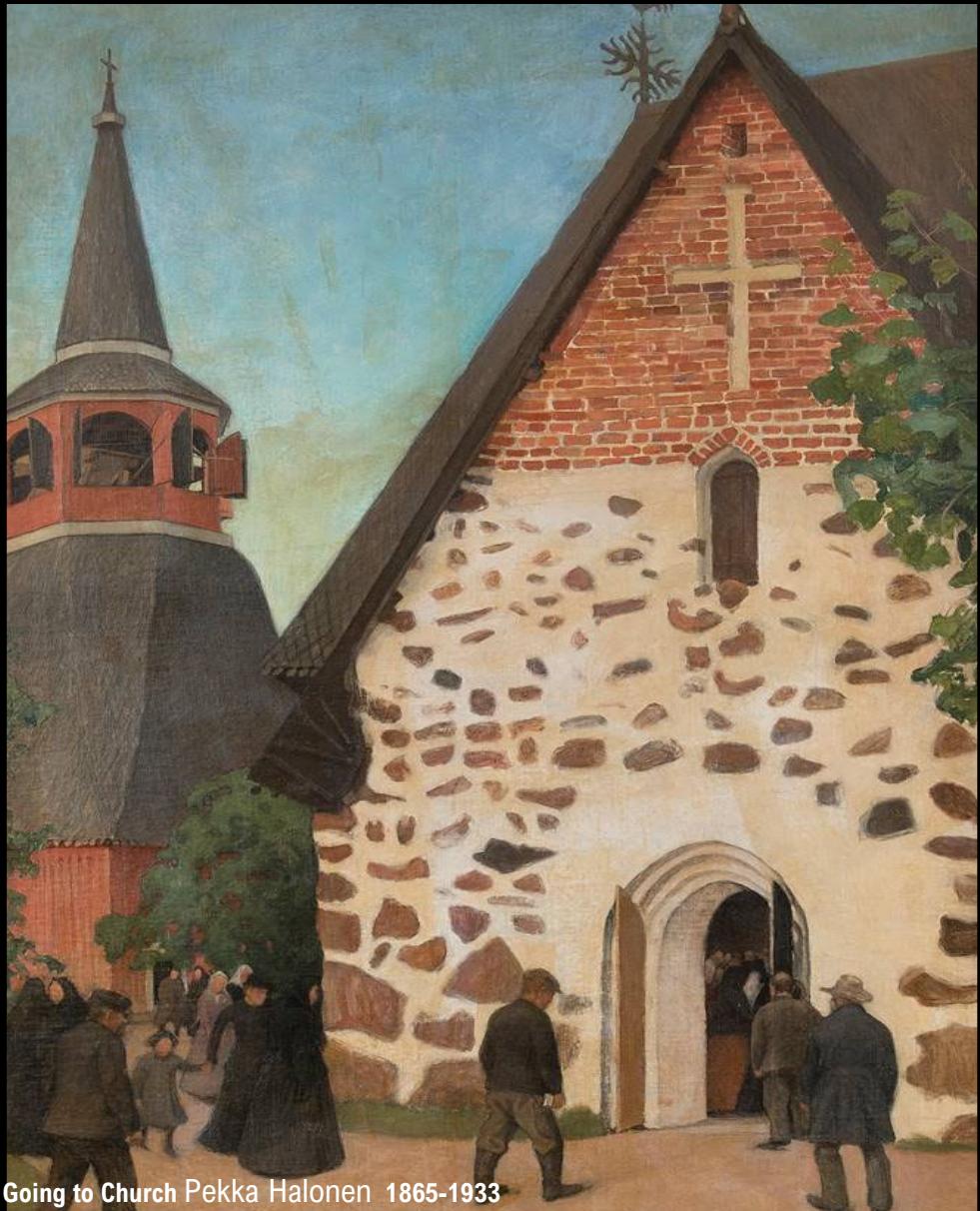


# ST. LEO THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

*February 8, 2026*



28290 BEAUMONT ROAD, BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34134 • PHONE (239) 992-0901  
[WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG) • OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8 AM - 4 PM  
DAILY MASS: MONDAY-SATURDAY: 8 AM • CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 1:30PM-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. Joel Livingston .....	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
Ely 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!

January 31 & February 1

\$42,775

## 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.

### EUCARIST

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 - 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](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/vocations)

### ONLINE GIVING

[WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG](http://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.



### OUR GOAL THIS YEAR

\$664,000

= 10% of Goal

PRIEST SCHEDULE ON PAGE 6 THIS WEEK

# Daily Reflections

by Father Jack

## Sunday, February 8 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### LIGHT THAT COSTS SOMETHING

*"You are the light of the world." (Matthew 5:14)*

Isaiah does not speak about light as a feeling or an idea. He describes it as bread shared, shelter offered, dignity restored. In other words, light shows up when compassion becomes inconvenient. God's promise is clear. When mercy moves from intention to action, healing begins not only in the world, but in us.

Paul reminds us that faith does not rest on clever arguments or polished delivery. It rests on Christ crucified, which means choosing humility over self importance, honesty over display, and trust over self reliance. In a culture that prizes confidence and performance, Paul quietly insists that grace prefers integrity to brilliance.

Jesus calls his disciples salt and light, not spotlights. Salt disappears into the food. Light serves the room, not itself. Faith shines best when it is lived without commentary, when goodness is done without keeping score.

*Prayer: Lord, make my faith visible not through words alone, but through quiet acts of love that reflect your light. Amen.*

*Isaiah 58:7 to 10; Psalm 112; 1 Corinthians 2:1 to 5; Matthew 5:13 to 16*

## Monday, February 9 - WHEN GOD MOVES IN

*"The glory of the Lord filled the temple." (1 Kings 8:11)*

Solomon builds a magnificent temple, and just when everything is ready, God arrives in a cloud that interrupts the schedule. The priests cannot continue.

Worship pauses. God's presence cannot be managed, even by good intentions and careful planning.

The psalm invites us to enter God's dwelling, but Scripture gently reminds us that God does not remain contained. God fills spaces unexpectedly, often when we think everything is already in place. The moments we cannot control are often the moments God chooses to inhabit most fully.

In the Gospel, people rush to Jesus, desperate just to touch the edge of his cloak. Faith here is not refined or eloquent. It is urgent, hopeful, and very human. God seems to welcome that kind of faith just fine.

*Prayer: Lord, help me make room for your presence even when it disrupts my plans. Amen. 1 Kings 8:1 to 13; Psalm 132; Mark 6:53 to 56*

## Tuesday, February 10 - MEMORIAL OF SAINT SCHOLASTICA

### THE HEART OF THE HOUSE

*"How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord." (Psalm 84:2)*

Solomon marvels that no building could ever contain God, and yet he prays with confidence that God listens. Faith lives in that tension. God is greater than anything we build, yet close enough to hear every whispered prayer. Jesus challenges the Pharisees not because they care about holiness, but because they confuse habits with holiness. Clean hands do not guarantee a clean heart. Tradition matters, but it must serve love rather than replace it. Saint Scholastica reminds us that prayer is not about winning arguments with God, but about trusting God with our hearts. God seems remarkably patient with prayers that are sincere, even when they are persistent.

*Prayer: Lord, draw my heart closer to you and keep my faith rooted in love rather than appearances. Amen.*

*1 Kings 8:22 to 30; Psalm 84; Mark 7:1 to 13*

## Wednesday, February 11 - WHAT COMES FROM WITHIN

*"The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom." (Psalm 37:30)*

The queen of Sheba travels far to test Solomon, expecting spectacle. What leaves her breathless is not just wealth or architecture, but wisdom rooted in justice. True wisdom still has that effect. It does not impress loudly. It settles deeply.

Jesus reminds the crowd that what truly shapes us comes from within. Diets, habits, and appearances matter less than the quiet movements of the heart. The real work of faith is internal, ongoing, and often unnoticed, forming us long before it shows itself.

Holiness does not begin with control of the environment. It begins with

honesty about what we carry inside. God works not by rearranging the world around us, but by patiently reshaping the heart within us. Grace enters there first.

*Prayer: Lord, purify my heart so that my words and actions reflect your wisdom. Amen. 1 Kings 10:1 to 10; Psalm 37; Mark 7:14 to 23*

## Thursday, February 12 - THE FAITH THAT REFUSES TO LET GO

*"Even the dogs under the table eat the children's scraps." (Mark 7:28)*

Solomon's story turns painful. His heart drifts slowly, not through rebellion but distraction. Faith is rarely lost in one dramatic moment. It usually fades through small compromises that feel reasonable at the time. What begins as accommodation quietly becomes allegiance.

The Syrophoenician woman offers a different path. She refuses to be discouraged. Her faith is humble but bold, persistent without entitlement. She does not argue for status, only for mercy, and that humility becomes her strength. Jesus honors her courage and her trust.

God seems especially attentive to prayers that come from need rather than pride. He meets those who ask without bargaining and hope without guarantees. Faith that holds on, even when it feels unseen, often opens unexpected doors.

*Prayer: Lord, keep my heart faithful and teach me the courage to trust you completely. Amen. 1 Kings 11:4 to 13; Psalm 106; Mark 7:24 to 30*

## Friday, February 13 - EARS OPENED, LIVES CHANGED

*"Ephphatha. Be opened." (Mark 7:34)*

The kingdom fractures because leaders act from fear of losing control rather than trust in God. Scripture does not soften this truth. Fear narrows vision, making protection feel wiser than faith. When listening gives way to anxiety, division follows close behind.

Jesus meets a man who cannot hear and struggles to speak. He heals him privately, gently, and personally. Before words return, connection is restored. Jesus tends first to dignity, knowing that wholeness grows from being received rather than repaired. Healing begins with being seen.

God still speaks quietly. The challenge is not that God is silent, but that we are often distracted. Noise crowds out attention long before it drowns out truth. Stillness is not the absence of sound, but the presence of listening. Open ears change lives.

*Prayer: Lord, open my ears to your voice and my heart to your healing presence. Amen. 1 Kings 11:29 to 32; 12:19; Psalm 81; Mark 7:31 to 37*

## Saturday, February 14 - MEMORIAL OF SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS LOVE THAT MULTIPLIES

*"My heart is moved with pity for the crowd." (Mark 8:2)*

Fear leads Jeroboam to create substitutes for God. It is an old pattern. When trust weakens, idols appear. They are usually shaped to calm anxiety rather than to deepen faith. They promise security but deliver division. Saints Cyril and Methodius confronted that same fear by trusting that the Gospel did not need to be reshaped to survive, only faithfully shared.

Jesus looks at a hungry crowd and refuses to send them away empty. He starts with what is available, not what is ideal. Mercy moves him before calculation ever does. Seven loaves become enough when compassion leads the way.

On this Valentine's Day, the Gospel reminds us that love is not measured by abundance but by willingness. Real love begins when we stop waiting to have more and start offering what we have. God multiplies what is offered in trust.

*Prayer: Lord, take what little love I offer and use it generously for others. Amen. 1 Kings 12:26 to 32; 13:33 to 34; Psalm 106; Mark 8:1 to 10*

For the full version of each day's reflection,  
visit [CatholicJourneyToday.com](http://CatholicJourneyToday.com)

and journey deeper with Scripture, prayer, and daily encouragement.

# WHEN GOD SHAPES THE HEART

## Faithfulness That Grows Quietly

by Father Jarek

¶ Much of our spiritual frustration comes from expecting God to work dramatically, quickly, or visibly especially after we have been faithful for a long time. We pray, we show up, we try to do the right thing, and still we wait. We want clarity all at once, change we can measure, and a faith that finally feels settled. Yet many people discover later in life that faith does not become simpler. It becomes truer. The Scriptures of this week gently challenge our impatience. They reveal a God who works patiently, shaping hearts over time rather than rearranging circumstances on demand.

¶ Isaiah opens the week by redefining what light actually looks like. Light is not an idea or a feeling. It is bread shared, shelter offered, dignity restored. It shows up not when generosity is convenient, but when mercy costs something. This is a word especially for those who have been quietly faithful. Isaiah does not promise instant relief. He promises something deeper. Then your light will break forth, then healing will begin. In other words, grace often follows faithful action rather than preceding it. We act in trust, and only later realize God has been at work all along.

¶ Saint Paul deepens this wisdom by reminding the Corinthians that faith does not rest on eloquence or persuasive force. Paul does not arrive sounding confident or impressive. He speaks openly of weakness and limitation. This is not false humility. It is spiritual realism. Paul understands that faith matures not through performance, but through dependence. Over time, many believers come to recognize this truth in their own lives. The prayers that remain when words are few. The trust that endures even when enthusiasm fades. Faith becomes less about sounding certain and more about staying rooted.

¶ Jesus then gives us images that quietly reinforce this pattern. He calls his disciples salt and light. Salt does not announce itself. It disappears into what it seasons. Light serves the room rather than drawing attention to itself. The most faithful lives rarely feel dramatic from the inside. They shape their surroundings quietly, steadily, and often without recognition. In a loud and reactive world, this kind of faith can feel invisible. Yet Jesus insists it is precisely this faith that makes a difference.

¶ As the week unfolds, Scripture offers a sober reminder of how faith is often lost. Solomon does not fall through rebellion or scandal. He drifts. His heart turns gradually, distracted by what seems reasonable at the time. Scripture is honest here because it is merciful. Faith is rarely abandoned all at once. It fades through small accommodations that feel harmless until devotion becomes divided. Many people recognize this pattern not in great failures, but in slow neglect, in prayer set aside, in trust quietly thinned by disappointment.

¶ Against that drift stands the Syrophenician woman. She does not argue for privilege or status. She asks only for mercy. Her faith is persistent, humble, and resilient. She does not demand control. She remains present. Jesus honors her not because she speaks forcefully, but because she trusts deeply. In her, we see a faith that does not grow louder under pressure, but truer.

¶ That same gentleness appears in the healing of the deaf man. Jesus acts privately, without spectacle or explanation. Before speech is restored, dignity is affirmed. Healing begins not with answers, but with presence. This moment reminds us that people are not problems to be solved, but lives to be received. Many who have lived long enough know this well. Fixing rarely heals. Presence often does.

¶ By the end of the week, fear again tempts leaders to create substitutes for God. Idols emerge whenever trust weakens. They promise security, but fracture communities instead. Into that fear step Saints Cyril and Methodius. Their courage is not loud. It is patient. They trust that the Gospel does not need to be reshaped to survive, only faithfully lived and carefully shared. Their witness reminds us that endurance is often holier than innovation.

¶ That trust reaches its fullness when Jesus feeds the hungry crowd. He does not wait for ideal conditions. He begins with what is available. Mercy moves him before calculation ever does. Seven loaves become enough because love is offered without reserve. This is a quiet reassurance for those who feel their strength diminishing. God does not ask for abundance. God asks for availability. It is fitting that this week culminates near Valentine's Day. The Church's understanding of love has always been rooted not in display, but in fidelity. Love grows through consistency, sacrifice, and presence. It is sustained not by intensity, but by faithfulness over time. Those who have loved long understand this deeply. Love endures not because it is exciting, but because it chooses to remain. That may be the quiet invitation of this week's readings.

¶ Faith is not formed by moments alone, but by habits. Not by certainty, but by trust. Not by control, but by attentiveness. God works patiently, shaping hearts willing to stay, to listen, and to love even when progress feels slow. Grace is already at work there.

## ❖ Prayer ❖

God of patient love,  
you know how easily my heart drifts  
and how quickly I want results  
instead of trust.  
You know the weariness that comes  
from long faithfulness,  
the prayers that feel familiar,  
the hopes that have learned to be quieter.

Meet me in the places where  
I am faithful but tired.  
Teach me to remain  
attentive in small things,  
to listen without rushing,  
and to offer what I have  
even when it feels incomplete.

Stay with me as you shape my heart  
slowly and quietly.

When change is not visible,  
help me trust that you are still at work.

When answers do not come,  
help me remain present.

Let my life become a steady place  
where your grace can dwell,  
and let my love, like yours,  
be patient, faithful, and enduring. Amen.

## Next Weekend's Mass Schedule



Saturday, February 14  
3:30 pm Fr. Stan  
3:30 pm-Overflow Fr. Jack  
5:30 pm Fr. Stan

Sunday, February 15  
7:30 am Fr. Jarek  
9:30 am Fr. Jarek  
9:30 am-Overflow Fr. Jack  
11:30 am Fr. Jack  
1:30 pm-Polish Fr. Greg  
3:00 pm-Spanish Fr. Gustavo  
5:00 pm Fr. Gustavo

*Changes may occur without notice.*



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.



## RESPECT LIFE SIDEWALK PRAYER

Sunday, February 22 following  
11:30 Mass in front of Shikany's.  
Park in the church lot and  
bring your rosary. If you don't have a  
sign we will provide one for you.

For more information on Respect Life  
activities please contact Loretta at 917-886-7273  
or Peggy at 239-293-3201.

## 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.

St. Leo  
THE GREAT  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH

## Presents: Planning for Tomorrow

Tuesday, February 17, 2026  
10:00 AM—noon  
In the New Auditorium

### A COMPLIMENTARY LIFE PLANNING WORKSHOP

The St. Leo the Great Catholic Church has partnered with the Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida and local estate planning experts to host a complimentary workshop, which will provide participants with the knowledge they need to make critical health, legal and financial decisions for themselves and/or a loved one.

Attendees will obtain  
important information on:

Avoiding Guardianship, Wills vs.  
Trusts, Probate, Durable Power  
of Attorney, Beneficiary  
Designations, Healthcare  
Surrogates, Advanced  
Directives, Financial Planning,  
Smarter Ways to Give and more.



RESERVE YOUR PLACE TODAY

CALL: 941-486-4722

# AN EVENING OF JOY, MEMORY, AND MUSIC

## A Parish Dinner Concert with Fr. Jarek & Marcin

~~Wednesday, February 25th - SOLD OUT~~  
**Thursday, February 26th - New Date Added!**  
**Fewer than 100 tickets remain.**



Tickets are on sale in the Parish Office  
Doors open at 5:15pm - Dinner at 5:30pm  
\$20 per person

A light supper and a glass of wine will be served.  
All seating is open, NO reserved tables.



*Mardi Gras* Parish Life Concert  
**SOLD OUT**  
Tuesday, February 17th



Parishioner and adult altar server Judy Richarelli came in to the Religious Education classroom with her guitar and taught the children to sing "Blessed Are They", as part of their lesson on the Beatitudes. It was a wonderful enrichment experience for them.

# Broadway and More

Featuring Claudia & Drazen

Parish Life Center  
Tuesday, March 10th

Doors open at 5:15pm – Dinner at 5:30pm - \$20 per person

Tickets go on sale in the Parish Office Monday, February 9th.

A light supper and a glass of wine will be served.

All seating is open, NO reserved tables.



Join us as our wonderful former cantors Claudia Cespedes and Drazen Bolarin take a break from their post graduate music studies and return to St. Leo to spend an evening performing some of their favorite Broadway songs. The program features works by Andrew Lloyd Webber, Leonard Bernstein, and other great composers.



# St. Leo Ladies' Guild Scholarships



The Ladies' Guild Scholarships consist of four, \$4000 scholarships awarded to high school seniors or other individuals interested in furthering their education at a university, community college, a technical or trade school. To qualify for these scholarships, applicants must have been members of St. Leo the Great parish for at least one year prior to submitting an application. Applicants must also demonstrate involvement in St. Leo activities, in their school or in their local community.

Applications may be obtained in the parish office or by contacting Clare Sasak at [cesak27@aol.com](mailto:cesak27@aol.com) or Judie Dougherty at [jmdougherty6229@gmail.com](mailto:jmdougherty6229@gmail.com)

**All applications must be received by Monday, April 27th.**



Men and women are invited to join the Ladies of St. Leo's Sing a Long group which visits nursing homes and assisted living facilities on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 2pm during season. The next gathering is February 10<sup>th</sup> at Brookdale North Naples. Contact Penny at 314-412-4022 for more information.



OVERFLOW MASSES ARE CELEBRATED  
IN THE NEW AUDITORIUM

3:30PM ON SATURDAYS  
9:30AM ON SUNDAYS

## We Pray for the Recently Deceased of Our Parish

Eugene Tyszkiewicz  
Martha Simons  
Sung Hi Rhee  
John Traverse  
Yolanda J. Pinto  
Samuel Frontino  
James Esposito



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-4pm.

### THESE ITEMS ARE ESPECIALLY 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.

### Babies always need

Wipes  
Formula  
Baby Wash  
Baby Shampoo  
Diapers (especially size 6)

### We appreciate your generosity!



# Diocese of Venice - Catholic Faith Appeal 2026

The Catholic Faith Appeal supports Parishes and Missions located in financially stressed areas.

These places of worship enable our Faith to be nourished, strengthened, and expressed in word and deed. Not only do these faith communities nourish the soul, but the body as well. The CFA allows the Parishes and missions in needy areas the opportunity to provide assistance through food pantries, with these good offerings often being donated by Parishioners from other Parishes.



## WHY THE CHURCH HONORS THE SACREDNESS OF MARRIAGE AND SUPPORTS STRONG, LIFE GIVING FAMILIES

The Church speaks clearly about marriage not because she is nostalgic or resistant to change, but because she understands something deeply human. Love that is meant to last shapes us differently than love that is temporary. Marriage is not only about personal happiness in the moment. It is about forming hearts capable of patience, sacrifice, forgiveness, and fidelity. In a world where commitments are often treated as provisional, the Church insists that enduring love is not a burden but a gift that gives stability to lives and meaning to promises.

The Church honors marriage because it reflects God's own way of loving. Marriage is a lifelong covenant rooted in faithful love and openness to life, mirroring a love that does not withdraw when things become difficult. Scripture reveals that we are created not for isolation, but for communion. Marriage becomes a daily school where love is practiced over time, often quietly, through ordinary acts of care, endurance, and mercy. It is here that love matures beyond emotion into something strong enough to carry real life.

From marriage flows family life, which the Church calls the domestic church. Families are the first place where faith is learned not primarily through words, but through example. Children learn who God is by how they are loved, forgiven, and welcomed. Even imperfect families can become places of grace when love is sincere and faith is taken seriously. Strong families create stability not only for children, but for society itself, offering a witness of trust, belonging, and hope.

The Church supports marriage and family life because their health shapes the future. She does so not with pressure or idealism, but with pastoral care, accompaniment, and prayer. In a culture that often doubts permanence, the Church dares to believe that faithful love is possible and worth protecting. By honoring marriage and strengthening families, the Church defends a vision of love that is patient, faithful, and life giving, a quiet but powerful gift to both the Church and the world.

## NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 9</b> +Bill Phillips Sr.	The Hinkson Family
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 10</b> +John Davey	John & Patrice Wolff
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 11</b> +Christopher Caron	Maureen Schubert
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 12</b> +Lillian Ramonno	Her Daughter, Annette
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 13</b> +Albert Silvi	His Family
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 14</b> +Tom Smith Sr +Bill Ruge +James T. Connors +Stanley Lutkaewicz	His Loving Wife, Annette Victor Sterne His Sister, Pat Connors Carmen DeMarrais
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 15</b> +Helen, +John & +Lisa Lagowski +Paul & +Jean Wilcenski The Parishioners of St. Leo Rose Mary Baker Special Cumulative Intentions Special Cumulative Intentions +Thomas Ogiba Jr	Their Loving Daughter, Theresa George & Lisa Kanyuh The St Leo Ladies Guild His Family

Confessions are heard on Saturday afternoon from 1:30pm-3:00pm until April 11th, and then from 2:00pm-3:00pm for the remainder of the year.

### EUCARISTIC 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 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](http://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.



Flowers this week are dedicated to †Daniel Balsoamo Sr.  
Requested by Donna & Christopher Volpetti

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

### Please Pray for Our Troops

Lt. Marco Colavecchia	Joseph McDermond
Brian Dearica Leon	Daniel McDonald
Michael DeSantis	Cpt. Kyle Martin
Cpt. Mary Kate Flynn	Michael Oliveira
Lt. Thomas A. Flynn	Sgt. Thomas Pauls
Cpt. Sean Flynn	Nick Parrorio
Thomas Geanuracos	Cpt. Evan Razzano
Carlos Gonzales	Lt. Riley N. Schliem
Lt. Andrew D. Holt	Lt. Col. Jonathan W. Schwarz
Brian Howlett	Lt. Col. Peter Shayhorn
Lt. Com. Matthew Kleine	<i>All serving in the military, especially those in combat.</i>
Reed Lessman	
Lt. Col. Nicholas LoRusso	

### We pray today for...

Clayton Aunkle	Tim McAuliff
Tom Bardol	Misaela Mendiola Sandoval
Brian Best	Jose Manuel Meraz
Jeffrey Bogart	Jay Miller
Bob Brock	Paul Modzelewski
Tom Brown	Barbara Moloney
Denise Buk	Jay Morgan
Isabelle Marie Caiola	Deborah Muñiz
Patrick Cain	Audrey Grace Neeley
Carol Compagna	Glenn Nelson
Mickey Chervitz	Paul Nippert
Michelle Chiarulli	Rita Off
Scott Cochell	Joseph Patton
Lourdes Coll	Beverly Pecor
Greg Daeger	Connie Phillips
Eli Davis	Aiden Putnam
Janet Davis	Michelle Rendon
Tara DeRoma	Mary Ritt
Carrie Derser	Jack Rubush
Robby Dirks	Tessa Santagate
Brad Fairfield	Cindy Santiago
Paula Fairfield	Gary Schomaker
Rudolph & Mary Fazio	Michael Anthony Sforza
Michael Federico	Rosemarie Smedile
Linda Fischel	Sheryl Southerd
Sean Flynn	Irene Stange
Brynn Forlizzi	Jim Stokes
John Galli	Charlie Sweeney Jr.
Gissette Lupita Garcia	Michael Taveripte
Ben Gondersone	Bonnie Tenlaken
Esmeralda Gomez Moreira	Vivian Thomas
Cory Gray	Fabio Thurman
Pauline Graziano	Tom Thurman
Karen Grimshaw	Eleanor Trevison
Ryan Hammond	Keanu Vallette
Tara Handsman	Debra Vannotti
Luke Hass	Jane Venuti-Tontodonato
Robbin Holcomb	Tim Young
Jerry Kaeche	William Welch
Nolan Kane	John White
Mary Kobel	George Witkowsky
Karen Lamont	Ray Zonghetti
Peggy Land	Annie Zanussi
Joanne Laurenzana	Fabiala, Krislin, Michael, Tray.
Emily Lienesch	Present & past parish priests.



### 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](mailto:ehernandez@stleocatholicchurch.org)

# PARISH DIRECTORY

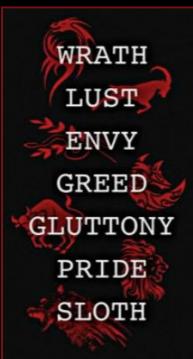
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Bulletin	Anne Bellows.....992-0901
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Daily Masses	Dan Bardauskis.....992-0901
Weekend Masses	Dan Bardauskis.....992-0901
Homebound	Dan Bardauskis.....992-0901
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Finance Council	Henry Soto.....992-0901
Human Trafficking Hotline	.....888-373-7888
Landings for Returning Catholics	Parish Office .....992-0901
Lector Coordinator for Weekends	David Froelke.....646-831-9733
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
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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
St. Leo the Great Ladies Guild	Beth Daniels.....248-376-2997
Usher Ministry	Parish Office .....992-0901
Youth Ministry	Gisela Meraz .....992-0901

## Men's Study Group

Thursday Mornings in the Nest Café  
January 15<sup>th</sup>-February 26th

The group will meet after the 8:00 AM Mass for coffee, a short video and small group discussion on this year's topic...the SEVEN DEADLY SINS. There is no charge for the program and, since each session stands on its own, you do not

need to attend them all. This is a great way to meet other men in the parish and to deepen your faith. For more information contact Chris Bramlage at 937-902-9219 or at [cbramlage@gmail.com](mailto:cbramlage@gmail.com).



# Welcome to St. Leo Church

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH OFFICE

Mayber Guillen Moreno  
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James & Lori Wehmann  
Laura Del Agua  
Lucas Dias Del Agua  
Robert & Michele Janda  
Teresa Battaglia  
Edgar & Ana Santillan  
James & Denise Foley  
Heather L Steenburg  
Margaret Miller  
Daniel, Barbara, Matteo & Lueaj Mahin  
Enrique, Zaida, Brandon & Alexandra Carrillo Sagrado  
William & Linda Gibney  
Robert & Sheryl McBrien  
Nicole, Zachary & Emerson Elstad  
Keith & Laura Misner  
Connor Spellman  
Jose Simon & Telma Mendoza  
James & Mary Kate McKenna  
Steven & Marilyn Magaldi  
Angel & Jenny Mariano  
Ken Lorey  
Griselda Arredondo  
Sarah Gerega  
Israel Bellorin  
Kathleen Ferrara  
Quentin & Marysha Panchura  
Martin Marquez  
Hunber Hernandez  
Kathleen Ferrara  
Daniel Valente & Mia Hawbaker  
James Morelli & Josie Castro  
Ramiro, Maria, Ramiro Jr., Jacqueline, Jocelyn, Christian & Chrisfopher Zunun-Vazquez  
Brian & Lauren Gallagher  
Edgar Gutierrez & Elizabeth Estala Aboyes  
Erick F Ortiz Lopez  
Nataly Velasquez Mendoza  
Robert & Jolene Adams  
Thomas & Marilyn McLaughlin  
Agustina, Nelson, Elvis, Deysi & Tomas Margarito-Pedro  
Robert & Cathy San Julian  
Russell & Paula Cording  
Richard & Ann Kappler  
Bradley & Bonnie Resch  
Timothy & Kathleen Doyle  
Eduardo & Maria O Mendoza

# NOTAS EN ESPAÑOL



Hoy la liturgia nos prepara, con su Palabra, a ser conscientes de lo que significa ser sal y luz en nuestra vida cotidiana. Jesús pone como ejemplo elementos que usamos todos los días para dar sabor a la vida del cristiano. La amargura, la envidia y la oscuridad de pensamientos nos alejan de lo que verdaderamente importa: ser sencillos y encontrarnos con Dios. *"Ustedes son la sal de la tierra. Pero si la sal se vuelve insípida, ¿cómo podrá ser salada de nuevo? Ya no sirve para nada, por lo que se tira afuera y es pisoteada por la gente"* (Mateo 5:13). Darle saborcito a la vida, añadiendo colores de humildad y apertura al diálogo frente a las adversidades que vivimos en la familia y en la sociedad, será clave para purificar y transformar nuestro entorno.

El Señor también nos llama luz del mundo: *"Nadie enciende una lámpara para taparla con un cajón; la ponen más bien sobre un candelero, y alumbría a todos los que están en la casa"* (Mateo 5:14-15).

Cuando se va la luz en nuestra casa, nos sorprende, porque a veces no tenemos ni siquiera una vela que nos alumbre, mucho menos una lámpara con baterías. Sin embargo, al encender una luz —por muy pequeña que sea— sentimos alivio, porque podemos ver por dónde pisamos y así podemos realizar las actividades necesarias. Jesús quiere que sus seguidores sean así: como una pizca de sal y un poquito de luz, para que todo funcione de manera distinta en la familia y en la sociedad.

## 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](mailto:cesak27@aol.com)

o con

Judie Dougherty a [jmdougherty6229@gmail.com](mailto:jmdougherty6229@gmail.com).

Todas las solicitudes deben recibirse a más tardar el lunes 27 de abril.



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