

ST. LEO THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH

*We are a welcoming Catholic Community
called by God to live out the message of
Christ in love and service to all people.*

April 26, 2026



28290 BEAUMONT ROAD, BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34134 • PHONE (239) 992-0901
WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG • OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8 AM - 4 PM
DAILY MASS: MONDAY-SATURDAY: 8 AM • CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 2PM-3PM
SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES: 3:30 & 5:30 PM • SUNDAY MASSES: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM & 5 PM

MISA EN ESPAÑOL DOMINGO - 3 PM Y LAS CONFESIONES ANTES DE LA MISA • MASS IN POLISH: 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH - 1:30 PM

Parish Staff

Rev. Jarek (Jaroslaw) Sniosek.....	Pastor
Rev. Gustavo Correa Garcia.....	Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Charles Ferraro.....	Deacon
Rev. Mr. Dale Bacik.....	Deacon
Juliana Alfano.....	Musician
Dan Bardauskis.....	Liturgy Assistant
Anne Bellows.....	Communications Coordinator
Hermilo Calderon.....	Lead Maintenance
Griselda Cisneros.....	Receptionist
Maria Fernandez.....	Religious Education Assistant
Daniel Gonzalez.....	Maintenance
Elsy Hernandez.....	Operations Supervisor
Marcin Malewski.....	Director of Music
Martha Mercado.....	Maintenance
Gisela Meraz.....	Religious Education Coordinator
Henry Soto.....	Business Manager
Milana Strezeva.....	Musician
Marie Talley.....	Musician
Winter Talley.....	Musician

Parish Church Support

Thank you for your continued generosity!

April 18 & 19

\$34,091

Catholic Home Missions Appeal

\$4,593

Celebrating our Faith

BAPTISM OF INFANTS

Baptisms of children under 7 years old are offered every fourth Sunday of each month in Spanish and every second Sunday of the month in English. Please visit our website or contact our office for details and requirements.

CONFIRMATION

At confirmation we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit and confirm and renew our baptismal promises committing to a life of maturity in the Christian faith. Unconfirmed Catholics wishing to receive the Sacrament should contact the Parish Office to make arrangements for suitable instruction. Unbaptized or non-Catholics can be confirmed at the Easter Vigil when they are baptized or received into the Church as a part of Order of Christian Initiation of Adult. To enroll in OCIA, please call Griselda Cisneros at 992-0901.

EUCCHARIST

Parishioners who wish to bring communion to their spouses should contact the parish office to pick up a pyx with the St. Leo's inscription on it. Please use this pyx when approaching to receive a host for your spouse or a family member in the Communion procession during Mass. If you need to receive a gluten free host due to a medical condition please arrive 15 minutes before Mass begins and inform the Sacristan.

RECONCILIATION

Individual confession with a priest is the principal means of absolution and reconciliation of grave sins within the Church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation frees us from sinful patterns of behavior and calls us to complete conversion to Christ. Confessions are heard at 1:30pm-3:00pm on Saturday in English during season and 2pm on Sunday in Spanish in the Church. You may also approach any of our parish priests to hear your confession at another suitable time.

THE RITE OF ANOINTING

A person does not need to wait until the point of death to receive this sacrament. A careful judgment about the serious nature of the illness is sufficient. The Sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after the anointing but becomes ill once again, or if, during the same illness, the person's condition becomes more serious. For those who are about to depart from this life, the Church offers the person Penance, Anointing of the Sick, and the Eucharist as Viaticum (food for the journey) given at the end of life. Contact the Parish Office at 992-0901 to be connected with the priest on duty.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

If you are a registered parishioner of St. Leo and plan to marry in our parish please contact our office at least six months prior to the tentative wedding date. Weddings cannot be scheduled until the marriage preparation process is complete and it is determined that the parties are free to marry.

ANNULMENT - Re-establishing the freedom to marry.

An annulment is more accurately described as a declaration of matrimonial invalidity. It is an official determination made by an ecclesiastical court that at the time of the marital consent exchanged by the parties a specific component of the marriage was lacking or defective. Hence, the marriage failed to be a marriage as defined by the Catholic Church. If you wish to reestablish your freedom to marry in the Church, please contact a parish priest to be your advocate in presenting your case to the Tribunal.

VOCATION

If you think that you have a vocation to the priesthood or religious life please speak with one of our priests, or contact the Diocesan Director of Vocations at 941-484-9548, visit www.dioceseofvenice.org/vocations

ONLINE GIVING
WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG

2026 CFA

Making Your Pledge to the Catholic Faith Appeal

Our new CFA goal for 2026 is \$664,000. Please consider making a pledge to help us pay our Diocesan tax directly. We encourage you to do this, as this is the best and most efficient way to help the parish. You may have already received a pledge card in the mail from the diocese, or you can pick one up at the doors of the church or in the Parish Office. The funds collected support numerous ministries throughout the Church.



Our Goal..... \$664,000

Contributions to date.. \$487,773

Goal Attained..... 76.56%

= 10% of Goal

Next Weekend's Mass Schedule

Saturday, May 2

3:30 pm

Fr. Jack

5:30 pm

Fr. Jack

Sunday, May 3

7:30 am

Fr. Stan

9:30 am

Fr. Jarek

11:30 am

Fr. Jarek

3:00 pm-Spanish

Fr. Gustavo

5:00 pm

Fr. Tim

Changes may occur without notice.

Daily Reflections

by Father Jarek

SUNDAY, APRIL 26 - THE VOICE YOU CAN TRUST

"My sheep hear my voice... and they follow me." (John 10:27)

There are many voices in life, and most of them sound urgent. Advice, opinions, headlines, even our own thoughts competing for attention, each one insisting it cannot wait. Some promise clarity, others stir anxiety, and a few simply wear us down. And somewhere beneath all that noise, a quieter question remains: which voice is actually leading me somewhere good?

Jesus does not compete for volume. He speaks as a shepherd, not a salesman. His voice is steady, personal, and strangely familiar. It does not rush or pressure. It calls. It knows your name, your history, your hesitations. The difficulty is not that His voice is absent, but that we have grown accustomed to louder ones, often mistaking urgency for truth.

And yet, He does not withdraw. He keeps speaking, patiently, waiting for the moment we pause long enough to recognize Him again. You are not asked to solve everything. You are invited to listen, and over time, that quiet voice becomes clearer as your heart learns who to trust.

Prayer: *Lord, help me recognize Your voice amid all the others. Give me the grace to follow where You lead, even when it asks for trust more than certainty. Amen. Acts 2:14a, 36 to 41; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:20b to 25; John 10:1 to 10*

MONDAY, APRIL 27 - LEARNING WHO BELONGS

"Who was I to be able to hinder God?" (Acts 11:17)

There is a certain comfort in knowing where the lines are. Who belongs, who does not. What fits, what does not. It gives a sense of order, even a quiet feeling of control. We arrange the world neatly, and then God, with remarkable calm, steps across those lines and invites us to follow.

Peter does not arrive at this easily. His vision unsettles him. His instincts resist it. But slowly, he begins to see something deeper: God is not confined to his categories. God is expanding them. This is not only about others being included. It is about Peter himself being changed.

We know this tension. It appears in the people we struggle to understand, or the grace we did not expect to find there. Faith often grows through a quiet surrender, the humility to admit, "Perhaps God is doing more than I realized," and the wisdom not to stand in His way.

Prayer: *Lord, widen my heart where it has grown narrow. Help me recognize Your work, even when it surprises me, and give me the humility not to hinder it. Amen. Acts 11:1 to 18; Psalm 42 to 43; John 10:11 to 18*

TUESDAY, APRIL 28 - WHEN FAITH BECOMES VISIBLE

"It was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians." (Acts 11:26)

At some point, faith becomes noticeable. Not in a dramatic way, but in the quiet consistency of how someone lives. A patience that does not quite match the situation. A kindness that seems a little too steady to be accidental. People begin to notice, even if they cannot quite explain what they are seeing.

That is what happens in Antioch. The message spreads, but more importantly, it takes shape in people. It becomes something lived, not just spoken. And eventually, they are given a name, not by themselves, but by those watching. Faith becomes visible not because it is announced, but because it is embodied. It raises a simple and slightly uncomfortable question. What do people see when they see us? Not perfection, certainly, but something that points beyond ourselves. We do not become witnesses by trying harder, but by staying close to Christ until His presence quietly begins to show.

Prayer: *Lord, shape my life quietly from within. Let my words and actions reflect You, not through effort alone, but through a heart that stays close to You. Amen. Acts 11:19 to 26; Psalm 87; John 10:22 to 30*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 - LIGHT THAT DOES NOT FORCE

"I came into the world as light." (John 12:46)

Light has a gentle way of revealing things. It does not argue or push. It simply shows what is there, patiently and without apology. Sometimes that is comforting. Sometimes it is not. But once we see clearly, we rarely return to the comfort of not seeing.

Jesus comes not to overwhelm, but to illuminate. He does not force change, yet clarity itself becomes an invitation. And that is where the quiet tension of faith begins, not in pressure, but in the moment we realize we now see differently, whether we are ready or not.

We often prefer a softer version of truth, one that adjusts to us. But His light remains steady, inviting us forward. Not to expose us, but to heal us, one honest step at a time, even when we briefly consider stepping back into the shadows.

Prayer: *Lord, be the light within me. Help me not to turn away from what You reveal, but to trust that Your truth leads toward freedom and life. Amen. Acts 12:24 to 13:5a; Psalm 67; John 12:44 to 50*

THURSDAY, APRIL 30 - UNDERSTANDING THAT BECOMES ACTION

"If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it." (John 13:17)

There is a quiet gap between knowing and doing. Most of us understand far more than we live. We know the value of patience, forgiveness, humility, usually right before we forget to practice them. We can explain them clearly, sometimes even impressively, which makes it all the more surprising how easily we postpone them.

Jesus closes that gap. After washing the disciples' feet, He does not offer a reflection. He offers a pattern. Understanding, in His world, is not complete until it becomes action. What we grasp in thought is meant to take shape in how we live.

Faith becomes real in small, consistent choices. Not dramatic gestures, but how we speak, respond, and treat the person in front of us. We are not asked to do everything at once, only the next right thing, and that is usually closer than we think.

Prayer: *Lord, help me live what I already know. Give me the grace to choose what is good in simple, concrete ways today. Amen. Acts 13:13 to 25; Psalm 89; John 13:16 to 20*

FRIDAY, MAY 1 - A PLACE PREPARED

"Do not let your hearts be troubled." (John 14:1)

Troubled hearts are not difficult to find. Sometimes they are hidden beneath routine, sometimes beneath humor, sometimes beneath a quiet kind of fatigue that even we struggle to name. Life asks questions that do not come with quick answers, and even steady faith can feel unsettled at times.

Into that reality, Jesus speaks with calm, not because everything is resolved, but because He is preparing something we cannot yet see. A place, a future, a belonging that is not fragile. His words do not remove uncertainty, but they give us a place to stand within it.

Thomas speaks honestly: we do not know the way. And Jesus responds with Himself. The way is not a set of directions, but a relationship. You may not have everything figured out, but you are not without guidance, and you are certainly not alone.

Prayer: *Lord, steady my heart when it feels uncertain. Help me trust not just where You lead, but that You are with me along the way. Amen. Acts 13:26 to 33; Psalm 2; John 14:1 to 6*

SATURDAY, MAY 2 - JOY THAT CONTINUES

"The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit." (Acts 13:52)

It is a surprising ending. They face rejection and resistance, and yet the story concludes with joy. Not the easy kind that depends on things going well, but the deeper kind that remains when they do not. It is the kind of joy that does not disappear at the first sign of difficulty.

This joy does not come from success. It comes from knowing that what you are part of matters, even when it is not received by everyone. Paul and Barnabas keep moving, not out of stubbornness, but out of conviction rooted in something deeper than approval.

We often measure by results, but the Gospel measures by faithfulness. To love, to speak, to act where we are placed, and to trust the outcome to God. And somewhere within that trust, almost quietly, a steadier joy begins to take root.

Prayer: *Lord, give me a steady joy that does not depend on results. Help me remain faithful in what You ask, trusting that You are at work even when I cannot see it. Amen. Acts 13:44 to 52; Psalm 98; John 14:7 to 14*

For the full version of each day's reflection,
visit CatholicJourneyToday.com
and journey deeper with Scripture, prayer, and daily encouragement.

The Shepherd's Voice in a Crowded World

Fourth Sunday of Easter

by Father Jarek

Some Catholics worry that the Church is becoming too political. They feel it when the Pope speaks about war, when bishops address immigration, or when a homily touches on the dignity of life in difficult circumstances. It can seem as though something sacred is being drawn into the noise of public debate, as if the Church risks losing her center by stepping too far into questions of power. That concern is not without sincerity. Most of us are not looking for arguments when we come to church. We are looking for God. But there is another possibility, one we do not always consider. It may not be that the Church has become too political. It may be that politics has begun to take on the role of religion.

You can see it in small, ordinary moments. A family gathers for dinner, and before long the conversation tightens. A comment is made, a tone shifts, and suddenly it is no longer a discussion but a quiet test of loyalty. Someone hesitates, not because they have nothing to say, but because they already sense how it will be received. And later, driving home, a thought lingers. When did this become so absolute? When did disagreement begin to feel like betrayal? We see it more broadly as well. Public life increasingly speaks in moral absolutes, with a certainty that feels less like dialogue and more like doctrine. It divides the world too cleanly into good and evil. Loyalty begins to resemble devotion, and disagreement begins to feel like disloyalty. Even sacred language is sometimes drawn into the service of human power, as if what is divine can be borrowed without consequence.

At first, it can feel persuasive, even reassuring. But over time, something begins to shift. What once pointed us toward God can begin to turn inward. What once called us to conversion can begin to affirm us. And what once challenged power can begin, quietly, to justify it. We are not only observers of this. We are drawn into it, often without noticing. We are drawn toward voices that confirm us. We defend what aligns with us and question what does not. Beneath it all is a quiet preference for being affirmed over being changed.

This is where today's readings speak with clarity. When Peter stands before the crowd in Acts, he does not soften his message to make it easier to accept. He speaks plainly, and his words do something rare. They cut to the heart, not to shame, but to awaken. The people respond with a question that is both simple and profound: "What are we to do?" That question is where faith begins, not in defensiveness or explanation, but in openness and a willingness to be changed. Peter does not offer a strategy. He calls for conversion. "Repent and be baptized." In other words, do not reshape the truth to fit your life. Allow your life to be reshaped by the truth you have received.

That same invitation is present in our moment. When the Church speaks about the dignity of life, about violence, and about the moral weight of our choices, it is not entering a political contest. It is asking us again, “What are you to do?” Not first as voters, but as disciples. There are many voices around us, confident, persuasive, and urgent. Jesus names something we already know, though we do not always name it. Not every voice that sounds strong leads us to life. “The sheep hear his voice,” He says, “and they follow him because they recognize his voice.”

That is the deeper issue beneath everything else, not simply what is being said, but whose voice we have learned to trust. There are voices that promise clarity and righteousness, but lead us into fear, division, or a quiet hardness of heart. And there is a voice, often quieter, that does not force or overwhelm, but calls us by name and leads us toward truth and toward life. Learning to recognize that voice is not automatic. It requires attention, humility, and the willingness to ask not “Do I agree?” but “Where is this leading me?”

The Psalm gives us the answer in its simplest form. “The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.” Not because life is easy, but because we are guided, even through dark valleys, even when the path is not clear. The second reading deepens this still further. Christ does not reveal truth through force. When he was insulted, he returned no insult. When he suffered, he did not threaten. He entrusted himself to the One who judges justly. This is not weakness. It is strength rooted not in control, but in truth. This is the voice of the Shepherd, and it is very different from the voices that often surround us.

So perhaps the question is not whether the Church is becoming too political. Perhaps the question is whether we are learning to recognize the voice we are following. Because once faith is reshaped to fit what we already believe, it no longer guides us. It simply echoes us. But when we allow ourselves, like that first crowd, to be cut to the heart, something else becomes possible. We begin again. We return to the shepherd and guardian of our souls. We rediscover a voice that does not flatter us, does not use us, and does not need us to win. A voice that knows us, calls us, and leads us toward a life that is not only fuller, but truer.

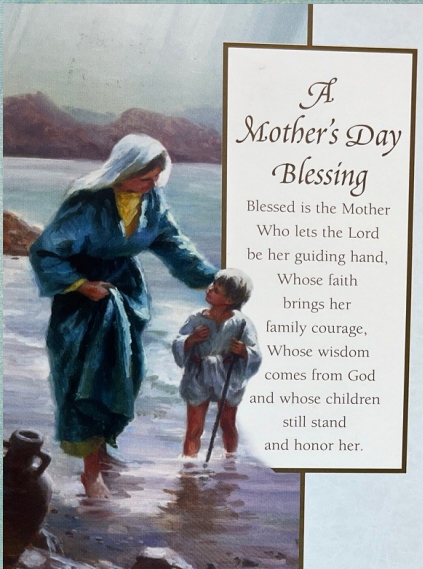
There is a kind of strength that speaks loudly, answers quickly, and holds its ground at all costs. It feels steady. But there is another kind of strength, quieter and more demanding, the strength to pause when everything in us wants to react, to listen when we would rather defend, and to allow the truth to change us, even when it costs us something. “I am the gate,” Jesus says. “Whoever enters through me will be saved and will find pasture.” In a world of many voices, that may be the most important thing to remember. Not louder, but clearer, and always leading toward life.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, in the middle of so many voices, I see how easily I am drawn to what is loud, certain, and familiar, and how quickly I settle there. I notice how often I listen for what confirms me rather than for what calls me deeper.

Teach me to recognize Your voice, not the loudest, but the truest, not the one that flatters me, but the one that leads me. Give me the humility to be changed, the courage to let go of what is not from You, and the patience to follow, even when the path is quiet and unclear.

Be my Shepherd, Lord, and lead me toward the life that only You can give. Amen.



*A
Mother's Day
Blessing*

Blessed is the Mother
Who lets the Lord
be her guiding hand,
Whose faith
brings her
family courage,
Whose wisdom
comes from God
and whose children
still stand
and honor her.

Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquets
to remember your loved ones
are available in the front entrance
of the church and in the Parish Office.

FORMED

THE WILD GOOSE



We are pleased to provide for all our of parishioner the ability to access this wonderful website filled with thousands of wide ranging movies, programs, audios, such as the Lives of Saints of History and Modern Day, The Sacraments, Bible Study, Children's Entertainment, Praying at Home, and Movie Night selections.

To access FORMED choose the link on our website, search "St Leo Bonita" to find us in the drop box, and sign up for your own account.

We Pray for the Recently Deceased of Our Parish

Lorraine Hackett



Volunteers Needed for Prison Outreach

Join the team of Diocesan volunteers who enter county jails and state prisons within the 10-county Diocese of Venice to do pastoral outreach, distribute the Eucharist and facilitate programs. Priests, Deacons, and lay volunteers are encouraged to assist in this ministry. Volunteers will first participate in an orientation program before entering the facility and will shadow experienced volunteers until they feel comfortable. Times and days vary by facility.

Please contact Joe Mallof at 224-217-7139 or
Bob Hiniker at 863-558-0407
to learn where you can fit into this joyful opportunity.

Keeping Protect

OUR PROMISE TO



Charter For The Protection Of Children And Young People

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice requires that all employees and those volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and complete online training in Safe Environment prior to beginning employment or volunteering. To report any abuse against minors to the Florida Department of Children and Families please call 800-962-2873. Further, if Diocesan personnel or volunteers are involved, also notify the Diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator, Susan Benton, at 941-416-6114.

Please visit the Diocese of Venice website
for further information.

TV Mass time change for southern area - Please note that the Televised Sunday Mass for viewers in the southern counties of the Diocese (Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee counties) is now broadcast at **8:30 a.m. on WFTX-TV (FOX Florida)**. The change was beyond the control of the Diocese. Please check your cable provider for channel listings. The televised Mass is also always available online at dioceseofvenice.org or on YouTube. For more information contact Rachel Powers, 941-486-4716.



The St. Leo Ladies' Guild awards four, \$4000 scholarships to individuals interested in furthering their education at a university, community college, or a technical or trade school.

Applicants must have been members of St. Leo the Great parish for at least one year prior to submitting an application and demonstrate an involvement in St. Leo activities, in their school or in their local community.

Applications are due by April 27th and may be obtained in the parish office or by contacting Clare Sasak at cesak27@aol.com or Judie Dougherty at jmdougherty6229@gmail.com



Pray for Vocations

Good and gracious God,
You call each person by name
and invite them to follow you.
On this World Day of
Prayer for Vocations, may each person hear
and respond to the call they have received.
We pray for all discerning marriage,
the chaste single life, consecrated life,
or ordained ministries,
that your Holy Spirit would guide,
inspire and strengthen them.
May your Church and the world
be enriched by the “yes” of your children.
Amen.



Pray
FOR PRIESTS

St. Leo Food Bank

"The need has never been greater."

The St. Leo Food Bank is always in need of supplies to share with local food pantries.

All unopened, non-perishable foods that are not expired are welcomed.

**You may continue to drop off your donations when you come to Mass,
or at our office Monday - Friday from 8am-3pm.**

THESE ITEMS ARE ESPECIALLY NEEDED

MOST NEEDED

- COOKING OIL
- DRIED BEANS
- MASECA (CORN TORTILLA FLOUR)
- WHITE RICE

- TOOTHPASTE
- TOOTHBRUSHES
- BAR SOAP
- SHAMPOO/BODY WASH
- TOILET PAPER
- ANTIBACTERIAL WIPES

- CANNED FRUIT & VEGETABLES
- CANNED TUNA & CHICKEN
- FLOUR & SUGAR
- CANNED SOUP

- POWDERED MILK
- PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY
- CEREAL
- JUICE

If you prefer, you may donate money directly to St Leo Food Bank. These funds will be dispersed to those in need both directly, and through our partner parishes and organizations.

Catholic Charities is in need of volunteers to help with food pantry distribution every other Wednesday from 9am to noon at their building on the St. Leo campus.

If you would like to help please contact Michael Vega at 239-270-3291 or mvega@ccdov.org

The St. Leo Food Bank supports Catholic Charities on our campus, Café of Life in Bonita Springs, as well as the food pantries at the parishes of Jesus the Worker (Ft. Myers), St. Margaret (Clewiston) and Our Lady Queen of Heaven (LaBelle).

If you need assistance from Catholic Charities for food, financial assistance, or tele-mental health counseling, please call 239-390-2928 between the hours of 9am-5pm Monday-Friday.

TO DONATE HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND CLOTHING BRING THEM TO:

Our Lady of Light Thrift Shop
24600 S. Tamiami Tr. Ste. 600A (992-1576)

St. Vincent de Paul Resale Shop
3725 Bonita Beach Road (992-1899)

The Perpetual Baby Shower



Please remember all the infants who are in need of diapers and new clothes. Their toddler brothers and sisters grow so fast and need clothes also.

The Ladies of St. Leo Guild thank all of you for your past support. Contributions may be left in the donation boxes at the doors of the church or taken to the parish office.

BABIES ALWAYS NEED

- WIPES
- FORMULA
- BABY WASH
- BABY SHAMPOO
- DIAPERS (ESPECIALLY SIZE 6)



WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROSITY!

Ignatian Preached Retreat at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat House in Venice

This 3 Night silent retreat from May 8-11 will introduce you to the great themes of the Spiritual Exercises in a group setting. The schedule includes conferences each day, daily Mass, and an opportunity to meet at least once with the retreat director for Confession and/or spiritual direction. Conference topics center on Ignatian spirituality, prayer, and discernment. To view all OLPH events, visit www.olph-retreat.org and click on Events, then Schedule of Events. You may register online for all events.

CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS FROM 2-3PM

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR STUDENTS WHO WILL BE RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST.

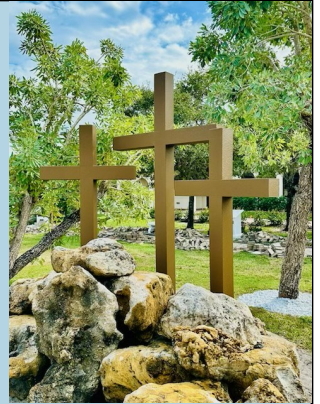


Please Pray for Our Confirmation Students



©LPI

MEMORIAL BRICKS FOR THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS GARDEN



As part of the renovation of the St. Leo Stations of the Cross Garden, the St. Leo Ladies' Guild will be handling the ongoing ordering, installing and maintaining of brick memorials to be placed within the garden. Placing a brick in this sacred space, whether in memory of a loved one, to mark a special event, or celebrate an anniversary is a timeless way to remember what matters most in our lives.

Memorial bricks may be ordered in two sizes – 4"x 8" (\$125) or 12"x12" (\$300). Brochures with order forms are available in the parish office. The next cutoff date for brick orders will be May 31st and installation of bricks placed with this order is expected in July.

Our Capital Improvement Fund

Our Capital Improvement Fund allows us to collect assessment free money to be used for necessary repairs and projects for the parish campus. Funds have been used to pay for the replacement of the skylights in the church and a portion of the air conditioning units in the Parish Life Center and Education Buildings.

More recently we have repaired roof leaks in the church, added a security system, replaced the church bell system, freshly painted many of our buildings and added extra landscaping. These funds are not designated for the construction of any new buildings. We sincerely thank you for your continued generosity.

Please know that contributing to this assessment free fund is the most efficient way to help St. Leo maintain and improve our beautiful properties.

NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
MONDAY 8:00 am	APRIL 27 +Schmitt Family	The Grana Family
TUESDAY 8:00 am	APRIL 28 +Rose Scenna	Her Loving Daughter & Son-in-Law Rita & Robert Sokol
WEDNESDAY 8:00 am	APRIL 29 +William Doeblar	Cindy Gambale
THURSDAY 8:00 am	APRIL 30 +Robert Heath	Vincent Fitzgerald
FRIDAY 8:00 am	MAY 1 +Brian Kane	His Family
SATURDAY 8:00 am	MAY 2 +Anne P Oreskoo	Gail Braun
3:30 pm	+Edward Mchugh	Gliwa Family
5:30 pm	The Parishioners of St. Leo	
SUNDAY 7:30 am	MAY 3 +Matt Driscoll	Jennifer Driscoll
9:30 am	+Joseph Lapinski	Tom Glodek
11:30 am	+Rev. Patrick Fitzpatrick	Gail Braun
3:00 pm - Spanish	Special Cumulative Intentions	
5:00 pm	+Pat & +Barry Farace	Loving Wife & Mother



Flowers this week are dedicated to Parishioners of St. Leo

Candles this week are dedicated to †Deceased Parishioners of St. Leo

Please Pray for Our Troops

Lt. Marco Colavecchia
Brian Dearcia Leon
Michael DeSantis
Cpt. Mary Kate Flynn
Lt. Thomas A. Flynn
Cpt. Sean Flynn
Thomas Geanuracos
Carlos Gonzales
Lt. Andrew D. Holt
Brian Howlett
Sgt. Ryan McCabe
Lt. Com. Matthew Kleine
Reed Lessman
Lt. Col. Nicholas LoRusso

Joseph McDermond
Daniel McDonald
Cpt. Kyle Martin
Michael Oliveira
Sgt. Thomas Pauls
Nick Parrorzio
Cpt. Evan Razzano
Cpt. Brayden Reichenbach
Lt. Riley N. Schliem
Lt. Col. Jonathan W. Schwarz
Lt. Col. Peter Shayhom
*All serving in the military,
especially those in combat.*

We pray today for...

Linda Aquino
Clayton Aunkle
Linda Bardol
Tom Bardol
Jeffrey Bogart
Bob Brock
Hildi Brown
Tom Brown
Denise Buk
Isabelle Marie Caiola
Patrick Cain
Peter Castro
Carol Compagna
Mickey Chervitz
Michelle Chiarulli
Scott Cochell
Lourdes Coll
Greg Daeger
Eli Davis
Janet Davis
Jeff Davis
Tara DeRoma
Carrie Derse
Robby Dirks
Brad Fairfield
Rudolph & Mary Fazio
Michael Federico
Brynn Forlizzi
Cory Fredericksen
John Galli
Gisette Lupita Garcia
Vincent Gil
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Hearing Loops are installed around the pews adjacent to the north and south entrances of the church and in the new auditorium. Hearing Loops transmit sound directly into a hearing aid or cochlear implant. To receive the Loop signal, manually activate the T-coil or telephone setting on your device. Consult your audiologist or hearing aid professional with problems.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Experiencing the marvelous presence of Christ through Eucharistic Adoration is available in our Chapel from 7am to 3:30pm Monday through Friday and on Saturdays and Sundays from 7am to 5:30pm.

ST. LEO MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIEST CENACLE

On the second Friday of each month in the Cry Room following 8am Mass we pray for good and holy priests for one hour.
For more information contact Betty at 860-595-6370 or holdenbnd@gmail.com

Prayer Group

All are welcome on Wednesday mornings in the Nest Café at 8:45am to pray for our personal intentions and those of our community, country and peace in our world.

Rosary Makers - Wednesday at 10:30 am - Nest Café

All are welcome to join the JMJ Rosary Makers as they make beaded string rosaries. The instructions, supplies and tools required will be provided. Since prayer and evangelization are needed more than ever, so are rosaries.

Walking with Moms in Need is a program at St. Leo which connects pregnant women and new mothers in need with assistance and support. Please go to our website for more information www.stleocatholicchurch.org

The Sewing, Knitting & Crocheting Group

shares their talents to benefit local charities. They welcome volunteers of all skill levels on Tuesdays beginning at noon in the Juan Diego Outreach Center. Contact Bernice Romano at 239-601-5877 with questions.



DAILY PRAYER SCHEDULE

MONDAYS THROUGH THURSDAYS, AND SATURDAYS: 7:15 am-Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Cry Room, 7:30 am-Rosary in the main church.
FRIDAYS: 7:10 am-Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Cry Room, 7:25 am-Rosary in the main church, followed by the Miraculous Medal Novena. We invite you to join us in these wonderful prayers. Your presence and participation are greatly appreciated.



ST LEO'S RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Meetings are held in the Nest Café on the last Friday of each month at 9am. For questions contact Loretta at 917.886.7273 or Peggy at 239.293.3201.



Names remain on our prayer list for 30 days & troop list for 6 months. To add names or update information call the Parish Office at 992-0901 or email: ehernandez@stleocatholicchurch.org

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Landings for Returning Catholics	Parish Office.....992-0901
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Lector Coordinator for Weekdays	Dan Bardauskis.....992-0901
Mass in Polish Coordinator	Maryla Basara.....405-2151
Money Counters	Henry Soto.....992-0901
Perpetual Baby Shower	Patty Swanson.....713-876-5517
Prison Ministry	Robert Hiniker.....863-558-0407
Project Gabriel	Carol Dangler.....793-0826
Project Rachel	Sylvia Jimenez.....941-412-5860
Respect Life Ministry	Loretta Ede.....917-886-7273
Retrouvaille	Doug & Jeanne Lindberg.....800-470-2230
Order of Christian Initiation	Griselda Cisneros.....992-0901
Sacristan Ministry	Annette Smith.....948-1640
Sewing-Knitting-Crocheting	Bernice Romano.....601-5877
Sing a Long	Penny Kelly.....314-412-4022
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Farewell to our seasonal parishioners as you leave for the summer.

May you travel safely.

You can keep in touch with what is happening at the parish by going to our website at

www.stleocatholicchurch.org to view our bulletins.



Project Rachel Support After Abortion

Are you or someone you know struggling because of a past abortion? You are not alone! Know that healing retreats and support are available for anyone who has experienced an abortion, including mothers, fathers and other family members who have been hurt.

To learn more, call or text 941-412-5860 or email project.rachel@diocese, in either English or Spanish. All contacts are confidential.

St. Leo's Respect Life Ministry Listening to the Shepherd at Life's Most Tender Moments



In a world filled with many voices about suffering, control, and the value of life, the Church listens first for the voice of the Good Shepherd. It is a voice that does not abandon the sick or turn away from the dying, but draws near with quiet fidelity. In those who are frail, in those whose strength is fading, we are invited to recognize not a life diminished, but a life still known, still loved, still called by name. The measure of our compassion is not found in solving every difficulty, but in staying close, listening well, and honoring the dignity that never fades.

To care for the sick and the dying is to follow that voice in very concrete ways.

It is the presence at a bedside, the prayer offered when words are few, the steady refusal to treat any life as burdensome or forgotten. The world often speaks in terms of efficiency or control, but the Gospel speaks in terms of relationship and trust. And in that quiet faithfulness, even when little seems to change, something profound is revealed: no one is ever beyond the reach of Christ's care, and no moment of life is without meaning.



NOTAS EN ESPAÑOL

Gracias Señor POR SER MI PASTOR



Lo fundamental en este cuarto Domingo de Pascua es conocer la voz del Pastor y saber cómo se identifica Él: *“Yo soy la puerta; el que entre por mí estará a salvo; entrará y saldrá y encontrará alimento”* (Juan 10:9). Al entrar por su puerta lo encontraremos todo, y especialmente sabremos escucharlo. Santa Teresa de Ávila decía: *“Tratar de amistad, estando muchas veces tratando a solas con quien sabemos nos ama”* (Vida 8,5). Es ahí, en la oración diaria, donde descubrimos que a cada uno nos llama por nuestro nombre,

que no somos desconocidos para Él. En esos pastos del Reino de Dios tenemos un lugar asignado para trabajar los dones que Dios nos ha regalado.

En la experiencia de la vida hay muchos ladrones que roban la inocencia y descarrilan a muchas personas hacia el abismo. Solo el Buen Pastor, que es Jesús, nos ayuda a distinguir las puertas y las voces falsas que nos rodean. Las herramientas que nos ayudan a reconocer a Jesús son los Sacramentos y la práctica de los Mandamientos, como una forma de vivir la moral cristiana.

El papa Francisco, feliz memoria, decía: *“La voz de Dios y la del tentador, en definitiva, hablan en diferentes ambientes: el enemigo prefiere la oscuridad, la falsedad, el chismorreo; por el contrario, el Señor ama la luz del sol, la verdad, la transparencia sincera. El enemigo nos dirá: ‘Enciértrate en ti mismo, porque nadie te entiende ni te escucha; ¡no te fíes!’ El bien, contrariamente, nos invita a abrirnos, a ser claros y a confiar en Dios y en los demás”*. Pidamos al Señor la gracia de escuchar su voz.



Becas del Gremio de Damas de San Leo

Las becas del Gremio de Damas consisten en cuatro becas de \$4000 cada una, otorgadas a estudiantes de último año de secundaria u otras personas interesadas en continuar sus estudios en una universidad, colegio comunitario o escuela técnica o vocacional. Para ser elegibles para estas becas, los solicitantes deben haber sido miembros de la parroquia de San Leo durante al menos un año antes de presentar la solicitud. Los solicitantes también deben demostrar participación en las actividades de la parroquia de San Leo, en su escuela o en su comunidad local.

Las solicitudes se pueden obtener en la oficina parroquial o comunicándose con Clare Sasak a cesak27@aol.com o con Judie Dougherty a jmdougherty6229@gmail.com. Todas las solicitudes deben recibirse a más tardar el lunes 27 de abril.



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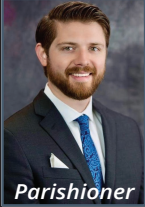
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