



January 8, 2023
Epiphany of the Lord

Father James P. Schmitz

Pastor

4940 Broadview Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44109



PARISH STAFF | 216.661.1006

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RECTORY/OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday | 9:00am—4:00pm

Saturday | 12:00pm—5:00pm

Sunday | 9:00am—12:00pm

SCHOOL STAFF: 216.661.2120

Denise Burns, *Principal*

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SCHOOL HOURS:

Monday—Friday 8:00am—3:00pm

www.leothegreat.org

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS

Saturday Vigil | 4:00pm

Sundays | 8:00am and 11:00am

WEEKDAYS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday | 8:30am

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

8:30am and 7:00pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual confessions are celebrated Saturdays from 3:00pm-3:30pm, Sundays from 10:00a-10:30a, or anytime by request or appointment.

NEW TO THE PARISH? WELCOME!

New parishioners and those moving from the parish or changing addresses are asked to contact the Rectory Office or use our website.

BAPTISMS

Parents desiring Baptism for their child are asked to contact the Rectory 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 interested about becoming Catholic or have questions about the Catholic Faith, please call the Rectory.

If you or a family member are ill or homebound please let us know so that our priest or deacon can visit and provide spiritual care.



Instagram @leothegreatorg



Facebook—leothegreatorg

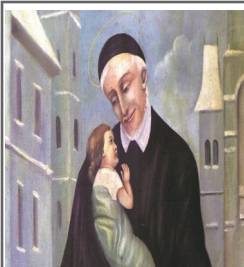


Twitter @leothegreatorg



Read the latest bulletin and find other useful information on your mobile device by downloading the app.

January 8, 2023 – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

The St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization food and staple collection to assist those in need is next weekend, January 14th and January 15th. Items that we are most in 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	Pancake Syrup	Dishwashing Soap & Bar Soap

Because of you we are able to ensure others do not go without. Thank you very much!



POINSETTIAS

If you would like one of the live poinsettias which decorated the church during the Christmas season, they will be available following the 11:00 Mass on Sunday, January 8th. Please leave the plastic dishes underneath the poinsettias. Thank you.



PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for your continued generosity.



Sun. Envelope \$ 11,846.50

WeShare \$ 1,825.00

Total \$ 13,671.50

Cap. Improv \$ 597.00

WeShare \$ 60.00

Total \$ 657.00

SVDP \$ 100.00

WeShare \$ 10.00

Total \$ 110.00

Retirement

\$1,897.00

Immaculate Conception

\$1,778.00

Flowers

\$920.00

Christmas

\$19,281.00



Are you a former student of St. Leo School? Is your child a former student of St. Leo School? Please let us know by completing a form on the parish website. Visit leothegreat.org Find *Alumni Association* under the *Organizations* tab. We hope to hear from you!

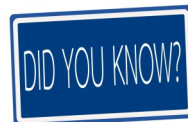
Please mark your calendars to join us for Mass and the events and activities throughout the year!

MEMORIES

"My son Luca was about 15 months old when I had him baptized at St. Leo's. I remember holding him on my hip and before long he wouldn't stop reaching his hand into the font like it was a Little Tikes splash table and sipping the water from his hand. I couldn't seem to get him to stop and remember trying to shift slightly just enough so that he was out of reach so as to not create a spectacle of ourselves in any way other than the reason for the moment. He arched back and leaned down to bring himself closer and still managed to get in there. I remember Fr. Jim was the first to chuckle letting everyone else see the humor in it all. Needless to say, he never cried when it came time to pour water over his head." —Nina Capone

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

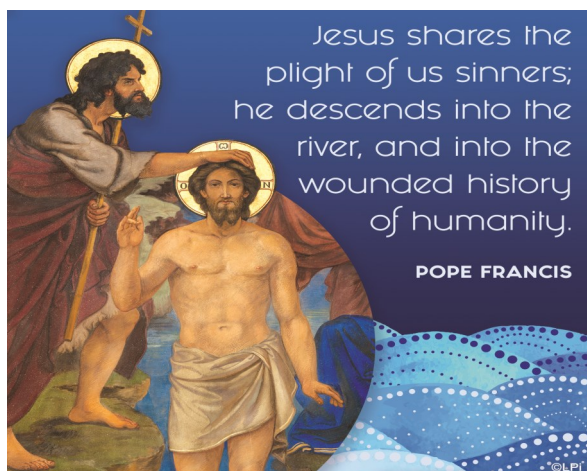
We welcome photos throughout the year of the people and events taking place. Please forward your photos to photos@leothegreat.org.



The Franciscan Order of Sisters from Chicago served as teachers in the early days of the school. There were only a few lay teachers at the time, and those teachers were women.



ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR **PRAYERS**

Mary Niec, Alivia Kobal, Taylor Corbett, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Amelia Rebello, Irma Zappitelli, Dianne Toronski, Don Donelon, Larry Kuznik, John Sofcheck, Ireneo (Ernie) Santiago, Rob Blum, Gary Skelley, Virginia Soflkancs, Evelyn Bastian, Mary Lou Neuendorf, Joseph Bublavy, Kristen Eble, Anna Mendoza, Marianne Kucinski-Powers, Denise Warnock, 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 Bublavy, John O'Malley, Kenneth Lees, Tina Sunday, and Karen Horvath, Jesse Kazimer, William Woolard, Carol Rucinski and Teresa Bozek, Joe Deranek and Ben Wheelock.



JAMES HAWKINS
SACRED HEART OF JESUS, WADSWORTH
II 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

January 1, 2023 — January 15, 2023

PATRICIA CHOPKA

We Love You,
Andy & Family

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday, January 9th—The Baptism of the Lord**
8:30am +Bill Kordick (Wife)
- Tuesday, January 10th—Weekday (First Week in Ordinary Time)**
8:30am +Louis John Kazimer III (Gladys Kazimer)
- Wednesday, January 11th— Weekday**
8:30am +Teresa Vasi (Maria Lovano)
- Friday, January 13th—Weekday**
8:30am + Adam, Helena & Barbara Kolpa (Family)
- Saturday, January 14th—Weekday**
4:00pm +Theresa Kowal (Antonina)
- Sunday, January 15th—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
8:00am People of the Parish
11:00am +Norma Janiak (Faith & Ron Pelley)

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: ISAIAH 60: 1-6

The last part of the book of Isaiah contains the words of a prophet who lived after the Jews returned from exile in Babylon, (which is modern-day Iraq). They found their temple destroyed and the city leveled. But with great faith the prophet envisions a wonderful future for Jerusalem.

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 3:2-3, 5-6

The Ephesians were a community in which Jewish and Gentile converts to Christianity lived side-by-side. The author of this letter confirms that God's saving grace is available to everyone, whatever their ethnic or religious background.

SUNDAY Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

MONDAY Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 (11b)/Mt 3:13-17

TUESDAY Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12/Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9//Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 2:13-17

ENCOURAGE A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 8, 2023 | The Epiphany of the Lord

A friend of mine is a young priest who teaches high school physics at a Catholic boys' prep school. Like many today, the boys often think science and religion are enemies. So, he delights in their raised eyebrows when he reminds them his first full-time job as a priest was to be an astrophysicist. He cataloged the size, shape, and matter of distant stars. He tells them, "Science gave me more love for God, not less."

The Magi were something like scientist-astronomers. Like today's scientists, they employed disciplined methods of discovering dependable patterns in the world. Their rigorous commitment to the truth led them to the joy of discovering Jesus. Their love for knowledge leads them to worship the Source of all knowledge. Luke says of them, "They were overjoyed at seeing the star."

We may see the universe as cold and empty and feel sad. But why should we do that? The Magi, like my priest-friend, show us there is another way to experience the world. We use our intelligence to discover the beautiful patterns in the world — in mathematics, physics, astronomy, biology, neuroscience, and so on — and allow this to lead us to greater love for God. So, my fellow Magi: the world needs us to be overjoyed at finding God in science and, finally and fully, in Jesus. — Father John Muir

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP: Pray for God's Direction

The story of the Wise Men bringing gifts to Jesus, the newborn King, is a great one, isn't it? They had a great big star in the sky to lead the way. I am no Boy Scout, so I am not sure how well I would do following a star like that. But the important point here is that God led them to the manger. The manger was a place that unless God specifically showed you this was where the Christ Child was born you wouldn't have believed it. You would have passed on by.

In our lives, there are no big stars in the sky leading us where we need to go. It isn't so easy sometimes discerning where God is leading us. We may seek to use our gifts wisely, but in what manner and to what end is not always clear.

This is where prayer can make a huge difference. If we seek to cultivate a prayer life where we are mindful of the presence of God throughout our day, then the call is easier to discern. We can help the process by intentionally offering to God in the morning the entirety of the day to come: all our actions, all our time, and all our decisions. In the evening, we can examine the past hours of the day and reflect on when we responded well to Christ's call and when we fell short. Then we resolve to begin again tomorrow, inviting Christ to be with us every step of the way. God may not offer a star in the sky to lead us, but if we invite us on our journey each day, the path will be much clearer.

FAITH AND FEAR

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

When I was little, you could tell I believed in the destructive power of the monsters who lived beneath my bed because I would never let my ankles anywhere near the bottom of the mattress. (It's common knowledge that bare ankles are premium monster bait — ask any child you know). You can often tell what a person believes by what they fear.

But here's the thing: belief isn't always enough. It's obvious that Herod believed in Christ's power because of how terrified he was by it and by the room he made in his life for the possible impact of the Messiah. In fact, if belief was the only measure of orthodoxy, you could stand most modern Christians next to Herod and he would tower above them.

Remember, there's something just as bad as disobeying God: discounting Him. I know I am guilty of that in a thousand small ways each day. In the person I ignore or the opinion I sneer at. In the unkind words I let roll from my tongue. In the prayers of thanksgiving that I don't say because I am "too busy."

I believe in God, but I do not fear Him — mostly because my very modern understanding of the concept of "fear" would lump God in with those monsters beneath my bed.

But what if we understood fear in a more traditional sense — awe, reverence, and wonder? "All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him." — Psalm 72:11

When Herod heard the news of the coming of the Messiah, it compelled him to do something. Not the right thing, mind you, but something. It moved him into action. So, then, it should move us all.

"We saw his star at its rising, and have come to do him homage." — Matthew 2:2

SEEING GOD IN OUR ORDINARY MOMENTS: Penance & Prayer

*God's glory, now, is kindled gentler than candlelight under the rafters of a barn: Eternal Peace is sleeping in the hay, And Wisdom's born in secret in a straw-roofed stable.**

When I was younger, I wrote music to and recorded Thomas Merton's poem, "Epiphany Carol." If you have never read it, search it out on the internet. Merton's words are profound and paint a picture of the awesomeness of Jesus, the newborn King of Kings, lying in a simple straw bed. The shepherds and Wise Men are drawn to pay homage to the One who has been born above all others and brings with him hope for a broken world.

As Merton correctly points out, the gifts we are called to bring to this baby and lay at his feet are our prayers and penances, next to those gifts of worldly wealth. What is it that you have to bring to the stable on this feast of the Epiphany of the Lord? Unless those prayers and penances lead to a new way of living, our gifts will be void of meaning. What we lay before him speaks to the change in us that he has given to us by his birth. Our daily stewardship is resembled in those gifts. If we are to truly echo the kingdom of God in our lives and actions, what we ultimately offer to him is no less than our entire selves. This baby will give his entire self for us, and his work must continue through our hands and feet.

*While we unnumbered children of the wicked centuries
Come after with our penances and prayers, And lay them down
in the sweet-smelling hay Beside the wise men's golden jars.**

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**Excerpts from "Epiphany Carol" by Thomas Merton*

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

Once again I want to thank you for your prayers for my dad & stepmom. As it stands as I write this on Tuesday, January 3rd, my dad is still at the skilled nursing home but unfortunately is not getting adequate care there. We are going to see if he can return to his assisted living home at Vitalia in Strongsville (where his wife also lives) & then be under the care of Hospice there. It is apparent to us that he will not recover from the effects of the heart attack he had before Christmas. We are grateful that he is not suffering as he sleeps most of the time while having just brief moments of consciousness. His wife will also be under Hospice care at Vitalia so at least they can be in the same place together. She seems to be recovering better from her heart attack than my dad and we are grateful that she is very alert & mentally well. I know that many of you have been through such ordeals with your own parents and so understand the ups and downs of advanced age and illness. We do what we can to assist our loved ones in these situations while waiting for them to go home to the Lord. Once again it is my faith in God's love for them and for us that sustains me at times like this, and your prayerful support also gives me much encouragement so thank you for your concern and know that I pray for you daily as well.

I want to acknowledge Emily Lada, a parishioner of St. Thomas More who frequently attends daily Mass here at St. Leo's. Emily painted the beautiful backdrop to our nativity manger which really draws forth the colors from the statues and brings the beauty of the night with its shining stars to our nativity scene. We are grateful for her offer of using her artistic talent to enhance our already beautiful manger.

Again I want to express my personal appreciation of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI whom we have been remembering in prayer, especially this past Friday when I offered Mass for him with our parish school children. I remember reading & discussing the 3 encyclicals he wrote when Pope while I was in the Doctor of Ministry program at the seminary. The first was called "Deus Caritas Est" ("God is Love.") The second was "Spe Salvi" ("Saved by Hope") and the third was "Caritas in Veritate" ("Charity in Truth"). You may want to Google them & read even just a summary of them so that you can be enriched by what he had to say. An encyclical by the way is a papal letter sent to all the bishops of the Church but meant also to be read by all the faithful. I still remember how enlightening these were when I read them and I intend to take another look at them again soon to refresh my memory. I hope to share some of his wisdom with you in a homily soon. Some may think that a pope may not have much of an influence on the daily life of a Catholic, much less on the life of a non-Catholic or someone not even Christian. But this is not the case! The role of the Holy Father is to be a sign of our unity as members of the world-wide Church founded by Jesus Christ. He is to speak the Word of God to us, to teach us more deeply about our faith and to be a sign of our unity. But he is also respected by many of the world leaders (being considered a world leader himself as he shepherds over 1.3 billion Catholics). Even non-Christians benefit from what he teaches by both word and example. To be sure, every pope...going back to St. Peter himself...is also ridiculed and held in contempt by those who do not believe in God or in the community of the Church. Jesus warned us that such would be the case. But he also promised the kingdom of heaven to those who are persecuted for believing in him. Let us pray that Pope Emeritus Benedict and Pope Francis may bring to us and to the world the message of God's love, whether in life or in death.

Fr. James Delmonico

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. **The next meeting dates will be: February 1, 2023, March 1, 2023 and May 3, 2023. THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN APRIL DUE TO HOLY WEEK.**

Feel free to join us—no reservations needed!

**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.

ST. LEO THE GREAT—CLEVELAND, OHIO



AMERICAN RED CROSS: A Note of Thanks

We wanted to thank our St. Leos community for supporting the American Red Cross blood drives throughout the years. After 25+ years of being coordinators, we were informed that our drives have had declining participation. Therefore, our last drive was 12/4/2022.

Donating blood is actually a picture of what Jesus did for us when He shed His blood so that we might live. When we give blood, we are offering a part of our lives to save the life of someone else. It is one way we obey the second greatest commandment, which is to love others as we love ourselves (Mark 12:31). Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). If we are called to lay down our lives for others, we can surely give some of our blood to help save them.

Based on rough calculations, (6 drives per year x 30 Pints x 25 Years) the St Leo's blood donors have donated around 4500 pints or 675 gallons of blood. You have all made a difference in the community. For those who are able to donate, please continue to do so. Go to redcross.org to find local drives. This effort has blessed our family, and we have enjoyed our time serving our community.

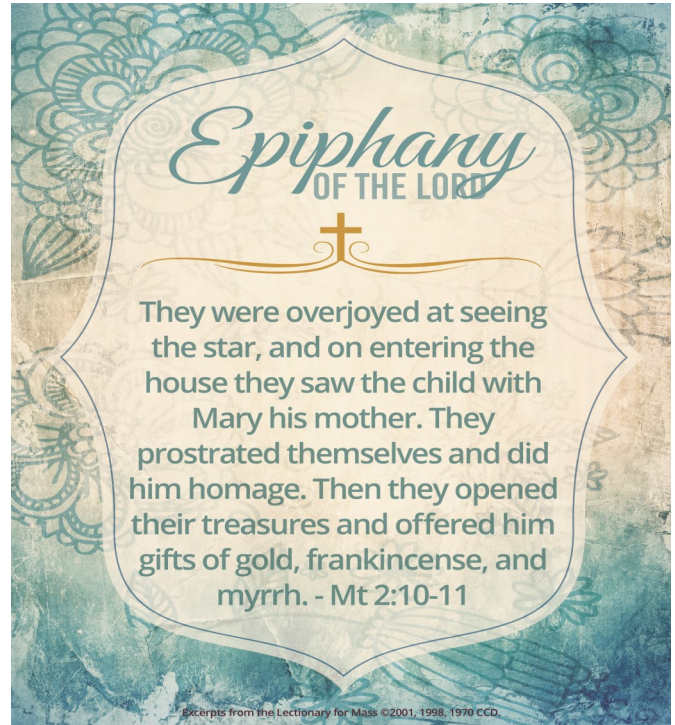
God Bless!

Dan & Kim Roth

Have you moved into the area recently, or have you joined us for Mass? We would love to have you as a registered member of our parish family. Please stop by at the rectory office, go online at www.leothegreat.org or call the Rectory Office at 216-661-1006 for more information.



THE GREAT SWEEPSTAKES
January 2, 2023
Greg Slepko



PRO-LIFE

Please join us for our next Pro-Life meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 1:00 pm in the Parish Center. If you have any questions about the group, the meeting or its content, please contact either Dennis Badar at 216-398-2830 or Chris Rath at 216-741-1536.

Because our country remains under constant attack from evil, we ask all to continue praying to St. Michael the Archangel, as often as you can. He can help us defeat the enemy.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.



2023 THE GREAT SWEEPSTAKES 2023

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please return this stub with your payment of \$30.00. Checks are to be made out to St. Leo the Great.

Questions? Please call the Rectory Office at 216-661-1006 or visit our website at www.leothegreat.org

January 8, 2023— MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

SCHOOL NEWS



Sunday, January 29, 2023

10:30a.m.—12:30p.m.

or by private tour

Scholarships available:

- Cleveland
- Ed Choice
- Ed Choice Expansion
- Jon Peterson

The Davis Foundation

is again offering scholarship opportunities for graduates of St. Leo the Great School. If you are interested, please contact Ms. Dodson at: mdodson@leothegreat.org

Boy Scouts St. Leo's Boy Scout — Troop 24

Who: 6th-12th Graders

When: Every Tuesday Night
at 7:30pm

Where: St. Leo the Great
Parish Center

Contact: Mike Robinson at
216-409-3733 or email him at
mrobinson@leothegreat.org

Whether you are looking to make new friends, learn new skills or just want to go camping—there is something for everyone!



Making Sweet Memories

Our Preschoolers and their parents had fun building Gingerbread houses for Christmas.



LEO THE GREAT *LITTLE* THEATRE

Back on the last day of school, before Christmas break commenced, family members of our Kindergarteners were invited to watch the students reenact the story of the Nativity. It is always a great joy to witness the forming moments of their growing relationship with Christ and the stories that shape our Catholic faith.



Enroll Now for the 2023 school year! Cleveland Scholarships Available! Call 216-661-2120, visit www.leothegreat.org or please contact our Principal, Mrs. Burns at dburns@leothegreat.org for more details.