



ST. LEO THE GREAT CHURCH

4940 BROADVIEW RD. CLEVELAND, OH | 216.661.1006 | LEOTHEGREAT.ORG

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023

EASTER SUNDAY



"Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay." - Mt 28:5b-6

Fr. James Schmitz, Pastor — jschmitz@leothegreat.org
Mrs. Denise Burns, Principal — dburns@leothegreat.org

Deacon Patrick Berigan — pberigan@leothegreat.org
Mrs. Joan Berigan — jberigan@leothegreat.org



Reminder: The Rectory Office will be Closed on Good Friday thru Easter Monday and will reopen at 9:00a on Tuesday, April 11th.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Happy Easter and THANK YOU so much for your financial contributions and for your donations of food and staples to support our families to help provide them with Easter Blessings at their table. We continue to pray for all of those who contribute and support our St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization at St. Leo the Great.

To assist those in need, the St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization's **Food & Staple Collection** will take place next week, **April 15th & 16th**. Whatever you are able to donate is distributed and very much appreciated by our clients. Because of you we are able to ensure others do not go without. Thank you!

Items that we are in most need of are:

Canned Corn	Canned Green Beans	Scalloped Potatoes
Instant Mashed Potatoes	Canned Mixed Vegetables	Canned Baked Beans
Canned Pasta	Pasta Sauce	Canned Diced Tomatoes
Assorted Soups	Ramen Noodles	Tuna Fish
Rice & Noodle Sides	Peanut Butter & Jelly	Cereal
Canned Fruit	Corn Bread Mix	Dishwashing Soap & Bar Soap

DID YOU KNOW?

The Paschal Candle is the large candle lit at the Easter Vigil. It is lit for Masses throughout the Easter season and for baptisms and funerals.

For many years, parishioner Armand Venditti (who passed away November 9th at the age of 101) made the Paschal Candle himself, including the ornate wax decorations on the candle.



Please mark your calendars to join us for Mass and the events & activities throughout the year!

ROSARY

Thursday, April 20th, 7:00 p.m. at the Marian Shrine (inside the church in the event of inclement weather)

FISH DINNERS

Thank you to everyone who dined with us at the fish dinners this Lenten season. We're grateful that we were your "fish fry" of choice. A SPECIAL THANK YOU to the hard-working volunteers and maintenance staff who made it all possible. We hope to see all of you again next year!

MEMORIES

The Easter Vigil of 1993 brings back many fond memories to our family. We joined St. Leo the Great parish in 1978 when our first child, Jason, was born. I had a strong Catholic faith steeped in many traditions of the Catholic religion. I knew I wanted my children raised in my Catholic faith. My husband was Baptist, but attended church with me. After talking about what church we wanted to attend and raise our children in we decided St. Leo the Great was the parish for us. We had all of our children baptized at St. Leo's.

During the Lenten season Fr. Dan Schlegel came up to my husband Narlin, and wanted to know why he never goes to Communion. He responded, "Father, I am not Catholic." Fr. Dan, being very surprised, invited him to join RCIA. Eva Bunosky and Cora Dejele were involved in the program and further convinced Narlin to join and receive his First Holy Communion and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. What made that night so special to us is that our daughter Jamie made her First Holy Communion with her dad on Holy Saturday. Rudy Dejele was my husband's sponsor and godfather. It was beautiful and brought tears to my eyes. I felt so blessed and so proud of my husband, daughter and family. I also felt very blessed to belong to St. Leo the Great and belong to a family of faith and love in our church of St. Leo the Great.

I have made so many fond memories with my church family from St. Leo the Great. Thank you to all those who have touched our lives with love and support throughout our years at St. Leo's. I have recently started attending daily Mass and reciting the rosary. I feel closer to God than ever, and Fr. Jim's sermons are second to none. Sometimes it feels like God is speaking to me directly through them. I will always be grateful to Fr. Dan, Cora and Rudy, Eva, Fr. Jim, and my beautiful Christian friends of St. Leo the Great!

—Mary Ellen Shadd & Family

Do you have a favorite memory from the past 75 years? If so, please submit it to nzola@leothegreat.org.

ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR **PRAYERS**

Mary Niec, Alivia Kobal, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Amelia Rebello, Irma Zappitelli, Don Donelon, Larry Kuznik, John Sofcheck, Ireneo (Ernie) Santiago, Gary Skelley, Virginia Soflkancs, Evelyn Bastian, Mary Lou Neuendorf, Joseph Bublavý, Anna Mendoza, Marianne Kucinski-Powers, Edith Lysyj, John Geiger, Rosie Colucci, Buzzy Miano, Judy Bruzshinsky, Carol Broze, Stan Wasacz, Joe Barr, Doug Kiesel, Marcia Bailey, Jim Tisch, MaryLou Durfee, Chris Grdosic, Kathy Svoboda, Matt Pauloski, Kelley, Tootie, Megan Arena, Lena Sunyak, Chuck Pacanovsky, Theresa Truxall, Susan Fenski, Antoinette Jakosh, Rose Arlia, Liz Woisnet, MaryKay Simonek, Betty Popow, R. Rosario, Margarita Quinones, Allen Phillips, Ruth Bublavý, John O'Malley, Kenneth Lees, Tina Sunday, Karen Horvath, Jesse Kazimer, William Wollard, Claudia Wollard, Carol Rucinski, Joe Deranek, Ben Wheelock, Janice Smith, and Lesley Uffman.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, April 10th—Monday within the Octave of Easter
8:30am +Bill Skora (Family)
Tuesday, April 11th—Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
8:30am +William & +Mildred Schmitz (Rose Zarko)
Wednesday, April 12th—Wednesday within the Octave of Easter
8:30am Vance & Klocek Families (The Vance Family)
Friday, April 14th—Friday within the Octave of Easter
8:30am +William LaGodney, Sr.
(With our love, Mary, Bill Jr. and Family)
Saturday, April 15th—Saturday within the Octave of Easter
4:00pm +Bill Kordick (Wife)
Sunday, April 16th—Divine Mercy Sunday
8:00am People of the Parish
11:00am +Andrew Kula (Bill & Mary Jo Gavel)



Since there is no Mass here at St. Leo's on Thursdays you can attend Mass at one of our other local parishes; St. Charles (7am), St. Barbara (7:30am), St. Francis de Sales (8:45am) or Mary Queen of Peace (8am).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

FIRST READING: ACTS 10: 34, 37-43

The Apostle Peter was originally skeptical about preaching the Gospel to non-Jews. But one day, the Holy Spirit summoned him to preach to a gentile—the pagan army officer Cornelius and his household. Today's passage is a portion of Peter's sermon, which summarizes the life and ministry of Jesus.

SECOND READING: COL. 3:1-4

The letter to the Colossians depicts Christ as the only mediator between God and the world. A previous passage of the letter presented baptism as the way we are united with Christ. The author will today remind us of the heights to which Christ has raised us, and then call upon us to live up to this.

SUNDAY	Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4
MONDAY	Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15
TUESDAY	Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18
WEDNESDAY	Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35
THURSDAY	Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48
FRIDAY	Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14
SATURDAY	Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15



BROOK BENEDICT
DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN
V THEOLOGY, SAINT MARY

Every week we pray for those discerning a vocation in religious life. Pray that they may continue to persevere and that others may respond to God's call.

Sanctuary Candle Intention *April 9th, 2023—April 23rd*

+Russell Walker
"We Miss you, Dad."

Love,
Your Children

In Loving Memory

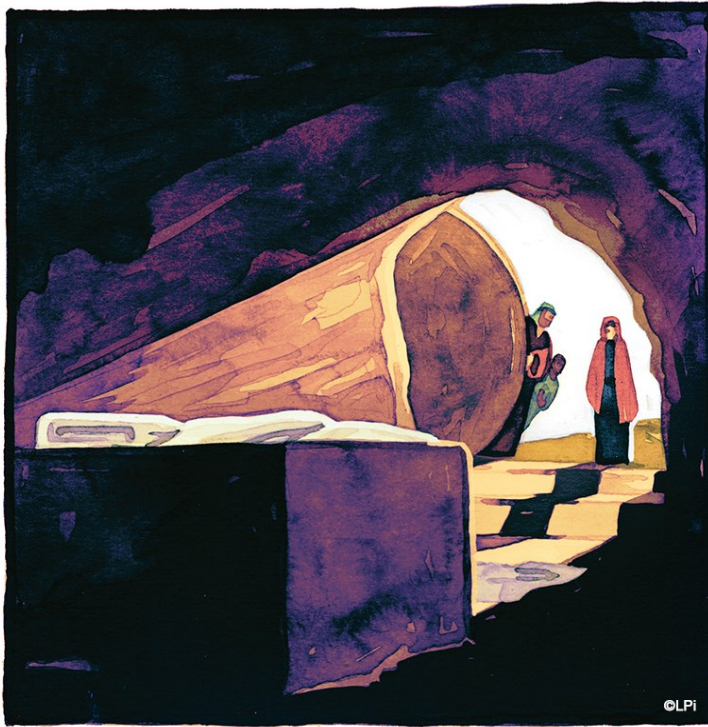


Walter A. Sheroke
December 23, 1931 - March 20, 2023

Funeral Mass, March 25, 10:00 AM
St. Leo the Great Church
Interment, Holy Cross Cemetery
Section 31 Lot 3039 Grave 2

God's Garden
God looked around His garden, and
He found an empty place. He then
looked down upon this earth, and
saw your tired face. He put His arms
around you, and lifted you to rest;
God's garden must be beautiful, He
only takes the best. He knew that you
were suffering, He knew you were in
pain, He knew that you would never
get well on earth again. So He closed
your weary eyelids, and whispered
"Peace be thine." It broke our hearts
to lose you, but you did not go alone;
for part of us went with you, the day
God called you home.

ZABOR FUNERAL HOME
5680 Pearl Rd.
Parma, Ohio 44129
440-884-5035



PRACTICING CATHOLIC

Easter Sunday & Object Permanence

By: Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

When you play peekaboo with a very young baby who has not yet developed object permanence, you actually feel kind of mean. As soon as your hands obscure your face, their little eyes widen with alarm and their expression crumbles into confusion and despair.

Because they can no longer see you, they believe you no longer exist. Their little brains are unable to understand that just because a thing cannot be seen, it is still there, still alive, still full of love and care and protection.

Aw, man, you can hear them thinking. I guess I don't have a mom anymore.

On Easter morning, Mary Magdalene sees the burial cloth but no body. Her human mind makes sense of the situation the best way it knows how, she assumes the Lord has been taken. I'm sure I would have thought the same thing, in her position.

She cannot conceive, on her own, the reality that Christ has risen from the dead. It doesn't matter that he has told his disciples again and again that this will happen. They weren't ready to understand then.

In many ways, Easter is when the human race really achieved object permanence. But we still struggle with it, don't we? I certainly do. So often I can be heard accusing God: "You weren't there. Where were you? I couldn't find you."

But I looked for him in the flesh. I looked for him in the stale yeast of the world — in money or success or affirmation or (worst of all) convenience and pleasure. Of course, I would not find him there, among the dead.

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. — Colossians 3:2

ENCOURAGE A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

"When Jesus had risen, early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons." (Mark 16:9)

Popular Catholic piety sometimes posits that the newly risen Jesus appears first to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a happy thought, but it's simply not what the scriptures report. We are told quite directly that he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, "out of whom he had driven seven demons."

Why would the gospel writer remind us of this unsavory detail of Mary's past? Historians tell us women were not qualified to give legal testimony. On top of that, to be possessed by not just one, but seven demons, is unsavory and terrifying. What damage had they done to her? What did she do to allow herself to be home to such evil? It doesn't seem to matter. Jesus chose Mary Magdalene to be the first one who saw him risen from the dead. He decided she was qualified.

Do you think that you are disqualified from seeing and announcing the risen Jesus because of your past demons? Maybe they are the demons of despair, confusion, self-hatred, pride, addiction, failure, boredom, laziness, or other sins. Well, don't. In the light of the Risen Jesus, all these past demons make our witness that much more believable — only if we allow ourselves to be touched by the liberating hand of Christ, just as Mary Magdalene did.— *Father John Muir*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Come to Christ

By: Tracy Earl Welliver

Life is perhaps God's greatest gift to each of us. Without life, we would be unable to experience all the wonder of this world, the love of family and friends, and the joy that comes from using our talents and skills. Life itself is more profound a gift than we can even truly contemplate.

On Easter, we celebrate life. For on this day, Jesus Christ conquered death and gave to us the chance for a life eternal. The wonder, love, and joy of this world does not have to end. Through a life in Jesus Christ, these emotions are heightened, and we find even greater fulfillment in this world.

Maybe this Easter you are finding yourself open to taking a next step in your relationship with Jesus. This could be the moment you decide to follow Him more closely and take seriously all that he has given you. If so, welcome to the journey, where there are many other disciples on that same path who can help show you the way and share their stories. If not, hopefully it doesn't take a whole year for this possibility to be considered again. Jesus is alive and waiting to get closer to you. May this Easter season find you and Our Lord getting to know one another in a whole new way. Happy Easter!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of Deacon Pat & Joan Berigan and our Principal, Mrs. Denise Burns, I want to extend to all parishioners and to all visitors our prayers and wishes for a Happy Easter. Once again we must not allow the secular images of Easter bunny's and baskets trivialize the enormous impact that the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus have had and will have on our world. The news of Christ's rising from the dead is anything but trivial. It is momentous. Even though so many in our world, including those baptized, do not understand or rightly appreciate this, we must be constantly awakened to the importance of this event. Without God's intervention, we would be lost in our sins. We would be doomed to a life (here and hereafter) where we are stuck on ourselves, forever lost to suffer the consequences of our sinful and selfish behavior. But because God is rich in mercy and desires to save those he has created from themselves, God planned to send his Son to us for He alone can save us and restore us to a right relationship. We were not deserving of this great gift. It is purely because of God's gratuitous love that such a "second chance" has been extended to us. This is our reason for rejoicing today with Alleluias that will be heard in our worship as we extend our Easter Day into the weeks ahead. Let us rejoice. Let us give thanks. Let us humbly accept the gift that is offered to us today.

Before leaving for Italy, I was able to anoint Walter Sheroke, the father of parishioner Jean Pastor, who died on March 20th at the age of 91. We extend our sympathy to Jean and I am grateful to Fr. Rob Ramser who was able to celebrate his funeral Mass in my absence. May Walter and all those who have died from our parish rest now in the peace of the Risen Christ.

I am grateful for your prayers for myself & those who went on pilgrimage with me to Italy last month. We were blessed with a fantastic tour guide, sunny weather which was generally between 65 & 70 degrees, and of course, lots of pasta to give us energy on our walking tours. Though I have been to most of the places we visited before (except for Padua), I am always learning new things and growing in my appreciation for the Church's history and the depths of our Catholic tradition. I especially enjoyed celebrating Mass in the places where so many others have celebrated the Eucharist before us over 20 centuries, such as in the basilica of St. Mary Major, in the catacombs where many saints and martyrs had been buried, and even at the Tomb of St. Peter in the basilica which bears his name as well as his bones. There was so much to see and experience and enjoy. We were present at the Wednesday audience in St. Peter's Square where we saw Pope Francis and received his blessing on the religious articles that we purchased. It was a surprise to learn that he entered the hospital with a lung infection shortly after we saw him. Personally I think he got it from the baby that he kissed from the crowd but I don't want to point fingers. I'm just glad he arrived home safely as we did. And yes, I'm already beginning to plan a trip back there next year, but this time going more south in Italy (besides Rome of course) so stay tuned for more information about that later this year.

I was able to offer Mass again for my Mom, Dad & Mildred as well as other parishioners and friends whom I continue to miss. But we know they are praying for us as well. We prayed for you too and thank you again for your thoughts of us while away from home. There is much that I hope to be able to share with you in the weeks & months ahead which were gleaned from this trip. But for now, let us all give thanks to God on this Easter Day for the great gift of new life that he has offered to us in Christ.

Fr. James Schmitz

BEREAVEMENT SHARING GROUP

Have you recently lost a loved one—a spouse, sibling, a parent, other relative or a close friend? Join the St. Leo the Great Bereavement Sharing Group. We are a group who have a common bond—the loss of someone close to us. All are welcome to come and share with us on the first Wednesday of every month at 2:00 PM in the Parish Center. We meet for about an hour and share our feelings and memories of our loved ones.

Feel free to join us—no reservations needed!

The next meeting date will be: May 3, 2023

**THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN APRIL
DUE TO HOLY WEEK and NO meetings in the
months of June, July & August.**

**If you have any questions,
contact Joan Berigan at 216-661-1006 or by
email: jberigan@leothegreat.org.**

PRE-PLANNED FUNERAL

Do your loved ones know what your wishes are for your funeral Mass? Have you thought about the readings you'd like to have at your funeral Mass? If so, contact Joan Berigan at the rectory (216-661-1006) or jberigan@leothegreat.org for help in pre-planning your funeral Mass.

HOW YOU CAN CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

We are grateful that so many of you have continued to contribute. Here are a few ways to help you with your contributions:

- 1) Mail your contribution envelope(s) to us, either for the week or the month. (St. Leo the Great, 4940 Broadview Rd., Cleveland, OH 44109)
- 2) Drop your contribution envelope(s) in the mail slot of the rectory office door.
- 3) Online Giving is available here at St. Leo the Great. Look for this icon on our website www.leothegreat.org to sign up. 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.

If you have any questions or need help, call the parish office at 216-661-1006 and we will gladly assist you.



WEDDING BANNS
II. Matthew Smith & Ashlee Schrippa



WEDDING BANNS
II. MATT NATAL & KATIE PULLIAM

HAVE A HEART—LEND A HAND

To the St. Leo Parish Community,

Thank you to everyone who donated so generously to the Have a Heart, Lend a Hand Lenten program. The huge outpouring of support from our parish community is extremely gratifying. The collection this year far exceeded that of previous years. The spirit of Christ is most definitely alive and well at St. Leo the Great Parish!!! Thank you to all those who helped sort and deliver donations to the 13 organizations we supported this year. The love of Christ will touch all the lives that were touched by your outpouring of love. May God bless you and keep you safe and healthy.

—Jeanne Sabol



NEOCATECHUMENAL WAY

This time of Lent is ultimately a preparation for the Good News of Easter: the celebration of the fact that Christ has conquered sin and death! To bring this fact closer to home, there will be a series of catechesis or talks in the parish that are aimed to cultivate adult faith in those seeking answers to the serious questions and issues of life. **These talks will begin Tuesday, April 18th at 7pm, and will**

continue every Tuesday and Friday at the same time in the Parish Community Center. This is recommended for ages 12 & up; Childcare will be provided.

These catechesis are brought to the parish by the missionary team of the Neocatechumenal Way, a new experience in the life of the Church, which our late Pope Saint John Paul II called, “an itinerary of Catholic faith formation valid for our society and our times.” This will be a marvelous opportunity to rediscover the fruits that your baptism holds for this life, and also to invite those you know who have strayed from the Church to hear Good News.



Thank you Fr. Eloy Romero-Rojas for visiting St. Leo's Parish and speaking to us about the Cross Catholic Ministry last weekend.

Parishioners, please visit crosscatholic.org and make a donation to support this very important mission. **You can place your donation in an envelope, mark it “Cross Catholic Outreach” and place it in the offertory baskets or bring it over to the Rectory Office.**

This is a wonderful opportunity to practice almsgiving—especially during this time of Lent. Let us find it in ourselves to deeply consider the way our contributing can help provide those in need with many of the things we take for granted like clean water, meals, housing, education and medical care.

WOMEN'S REVERSE RAFFLE-CANCELLED

Though there was great effort poured in to the organizing of the **Women's Reverse Raffle** that was to be held on April 22nd, we regret to inform that it is **CANCELLED** due to low ticket sales. Anyone who has purchased tickets will receive a refund.

In its place, Athletics will be raffling off **gift certificates, gift baskets and also a gift vacation—destination? Sunny Florida!** More information will be made available online and in the next issue of the bulletin. You will be able to purchase tickets at the Rectory Office. This is open to both men and women. Please stop by and help SUPPORT Athletics! Your donations and support helps provide students and players of St Leos's Sports programs the ability to be a part of Catholic Youth Organization—which can strengthen their Faith through Team Building—something that is so very important for these younger generations—especially after the isolation that the pandemic forced them into. Support Athletics. Support your Leo Lions!



ROSARY

Please join us for the recitation of the rosary on **Thursday, April 20th, at 7:00 p.m.** Weather permitting, the rosary will be said at the Marian Shrine. Please feel free to bring a comfortable chair. In the event of inclement weather, the rosary will be held in church. Please enter through the doors closest to the rectory. If you are not familiar with the rosary, we will provide you with what you need.

PRO-LIFE GROUP

The Pro-life group will be meeting on **Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 1:00 pm**

in the Parish Center. This month we will continue our discussion on end of life issues, the Church's teachings on euthanasia and looking at how we can start to create a culture of life. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** Contact Dennis Badar at 216-398-2830 or Chris Rath at 216-741-1536 with any questions you may have.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke them, we humbly pray, and cast into Hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



THE GREAT SWEEPSTAKES

April 3, 2023

Chuck Cramer

ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Thanks to everyone who came out to the Pancake Breakfast and to St. Leo's Athletics for hosting and volunteering their time. It's always GREAT to see the parishioners and school families getting together! Your support & attendance is more than appreciated!



SHADOW STATIONS

The eighth graders performed *Shadow Stations* last Friday while wonderful reflections were recited for the entire school body to hear. Let us pray that those words that were delivered to them be taken into consideration when they handle the crosses in their own lives. May each of us come to place our trust in Christ and have our eyes opened to all the ways He helps us carry the cross in our own lives.



SEDER MEAL

Our Faith Formation groups partook in Seder Meal and re-lived the events of the Exodus from Egypt. This is the Jewish and now Catholic understanding of "sacred remembering". It was enlightening for the students to experience the food of Jesus' heritage and helped them to better understand where He came from. After candles were lit, Jewish prayers were recited as students braved the meal presented to them. This included parsley snips dipped in salt water, Matzo with horseradish [unfortunately no photos of the faces made here :)] and chopped apples with walnut. Egg and chicken wings were also included and each part taken with a drink of "wine" (juice). All parts were symbolic of the sacrifices in both the Old and New Testaments. The Last Supper was a Passover Seder meal. This is why St. Paul writes "Christ was sacrificed for us as our Passover" and John the Evangelist proclaims "Behold the Lamb of God!"

