette Klaehn, Donna Robertson, Theresa Kowal, Trudy Miller, Donald Kotarsky, Dave Zonneville, Nancy Miller, Larry Carrino, Ruth Frohlich, Carol Phillip, Ashley Dayle, Brett Bennett & Daniel Kenaga



### GREAT SWEEPSTAKES

Congratulations to:

**RONALD KOLLAR**

**\$100.00 December 19th Winner**

Don't forget to sign up for our **Great Sweepstakes**. Forms are available at the Information Desk in Church, Rectory Office.

### ONLINE GIVING IS HERE!



Online Giving is now available here at St. Leo the Great. Look for this icon on our website ([www.leothegreat.org](http://www.leothegreat.org)) to sign up.

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

**Daniel Morgan**  
**St. Mary, Chardon**  
**Pre-Theology, St. Mary**



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



### PARISH SUPPORT

**Sunday, December 18, 2016**

Sunday.....	\$5,903.30
Assessments.....	\$162.00
Religious Retirement.....	\$1,660.00

**Thank you for your continued support.**



**December 26th to January 1st**

**Monday, December 26th: St. Stephen**

7:30 a.m. + Marshal Martin (Jeannne Karasek-sister in law)

**Tuesday, December 27th: St. John**

7:30 a.m. + Ruthanne Lenox (friend)

**Wednesday, December 28th: The Holy Innocents**

7:30 a.m. + Donald Khoma (Burns Family)

**Thursday, December 29th: St. Thomas Becket**

7:30 a.m. + Alberta Nicholson (Melody Halsey)

**Friday, December 30th: The Holy Family**

8:30 a.m. + John Nemeth, Jr. (Mother, Dolores)

**Saturday, December 31st: St. Sylvester**

4:00 p.m. + John Kozlowski (Family)

**Sunday, January 1st: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

11:00 a.m. + Rita Manning (John Manning)



### First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-6

The prophet Isaiah lived 750 years before Christ. In his time, the northern Jewish Kingdom of Israel was laid waste by the armies of Assyria. Today's passage offers the conquered people hope for a glorious future under a wonderful king. Christians have seen Jesus as fulfilling this prophecy.

### Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

The letter to Titus was written about 30 years after Paul's death, and was written in Paul's name, a practice common in the ancient world. Titus was a traveling companion of Paul, and later was in charge of a Christian community on the island of Crete.

### Readings for the Week of December 25, 2016

**Monday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31/Mt 10:17-22

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Ps 124/Mt 2:13-18

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96/Lk 2:22-35

**Friday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Ps 128/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96/Jn 1:1-18

**Next Sunday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21



FROM THE  
PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

To all of our faithful parishioners and to all of our visitors today, we welcome you and wish you all a Merry Christmas! Thank you for joining us today for this great feast of the Lord's Nativity. We hope that you can join us throughout the year.

This year our Parish Council wanted to do something a little special for Christmas so we have a small gift for everyone today. It is a book called "Resisting Happiness" written by Matthew Kelly, a Catholic family man who has been writing books for many years and has been speaking internationally on matters of faith. This book has very short chapters...some can be read in under two minutes. We suggest you read just one chapter a day and allow something he says to inspire you. I will be sharing with you one or two thoughts from this author in my homily today & hope that it will encourage you to let this book encourage you, comfort you and even challenge you. He speaks from his own experience and shares little bits of wisdom. It has helped me to reflect on how I sometimes resist happiness in my life, as we all do. He speaks about our experience of Mass & how it can be better. He talks about how being alone can help us fight loneliness. He writes about work, prayer, busyness, Catholicism and even about Christmas (which is the part I will share with you today). Some quotes from the book can be found on the right side of this column. I have enjoyed reading this book just a little bit each day and have reflected on its simple wisdom and hopeful message. I like to highlight or underline parts of the books I read and make notes in the margin. You can do the same or feel free to pass it on to someone else who may also enjoy it. It's just a little gift that we pray may help you to follow the One whose birth we celebrate today.

Please note that our revised Mass schedule begins next weekend. We will continue to have Mass on Saturday at 4pm and on Sunday at 8am. But our Sunday 10am and 12pm Mass will be combined into one 11am Mass. We look forward to a celebration of Mass that will be more meaningful as more of us are gathered together at one time.

We extend our sympathies to Barb Ceccarelli on the death of her mother, Doris Pasquino. I prayed the last rights for Doris with Barb and her family members last Wednesday and she passed peacefully last Thursday morning. May she rest in the peace of God's embrace.

Until we see you for the beginning of the New Year next weekend with our celebration of Mary, the Mother of God, may you know that our prayers for you are mixed with hers as we rejoice in her Son. Merry Christmas!

*Fr. Jim Schmitz*

THIS WEEK AT ST. LEO'S  
December 26th to January 1st



**Monday, December 26th**

6:00 p.m. Teens Encounter Christ - Great & Francis

**Tuesday, December 27th**

3:00 p.m. 5th gr. boys basketball practice Lux

6:30 p.m. SVDP Francis

7:00 p.m. 7th gr. Boys basketball practice Lux

**Wednesday, December 28th**

4:00 p.m. 4th gr. girls basketball practice Lux

5:30 p.m. 8th gr. boys basketball practice Lux

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice Church

**Thursday, December 29th**

3:00 p.m. 5th gr. boys basketball practice Lux

**Friday, December 30th**

4:00 p.m. 4th gr. boys basketball practice Lux

7:00 p.m. 7th gr. boys basketball practice Lux

**Saturday, December 31st—NEW YEAR'S EVE**

2:45 p.m. Confessions Church

3:00 p.m. Grapevine Great

**Sunday, January 1st—MARY, THE HOLY  
MOTHER OF GOD**

2017 MASS INTENTION BOOK



The 2017 Mass Intention Book is open. Each parishioner household may have 4 Mass Intentions (one weekend and three weekdays). The Mass stipend is \$10.00.

**Quotes from the book, "Resisting Happiness" by  
Matthew Kelly:**

"God wants heaven for you even more that you want it for yourself."

"When we are too busy to reflect on how we are living our lives, it is almost certain that we are not busy doing the right things."

"The Bible gives us incredible insight into the mind of God."

"Solitude is the cure for loneliness."

"We can learn more in an hour of silence than we can in a year from books."

"Everything bad is the distortion of something good."

"If you use something for a purpose it was not designed for, things usually go wrong."



# JOYFUL *Triumphant*



© I Pi

*With Love and Peace, St. Leo the Great Preschool, Elementary School & Parish*





### RECYCLE

#### RIVER VALLEY PAPER COMPANY

Bring all your PAPER, OLD CHRISTMAS WRAPPING PAPER, PHONE BOOKS, MAGAZINES, JUNK MAIL, HOLIDAY CATALOGS, CARDBOARD, BOOKS, ALONG WITH YOUR NEWSPAPERS to our paper bins by the Parish Center. River Valley Paper Company is offering us new pricing incentives. **THANK YOU!**



### 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!

### GIFT CARD CERTIFICATES



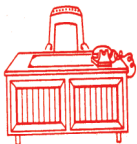
The Gift Card Program is an excellent, easy and convenient way to help support your Parish. There is great potential in this program. Purchase cards for all of your needs; everyday purchases, travel, and gift giving. A complete list of the gift cards is available at the Information Desk in the vestibule of the church, on the website or at the Rectory Office. We strongly encourage everyone to participate. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

### PARISH COMMUNITY CENTER

**GREAT  
ROOM  
FOR RENT**

The Great Room in our Parish Community Center is available to **rent for special events, parties, meetings, funeral luncheons, etc.** For information or to book, please contact Mina Rolando at 216-544-0190 or visit our website at [leothegreat.org](http://leothegreat.org). There you will find information, prices, and forms.

### INFORMATION DESK



For the convenience of our parishioners, we are bringing the rectory office to you after the weekend Masses. The information desk is located in the vestibule.

Listed are some of the things that are available:

- sponsor certificate pickup
- popular gift cards
- new parishioner registration forms
- Mass intentions
- Parish Community Center rental forms
- alumni association forms
- great sweepstakes tickets
- help with our website & mobile app
- choir and handbell choir sign-ups

Please feel free to stop by after Mass.

### PLEASE NOTE OUR REVISED MASS SCHEDULE TO TAKE EFFECT JANUARY 1, 2017:

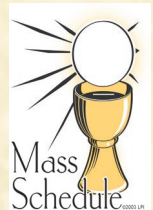
**Saturday Vigil**  
4:00 p.m.

**Sunday**  
8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

**Monday through Wednesday**  
7:30 a.m.

(there will be a 7:30 Mass on Thursday according to Fr. Vesely's availability).

**Friday**  
8:30 a.m.



## LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK



Merry Christmas! Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord! The Word, Jesus Christ, was with God from the beginning and brought life to the world. What an awesome thought! Jesus being born in time reminds all of us that our birth is not an accident. God uniquely created each one of us and gave us life out of love. He designed us with purpose and blessed each one of us with gifts and talents. Jesus, Emmanuel and Son of God, shows us who we are and who we are meant to become!



### RECTORY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S OFFICE HOURS

The Rectory Office will be closed:

**Sunday, Christmas Day**

**Monday, December 26th & Tuesday, December 27th**

We will reopen at 9:00 a.m. Wed., December 28th.

**New Year's Eve**

**New Year's Day**

**Monday, January 2nd**

We will be reopen at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 3rd.

### REGISTER WITH US

A Place  
for You—  
Join 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. It will take just a couple minutes of your time. Stop back at the information desk in the vestibule of the church, at the rectory office, or call 216-661-1006.

### BUS TRIPS

**Wednesday, January 18th—Wayne County Brown Bag Tour, Wooster, OH—\$77.00 per person**

- ♦ JM Smucker (receive a jar of jam), Everything Rubbermaid (receive a Rubbermaid product), Das Dutch Kitchen (lunch included), P. Graham Dunn (tour & gift included), Lehman's Hardware (receive a treat)
- ♦ Depart: 9:30 a.m.--Return: approx. 6:15 p.m.

**Thursday, February 16th—Scioto Downs, Columbus, OH - \$32.00 per person**

- ♦ Casino bonus: \$20 free slot play & \$5 food
- ♦ Depart: 8:30 a.m.
- ♦ Return Home: approx. 8:00 p.m.

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

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

**New Year's Day - Solemnity of Mary**

Saturday, December 31st: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1st:

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

### ADOPT-A-CHILD



Thank you for your generosity on behalf of our Adopt-a-Child for Christmas program. We distributed over 450 gifts to families from our own parish community, St. Aloysius School, The Zechariah House (Maggie's Place), and Catholic Charities sponsored refugee families. Contributions totaled \$1212. These were shared with our St. Vincent dePaul Outreach Organization, Providence House, Womankind, and St. Colman's Parish. We are deeply grateful!

Again, a sincere THANK YOU to all who helped to continue our tradition of helping others. So many individuals generously donated gifts, money or volunteered their time to sort gifts and help deliver. As you have brought joy to these many families, may you too experience the joy of God's love and blessings through the new year.

Sincerely, Jeanne Sabol and Judi Westerburg

### CLUSTER CORNER

**MARY QUEEN OF PEACE—Holy Hour...** Looking ahead to a concert from *North Coast Winds* on Wednesday, January 11th at 7:00 p.m.

**ST. CHARLES BORROMEO—Ladies Guild Lottery** tickets for February 2017 are available in the Parish Office for \$5.00 each. The winning 3 digit numbers come in from the 7:30pm drawing on Channel 5 and must be straight. If your ticket is a winner, you will get a check for \$100. Any questions, please call Jacki (440)884-3030. Thank you!

**ST. THOMAS MORE—Bingo...** Come enjoy a night of Bingo at St. Thomas More every Wednesday. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Instant at 5:30 p.m. and early birds begin at 6:30 p.m.