



ST. LEO THE GREAT PARISH & SCHOOL

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 2017

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

bbasalla@leothegreat.org

Mickey Stitt, Music Director

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jslattery@leothegreat.org

Macrina Dodson, Pastoral Minister

mdodson@leothegreat.org

RECTORY/OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday ~ 9:00AM—7:00PM

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

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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, 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 





JESUS SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES:
"BE WATCHFUL! BE ALERT!
YOU DO NOT KNOW WHEN
THE TIME WILL COME.
WHAT I SAY TO YOU,
I SAY TO ALL: 'WATCH!'"
— Mk 13:33, 37

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCD. Cover © Liturgical Publications Inc. | Photo © 7845580, Stockbyte/Thinkstock

LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK



On this First Sunday of Advent, we are asked to be watchful and alert. Because of our baptism we are called to be gatekeepers of God's house and God's servants. We have been put in charge of caring for what God has made--the earth around us and our brothers and sisters. Being responsible means being attentive to what is within our care. Are we responsible and attentive stewards or does our attention and focus often wander to things that are not important to the kingdom of God?

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION DECEMBER 8TH



This Friday, 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 Masses scheduled for this holy day of obligation are 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

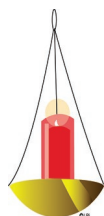
The Blessed Virgin Mary, conceived without sin, stands before us today as an example and inspiration. Her unique place in salvation history was announced to her by the angel Gabriel: "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you... Do not be afraid." These words helped Mary embrace her unique mission. They can also help us. God's grace, his presence, is within each one of us. God is with us! There is no need to fear, especially those things that are not within our control. In the end, all things are possible with God. We, like Mary, need to trust.

REGISTER WITH US

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.



RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS
Help care for elders. "Thanks to support from the Retirement Fund for Religious, we are now in a much better position to care for our elders," writes a religious sister. Your donation helps her religious community and hundreds of others provide for aging members and plan for long-term needs. Please give to next week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection.



SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS

The Sanctuary Candle is the candle next to the Tabernacle, which signifies the real presence of Christ within it. You can dedicate this Sanctuary Candle in memory of a loved one or for a special intention for two weeks; the name will be published in the bulletin so that your intention can be prayed for by everyone during that time. The donation for the candle will be \$10.00.

Please stop by the Rectory Office or the Information Desk in the vestibule of the church to request a Sanctuary Candle Intention.

ST. LEO THE GREAT—CLEVELAND, OHIO

PLEASE REMEMBER... Sarah Geier, Edward P. Gorczyca, Betty Jayne Glover, Bob McLaughlin, Stella Sugalski, Mary Jane Funta, Theresa Pauloski, Annamae Sironen, Ann Sazpansky, Larry Kuznik, Jo Hoffman, Anna Mendoza, John Risko, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Diane Soler, Muffie Bone, Theresa Truxall, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Ruth Frohlich, Ron Vokac, Charles Hakain, Walter Milewski, Harriet Watson, Megan Sunyak, Kathy Koval, Dianne Holland, Lisa Marie Rivera, August Bublav, Miriam Fontaine, Irene Smith & Joann Holman.



Monday, December 4th: St. John Damascene
7:30am +Kollar Family (Kollar Family)

Tuesday, December 5th: Advent Weekday
7:30am +Martin Fontaine (Miriam Fontaine)

Wednesday, December 6th: St. Nicholas
7:30am +Frances Szymanski (Family)

Thursday, December 7th: St. Ambrose
7:30am To be announced

Friday, December 8th: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
8:30am +Brodowski Family (Tom & Alice Kulwicki)
7:00pm +Robert Funta (Mary Jane Funta & Family)

Saturday, December 9th: St. Juan Diego
4:00pm +Deceased Members of Siekaniec Family
(Carol Siekaniec)

Sunday, December 10th: Second Sunday of Advent
8:00am + William LaGodney (Wife, Son & Family)
11:00am People of the Parish

NEW GREAT SWEEPSTAKES WINNER!

Sylvia Ciereszewski

November 20, 2107 - \$100 Winner

Rich Ferraro

November 27, 2017 - \$100 Winner

CONGRATULATIONS!

Don't forget to sign up for our **NEW**

Great Sweepstakes weekly. Forms to

sign up are available at the Information

Desk in the vestibule of the Church, or

the Rectory Office. **Buy a ticket for a great HOLIDAY GIFT.**



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

Charles Bulger

St. Mary of the Immaculate

Conception, Avon

First Year, Borromeo



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

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 see a familiar image.

Second Reading: 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.)



PARISH SUPPORT

Sunday, November 19th

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Basket Collection..... | \$ 6,316.96 |
| WeShare (online) | 830.00 |
| Total | \$ 7,146.96 |

Sunday, November 26th

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Basket Collection..... | \$ 5,961.50 |
| WeShare (online) | 490.00 |
| Total | \$ 6,451.50 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Assessments (Nov.)..... | \$ 1,008.00 |
| Capital Improvements (Nov.)..... | \$ 726.00 |

Thank you for your continued support.

Readings for the Week of December 3, 2017

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Is 2:1-5/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: 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 [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [1a]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for your prayers for my sister's husband, Mike. His bypass surgery was successful and he is now at home recuperating for a few months. May I also ask you to remember Mary, Mary Lou, Chuck, & Denise, all of whom were or will be anointed soon? There are so many who are ill or homebound whom we need to be mindful of, especially during the holidays. We trust God will be at their side as we lift them up to Him.

At the funeral home, I prayed with the family and friends of Joseph Stawicki who died after a battle with cancer. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

Congratulations to the parents of Amarelis Merced who is being baptized this Sunday after the 11am Mass. Amarelis is in the first grade at our parish school and is very excited to become a part of our Catholic family. May this beautiful child of God know that she is loved without limit.

I adopted Michaela 5 years ago, just a day before Thanksgiving. We celebrated this anniversary along with dozens of her stuffed animals (yes, she has a whole ark of them!). If you ever walk in the rectory office & hear her gentle bark, that's her way of welcoming you (and warning us of potential danger). I'm grateful that she keeps an eye on us (and you).

We are now in the month when we will be celebrating Christmas after a short 3 week season of Advent. Since December 25th falls on a Monday this year, we will celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent with our regular weekend Mass schedule (4pm on Saturday, December 23rd and 8 & 11am on Sunday, December 24th). Then we will have our usual Christmas Eve Masses later in the day on the 24th: 4pm, 7pm & 10pm. Since the majority of people celebrate Christmas Mass on the Eve at one of the 3 Masses, we will have just one Mass on Christmas Day at 11am. Since the feast of Mary, the Mother of God on January 1st falls on a Monday this year (technically NEXT year), it will not be a holy day of obligation as it usually is. Mass will be celebrated at 7:30am as usual that Monday morning.

This Friday, December 8th, is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 8:30am (with the School children) and at 7pm. This feast celebrates the singular gift of God to Mary by which she was conceived without original sin, and according to our long tradition, remained without sin throughout her life. May she who was prepared to be a worthy vessel of God's Son, be for us an example of single-hearted love for the God who frees the rest of us from sin.

Fr. Jim Schmitz

THIS WEEK AT ST. LEO'S



Monday, December 4th

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| 4:00 p.m. 8th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 5:30 p.m. 5th gr. girls practice | Lux |
| 6:45 p.m. PSR Classes | School |
| 7:00 p.m. 3rd gr. boys practice | Lux |

Tuesday, December 5th

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| 3:00 p.m. 5th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 4:00 p.m. 4th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 5:30 p.m. 7th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts | Great |
| 6:30 p.m. PTC Meeting | School |
| 6:30 p.m. SVDP | Conference |
| 7:00 p.m. 3rd gr. girls practice | Lux |

Wednesday, December 6th

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 9:30 a.m. Parish Catechetical Course | Great |
| 4:00 p.m. 6th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 5:30 p.m. 5th gr. girls practice | Lux |
| 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts-Parent Meeting | Great |
| 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice | Church |
| 7:00 p.m. 3rd gr. boys practice | Lux |

Thursday, December 7th

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| 1:00 p.m. Women's Knitting Group | Great |
| 3:00 p.m. 5th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 4:00 p.m. 4th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 5:30 p.m. 7th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 7:00 p.m. 8th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus | Great |

Friday, December 8th

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| 4:00 p.m. 5th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 5:30 p.m. 3rd gr. girls practice | Lux |
| 7:00 p.m. 6th gr. boys practice | Lux |
| 7:30 p.m. Recovery International | Conference |

Saturday, December 9th

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| 7:30 a.m. CYO Basketball Site Center | Lux |
| 2:45 p.m. Confessions | Church |
| 3:00 p.m. Grapevine | Basement |
| 3:00 p.m. ADOPT-A-CHILD | Parish Center |

Sunday, December 10th

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|--------|
| 11:00am-1:00pm LUNCH WITH SANTA | School |
| 12:30 p.m. Couples for Christ | Great |
| 1:30 p.m. CYO Basketball Site Center | Lux |
| 7:00 p.m. Coach Robinson Adult Open Gym | Lux |



We Welcome
AMARELIS MERCED
as she is baptized this weekend.
*May the blessings you received from
God guide you throughout your life!*

“HELP THE HOMELESS”



Malachi Center on West 25th and Detroit Avenue provides many services to help the homeless men and women all year long. For Christmas the Center distributes duffle bags at the homeless breakfast.

The duffle bags are filled with personal items such as warm socks, gloves, hats, scarves, soap, deodorant, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, toothpaste, snacks, etc.

If you would like to help out and donate bags and/or items, please bring your donation to the rectory by December 3. Tag it "Help the Homeless."

REMEMBRANCE TREES



Ornaments in remembrance of loved ones will be available before and after all of the Masses the weekends of December 9th & 10th and 16th & 17th. 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 at the conclusion of the Christmas season.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT



A Christmas Concert with the Daughters of St. Paul Choir will take place on Friday, December 8, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 1007 Superior Ave. The concert is free and open to all. No

tickets or reservations required. Free secure parking at the Cathedral Plaza Garage—Rockwell Ave. & E. 9th Street. For more information call 216-696-6525 x5510 or email gheislman@dioceseofcleveland.org.

GIFT CARD CERTIFICATES

| Retailer |
|---------------------|
| Giant Eagle - \$25 |
| Giant Eagle - \$100 |
| Marathon - \$25 |
| Marc's - \$25 |
| Marc's - \$50 |
| Shell - \$25 |
| Speedway - \$25 |
| Sunoco - \$50 |
| Target - \$10 |
| Target - \$25 |
| Walmart/Sam's \$25 |
| Walmart/Sam's \$100 |

The Gift Card Program is an excellent, easy and convenient way to help support your Parish so we encourage everyone to participate. There is great potential in this program. Purchase cards for all of your needs, including everyday purchases, travel, and gift giving for **THE HOLIDAYS!!!** Here

are a few of our most popular gift cards. 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. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY



Let your heart and your means dictate what to share. Your contributions will enable the St. Vincent De Paul Outreach Organization to deliver your Christmas message of good cheer to our needy neighbors. The Poor Boxes can be seen as the “bread boxes” of the poor.

THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION THANK YOU



We would like to **THANK YOU** for your overwhelming donations of money that we used towards the purchase of gift cards and other Thanksgiving food for our clients. Your kindness to those who might not have had a turkey and other Thanksgiving food is very much appreciated. Thank you again!

WELCOME



Father Richard Kunsman will be visiting our parish next weekend to speak at all the Masses on behalf of

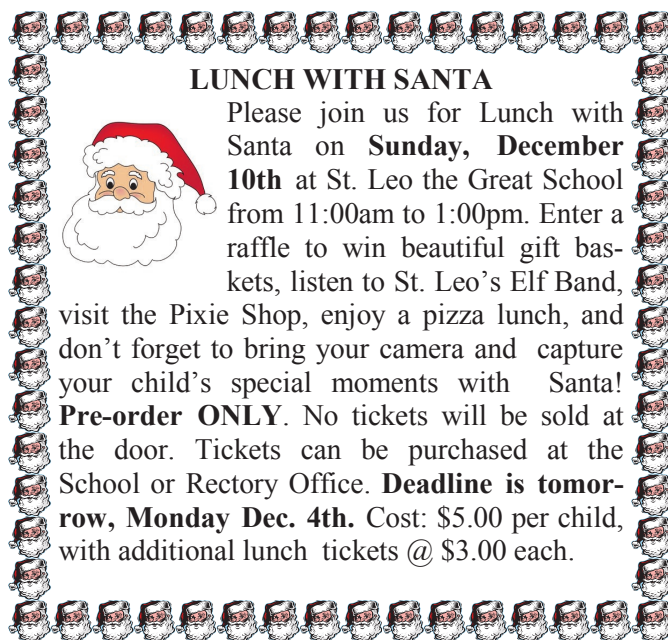
Cross Catholic Outreach which was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central & South America.

BULLETIN ARTICLES



Due to the upcoming holidays, please have all bulletin articles in two weeks in advance of the publish date. Articles can be dropped off at the rectory office or emailed to mlhauck@leothegreat.org. Thank you.

LUNCH WITH SANTA



Please join us for Lunch with Santa on **Sunday, December 10th** at St. Leo the Great School from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Enter a raffle to win beautiful gift baskets, listen to St. Leo's Elf Band, visit the Pixie Shop, enjoy a pizza lunch, and don't forget to bring your camera and capture your child's special moments with Santa! **Pre-order ONLY.** No tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets can be purchased at the School or Rectory Office. **Deadline is tomorrow, Monday Dec. 4th.** Cost: \$5.00 per child, with additional lunch tickets @ \$3.00 each.

TAKE, O TAKE ME AS I AM



HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

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

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25th:
11:00am

New Year's Day - Solemnity of Mary :

Not a Holy Day of Obligation—Regular Schedule
Monday, January 1st:
7:30am

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

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

Friday, December 22nd: 6:00pm to 7:00pm

Saturday, December 23rd: 2:45pm to 3:30pm



CONGRATULATIONS to the
following students who made
the Honor Roll:

**PADUA FRANCISCAN
HIGH SCHOOL**

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Beckwith, Shane | Horne, Amaree |
| Borkey, Alexis | Lizzini, Alyssa |
| Burcham, Edward | Roberson, Rashim |
| Clark, Emmalee | Vah, Hunter |
| Conroy, Addison | Vah, Jarrett |
| Hanzlick, Nathan | Wolverton, Crystal |

**HOLY NAME
HIGH SCHOOL**

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Brown, Jeremiah | Troche, Victoria |
| Kalic, Cameron | Tunney, Caitlyn |
| Sadosky, Audrianna | |



ADOPT-A-CHILD
HELP!!! WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! PLEASE CALL

75 NAMES are still available for St. Leo's Adopt-A-Child for Christmas program. This is the last week to call. If you wish to purchase a gift for a needy child, please call Jeanne Sabol at 216-351-6247 or Judi Westerburg at 216-642-0134.

GIFTS ARE TO BE WRAPPED & DROPPED OFF AT THE PARISH COMMUNITY CENTER NEXT WEEKEND FROM 3-7 P.M., SATURDAY DECEMBER 9TH.

If you cannot drop off your gifts at this time, you may leave them at the rectory anytime before December 8th.

If you would like to help deliver gifts, please come to the Parish Community Center on Sunday, December 10th, between 10 a.m. and noon.

Monetary contributions may be placed in the collection basket. Please mark "Adopt-A-Child" on check payable to St. Leo Parish.

This year we are very fortunate to have The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Jr. Branch 014, as a sponsor of Adopt a Child. They will donate up to \$600. in matching funds. We are most grateful for their generosity.

We are people of the gospel and last Sunday's gospel reminds us "Whatever you did for the least of my brothers, you did for me."

CLUSTER CORNER

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE...Join us for a Free Concert on Thursday, December 7th at 7:00pm in the Church featuring **New York Polyphony**. They are one of the foremost vocal chamber ensembles active today.

CHARLES BORROMEIO...POST CANA on Dec. 15th 6:30-8:30pm in the Lower Hall with Jeff ad Kierra, local recording artists, presenting "Marriage is a Journey: A night of stories, life and live music".

ST. THOMAS MORE...The Communal Penance will be on Sunday, December 10th at 2pm here at St. Thomas More.

BUS TRIP

MOUNTAINEER, CHESTER, WV.
Tuesday, January 16th—\$30 per person

Report: 8:30am - Depart: 9:00am

Casino Bonus: \$20 free slot play (subject to change)

Depart: 3:45pm with meal stop enroute—on own

Arrive: 6:45pm

All passengers must have a driver's license,
or a state ID with them

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

ALL ARE WELCOME!