



**ST. LEO THE GREAT**  
PARISH & SCHOOL

**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**

February 21, 2021

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

Instagram @leothegreatorg

Facebook—leothegreatorg

Twitter @leothegreatorg



#### INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Throughout history God has given His people signs. Our season of Lent offers us God's sign that it is time to stop the ordinary routines of our lives, create some desert space, and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. We are asked to unplug from our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness to clear the slate and take stock in who we have become. We are asked to remember the ancient sign of God's covenant with humanity in which He vowed to nurture, sustain, and protect the relationship He has with His people. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. Even though some good solid self-denial is the order of the day, greater happiness and wholeness will be the fruit of our labors. Pleasant journey through the desert!

**Bringing  
America  
Back to Life**  
Pro-Life Convention

#### 2021 Bringing America Back to Life Convention--March 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>

The Bringing America Back to Life Convention is the premier Diocesan-wide pro-life event: 2 jam-packed days filled with the nation's top speakers, workshops, and exhibitors. To discover more about this must-see event, to view the impressive line-up of speakers, and to register, visit [www.bringingamericabacktolife.org](http://www.bringingamericabacktolife.org) or call (440) 281-1502. Join us as we Bring America Back to Life!



From February 17th to March 28th (Lent) you are invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life—40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. Call Isabel at 216-524-3163 if you are interested in carpooling to the Bedford Heights Planned Parenthood Facility at 25250 Rockside Road. If the weather cooperates, we leave St. Columbkille at 12:30pm and return by 2:30pm every Saturday during Lent. For more information you can go to [www.40daysforlife.com/bedfordheights](http://www.40daysforlife.com/bedfordheights).



**Love your  
NEIGHBOR**  
In-Pew Weekend | February 20-21

The 2021 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal is underway with an in-pew commitment process taking place this weekend. This is not a special collection; rather, the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal represents the chance for all Catholics to make a significant pledge, payable in installments, to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland in order to support its

mission of a society that stands united in its support of the "least among us." Many parishioners have received a letter from Bishop Malesic requesting their support. If you have not received this letter, please respond to the in-pew commitment process today! If you have received the mailing, please respond to it. There is a box on the in-pew envelope to indicate that you have responded by mail.

**Love Your Neighbor.** Your support of the 2021 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal helps us to carry out the mission that Jesus entrusted to us: 'I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Please consider a generous gift that will change the lives of the 400,000 who are served each year in Northeast Ohio. Please pray for the success of the Appeal, which provides for essential programs and services in need throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland.

**Double your impact!** A generous donor, who believes in the mission of Catholic Charities, will match your gift, up to \$1 million. Do twice as much good when you give online at [CatholicCommunity.org/Match](http://CatholicCommunity.org/Match). On behalf of the poor and needy of Northeast Ohio, thank you!

**In his message for Lent 2021, Pope Francis calls on the faithful to  
"renew our faith, draw from the living waters of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God."**



## ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...



Annamae Sironen, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Carol Rucinski, William & Amelia Rebello, Louise Horvath, Diane Kalus, Marie Stankiewicz, Irma Zappitelli, Dianne Toronski, Linda Debaltzo, Anthony Arlia, Jeanne Karasek, Denise Sisley, Don Donelon, Larry Kuznik, Antoinette Jakosh, Ralph Rath, Joseph Mackey, John Sofcheck, Roger Horvath, James Cook, Cherie Seitz, Ireneo (Ernie) Santiago, Rob Blum, Chuck Pacanovsky, Ron Horvath, Sally Herman, Joey Rolando, Mina Rolando & Arlene Gerda.



### Monday, February 22nd - The Chair of St. Peter

8:30am +Helen Kolpa (Family)

### Tuesday, February 23rd - St. Polycarp

8:30am Wedding Anniversary of Jack & Dianne Toronski

### Wednesday, February 24th - Lent Weekday

8:30am Jorje Velez (Friend)

### Thursday, February 25th - Lenten Weekday

8:30am Communion Service

### Friday, February 26th - Lenten Weekday

8:30am +Adeline Krakora (Joe & Joan Krakora)

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

### Saturday, February 27th - Lenten Weekday

4:00pm +John Kozlowski (Family)

### Sunday, February 28th - Second Sunday of Lent

8:00am +Charles Bastian (Family)

11:00am People of the Parish

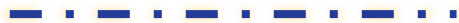


### First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

Today's reading from the book of Genesis takes place after the story of Noah and the great flood. Israelite people of long ago saw the rainbow as a symbol of a Warrior-God hanging up his hunting bow as a peaceful gesture. The rainbow symbolizes the solemn promise that God makes to Noah.

### Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

This reading reminds us that just as Noah was saved through the ark, we are saved through baptism. Early Christians believed that those who died before the coming of Jesus awaited redemption in a shadowy existence described here as a prison. When we say in the Apostles' Creed that Jesus "descended into hell," we are saying that Jesus went to announce to those waiting in that "prison" that they had been saved.



### Readings for the week of February 21, 2021

**Sunday:** Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

**Monday:** 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19

**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday:** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

**Friday:** Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

**Next Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

"LET US DO  
GOOD WHILE WE  
STILL HAVE TIME."

ST. PADRE PIO

### GREAT SWEEPSTAKES WINNER

MARY ANN MAMICK

February 15, 2021—\$100.00 Winner



Don't forget to sign up for our **Great Sweepstakes weekly drawing**. Forms to sign up are available at online at [leothegreat.org](http://leothegreat.org) or at the Rectory Office.

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

**JEFFREY STUTZMAN**  
St. Thomas More, Brooklyn  
Aspirant—Diaconate Program



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



### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

Collection .....	\$ 5,431.00
WeShare(online) .....	\$ 2,460.00
Total .....	\$ 7,891.00

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

*Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those  
who keep your covenant. (Ps 25)*

## ST. LEO THE GREAT- CLEVELAND, OHIO

Dear Parishioners,

Chris Rath is a long time parishioner who attends daily Mass & who served the parish many years by preparing everything for the 8am Sunday Mass. Chris's husband Ralph died last week after struggling with several health problems this past year. I had a Funeral Service for Ralph this past Thursday and recalled the way that he provided so well for Chris and for their son Jeremy and how he was a good & loving husband and father to them. Many have been praying for Ralph and for Chris and we thank the Lord that he died peacefully at Holy Family Hospice where they also ministered well to his physical and spiritual needs. We extend our sympathy to Chris and to Jeremy & ask God to let their gratitude soothe their grief.

This weekend we have our Annual Catholic Charities Appeal. This practice has become more & more meaningful to me over the years, most especially when it comes during Lent, as it does this year. On Ash Wednesday, we heard the gospel where Jesus speaks of the importance of what has come to be known as the three disciplines of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. And Catholic Charities is all about almsgiving! It is not enough that we pray more for ourselves & for others during Lent, or even that we fast from meat or other food, as good and necessary as both of these are. For Lent is really about charity, about recognizing the needs of our brothers & sisters in Christ and making a decision to help them as practically and concretely as we can. This is what Catholic Charities does for us: it gives us that opportunity to directly help people who are hungry, who lack clothing and shelter and so many of the other basic necessities that you & I take for granted every day. What better way to begin this Lent than by making a real difference in the lives of others by giving just a small portion of our income to those who need our help? You have always been generous in this way and I have every confidence that you will continue to give what you can so that the gospel we just heard may come alive for you.

Now that I have mentioned almsgiving, I must also speak of prayer & fasting, which for us as Catholics includes abstaining from meat on Fridays of Lent. So again we provide opportunities for you to address these two other Lenten practices. First, you can join us prayerfully for the Stations of the Cross which will be held in the church at 7pm every Friday of Lent. Again it will be nice to see our beautiful mosaic stations with the new lights we had installed on them last year. This will be live-streamed in case you can't join us physically in the church. We also make it easy for you to abstain from meat on Fridays of Lent by providing you with a delicious meal through our Fish Fry. Of course the pandemic prevents us from enjoying each other's company while we eat, but last year we ramped up our ability to offer take-out and this will be the (only) option for you again this year. Same great food, same great prices, but you'll eat at home with your family. Credit cards accepted. We could livestream this for you too but it probably wouldn't be the same.

Finally, the homily at the 4pm Mass this weekend will be short. I am scheduled to receive my vaccination shot at 4:45pm on Rockside Road, and if I'm late, I'll miss it. So I have to pray quickly (but always sincerely). You pray too that I won't get a speeding ticket.

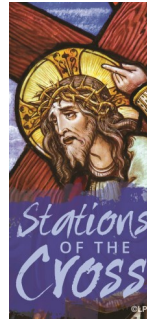
*Fr. James Schmitz*

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Almsgiving is a private thing. You share what you have with a neighbor you do not know and who does not know you, but it is an act of service to those in need. During Lent let us not pass the Poor Boxes without sharing some money and saying a private prayer for the needy or you can put your donation in an envelope marked "SVDP" and drop it in the collection box or take it to the Rectory. Your help will be very much appreciated. Act now during Lent, a special time for almsgiving.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Please plan on joining us for Stations of the Cross in Church **every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm. They will also be live-streamed every week.** Please go to our website: [leothegreat.org](http://leothegreat.org) and click on the link. This is a wonderful prayer opportunity which helps us to unite our sufferings to those of Christ. Consider experiencing this unique prayer that has such a long tradition in our church.

### DISPOSAL OF PALM



Each year palms are blessed on Palm Sunday and then taken home. What should be done with the old palms from last year? Since the palms are blessed, they are considered sacramentals and should not be thrown away. The correct disposal of palms is to bury them or burn them in an outside fire.

### ONLINE GIVING



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

### LENTEN RESOURCE PAGE

A special Lenten resource page will be available on the diocesan website beginning February 15th at [dioceseofcleveland.org/len](http://dioceseofcleveland.org/len). Included will be a daily Lenten reflection from Bishop Edward Malesic providing meaningful insight and focus for reflection during the season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, as well as links to relevant videos and other resources to help the faithful observe Lent in a more meaningful way.



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## St. Leo Fish Dinners

### TAKE OUT ONLY

Fridays - February 19th to March 26th

Serving 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

#### Dinners - \$8.00 choice of:

Baked Tilapia Almondine  
Baked Seasoned Cod  
Battered Fried Fish  
Breaded Shrimp  
Pierogies

#### Includes:

Choice of baked potato or fries,  
coleslaw or applesauce,  
roll and butter

\$10.00 Combo Meal-add 3 pierogies

Weekly Specials - Fish Tacos, Seafood Empanadas, Salmon Patty Dinner

#### Fish Sandwich - \$6.00

fried fish with cheese on  
a hoagie roll served with  
fries and coleslaw

#### Kids Meal - \$4.00

choice of: fried fish/pizza/  
mac & cheese/pierogi  
with fries and drink  
(age 10 & under please)

#### A la carte menu

Baked potato	\$2.00	French fries	\$2.00
Cheese pizza	\$2.00	Pierogies (3)	\$3.50
Mac & cheese	\$2.50	Cabbage & noodles	\$3.00
Side of fish	\$5.00	Soup of the day	\$2.00
(2 fried or 1 baked)		Dessert Available	

St. Leo the Great Church - Lux Hall  
4900 Broadview Road - Cleveland

#### FISH DINNERS

Due to the pandemic, Fish Dinners will be **TAKE OUT ONLY** this year. Masks must be worn, and social distancing will be observed. Dinners will be available from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. every Friday during Lent (except Good Friday) February 19th through March 26th.



#### GIFT CARD PROGRAM



Buying our gift cards is an excellent way to help support our Parish. A complete list of gift cards is available at our office or on our website at [leothegreat.org](http://leothegreat.org). Gift Cards can be used for your grocery needs, drugstore items, gasoline, or used as a simple thank you.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM.**



#### QUESTION:

What is spiritual communion, and do you need to be in a state of grace to receive it?

#### ANSWER:

The practice of making a "spiritual communion" dates back several centuries and St. Thomas Aquinas described it as "an ardent desire to

receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him." Traditionally, a prayer of spiritual communion has been used by those who are unable to receive sacramental communion because of health, inability to attend Mass, or who cannot receive communion because of grave sin. This practice has been encouraged by many saints and spiritual writers and most recently Pope Francis encouraged the practice when the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic prevented so many Catholics from taking part in the Mass or receiving sacramental communion.

Although the graces offered in spiritual communion are not the same as those offered in the sacramental communion of the Mass, this practice is still a powerful opportunity to express our desire for union with the Lord and to be united with Christ and the Church, even in an imperfect way.



During Lent St. Leo's is sponsoring our annual Have-a-Heart, Lend-a-Hand program. Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 17, the program will continue until Wednesday, March 24.

Listed below are the needs of organizations that will be recipients of your generosity. Due to COVID-19 restrictions,

we cannot place baskets of hearts by the church doors as we have done in the past. This list will appear in Sunday Bulletins through Lent, in *News & Views*, the parish newsletter, and on the parish website, [leothegreat.org](http://leothegreat.org).

Please purchase the items you wish and bring them to the church or rectory by Wednesday, March 24. Remember to label the bag or container with the organization's name.

Rectory hours are Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.; Saturday, noon–5:30; or Sunday, 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

The following organizations will be recipients of your generosity:

♥ **Birthright**

Gift Cards for Target, Walmart, Marc's, Kohls

♥ **Broadview Multicare**

Adult Coloring Books, Word-Search Books, Colored Pencils, Crayons, Markers, Large-Piece Jigsaw Puzzles, Stuffed Animals, Playing Cards, Nail Polish, Body Wash

♥ **Catholic Charities Refugee Families**

Toilet Paper, Light Bulbs, Batteries, Alarm Clocks, Sponges, Toilet Brushes and Cleaner, Twin/Full Size Sheets, Tall Kitchen Wastebaskets, 13-Gal. Garbage Bags

♥ **Holy Family Hospice**

Paper Towels, Napkins, Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Bleach, Lestoil, Disinfectant Wipes, Toothpaste/Tooth Brushes

♥ **Joseph House of Cleveland**

Bath Towels, Washcloths, New Men's Underwear and Socks, Children's Socks (age 4-12), Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper

♥ **Malachi House**

Gift Cards: Walmart, Target, Giant Eagle, Save-a-Lot, Home Depot, GFS, Dave's Market, Amazon

♥ **Malachi BackDoor Ministry**

Canned Tuna/Chicken, Ground Coffee, Green Beans, Corn, Sweet Peas, Chicken Noodle Soup, Beef/Chicken Gravy, Grits

♥ **Parma Care Center**

Diet or Regular Cans of Pop, Large-Print Word Search Books, Markers, Colored Pencils, White Card Stock, Men's Aftershave, Men's/Women's Body Wash, Shampoo, Large-Piece Jigsaw Puzzles, Women's Hair Accessories, Medium-Size Handheld Mirrors

♥ **Providence House**

Applesauce, Canned fruits: Peaches, Pears, Fruit Cocktail Cookies, Graham Crackers, Diapers, Sizes 5, 6, Unscented Baby Wipes, Paper Towels, Liquid Hand Soap  
Gift Cards: Target, Walmart

♥ **St. Colman's**

Shampoo, Deodorant, Bar Soap, Razors, Toilet Paper, Laundry/Dish Detergent, Sturdy Reuseable Shopping Bags

♥ **St. Leo/St. Vincent dePaul Outreach**

Bar Soap, Boxed Scalloped Potatoes/Instant Mashed Potatoes, Canned Fruit, Canned Tuna, Dish Detergent, Pancake Mix/Syrup, Peanut Butter and/or Jelly, Cereal, Baked Beans, Spaghetti Sauce, Rice and Noodle Side Dishes

♥ **West Side Catholic Center**

Deodorant, Bar Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste/Tooth Brushes, Cereal, Ground Coffee, Pots/Pans, New Children's Shoes, New Socks and Underwear—Men, Women, Children

**If you have any questions, please call Jeanne Sabol at 216/351-6247.**



**CONGRATULATIONS...**  
to those who made the Honor Roll  
from the following High Schools:



**PADUA HIGH SCHOOL**

**Frederick Borkey, III**

**James Gallo**

**Alexis Borkey**

**Edward Burcham**

**Amaree Horne**



**ST. JOSEPH ACADEMY**

**Delaney McCandless**

**Kamyra Plicka**

**Julianna Stroemple**



**St. Joseph**

**Knights of  
Columbus**



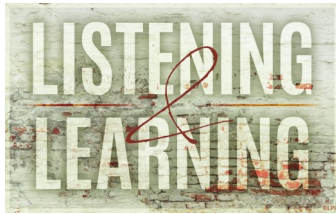
A SIMPLE CARPENTER BECAME THE TRUE  
MODEL FOR EVERY MAN. JOIN OTHER CATHOLIC  
MEN FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE  
SET BY ST. JOSEPH.

**BECOME A KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS**

Visit [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus)  
Enter the code **MCGIVNEY2020**

**Free Online Membership for 1st Year**  
(Until June 30, 2021—\$30 value)

**THE UNLIKELY SUSPECTS— RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**



Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God's creation?

Let's go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don't forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we're not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn't mean it's always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you're craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It's a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

