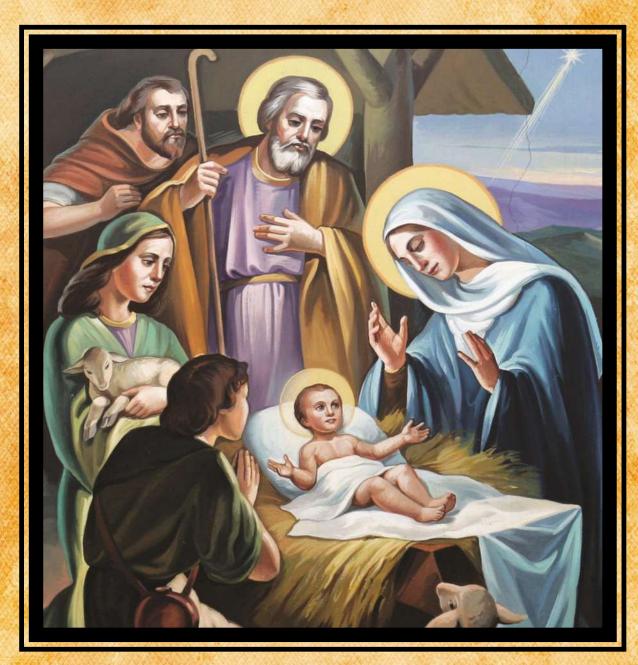


We are a welcoming Catholic Community called by God to live out the message of Christ in love and service to all people.

December 21, 2025



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 2-3PM
SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES: 330 & 530 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. Mr. Joel Livingston Deacon

 Juliana Alfano
 Musician

 Nelson Alfaro
 Maintenance

 Dan Bardauskis
 Liturgy Assistant

 Anne Bellows
 Communications Coordinator

 Hermilo Calderon
 Lead Maintenance

 Griselda Cisneros
 Receptionist

 Maria Fernandez
 Religious Education Assistant

 Daniel Gonzalez
 Maintenance

Daniel Gonzalez Maintenance
Elsy Hernandez Operations Supervisor
Marcin Malewski Director of Music
Martha Mercado Maintenance

Gisela Meraz Religious Education Coordinator
Henry Soto Business Manager

Parish Church Support

Thank you for your continued generosity!

December 6 & 7 \$40,272

Immaculate Conception \$5,647

Due to the printer's holiday schedule this bulletin was submitted before the most recent collections were tabulated.

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 at 2pm on Saturday in English 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 all nent eagain, 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 maritage 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



AGES 5-10 AT SUNDAY 9:30AM MASSES

Don't miss out! No sign up necessary!

Father will dismiss the children after the opening prayer to enjoy Jesus' Story Time in the chapel, and they will return to their families after the Intercessions.

Next Weekend's Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 27

3:30 pm Fr. Jarek 5:30 pm Fr. Jarek

Sunday, December 28

7:30 am Fr. Jack
9:30 am Fr. Jack
11:30 am Fr. Stan
3:00 pm-Spanish Fr. Juan Carlos
5:00 pm Fr. Tim

Wednesday, December 31 - Eve of Solemnity of Mary

5:00 pm Fr. Tim

Thursday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary

8:00 am Fr. Stan 12:00 noon Fr. Jarek 3:00 pm-Spanish Fr. Juan Carlos

Changes may occur without notice.





Sunday, December 21 Fourth Sunday of Advent When God Steps Into a Complicated Story "Do not be afraid to take Mary into your home." (Matthew 1:20)

Joseph begins today thinking his life has fallen apart. Nothing in his plan included angels, unexpected pregnancies, or dreams that arrive before coffee. Yet the moment he most feared becomes the doorway through which God steps into the world. The sign Ahaz refuses is the sign Joseph receives, a child named Emmanuel, which means God is with us. Not God is with us when everything makes sense. Not God is with us when we feel bold and spiritually impressive. Simply God is with us.

This is the quiet comfort of Advent. God does not wait for our lives to match careful plans before arriving. He comes into real human households, which often include messy conversations, half finished projects, and the good intention of cleaning out the closet someday. Joseph learns that trust does not require a perfect plan. It asks only for enough courage to say yes to the God who already knows the way forward.

Once Joseph makes room, grace enters, and the whole story changes. The same can happen for us. Our questions may not disappear, but they stop being the loudest voice in the room. God does not promise that life will unfold according to our script. He promises instead that He will be with us in every scene.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me welcome you into the parts of my life that feel uncertain or confusing. Teach me to trust you the way Joseph did, with a heart willing to receive what I do not yet fully understand. Amen. Isaiah 7:10 to 14, Psalm 24, Romans 1:1 to 7, Matthew 1:18 to 24

Monday, December 22
Fourth Week of Advent
When Gratitude Turns Into Surrender
"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord." (Luke 1:46)

Mary's Magnificat is so joyful that we sometimes imagine her singing it while floating slightly above the ground like a holy musical number. The truth is more down to earth. Mary sings while standing in someone else's home, away from Joseph, carrying a mystery she did not ask for, unsure how her village will react, and probably wondering if she packed enough for a three month stay. Yet gratitude pours from her because she knows that the deepest joy does not come from ideal circumstances but from trusting the God who remembers every promise He ever made.

Hannah gives her child to the Lord in today's first reading with the same courage. She lets go of what she long prayed for because she knows gifts do not shrink when placed in God's hands. They expand. Advent invites us into that kind of trust. There are blessings we hold too tightly, worries we clutch like carry on bags we are sure will be lost. We think that if we loosen our grip for a moment everything will fall apart.

But both Mary and Hannah show us that surrender is not losing something. It is making room for the God who delights in filling empty arms and empty hearts with grace. When we hand back to Him what we cherish most, it does not disappear. It is held more securely than before, in hands that will never grow tired.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, teach me the freedom of holy surrender. Help me let go of what I cling to so that your joy can rise in me the way it rose in Mary. Amen. 1 Samuel 1:24 to 28, 1 Samuel 2, Luke 1:46 to 56

Tuesday, December 23
Fourth Week of Advent

When God Prepares Us for What We Cannot Yet See "Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near." (Psalm 25)

Malachi speaks today of a refining fire, which is a lovely image until we remember that refined things do not get a vote in the process. Silver does not say, Perhaps a cooler temperature today. It simply yields to the fire that purifies it. Advent can feel similar. We wonder why certain situations still challenge us or why patience refuses to grow as fast as our frustration. Yet God is working beneath the surface, preparing us for graces we cannot yet imagine.

Elizabeth and Zechariah discover that when their long awaited son arrives with a name no one in the neighborhood approves of. The relatives gather with opinions and raised eyebrows, which shows that ancient Judea and modern family holidays have more in common than we admit. But God is doing something new, and new things often confuse the crowd before they bless the world. The neighbors want a familiar name. God wants a child who will point to unfamiliar grace.

Zechariah's tongue is freed only after he agrees with God's plan. Perhaps that is a gentle lesson for us. Clarity sometimes comes not before trust but because of it. When we lift our heads from our worries and say yes, even with trembling voices, we often find that redemption was closer than we thought.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, when your work in my life feels like a refiner's fire, help me trust that you are shaping me for something good. Lift my head to see the nearness of your redemption. Amen. Malachi 3:1 to 4, 23 to 24, Psalm 25, Luke 1:57 to 66

Wednesday, December 24 Mass in the Morning

When God Builds the House We Could Not Build "In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us." (Luke 1:78)

David looks at his cedar palace and decides that God deserves better. It is a noble impulse and also slightly humorous, because God immediately reminds him that the Creator of the universe does not need interior upgrades from a former shepherd. God is not waiting for David's architectural plans. God is building something far better, a house that will last forever and a kingdom that no earthly power can topple.

We often share David's instinct. We want to build something impressive for God, a neat spiritual home with everything arranged just right. Then life intervenes with a few cracked windows, a leaky roof, and an unexpected visit from the family member who says, You know, this room would really pop with a different color. But God is not nervous about our unfinished places. The Benedictus in today's Gospel promises a dawn that rises not on perfect households but on people who have been sitting in shadows.

God meets us there, not to scold our crooked efforts, but to lead us into peace. Advent morning reminds us that the greatest work in our life is not what we build for God. It is what God builds in us. The light that breaks upon us is not a spotlight on our achievements. It is a sunrise on our need.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, shine your dawn on the places in me that feel unfinished or shadowed. Build in me a home for your peace, and guide my feet into your light. Amen. 2 Samuel 7:1 to 5, 8 to 12, 14, 16, Psalm 89, Luke 1:67 to 79

Thursday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

When Light Finally Answers the Long Night "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5)

Christmas arrives not with subtlety but with cosmic brilliance. Isaiah announces glad tidings on the mountains. Trumpets sound in the psalm. Heaven itself seems to take a deep breath as the Word becomes flesh. Yet somehow Christmas remains deeply personal. The eternal God chooses to make His dwelling not in marble temples but in a cradle that probably needed a good cleaning. The stable is a gentle reminder that God's glory can handle the smell of real life.

We sometimes treat our hearts like rooms that must be tidied before God will enter, but the Child arrives anyway, undeterred by our clutter. Hebrews tells us that God once spoke in partial ways but now speaks through the Son, which is the polite biblical way of saying that God has decided to speak plainly. Love has become visible. Mercy has taken on skin. Hope has a heartbeat. The light does not wait for the darkness to behave. It simply shines.

The darkness, no matter how loudly it boasts, cannot win against a Child who enters the world with the quiet confidence of divine love. The invitation today is simple. Let the light that came for the whole earth come also for you. It does not need your perfection. It needs only the open door of your consent.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, dwell in the places of my heart that feel dim or weary. Let your light fill what I cannot fix and brighten what I cannot see. Amen. Isaiah 52:7 to 10, Psalm 98, Hebrews 1:1 to 6, John 1:1 to 18

Friday, December 26

Saint Stephen, First Martyr

When Courage Learns to Sing in Hard Places "Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit." (Psalm 31)

The day after Christmas seems like an odd time for martyrdom. We go from angels and swaddling clothes to stones and persecution with no gentle transition. Yet Stephen shows us that Christmas joy cannot be kept under glass. It must enter real life, which includes places where goodness is misunderstood and truth is unwelcome. The Child in the manger has come for this world, not an easier one.

Stephen speaks with wisdom his opponents cannot match, which is both inspiring and slightly comforting for anyone who has ever been outnumbered at a holiday table. His eyes stay fixed on heaven even as the stones rise, because he knows the Child who entered the world yesterday has already conquered the darkness today. Jesus warns that disciples will be handed over, but he also promises that the Spirit will speak through them.

Courage does not come from never feeling fear. It comes from trusting that love is stronger than anything that threatens it. Stephen dies with the same words Jesus spoke from the cross, which tells us his life was shaped by the One he followed. The world may not understand that kind of faith, but heaven recognizes a familiar voice.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, give me the courage to witness to your love with quiet strength. Fill my heart with trust when faith feels costly, and keep my eyes fixed on you. Amen. Acts 6:8 to 10; 7:54 to 59, Psalm 31, Matthew 10:17 to 22

Saturday, December 27
Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
When Love Runs Faster Than Fear
"We have seen it and testify to it." (1 John 1:2)

John writes today with the voice of someone still amazed that God chose to become touchable. He speaks of hearing, seeing, and even touching the Word of life. This is not abstract theology. It is the memory of a man who leaned against the heart of Christ at supper and saw that same heart pierced on Calvary. For John, faith is not an idea. It is a friendship.

John runs to the tomb on Easter morning with the urgency of someone who refuses to let fear outrun hope. He arrives first but waits for Peter, an act of generosity that gives all excitable disciples a patron saint. When he steps inside, he sees the rolled cloths and believes. He does not have every answer. He has enough to trust

John reminds us that faith is not a puzzle we solve but a love we encounter. It grows when we run toward the places where Christ might be waiting. It deepens when we stand beside others who arrive slower or faster than we do. And it becomes complete when we share what we have seen of God's tenderness, so that joy can multiply.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me run toward your light with the same eagerness as John. Let my faith grow from real encounters with your love and make my joy complete in you. Amen. 1 John 1:1 to 4, Psalm 97, John 20:1 to 8

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

THE WORLD THAT GOD COULD NOT STOP LOVING

By Father Jarek

A Christmas Meditation on Hope, Light, and the God Who Draws Near

Christmas always begins in the dark. Not just the pleasant December kind with twinkling lights and hot cocoa, but the real darkness we carry inside: the worries that wake us far too early, the strained conversations that still echo, the losses that silence us, and the disappointments we do not post about on social media. Scripture understands that darkness far better than we do. It starts there intentionally, because God often begins His greatest work where we least expect Him.

At the Vigil Mass, the prophet Isaiah rises and declares that God is not finished with His people. "For Zion's sake I will not be silent," he cries. It is the biblical equivalent of a parent saying, "I am not leaving until this child is safe." Isaiah insists that God delights in us with a love so fierce and tender that He gives us a new name. Not Forsaken. Not Desolate. But My Delight. In a world that measures our worth by productivity, profile, or how many Christmas cookies survived the baking sheet, this is astonishing news. God sees everything about us, the glory and the chaos, and still whispers, "Mine."

Then Matthew hands us a genealogy, and suddenly the story becomes even more surprising. It reads like the family history you might try to summarize very carefully at Christmas dinner: saints, sinners, miracles, complicated relationships, unexpected detours, and at least one person everyone would prefer not to mention. Tamar, Rahab, and Ruth, women whose stories are tangled and bold, stand right beside patriarchs and kings. Matthew seems to say, "Look at this family. God came through them. He can certainly work through you."

And then there is Joseph, offering a masterclass in quiet courage. He wants to do the right thing, stumbles through uncertainty, and is met by an angel who speaks the only sentence God seems to use whenever He begins something new: "Do not be afraid." Joseph takes Mary into his home and names the child Jesus, which means "God saves." Not "God evaluates," or "God is disappointed," or "God is waiting for you to improve." God saves. Joseph's hesitant, humble yes becomes the doorway through which heaven walks into earth.

By the time we arrive at the Mass during the Night, the world is ready for light. Isaiah promises that a people walking in darkness will see something so bright that they will not be able to explain it, only rejoice in it. And sure enough, the first ones to witness this light are not the powerful or polished but shepherds. Shepherds who were not exactly the ones you would invite to a midnight press conference. God chooses them not because they are impressive but because they are awake. Sometimes that alone is enough.

The angels announce a message so beautiful that the world has been trying to believe it ever since: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy." Fear always wants the final word. It whispers that nothing will change, that we are stuck, that hope is naive. But joy sidesteps fear entirely and slips into our world wrapped in swaddling clothes. Joy comes gently, without fanfare, lying in a manger that still smells like the animals who were there first. God arrives undercover as a child so that no one is afraid to come close.

Then comes Dawn. Light begins to stretch across the horizon, and Isaiah announces the truth once again: "Your Savior comes." The shepherds do what every person of faith eventually must do. They stop staring at the sky, pick up their feet, and move. They do not understand everything. They go anyway. They hurry to Bethlehem, find Jesus exactly as heaven promised, and then do what Christians have done ever since: they tell the story. Luke says Mary kept these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Mary does not analyze or explain. She holds the mystery the way a mother holds a sleeping child, quietly, reverently, with love.

Finally comes Christmas Day, when John unveils the fullness of the mystery. The child in the manger is the Word through whom all things were made. The One who scattered stars across the galaxies now lies beneath them, small enough to be held. "The light shines in the darkness," John writes, "and the darkness has not overcome it." It has tried. It continues to try. But it cannot.

This is the heart of Christmas. God is not watching from a safe distance. He is not waiting for us to prove something. He has stepped inside our world, our families, our stories, our mistakes, and our hopes. "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." He pitched His tent beside ours. God came not only to brighten our world but to belong to it.

No matter which Mass we attend, Christmas proclaims the same truth. God has come because He cannot bear the thought of a world without us. He has come to reclaim what fear has stolen, to mend what sorrow has bruised, to speak light into places we believed were permanently dim. He has come so that each of us might hear the most astonishing sentence ever spoken: You are not forsaken. You are God's delight.

And that is why, despite everything, we still sing. Because in the quiet light of Bethlehem, love has come and refuses to leave.

A Christmas Prayer

Lord Jesus, born in the silent beauty of Bethlehem,
enter the places in our lives that feel cold or uncertain.
Speak peace into our worry. Send light into our shadows.

Let Your love take flesh in us so that someone else may glimpse the hope You bring.
Stay with us, guide us, and let this Christmas be the beginning of new grace. Amen.

Christmas Wishes

To all who chose to be with us today, thank you.

Your presence is a gift, a reminder that faith is strongest when shared and joy is brightest when celebrated together.

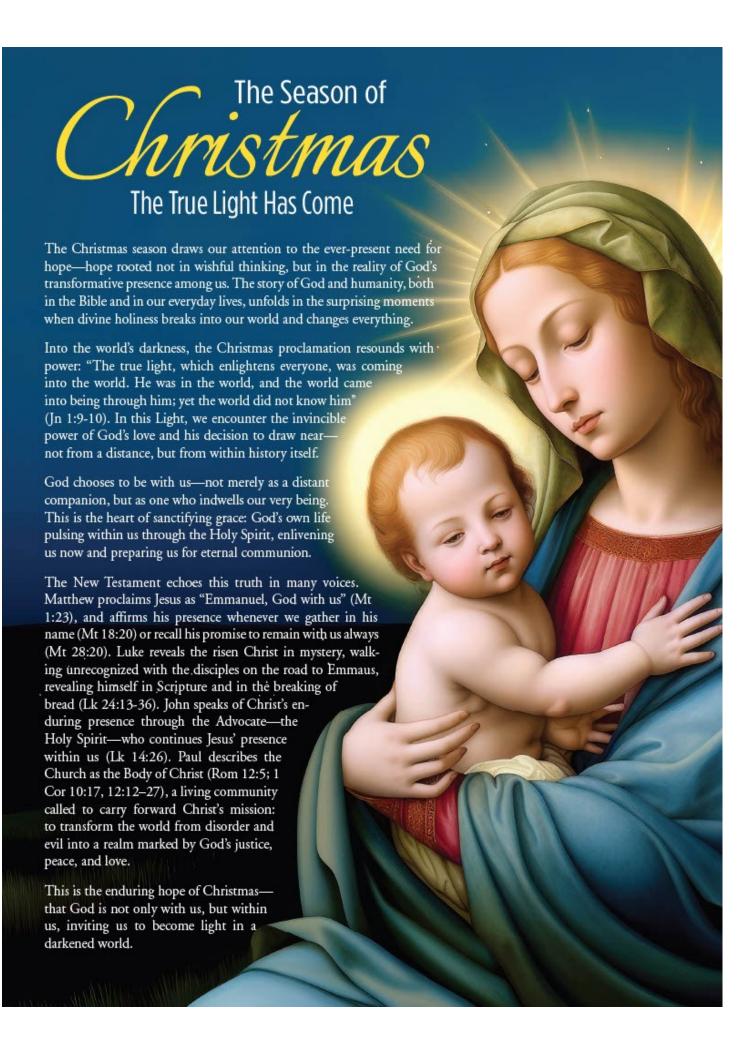
May Christ find room in your heart, bring warmth to your home, and fill the coming year with blessings you did not even know to ask for.

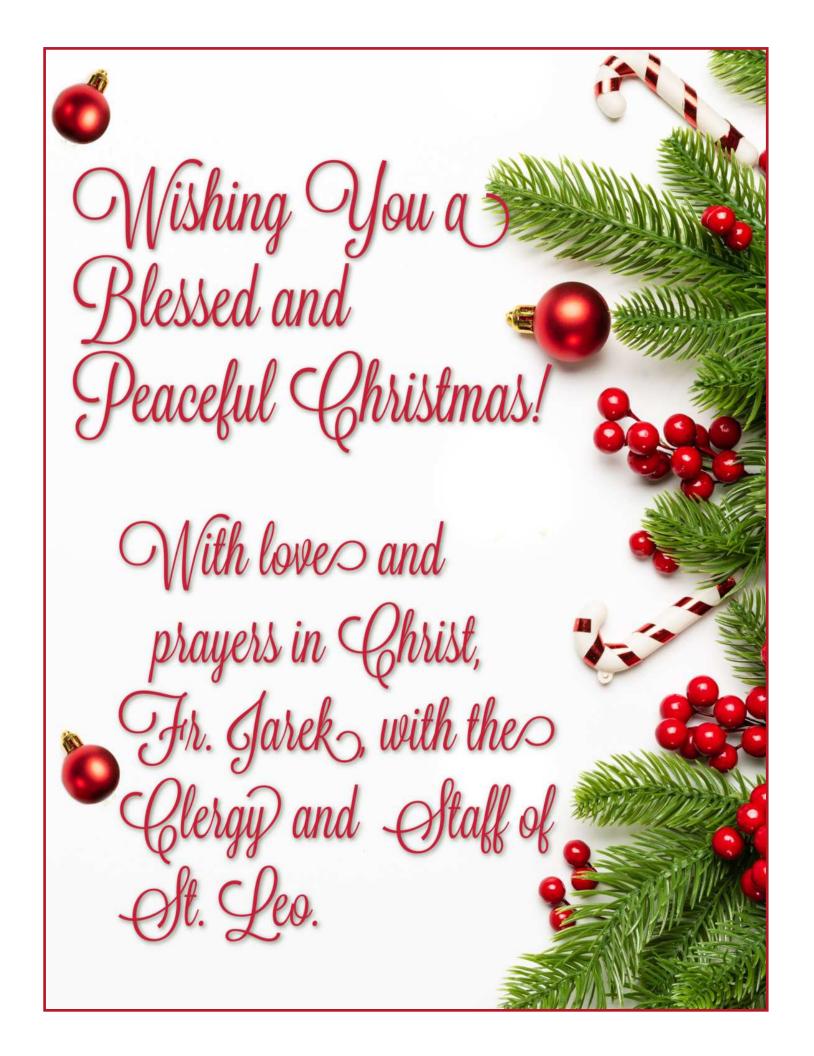
Merry Christmas, and may the peace of the newborn

Savior be yours today and always.









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!

AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

YOUR

AD

HERE

YOUR AD HERE

Mark Hiller from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.

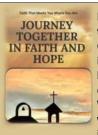




We Pray for the Recently Deceased of Our Parish

Louise Grantt





If you enjoy Fr. Jarek's reflections in the bulletin, take your faith journey further at Catholic Journey Today.com a site created with you in mind. Discover daily reflections, inspiring homilies, faith-filled articles, and enriching courses in Scripture and Catholic catechism. Whether you seek Spiritual insights, practical wisdom, or a quiet space for reflection, you'll find it here.

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



Liturgical Schedule CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday, December 24

3:30 pm - Church & Auditorium 5:30 pm - Children's Mass 9:00 pm - Midnight Mass Carols begin at 8:00 pm

Thursday, December 25 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am & 3:00 pm in Spanish

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASSES
Wednesday, December 31
5 pm

Thursday, January 1 8am, 12 noon & 3:00 pm in Spanish



Come As You Are You are Welcome Here!

Join Us For Session Two—You're Welcome if you are new—Always!!!

To Register for Day or Night Sessions Please Use the QR Code

For Daytime Sessions: Saint William Church Hall, 601 Seagate Dr.

January 13th to March 31st 2026

10:00 to 11:45am

Doors Open at 9:30 for Coffee Social With Treats



Evening Sessions: The Blessed Mother Center—Rm.203 750 Seagate Dr., Naples, FL 34103 January 13th to March 31st 2026 6:30 to 8:00 pm (Doors Open at 6 pm)

Important: Please purchase book "Opening Your Heart" at: https://walkingwithpurpose.com

For Scholarships, Babysitting, or Questions: Contact Lisa McGowan Call or text to 484-432-5128 or Email: mcgowanlh@gmail.com

NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTION **REQUESTED BY** MONDAY **DECEMBER 22**

8:00 am +Maureen Broitzman Amy Solazzo

TUESDAY **DECEMBER 23** 8:00 am +Lillian Ramonno Her Loving Daughter

WEDNESDAY **DECEMBER 24**

8:00 am +Margaret Schaaf Donald & Elaine Marvin

The Parishioners of St. Leo 3:30 pm

3:30 pm - Overflow +Richard Hall Sal & Joan Tassone

+Helen, +John & +Lisa Lagowski Their Loving Daughter, Theresa 5:30 pm 9:00 pm +Boguslaw Sniosek Fr. Jarek

THURSDAY DECEMBER 25

7:30 am Keith Myers, Kerri & Peter Price Lani Myers

9:30 am +Kathy Pecorella Her Loving Husband, Ronnie 11:30 am +Maureen Broitzman Donald & Elaine Marvin

3:00 pm - Spanish The Parishioners of St. Leo

FRIDAY **DECEMBER 26**

Santha 8:00 am +Richard Hall

SATURDAY **DECEMBER 27**

The St. Leo Rosary Makers 8:00 am +Richard Hall 3:30 pm +Richard Hall The St. Leo Bible Study Group 5:30 pm +Maureen Broitzman Vicky Daniels

SUNDAY **DECEMBER 28**

7:30 am +Jack Figurski His Loving Wife, Ethel 9:30 am +Maureen Broitzman The St. Leo Bible Study Group His Parents, John & Trisha Marsh 11:30 am +Jeffrey P. Marsh

3:00 pm - Spanish Special Cumulative Intentions 5:00 pm +Richard Hall

Vicky Daniels

EUCHARISTIC 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 For more information contact Betty at 860-595-6370 or holdenbnd@gmail.com

Prayer Group

All are welcome on Wednesday mornings in the Nest Cafe 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

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 following 8am Mass beginning again in January. For questions contact Loretta at 917.886.7273 or Peggy at 239.293.3201.



Flowers this week are dedicated to Parishioners of St. Leo

Candles this week are dedicated to †In Loving Memory of Rose & Joe Scenna

Requested by Loving daughter & son in law Rita & Robert Sokol

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 Lt. Com. Matthew Kleine Reed Lessman Lt. Col. Nicholas LoRusso

Joseph McDermond Daniel McDonald Cpt. Kyle Martin Michael Oliveira Sgt. Thomas Pauls Nick Parrorzio Sean Michael Perry Cpt. Evan Razzano 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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Misaela Mendiola Sandoval Jose Manuel Meraz

Jay Miller Paul Modzelewski Barbara Moloney Jav Morgan Deborah Muñiz Audrey Grace Neeley Glenn Nelson

Paul Nippert Rita Off Beverly Pecor Connie Phillips Aiden Putnam Michelle Rendon Mary Ritt Jack Rubush Tessa Santagate Cindy Santiago Martha Simons Michael Anthony Sforza Rosemarie Smedile Sheryl Southerd Jim Stokes Charlie Sweeney Jr. Debra Tailerco

Michael Taveripte Vivian Thomas Fabio Thurman Tom Thurman Eleanor Trevison Keanu Vallette Debra Vannotti Tim Young John White George Witkowsky Ray Zonghetti Annie Zanussi

Anthony, Christine, Fabiala, Krislin, Michael, 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

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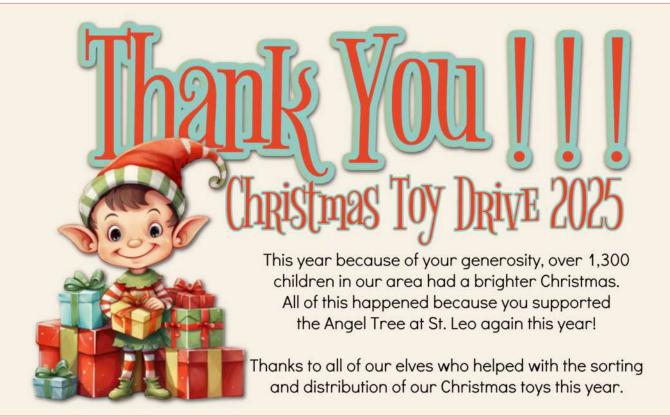
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Our Capital Improvement Fund

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.



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Deseándoles Una Mavidad Bendita y Pacífica.

Con amor y oraciones en Oristo, Padre Jarek, con el clero y el personal de San Leo.





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Miercoles 24 de diciembre 3:30pm - Iglesia y Auditorio 5:30pm - Misa de niños 9 pm - Misa de medianoche Los villancicos comienzan a las 8pm

> Jueves 25 de diciembre 7:30, 9:30 y 11:30 am 3pm en español

Solemnidad de Santa Maria, Madre de Dios Miercoles 31 de diciembre 5 pm

> Jueves 1 de enero 8am, 12 noon & 3:00 pm en español





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