



ST. LEO THE GREAT
PARISH & SCHOOL



April 5, 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 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.



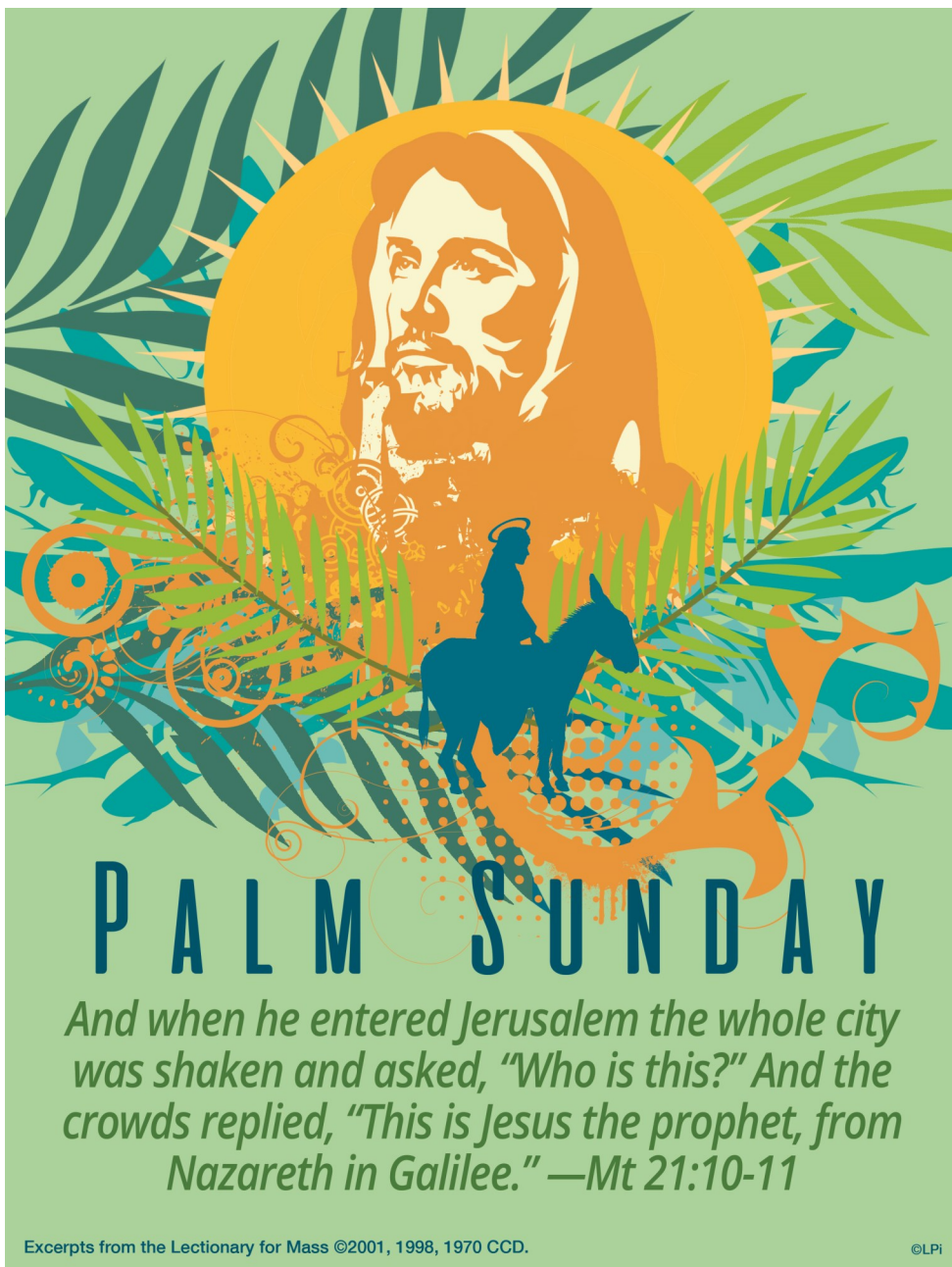
DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP!

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

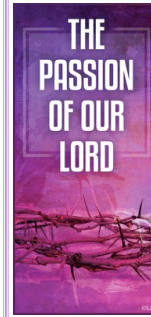
Instagram @leothegreatorg

Facebook—leothegreatorg

Twitter @leothegreatorg



PALM SUNDAY



It was during the fourth century in Jerusalem that Christians first started using palm branches in commemoration of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. Today, we continue to use palms in most churches on this Sunday, Catholic and Protestant alike. It is one of those traditions of worship that, no matter how far apart we may seem at times, we continue to share due to our common heritage.

But Palm Sunday is also known as Passion Sunday, because we hear an account of the passion of Jesus Christ during the liturgy. Most churches also share this reading in common. Many Catholic parishes use multiple lectors to proclaim the Gospel, while it is not uncommon for a similar reading or even a performance in many mainstream Protestant churches.

The commonality found in the worship on this particular Sunday seems to highlight the fundamental truth in the observance: Jesus Christ died for everyone. He did not die on a cross for just Catholics, or just Orthodox, or just Protestants. Whether one acknowledges it or not, he was crucified for all those who are born of man. Today, we rejoice not just for what he has done for us but also for what he has done for all of creation.



INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK



Listen carefully to the passion of Christ as it unlocks the door that brings us to the true meaning of human life. Holding what seems like opposite polarities of human existence, it weaves us through the highest of triumphs and the darkest of tragedies. As we witness and meditate upon Jesus's last days on earth, we see most vividly that God is present in and through it all. God is not only the glue that holds all of life's seemingly opposing experiences together, but He is the One who offers incredible promise and hope on our road to fulfillment and eternal life. It was only through experiencing the burning agony of suffering's loneliness and heart-wrenching pain that Jesus experienced the joyful exultation of his resurrected self. There are profound lessons here for all of us to learn.

HOSANNA



"Hosanna to the Son of David / blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."

MATTHEW 21:9

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...



Ed Gorcyka, Bob McLaughlin, Annamae Sironen, John Risko, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Ron Vokac, Carol Rucinski, Pat Chopka, William & Amelia Rebello, Louise Horvath, Diane Kalus, Marie Stankiewicz, Irma Zappitelli, Bill Hinton, Linda Debaltzo, Anna Mendoza, Anthony Arlia, Kathleen & Richard Svoboda, George Aloschen, Mary Suder, Charles Hakaim, Jeanne Karasek, Denise Sisley, Dorothy Forister, Don Donelon, Larry Kuznik, & Trudy Miller.



Monday, April 6th - Monday of Holy Week
+Lucia & Carmen Mucciarone (Giovanni & Irma Zappitelli)

Tuesday, April 7th - Tuesday of Holy Week
+Betty & Nick, +Louis & Gloria Chiappetta (Marie Stankiewicz)

Wednesday, April 8th - Wednesday of Holy Week
+Larry Clancy (George & Mary Lou)

Thursday, April 9th - HOLY THURSDAY

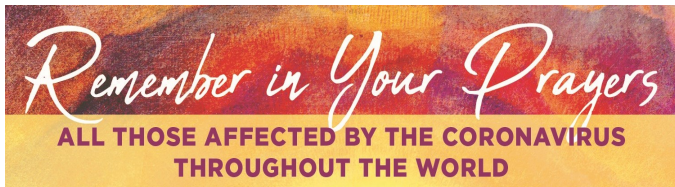
Friday, April 10th - GOOD FRIDAY

Saturday, April 11th - HOLY SATURDAY

Sunday, April 12th - EASTER SUNDAY

People of the Parish

(Fr. Jim will offer these intentions during his private Masses during the shut down of public Masses.)



GREAT SWEEPSTAKES WINNER!

JEROME E. RODAK

March 30, 2020

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

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

Jeno Kiraly
St. Anthony of Padua,
Lorain
Diaconate Program -Year 3



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

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Chapters 40-55 of the Book of Isaiah contain the message of a prophet who spoke to God's people during their exile in Babylon. Several times the prophet speaks about a servant who will one day deliver God's people. Because the servant is portrayed as suffering, Christians have traditionally identified Jesus with this suffering servant.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

In the years following Christ's death and resurrection, Christians began to develop the prayers and hymns that would become part of their rituals. In today's passage from the letter to the Philippians, Paul appears to be quoting an early Christian hymn celebrating the dying and rising of Christ.

Readings for the week of April 5, 2020

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14—27:66

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:*

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: *Vigil:* Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 /

Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11/Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 /Is 54:5-14/

Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

Parish Support

Sunday, March 22nd

Basket Collection.....	\$ 2,138.00
WeShare(online).....	\$ 1,005.00
Total.....	\$ 3,143.00

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT,
ESPECIAL DURING THESE
VERY DIFFICULT DAYS!

Dear Parishioners,

Once again things are changing quickly these days so I'll give you an update here on what is different since my column in last week's bulletin.

First, the President announced that our quarantine will take us through (at least) April 30, instead of the original date of April 6th. So again our office and church/chapel area will be closed until next month. If you call the rectory office, you should be taken directly into voicemail after one or two rings and from there you can leave a message for me or a general one for the rectory office. Someone will try to get back to you as soon as possible but again the staff is working from home so we appreciate your patience.

We continue to encourage you to check our website (leothegreat.org) or our mobile app for the most recent and up-to-date news.

Of course you already know that our take-out only Fish Fry's have been cancelled for the remainder of Lent but I'm very grateful to those who worked hard to provide them for us again this year and for those of you who took advantage of them while we were open for two Fridays.

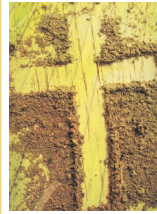
I posted a video on our website of a Mass I celebrated last Sunday for the Fifth Sunday of Lent and we had over 225 views. That was encouraging to see that people are taking advantage of technology to remain connected with the parish. I will continue to provide a video of Mass here in our chapel not only on Sundays but for the services & Masses of Holy Week.

We are also trying to think of ways we can help you reflect on the meaning of the most Holy Week of the year so please stay tuned for those announcements. For example, we may be able to have palms (blessed on Palm Sunday) on a table outside which people can take from us as they drive through our parking lot. We just want to make sure we remain vigilant in practicing social distancing.

On our website I congratulated Linda Anderson who was received into the Catholic Church last month. She also received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist and so we welcome her into our Catholic family and into our parish. She is the one who donated the statue of the infant Jesus that we had in front of the altar at Christmastime so we're grateful that we were able to bring Jesus to her as she brought him to us! Welcome, Linda!

Deacon Pat & Joan & I have been trying to call parishioners whom we know are sick & homebound since visits are not possible at this time. If you know of someone who could use a call from one of us, please feel free to let us know through a phone call or email. We'll do our best to reach out to them.

I had a video meeting with my urologist last week as it's been a little over a year since my prostate surgery. Again my lab work showed no cancer so I continue to remain grateful for that blessing. However I ask that you now direct your prayers on behalf of Fr. Russ Lowe who announced at his parish of Our Lady of Angels that he has colon cancer. The doctors are confident that it can be treated so we pray for him at this time, especially to St. Peregrine, patron of cancer patients, and to Mary, Health of the Sick, to whom he has a special devotion. We pray for his complete healing.



SIGN OF THE CROSS

Question:

Why do Catholics make the sign of the cross?

Answer:

The sign of the cross is a devotional practice that dates back to the first Apostles. When making the sign of the cross, we remember Jesus Christ who died for us and also bear witness to the fact that we belong to him and are called to share the Good News to all the world. At our Baptism, we were signed with a cross and marked for Christ. That mark remains on us throughout the entirety of our lives. We remind ourselves of that mark every time we make the same gesture over our bodies. We also remind ourselves that to be a Christian means we are to "put on Christ" and be Christ for a world that needs to know him. In a way, this devotional gesture covers us with Christ so that others may see him in us.

Catholics are not the only ones who make the sign of the cross. Orthodox, Lutheran, and Anglicans are examples of other Christians who maintain this same ancient tradition.

©LPi

Prayer for Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced, remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May those who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May those who have the flexibility to care for our children when schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel a trip remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May those who settle for quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love during this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us find ways to be the loving embrace to God and our neighbor.

- Prayer by Cameron Wiggins Bellm

ST. LEO THE GREAT—CLEVELAND, OHIO



The Have a Heart, Lend a Hand Lenten Program

has been temporarily suspended. When normal church activities resume we will continue the program. The baskets of hearts will remain at the doors of the church for a month or so after church activities resume and we will post a new collection weekend. **There is NO collection on Palm Sunday weekend, April 4/5.** All items collected for these organizations are needed throughout the year so whenever we deliver them they will be greatly appreciated. Some of you have already purchased items. If you need to drop them off at the rectory, you may. But if you can, please keep them for our new collection weekend. Let us all pray for each other. Thank you and may God Bless You.



FOR SUPPORTING OUR FISH FRY'S

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's fish dinners. With the unusual circumstances that we were dealing with through this pandemic, we were especially grateful for everyone who stopped in for take-out dinners March 13th and March 20th. A special thank you to the volunteer workers and maintenance crew who went beyond the call of duty this year. They always do an excellent job, but their dedication and flexibility this year was beyond compare. Again, thank you to everyone -- see you next year!

BOY SCOUT CLOTHING DRIVE

Boy Scout Troop 24 will be holding a Clothing Drive here at St. Leo the Great. They will accept all types of gently used clothing, blankets, bedding, towels, stuffed animals, etc.

Any questions, please contact Mike Robinson at 216-409-3733. Please drop off your donations at the Rectory Office during office hours. Thank you!

SUSPENDED

UNTIL
JUNE

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

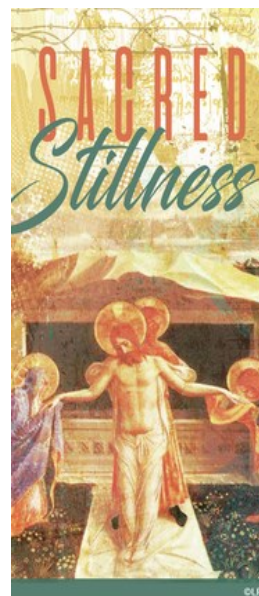
There is a time for study, a time for discussion, a time for decision, a time to act. Act on the Gospel message "*Love your neighbor*" and share your money via the St. Leo We Share Online Donation or dropping off an envelope marked SVDP to the Rectory in the door slot. We are attempting to still provide food and resources to our families via Gift Cards to Local Grocery Stores. Please know that you can create an account or login to your account at <https://leothegreat.weshareonline.org> There is an option to choose St. Vincent de Paul in addition to your weekly donation. Thank you for taking the time to participate in a special time of almsgiving. We pray for all of you, stay safe and healthy!



SPRING HAS SPRUNG



THE STILLNESS OF HOLY SATURDAY



Holy Thursday brings us the Last Supper. On Good Friday, we exalt the cross and commemorate the death of Jesus. On Easter Sunday, we celebrate! But what about the day in between? Between death and life, the time holds its breath. For the first disciples, Holy Saturday was a day of silence, sorrow, and waiting. But redemption is already beginning! Jesus descends to the dead and frees righteous souls awaiting eternal life. On our own Holy Saturdays, we too wait in silence. But it is not the silence of disappointment and confusion. It is the silence of anticipation. Soon and very soon, dawn will alight on the horizon, and the stone will be rolled back. Until then, we wait in stillness.

**ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING
OF SCRIPTURE**



Human beings are united in their suffering. When we find ourselves in a painful moment, our first reaction is “why me?” as if we are the only person on earth who ever encountered this challenge. Going through life with a “why me” attitude only finds us wallowing in the mire of self-pity and never seizing opportunities or graces. We walk in solidarity with every human being in the experience of suffering. Believing that the goal of life is the elimination or avoidance of suffering is simply an illusion that keeps us entrenched in a collective myth. This myth distorts us and limits us.

There are living witnesses among us showing how courage and determination can overcome any degree of hardship, pain, loss, or tragedy. Folks finding the normalcy of their lives suddenly torn asunder are faced with options: opportunity or despair, stay or leave. Jesus stands before us as the prime example of endurance and perseverance. He is the One who showed humility through both the triumphs of life (by learning to be humble) and the tragedies and injustices (by learning how to be obedient). To secular ears, this may be perceived as nonsense. But to those with the eyes of faith, they are pearls of great price.

True humility tempers the temptation we have to become complacent and prevents an excessive relishing of life’s successes and affirmations. Learning obedience keeps us faithful to our relationship with God so that we can find the courage to endure any depth of hardship, disappointment, betrayal, or agony. While we may want our cup of suffering to be taken away, it simply cannot be. Somehow and somewhere in the seemingly opposing experiences life can deal us, God is present with His reassuring, compassionate, empowering, and persevering love. To be true to who we are and who God is, we must take up the cross of suffering, even when it’s the hardest and most apparently senseless thing to do.

Only our soul can understand these things, but our minds cannot, so they continue to run to secular ideas and solutions to pain and hardship. It goes without saying that we need to do all we can to eliminate as much senseless, unjust suffering as possible. Hunger, violence, abuse, exploitation, rejection, prejudice, homelessness, disrespect for life, and a whole host of other sins all result in suffering that is within our control. Then, when we face the uncontrollable kind of suffering or find ourselves the victim of injustice, what do we do?

**SAINT STANISLAUS
SAINT OF THE DAY FOR APRIL 11TH**



**Gothic stained glass window
from Dominican Monastery in
Kraków | photo by Ludwig**

Anyone who reads the history of Eastern Europe cannot help but chance on the name of Stanislaus, the saintly but tragic bishop of Kraków, patron of Poland. He is remembered with SS. Thomas More and Thomas Becket for vigorous opposition to the evils of an unjust government.

Born in Szczepanow near Kraków on July 26, 1030, he was ordained a priest after being educated in the cathedral schools of Gniezno, then capital of Poland, and at Paris. He was appointed preacher and archdeacon to the bishop of Kraków, where his eloquence and example brought about real conversion in many of his penitents, both clergy and laity. He became bishop of Kraków in 1072.

During an expedition against the Grand Duchy of Kiev, Stanislaus became involved in the political situation of Poland. Known for his outspokenness, he aimed his attacks at the evils of the peasantry and the king, especially the unjust wars and immoral acts of King Boleslaus II.

The king first excused himself, then made a show of penance, then relapsed into his old ways. Stanislaus continued his open opposition in spite of charges of treason and threats of death, finally excommunicating the king. Enraged, the latter ordered soldiers to kill the bishop. When they refused, the king killed Stanislaus with his own hands.

Forced to flee to Hungary, Boleslaus supposedly spent the rest of his life as a penitent in the Benedictine abbey in Osiak.

Saint of the Day is used with permission from Franciscan Media (www.FranciscanMedia.org).



HOW YOU CAN CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS



We are grateful that so many have asked how they can continue with their contribute during this time. Here are some options:

1) Mail your contribution envelope(s) to us, either for the week or the month. (St. Leo the Great, 4940 Broadview Rd., Cleveland, OH 44019)

2) Drop your contribution envelope(s) in the mail slot of the rectory office door.

3) Use our online giving option called WeShare by clicking the WeShare logo on this page. It's incredibly easy and you have many options: weekly, monthly or one-time contributions, the ability to use a checking/savings account direct withdrawal (you just need your account and routing numbers) or you can use a debit or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover). It is simple and secure.

4) Call the rectory office (216-661-1006), leave a message, and someone will be very happy to help you.



Prayer During A Health Crisis

Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern
impart to us the calm of your presence.
In You allow us to find hope and healing.
Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands.
Be with those who lead and give them Your Spirit of wisdom.
Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart.
Wrap your arms around our world
and hold us in your love.
Allow us at this time of trial to then
serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.
We ask this in Your Name.
Amen.

©LPi

