

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.*

August 16, 2026



Mary, Queen of Heaven/Master of the Saint Lucy Legend/1485/National Gallery of Art/Feast Day Aug 22

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. Juan Carlos Sack	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
Kevin Dearcia	Maintenance
Maria Fernandez	Religious Education Assistant
Daniel Gonzalez	Maintenance
Elsy Hernandez	Operations Supervisor
Marcin Malewski	Director of Music
Zofia Majewski	Musician/Administrative Support
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!

August 8 & 9
\$19,580

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.

EUCHARIST

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 from 2:00pm-3:00pm on Saturdays in English and 2pm on Sundays 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 - Reestablishing 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

FORMED



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 free account.

Next Weekend's Mass Schedule

Saturday, August 22

3:30 pm	Fr. Stan
5:30 pm	Fr. Stan

Sunday, August 23

7:30 am	Fr. Jack
9:30 am	Fr. Jack
11:30 am	Fr. Jarek
3:00 pm-Spanish	Fr. Juan Carlos
5:00 pm	Msgr. Cullen

Changes may occur without notice.

THANK YOU ST. LEO PARISHIONERS !!!



Thank you once again St. Leo Parishioners for another fantastic experience for our Catholic Charities Positive Youth Development Summer Camp which is held on our campus! This year 50 students and their 16 dedicated chaperones enjoyed a truly memorable day at Walt Disney World's Hollywood Studios. They tell us that their favorite attractions were Star Wars and Toy Story Land!! This is the 6th year that your generosity has helped make our amazing trip happen. The parish funded the cost of the admission tickets and food vouchers for the day. In addition, a very special thank you to our parishioners from the 20 most in-need campers who received full scholarships to attend the entire eight-week Summer Camp.



Our own dedicated parishioner, Phil Sohn, is shown here (to the right) enjoying his chaperone duties as he and a camper takes a spin on the Alien Swirling Saucers. It is no wonder that Phil, and his wife Roseann, were named the recipients of the 2026 Frank K. Galeana Humanitarian Award! We are so proud of you and grateful for your dedication to Catholic Charities on the St. Leo campus.



Daily Reflections

by Father Jacob

A Week of Persistent Faith, Open Hearts, and New Beginnings

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 - FAITH THAT REFUSES TO WALK AWAY

O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” (Matthew 15:28)

Some prayers seem to receive an answer almost immediately. Others appear to disappear into silence. We pray for healing, reconciliation, direction, or someone we love, and nothing seems to change. Those are difficult moments because silence can easily feel like absence. We begin wondering whether God heard us, whether we asked incorrectly, or whether perhaps we should simply stop asking. The Canaanite woman refuses to interpret silence as rejection. She keeps coming, keeps trusting, and finally reduces her entire prayer to three words: “Lord, help me.” She has no religious credentials and no sophisticated argument. She simply believes that somewhere in the heart of Jesus there is mercy enough for her daughter. Isaiah had already envisioned God’s house becoming “a house of prayer for all peoples,” and Paul reminds us that God’s deepest purpose is mercy. This woman discovers that the door of grace is wider than anyone imagined.

There are moments when mature faith is surprisingly uncomplicated. We do not need to understand everything. We simply need enough trust to remain at the door. Most of us can patiently refresh a phone waiting for an important message, yet after three minutes of prayer we wonder whether God has forgotten our address. The Canaanite woman teaches us another way: keep asking, keep trusting, keep showing up. Sometimes great faith is simply faith that refuses to leave.

Prayer: Lord, when Your silence confuses me, keep my heart from losing hope. Give me the humble persistence to keep seeking You and the confidence to believe that Your mercy is greater than I can see. Amen. **Readings:** Isaiah 56:1, 6–7; Psalm 67; Romans 11:13–15, 29–32; Matthew 15:21–28

MONDAY, AUGUST 17 - WHAT ARE YOU STILL HOLDING?

“Go, sell what you have and give to the poor... Then come, follow me.” (Matthew 19:21)

The rich young man is remarkably close to Jesus. He is sincere, morally serious, and genuinely searching. He has kept the commandments and still senses that something is missing. His question could belong to many good people: “What do I still lack?” Jesus sees beneath his respectable life to the one place where freedom has not yet reached. The problem is not simply that the young man owns possessions. The problem is that his possessions quietly own part of him. We all have something we instinctively protect. It may be money, comfort, reputation, control, resentment, success, a relationship, or the future we have carefully planned. We can surrender ninety-nine rooms of the heart to God while keeping one door locked and politely insisting that He has no reason to look inside. Yet Jesus loves us too much to settle for partial freedom. He points precisely toward whatever we believe we cannot live without and asks whether we trust Him even there.

The saddest sentence in the Gospel is not that the young man was sinful, but that “he went away sad.” He chooses what he possesses and discovers that it cannot make him happy. We often imagine surrender will diminish our lives, when the opposite is true. Christ does not ask us to loosen our grip because He wants us poorer. He asks because clenched hands cannot receive very much. Freedom begins when we finally trust that whatever we surrender to God is smaller than what we receive in Him.

Prayer: Lord, show me what I am holding too tightly. Give me courage to surrender whatever keeps me from following You freely, and teach me that my deepest treasure will always be found in You. Amen. **Readings:** Ezekiel 24:15–23; Deuteronomy 32:18–21; Matthew 19:16–22

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18 - YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE GOD

“For men this is impossible, but for God all things are possible.” (Matthew 19:26)

There is a peculiar exhaustion that comes from trying to control everything. We manage schedules, finances, relationships, reputations, health, plans, and problems as though the universe might stop functioning if we took an afternoon off. Success can make the illusion even stronger. Ezekiel describes the prince of Tyre becoming so impressed with his intelligence, wealth, and accomplishments that he begins thinking of himself as a god. Scripture responds with wonderfully uncomplicated theology: “You are a man, and not a god.”

That sounds severe until we realize how liberating it is. We are not responsible for

controlling every outcome, solving every problem, fixing every person, or understanding every mystery. Jesus tells His astonished disciples that salvation itself is beyond human accomplishment. “For men this is impossible.” Christianity begins where self-sufficiency ends. Grace is not God helping exceptionally capable people finish what they almost managed by themselves. Grace is God doing within us what we could never accomplish alone.

Perhaps one of the healthiest prayers we can offer is simply, “Lord, this is bigger than me.” That sentence is not defeat. It is humility, and humility creates room for God. We can make wise decisions, work diligently, apologize sincerely, and love faithfully, but eventually we reach the edge of our abilities. That is not necessarily where hope ends. Very often it is where faith finally begins. We were never asked to be God. Fortunately, the position is already filled.

Prayer: Lord, free me from the exhausting illusion that everything depends upon me. Help me do faithfully what is mine to do, surrender what is beyond me, and trust that nothing is impossible for You. Amen. **Readings:** Ezekiel 28:1–10; Deuteronomy 32:26–28, 30, 35–36; Matthew 19:23–30

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19 - GRACE DOES NOT KEEP SCORE

“Are you envious because I am generous?” (Matthew 20:15)

Few things awaken our sense of injustice faster than watching someone receive what we think they have not earned. The workers who spent the entire day in the vineyard are perfectly content with their wages until they discover that those who arrived at five o’clock received exactly the same amount. Suddenly what seemed generous five minutes earlier feels unfair. Comparison has an extraordinary ability to turn gratitude into resentment.

Jesus is not teaching economics. He is revealing the strange mathematics of grace. God does not love us according to seniority, productivity, reputation, or the number of years we have behaved ourselves. Some people find Him early. Others arrive after decades of wandering. Some have served faithfully since childhood; others stumble through the vineyard gate near sunset. Grace does not ask how impressive our résumé is. It rejoices that another person has finally come home. We waste enormous amounts of peace measuring our lives against other people’s blessings. Comparison quietly turns another person’s blessing into evidence that God has neglected us. But an open heart does something different: it rejoices when grace surprises someone else instead of auditing whether God has been fair enough to us. Heaven will not be filled with people checking whether someone else deserved to get in. It will be filled with people astonished by mercy and grateful that God’s generosity was never limited by our calculations.

Prayer: Lord, free me from comparing my life with others. Give me an open heart that rejoices in the blessings You give them, recognizes the grace already surrounding me, and becomes generous because You have been so generous with me. Amen. **Readings:** Ezekiel 34:1–11; Psalm 23; Matthew 20:1–16

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20 - GOD CAN GIVE YOU A NEW HEART

“I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you.” (Ezekiel 36:26)

Life can harden a heart almost without our noticing. A disappointment becomes caution. Betrayal becomes suspicion. Repeated frustration becomes cynicism. Grief becomes distance. Eventually we may call it wisdom when sometimes it is simply scar tissue. We learn not to expect too much, trust too quickly, forgive too easily, or hope too boldly because experience has taught us how painful disappointment can be.

God promises something deeper than better behavior: “I will give you a new heart.” He does not merely polish the old one or tell us to try harder. He offers renewal from within. The Gospel describes a banquet prepared and waiting while invited guests remain preoccupied with farms, businesses, and ordinary concerns. The tragedy is not that there is no feast. The tragedy is that people can become so absorbed in smaller things that they miss the joy already prepared for them. Saint Bernard understood that the deepest Christian life begins with desire for God. Perhaps today we should ask not only whether we are doing the right things, but whether our hearts are still alive. Can we still be moved by beauty, mercy, another person’s suffering, an unexpected kindness, the Eucharist, or the quiet presence of God? A hardened heart protects us from certain wounds, but it also protects us from joy. God does not simply want better Christians. He wants hearts capable of loving again.

Prayer: Lord, soften whatever has become hardened within me. Cleanse what needs healing, renew what has grown tired, and give me a heart capable of receiving Your love and sharing it freely. Amen. **Readings:** Ezekiel 36:23–28; Psalm 51; Matthew 22:1–14

Daily Reflections

by Father Jarch

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21 - WHEN HOPE FEELS DRY

"Our bones are dried up, our hope is lost." (Ezekiel 37:11)

Sometimes life does not merely feel difficult. It feels finished. A marriage seems beyond repair. A dream disappears. Someone we love dies. A prayer has gone unanswered for years. We look across some part of our life and see what Ezekiel saw: dry bones scattered everywhere, reminders of something that once had life but seems impossible to restore.

Then God asks Ezekiel an extraordinary question: "Can these bones come to life?" Ezekiel wisely avoids pretending to know. "Lord God, you alone know that." Sometimes that is enough faith for one day. We do not have to manufacture optimism or pretend everything will work out exactly as we wish. Faith can simply say, "Lord, I cannot see a way forward, but You see what I cannot." God then breathes His Spirit across the valley, and what appeared hopeless begins to live again.

Jesus gives the same mystery its simplest form: love God and love your neighbor. When life becomes complicated, love becomes our compass. We may not know how the whole story will end, but we can still make the next faithful choice. Call someone. Forgive someone. Pray again. Show kindness. Begin again. God has always specialized in places human beings pronounce finished. Never confuse a valley of dry bones with the final chapter.

Prayer: Lord, breathe Your Spirit into the places within me where hope has grown tired. When I cannot see what You are doing, help me trust that You can bring life even from what seems beyond restoration. Amen. **Readings:** Ezekiel 37:1–14; Psalm 107; Matthew 22:34–40

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22 - GREATNESS DOES NOT NEED APPLAUSE

"The greatest among you must be your servant." (Matthew 23:11)

Human beings have always been fascinated by recognition. We enjoy titles, compliments, good seats, invitations, and the reassuring feeling that someone

important knows our name. The Pharisees in today's Gospel are not condemned for being religious but for turning religion into performance. Their outward devotion gradually becomes a stage upon which they can appear more important than everyone else.

Jesus proposes a completely different understanding of greatness: "The greatest among you must be your servant." Mary, whose Queenship the Church celebrates today, embodies exactly that paradox. Her greatness never comes from demanding attention. She receives everything as gift and continually directs attention toward God. The woman called Queen of Heaven first described herself simply as the servant of the Lord. In God's Kingdom, humility is not thinking poorly of ourselves. It is becoming free enough that we no longer need every room to revolve around us.

That freedom is worth seeking because constantly managing our importance is exhausting. We do not need to win every argument, receive every compliment, have the final word, or make sure everyone recognizes what we contributed. Some of the holiest things we will ever do may never be noticed: listening patiently, forgiving quietly, helping anonymously, praying faithfully, carrying another person's burden. Heaven measures greatness differently. The world asks, "How many people noticed you?" Jesus asks, "How many people were loved because you were there?"

Prayer: Lord, give me the humility of Mary and the heart of a servant. Free me from needing recognition, and teach me to find greatness in loving faithfully, serving quietly, and pointing others toward You. Amen. **Readings:** Ezekiel 43:1–7; Psalm 85; Matthew 23:1–12

Visit CatholicJourneyToday.com and continue growing in faith—one reflection at a time.



Bishop Emilio to Visit St. Leo

We are delighted to welcome Bishop Emilio Biosca Agüero to St. Leo the Great on Friday, August 28, as part of his pastoral visits to the parishes of our Diocese. During his visit, Bishop Emilio will spend time with the priests and parish staff as he becomes better acquainted with the life and ministries of our parish.

Before traveling to his next parish, Bishop Emilio has graciously agreed to spend some time with our parishioners. You are warmly invited to stop by the Nest Café between 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. to enjoy a cup of coffee, greet our new bishop, and personally welcome him to St. Leo. We hope you will join us for this informal opportunity to meet Bishop Emilio.

GOD HAS NOT FINISHED WITH THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE

by Father Jarek

There is a particular kind of heartache many parents and grandparents understand. You raised your children in the faith. You brought them to Mass, taught them their prayers, celebrated First Communion and Confirmation, and tried, imperfectly but sincerely, to give them something that would remain when you could no longer protect them from life.

Then they grew up. Some still practice their faith. Others drifted away. Some married someone who does not believe. Some grandchildren have hardly been inside a church. Parents eventually discover one of life's most difficult lessons: there comes a point when you can no longer steer the lives of your children. You can advise them, encourage them, love them, and occasionally send them an article they did not request. But you cannot manufacture faith.

SHE CAME FOR HER DAUGHTER

That is why the Canaanite woman in Sunday's Gospel feels so familiar. She comes to Jesus carrying a mother's helplessness: "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." Notice that she does not say, "Have pity on my daughter." She says, "Have pity on me." Anyone who has deeply loved a child understands why.

When someone you love suffers, part of you suffers with them. Their pain somehow moves into your heart and begins living there. Then something difficult happens: Jesus is silent. For anyone who has prayed for years for a child, spouse, grandchild, or friend, those words may be among the most relatable in the Gospel: "Jesus did not say a word in answer to her." Still, she remains. Finally she kneels before Jesus and reduces everything in her heart to three words: "Lord, help me."

WHEN YOU CANNOT CHANGE THEM

Many faithful people eventually arrive at exactly that prayer. Lord, help my son. Lord, help my daughter. Lord, watch over my grandchildren. Lord, bring them home. Sometimes we imagine that if we could only find the perfect argument, recommend the right book, forward one more Catholic article, or strategically mention Mass for the forty-seventh time, everything would change.

Usually it does not. Faith cannot be forced into another person's heart. In fact, excessive pressure can sometimes push someone farther away. There comes a moment when love must learn the difference between caring and controlling. You can keep the door open, answer questions without lecturing, and live your faith joyfully rather than anxiously. Above all, you can continue doing what the Canaanite woman did: keep bringing someone you love to Jesus.

GOD REMEMBERS HIS CHILDREN

Saint Paul gives us one of the most hopeful sentences in Scripture: “The gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.” God does not casually discard people. We often look at someone’s present life and assume we know where the story is going. God sees chapters that have not yet been written.

Someone may appear completely indifferent to faith today and encounter God ten years from now through suffering, love, parenthood, beauty, illness, forgiveness, or some quiet moment nobody could have predicted. Grace has many entrances. Isaiah dreams of God’s house becoming “a house of prayer for all peoples.” Psalm 67 imagines every nation praising God. Again and again Scripture tells the same story: God’s mercy travels farther than we expect.

LOVE THEM TOWARD GOD

Perhaps this becomes especially important as we grow older. We begin realizing that there are fewer things we can control than we once imagined. We cannot arrange everyone’s future, protect our families from every mistake, or guarantee that the people we love will believe what we believe. But we can make sure they never have to wonder whether they are loved.

Sometimes the most convincing argument for Christianity is an older person whose years with Christ have made them kinder, calmer, more forgiving, less judgmental, and more hopeful. Let your children and grandchildren see what decades with Christ have done to your heart. That witness may accomplish more than another argument ever could. Love them toward God, and then trust God with the distance you cannot travel for them.

The Canaanite woman eventually hears words worth waiting for: “O woman, great is your faith!” Her daughter is healed. Not every prayer will be answered in the way or on the timetable we desire, and Christianity never promises otherwise. But this Gospel tells us something worth remembering whenever we are tempted to despair about someone we love: never mistake God’s silence for God’s absence, and never mistake someone’s wandering for the end of their story.

Keep loving. Keep hoping. Keep praying. You do not know what God may still be doing in a heart you cannot reach. Perhaps one day heaven will reveal that some people finally found their way home because, somewhere along the road, someone who loved them refused to stop whispering their name to God.

PRAYER

Lord, I place into Your hands the people I love but cannot change.
Go where I cannot go, speak where my words cannot reach,
and work quietly in hearts I cannot see.

Give me wisdom to love without controlling, patience to hope without demanding,
and faith to keep praying when You seem silent.

When I am tempted to give up, remind me that no story is finished
while it remains in Your hands. Amen.

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!

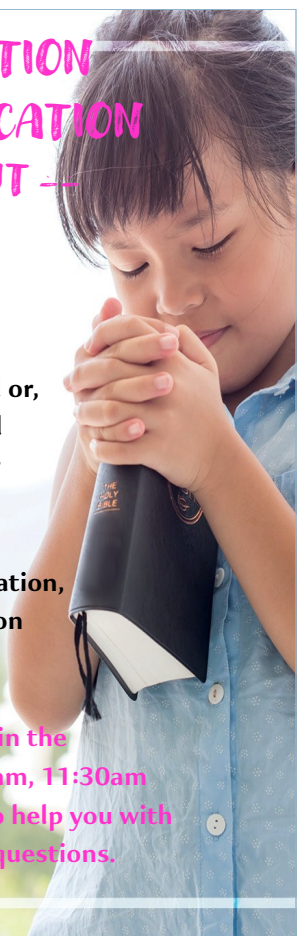
GENERAL REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES IS CLOSED BUT --

Registration is still open if:

- You moved into the parish over the summer or,
- Your child is between the ages of 7-17 and needs to be Baptized or,
- Your child will be in High School and is in need of Confirmation or First Communion.

If you missed the general registration, please call the Religious Education Office at 992-0901.

Religious Education staff will be in the Narthex of the church after 9:30am, 11:30am and 3pm Masses this weekend to help you with registration and to answer your questions.



OCIA Registration

©LPI

Adults desiring to partake in the journey into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church are invited to take the all-important next step: Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). In addition to learning about Catholic beliefs and prayers, the OCIA focuses on faith development, maturing one's relationship with God, and building and nourishing relationships among the participants and the parish community. It was developed in the first and second centuries of the Church for those seeking Jesus Christ. For more information or to register please contact the Parish Office at 992-0901. You may read more about OCIA on our website at <https://www.stleocatholicchurch.org/rcia>

PRISON MINISTRY

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 863-558-0407
to learn where
you can fit into this joyful opportunity.

Prayer For Safety In Hurricane Season

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude. You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from tragedies like those whose memories are still vivid.

O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we may walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.



NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
MONDAY	AUGUST 17	
8:00 am	+Ted Korkosz	His Loving Wife Diane & Children
TUESDAY	AUGUST 18	
8:00 am	+Sebastian & Anthony Calendo	The Tornincaso Family
WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 19	
8:00 am	+Ron Johansson	His Loving Wife, Mary
THURSDAY	AUGUST 20	
8:00 am	+Susan Wolven	Her Loving Family
FRIDAY	AUGUST 21	
8:00 am	+Joseph & +Michael Sr. Graziano	His Loving Wife & Family
SATURDAY	AUGUST 22	
8:00 am	+John Mac Donald	Frank & Pat Valva
3:30 pm	Michael J. Batza Jr.	Carmen DeMarras
5:30 pm	The Parishioners of St. Leo	Frank & Pat Valva
SUNDAY	AUGUST 23	
7:30 am	+William Graham	His Loving Family
9:30 am	+Daniel Cuenya	Lizabeth Cuenya
11:30 am	+ Paul J. Morgante, Sr.	Albert & Diane Brunett
1:30 pm - Polish	Special Cumulative Intentions	
3:00 pm - Spanish	Special Cumulative Intentions	
5:00 pm	+Sharon Valus	The St. Leo Ladies Guild



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
Aaron Gaudet
Thomas Geanuracos
Carlos Gonzales
Lt. Andrew D. Holt
Brian Howlett
Sgt. Ryan McCabe
Lt. Com. Matthew Kleine
Lt. Wm. Reed Leesman

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

We pray today for...

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Linda Bardol
Gary Beckes
Jeffrey Bogart
Lorraine Bracy
Bob Brock
Hildi Brown
Larry Brown
Denise Buk
Isabelle Marie Caiola
Patrick Cain
Peter Castro
Michelle Chiarulli
Scott Cochell
Lourdes Coll
Greg Daeger
Jeff Davis
Tara DeRoma
Robby Dirks
Jaden Anthony Droz
Jim Esposito
Brad Fairfield
Rudolph & Mary Fazio
Michael Federico
Brynn Forlizzi
Cory Fredericksen
Gisette Lupita Garcia
Ellie Gaspar
Paul Gaspar
Vincent Gil
Kevin Glowacki
Ben Gondersone
Rich Gonzalez
Karen Grimshaw
Luke Hass
Chie Herron
Robbin Holcomb
Mathew Hughes
Kendall Hunter

Nolan Kane
Mary Kobel
Robert Kochalka
Jeff Lally
Karen Lamont
Joanne Laurenzana
Emily Lienesch
Mark Lips
Debra Marcondes
Mary Mavilla
Tim McAuliff
Beverly McDowell
Barbara Moloney
Audrey Grace Neeley
Glenn Nelson
Rita Off
Mary Pearce
Beverly Pecor
Michelle Pennell
Connie Phillips
Aiden Putnam
Mary Ritt
Jack Rubush
Tessa Santagate
Cindy Santiago
Gary Schomaker
Louis Simonini
Michael Anthony Sforza
Charlie Sweeney Jr.
Bonnie Tenhaken
Eleanor Trevison
Debra Vannotti
Justin VanNorstrand
Jane Venuti-Tontodonato
Tim Young
William Welch
Shelly Yuhass Lowry
Ray Zonghetti
Fabiala, Krislin, Michael,
Michael R., Tray. Present &
past parish priests.

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

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.

Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 2-3pm in church.

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 & 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 -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 all to join in these wonderful prayers.

ST LEO'S RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

The monthly meetings which are held in the Nest Café on the last Friday of each month at 9am will break for the summer and **resume on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th.** For questions contact Loretta at 917.886.7273 or Peggy at 239.293.3201.



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Youth Ministry	Gisela Meraz..... 992-0901

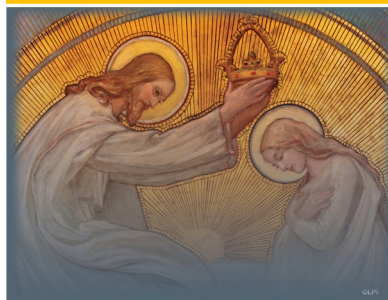
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Father Tim
 has asked for your
 prayers as he recovers
 from his recent knee
 replacement surgery.



**Queenship
 Of Mary**

All young people of the parish are invited to participate in our special dance presentation to take place at the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th. As we celebrate our love, faith and devotion to our Blessed Mother, we have a wonderful opportunity to offer our talents through dance. Whether you have dance experience or simply a desire to participate, we encourage you to join us. Rehearsals take place on Mondays from 7-9pm in the parking lot of the Juan Diego building. For information contact Tony Garcia at 239-908-1173.



**Join Our
 Faith Formation Team!**

Are you passionate about our Faith? Are you willing to share a few hours of your time to help educate our St. Leo's students? We are looking for committed parishioners to join our Religious Education team as catechists or catechist assistants on Wednesday evenings or Sunday afternoons for the upcoming school year. We provide curriculum, training, and support to ensure you succeed in this rewarding ministry. To learn more or to sign up, please contact Gisela Meraz or Maria Fernandez at 239-992-0901. Make a difference in the faith journey of our youth by becoming part of this important ministry!

NOTAS EN ESPAÑOL



El obispo Emilio visitará St. Leo

Nos complace dar la bienvenida al obispo Emilio Biosca Agüero a la parroquia de San Leo este próximo viernes 28 de agosto, como parte de sus visitas pastorales a las parroquias de nuestra diócesis. Durante su visita, el obispo Emilio compartirá tiempo con los sacerdotes y el personal parroquial mientras conoce más a fondo la vida y los ministerios de nuestra comunidad.

Antes de dirigirse a su siguiente parroquia, el obispo Emilio ha aceptado amablemente dedicar un tiempo a nuestros feligreses. Les invitamos cordialmente a pasar por el Nest Café de 1:30 a 2:30 pm para disfrutar de una taza de café, saludar a nuestro nuevo obispo y darle la bienvenida personalmente a San León. Esperamos que nos acompañen en esta oportunidad informal para conocer al obispo Emilio.

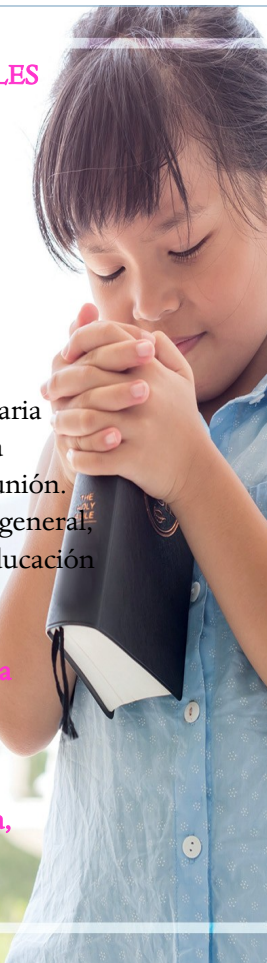
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 - Su hijo tiene entre 7 y 17 años y necesita recibir el Bautismo o,
 - Su hijo cursará la escuela secundaria (High School) y necesita recibir la Confirmación o la Primera Comunión.
- Si no pudo realizar la inscripción general, por favor llame a la Oficina de Educación Religiosa al 992-0901.

El personal de Educación Religiosa estará en el vestíbulo (nártex) de la iglesia después de las misas de las 9:30 am, 11:30 am y 3 pm, a partir del próximo fin de semana, para ayudarle con la inscripción y responder a sus preguntas.



Se invita a todos los jóvenes de la parroquia a participar en nuestra presentación especial de danza, que tendrá lugar durante la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el 12 de diciembre. Al celebrar nuestro amor, fe y devoción a nuestra Santísima Madre, tenemos una oportunidad maravillosa de ofrecer nuestros talentos a través de la danza. Ya sea que tenga experiencia en baile o simplemente el deseo de participar, le animamos a unirse a nosotros. Los ensayos se llevan a cabo los lunes, de 7 pm a 9 pm, en el estacionamiento del edificio Juan Diego. Para más información, comuníquese con Tony García al 239-908-1173.



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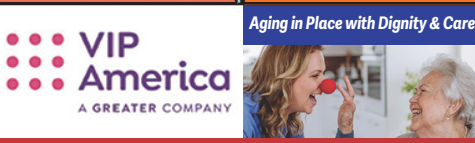
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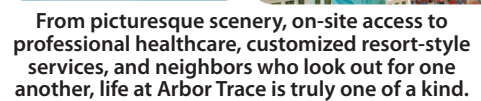
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