

# 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.*

*January 11, 2026*



The Baptism of Christ/Nicolás Enríquez/1773

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: 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
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
Elsy Hernandez .....	Operations Supervisor
Marcin Malewski .....	Director of Music
Martha Mercado .....	Maintenance
Gisela Meraz .....	Religious Education Coordinator
Henry Soto .....	Business Manager
Milana Strezeva .....	Musician
Marie Talley .....	Musician
Winter Talley .....	Musician

# Parish Church Support

Thank you for your continued generosity!

December 20 & 21	\$27,585
Christmas	\$57,717
December 27 & 28	\$33,999
Solemnity of Mary	\$12,267
January 3 & 4	\$38,258
Vocations/Seminary	\$5,275

# Celebrating our Faith

## BAPTISM OF INFANTS

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

## CONFIRMATION

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

## EUCCHARIST

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

## RECONCILIATION

Individual confession with a priest is the principal means of absolution and reconciliation of grave sins within the Church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation frees us from sinful patterns of behavior and calls us to complete conversion to Christ. Confessions are heard at 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 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)



CHILDREN'S  
LITURGY

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, January 17

3:30 pm	Fr. Jarek
3:30 pm-Overflow	Fr. Jack
5:30 pm	Fr. Jarek

Sunday, January 18

7:30 am	Fr. Stan
9:30 am	Fr. Stan
9:30 am-Overflow	Fr. Jack
11:30 am	Fr. Jarek
3:00 pm-Spanish	Fr. Gustavo
5:00 pm	Fr. Tim

Changes may occur without notice.



# Daily Reflections

by Father Jarek

## Sunday, January 11 - The Baptism of the Lord

### ENTERING THE WATER WITHOUT EXCUSES

**"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17)**

Jesus steps into the Jordan with no sins to confess and no reputation to protect. He does not stand on the shore explaining himself. He enters the water with everyone else. That alone tells us something essential about God. Holiness is not allergic to humility. Love does not hover above real life.

John the Baptist is understandably confused. He wants Jesus to skip the line. Most of us would too. We like spiritual shortcuts, especially when we think we have earned them. But Jesus insists. God meets us not by avoiding our human condition, but by entering it fully.

When Jesus rises from the water, the heavens open and the Father speaks delight, not disappointment. Notice the order. The affirmation comes before any public ministry, before miracles, before sermons. God's pleasure is not performance based. It is rooted in relationship. That is good news for anyone who woke up today already tired.

**Prayer:** Father, help me remember that I am your beloved before I am productive. Teach me to live from that truth. Amen.

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17

## Monday, January 12 - LISTENING WHILE LIFE IS LOUD

**"The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Gospel." (Mark 1:15)**

Hannah's pain is public and private at the same time. Everyone sees her tears, but no one quite understands them. Even her loving husband offers comfort that misses the point. His question is sincere but misguided. Sometimes love speaks too quickly when silence would be kinder.

Jesus walks along the sea and calls fishermen in the middle of their workday. No long explanations. No detailed plan. Just an invitation that interrupts routine. The Kingdom often arrives like that, not when life is settled, but when nets are still wet and schedules still full.

Repentance here is not about guilt. It is about attention. Turn your face. Adjust your direction. Believe that something new is possible even if yesterday was heavy. God does not wait for perfect conditions. He speaks into ordinary noise and expects us to listen.

**Prayer:** Lord, slow my heart enough to hear your call today. Help me trust your timing even when my questions remain unanswered. Amen.

1 Samuel 1:1-8; Psalm 116; Mark 1:14-20

## Tuesday, January 13 - WHEN PRAYER LOOKS MISUNDERSTOOD

**"My heart exults in the Lord, my Savior." (1 Samuel 2:1)**

Hannah prays so honestly that it looks suspicious. Her lips move. Her voice does not. Even the priest mistakes her grief for something shameful. Anyone who has ever felt misjudged while doing their best will recognize this moment. Vulnerability is often misread by those uncomfortable with it.

Jesus teaches with authority that does not shout. His words unsettle what is unclean and false, and the reaction is dramatic. Healing is rarely quiet for the thing being healed. Freedom can feel disruptive before it feels peaceful, especially when truth is finally spoken aloud.

God listens beyond appearances. He hears prayers that sound clumsy and sermons that sound bold. The difference is not volume but truth. When we bring our real selves before God, something shifts, even if others do not notice right away.

**Prayer:** God who listens deeply, help me pray honestly without fear of misunderstanding. Heal what needs to be freed in me. Amen.

1 Samuel 1:9-20; 1 Samuel 2; Mark 1:21-28

## Wednesday, January 14 - LEARNING TO SAY HERE I AM

**"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:10)**

Samuel hears God calling and assumes it must be someone else. That instinct has not changed much. We often think God's voice belongs to people with better schedules, clearer lives, or fewer doubts. It rarely occurs to us that God might be calling us now.

Jesus heals, teaches, serves, and then disappears to pray. The disciples panic slightly. Everyone is looking for you, they say, which sounds flattering but is also a trap. Popularity is not the same as purpose. Even Jesus refuses to let urgency replace prayer.

Listening takes practice. It often takes repetition. God is patient enough to keep calling until we learn the difference between noise and invitation. The first faithful response is rarely impressive. It is simply honest.

**Prayer:** Lord, teach me to listen without rushing ahead. Help me answer you with a willing heart, even when I am unsure. Amen.

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Psalm 40; Mark 1:29-39

## Thursday, January 15 - WHEN FAITH BECOMES A LUCKY CHARM

**"Redeem us, Lord, because of your mercy." (Psalm 44)**

Israel brings the ark into battle like a guaranteed solution. The noise is loud. The confidence is high. The outcome is devastating. Faith treated as a tool instead of a relationship eventually disappoints. God refuses to be managed or manipulated.

A leper approaches Jesus with nothing but honesty. No bargaining. No entitlement. Just trust. Jesus touches him, crossing boundaries others carefully avoid. Compassion always looks reckless to those who prefer control and safe distances.

The difference is simple and difficult. God is not an object we carry into our plans. He is a presence who asks us to carry mercy into the world. Faith matures when it stops demanding results and starts offering trust.

**Prayer:** Lord, free me from using faith to feel secure. Teach me to trust you enough to let you lead. Amen.

1 Samuel 4:1-11; Psalm 44; Mark 1:40-45

## Friday, January 16 - THE KING WE THINK WE WANT

**"For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord." (Psalm 89)**

Israel asks for a king because everyone else has one. Samuel listens, warns, and explains the cost in careful detail. Power will take more than it gives. Authority will slowly become ownership. The people listen politely and then move on. The desire to fit in, to look strong, to feel protected by something visible has a long biblical history and a very modern feel.

Jesus responds to the paralytic in a way no one expects. Before healing his body, he forgives his sins. This unsettles the experts because it rearranges priorities.

We prefer visible fixes and measurable results. God prefers freedom that reaches deeper than appearances. Carrying a mat is impressive. Being forgiven changes how a person walks through the world.

Every day we choose what kind of authority we trust. The loud promise of control that demands loyalty, or the quiet authority of grace that restores dignity. One keeps taking. The other heals and then lets us go. The choice is rarely dramatic, but it is always decisive.

**Prayer:** Lord, guard my heart from mistaking power for wisdom. Teach me to trust your goodness even when it looks different than I expected. Amen.

1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Psalm 89; Mark 2:1-12

## Saturday, January 17 - Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot

### CALLED WHILE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE

**"I did not come to call the righteous but sinners." (Mark 2:17)**

Saul sets out on a simple errand, searching for lost animals, assuming the day will end the way it began. Instead, he stumbles into a calling he did not seek and was not prepared for. God often works through detours. We go looking for solutions and discover that we are the ones being summoned.

Levi is sitting at his post, doing what he always does, when Jesus passes by and says two words that change everything. Follow me. No explanation. No delay. Levi stands up and leaves behind what once defined him. Grace rarely waits for us to feel ready. It calls us while we are still seated in our habits.

Saint Anthony hears the Gospel and refuses to keep it theoretical. He does not admire it or postpone it. He obeys it. Holiness often begins with the uncomfortable realization that the Word of God is not meant for someone else. It is meant for me.

**Prayer:** Lord, meet me in my ordinary searching. Give me the courage to follow when you call, even if I was not looking for you. Amen.

1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Psalm 21; Mark 2:13-17

For the full version of each day's reflection, visit [CatholicJourneyToday.com](http://CatholicJourneyToday.com) and journey deeper with Scripture, prayer, and daily encouragement.



# Before You Prove Anything

## *The Baptism of the Lord*

Isaiah 42:1–4, 6–7; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34–38; Matthew 3:13–17

By Father Jarek

*There is a quiet but radical detail in the story of the Baptism of the Lord that we often miss because it sounds so familiar.*

*Jesus steps into the Jordan, the heavens open, the Spirit descends, and a voice speaks:*

*“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” It sounds like a conclusion, but it is actually a beginning.*

*What makes this moment so unsettling is not what God says, but when He says it. Jesus has not yet preached, healed, gathered followers, or performed a single miracle. There is no résumé, no public success, no proof.*

*And yet the Father names Him beloved and expresses delight. Love comes first. Proof comes later.*

**That order matters more than we realize.** We live in a world where most of us feel as if we are always on probation. New job, new doctor, new parish, even long standing relationships can feel like they come with unspoken performance reviews. Am I useful enough, faithful enough, productive enough. We absorb the message early that love must be earned, rest must be justified, and worth must be demonstrated. Even God, we quietly assume, must be waiting for something.

**John the Baptist senses the tension.** He tries to stop Jesus, offering Him the spiritual fast pass. Surely Jesus does not belong in line with everyone else. Surely holiness should not have to wait its turn. But Jesus insists. He steps into the water with everyone else, shoulder to shoulder with people carrying regret, doubt, and unfinished stories. Then God speaks. Notice what God does not say. He does not say, “This is my Son, who is about to do great things.” He does not say, “This is my Son, provided He remains faithful.” He does not say, “This is my Son, assuming He succeeds.” The Father names identity without prerequisites and delight without conditions.

**The psalm helps us hear that voice correctly.** The voice of the Lord is powerful, but it is not cruel. It shakes and stirs not to intimidate, but to give life, and it ends with blessing and peace. This is not the voice of a supervisor waiting for results. It is the voice of a Father who knows His child.

**Isaiah deepens the picture.** God’s chosen servant does not shout or crush. A bruised reed He does not break.

A smoldering wick He does not extinguish. God does not deal with human weakness by humiliating it. He protects what is fragile and works patiently with what is unfinished. That is not how most of us speak to ourselves.

If we are honest, many of us carry an inner voice that keeps score and catalogs failure. It speaks disappointment more easily than delight. If God spoke to us the way we speak to ourselves, most of us would never get out of bed.

**The Acts of the Apostles offers a crucial correction.** Peter reminds us that God shows no partiality. The Spirit is not reserved for the impressive. Jesus goes about doing good, not building a brand. His authority flows not from performance, but from being rooted in the Father’s love. What begins at the Jordan sustains Him all the way to the cross.

**This matters for how we live our own baptism.** Many Christians spend their lives trying to earn what was already given. We serve, pray, and sacrifice as if belovedness were the prize at the end of the race rather than the ground beneath our feet. Faith becomes exhausting not because it asks too much, but because we start from the wrong place. The Baptism of the Lord quietly corrects that mistake. God names Jesus beloved before Jesus proves anything so that we might finally stop living as if everything depends on our performance. When love comes first, obedience becomes response rather than anxiety. Service becomes gratitude rather than self justification. Holiness becomes relationship rather than pressure.

**Before you prove anything. Before you fix everything.**

**Before you impress anyone. You are beloved.**

### **Prayer**

*Loving Father,  
quiet the voices that tell me  
I am only as good as what  
I accomplish.*

*Help me rest in the truth that  
I am your beloved, not because  
I have proven myself,  
but because you have chosen me.  
When I feel tired, unfinished,  
or uncertain, remind me that  
your delight comes before my effort.*

*Teach me to live from that  
love and not for it,  
today and always.  
Amen.*



# Songs of Love

Parish Life Center  
Thursday, February 5th

Doors open at 5:15pm

Dinner at 5:30pm - \$20 per person

Tickets go on sale in the Parish Office

Monday, January 12th.

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

All seating is open, NO reserved tables.

A dynamic, nationally recognized quartet of Gulfshore Opera's Professional Artists in Residence will serenade guests with timeless arias, passionate opera scenes, and Broadway favorites that celebrate love in all its dimensions.





# HARD DRIVE HORNS

# SOLD OUT

Parish Center  
Monday February 1st

Dinner at 5:15pm - Dessert at 5:30pm - Performance at 6:00pm

The Parish Center  
has a bar and the Parish Center.

A selection of wine will be served.

Admission is open, NO reserved tables.



Hard Drive Horns, Northwest Florida's premier rock and roll band, has been highlighted on PBS twice, with two more features coming up in 2026. This Emmy-nominated band includes some of the best musicians around and features a sizzling horn section you won't want to miss. Playing some of the best music of the last 50 years, Hard Drive Horns will give you an evening you won't forget!



## “Leo From Chicago”

### Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> 9-11am

### in the St. Leo Auditorium

### and led by

### Deacon Charlie

We have all witnessed Bishops who were unexpectedly elected to become Pope. John Paul II, the first Pope elected from Poland, Pope Francis, the first Pope elected from South America and now Pope Leo, the first Pope from the United States. What is it about each of these men that defined their journey from childhood to priest, bishop, cardinal, and ultimately Pope? We have had the opportunity to learn about the first two individuals through their stories, their challenges and the special skills and abilities that propelled them forward during their pontificate.

Join us as we explore what influenced that process with Pope Leo XIV. We will provide a one hour video that will give us a sense of what it was like for him to be raised in a 1960's Chicago Catholic family, what influenced him, and what talents and skills came to epitomize a process that unfolded for him a course he least expected.

After the video our conversation will focus on Pope Leo's recent conversation with young people where he entertained their questions and provided great guidance to parents and grandparents on how to speak with adolescents about difficult current topics.

**To ensure enough handouts please register your intention to attend with the office.**  
**There is no fee for this class.**



# BETTER TOGETHER

Featuring Juliana Alfano and Marie Talley

## Parish Life Center Wednesday, January 28th

Doors open at 5:15pm – Dinner at 5:30pm - \$20 per person  
 Tickets are on sale in the Parish Office.  
 A light supper and a glass of wine will be served.  
 All seating is open, NO reserved tables.

Come and enjoy a night filled with memorable duets by our very own fabulous cantors,  
 Juliana and Marie. Returning on the piano is the wonderful Jodie DeSalvo.




**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.**

Come and enjoy a night filled with memorable duets by our very own fabulous cantors, Juliana and Marie. Returning on the piano is the wonderful Jodie DeSalvo.



Wedding Anniversary Mass at St. Leo  
February 14, 2026 at 11 am



Couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more years of marriage are invited by Bishop Dewane to a special Anniversary Mass in their honor. Immediately following Mass, family and friends may join at the reception in the Parish Life Center. For reservations fill out the following form and bring it or mail it to the parish office no later than Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Husband's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Wife's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address:

Northern Address

Anniversary date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Number of years married: \_\_\_\_ Photo with Bishop: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_  
M D Y

Number of people attending reception:

Email:

This form is for St. Leo Parishioners only. Others register with your home Parish.

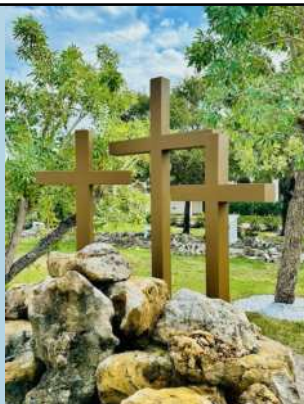


## AN UPDATE ON THE RENOVATION OF THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

### A PROJECT OF THE ST. LEO LADIES' GUILD

Work on the project started at the end of October and is nearly completed. After a few glitches, we are happy to report that the majority of the renovation will be completed this week. The white marble pedestals and benches are all put in place, the bronze sculptures and plates are mounted and the new landscaping has been planted. The brick pathway has been re-leveled, and installation of new sand and sealing was completed last week. In the weeks ahead spotlights on the crosses and a water feature on the rocks will appear. The *Patrons of the Calvary Garden* bronze plaque and granite base will be put in place as soon as the base arrives, which we are hoping will be in time for Lent.

Now that everything else is looking so beautiful, the lawn is noticeably in need of new sod, so it seems that the Ladies' Guild fund raising is not quite over yet!



**Thank you  
for your patience and support  
with this amazing project.  
Watch the bulletin  
for the announcement  
of the rededication  
of the Stations  
later in the season.**



## Nationwide 9 Days for Life Novena January 16-24

9 Days for Life is an annual novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Participants can download the novena or sign up to receive the daily prayers via email or text.

Sign up at  
<https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup>



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!





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*

Joseph Duffey

Sylvia "Jane" Wafler

Richard Tirpak



### BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Come join your fellow parishioners for coffee and goodies following 8am morning Mass in the Nest Café. Gatherings take place every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month, beginning on January 16th.

It's a wonderful time to relax, see old friends, and meet new ones.



St Leo's Ladies' Guild  
Invites all parishioners to  
The Naples Players

### Readers Theatre Roadshow

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 1:00 PM

In the New Auditorium

Doors open at 12:30 PM

Light refreshments will be served

The Roadshow will feature three, short, one-act plays from the TNP Repertoire.

Readers Theatre emphasizes the most important part of theatre – the story – without the complexity of costumes, scenery or props.

Join us to enjoy:

"A Charming Affair" (a fairy tale comedy)

"Chocolate" (a who-done-it comedy)

"The Challenge of Bureaucracy" (a telephone comedy)



## JOSEPH GRABOWSKI

VP OF EVANGELIZATION FOR THE SOCIETY OF G.K. CHESTERTON.



Jan 15

Faith & Ale is a monthly gathering of Catholic men. Join us at St. John XXIII Catholic Church in Fort Myers, FL for our January 15th event, titled:

### "Agreeable Disagreement: Lessons in Logic and Life"

We invite you to register for this event and see our season's lineup on our website [www.faithandale.com/register/](http://www.faithandale.com/register/). Review the details of this event below:

- Start time 6:30pm, doors open at 6pm.
- St. John XXIII Catholic Church  
13060 Palomino Lane  
Fort Myers, FL 33912
- \$10 Suggested Donation (pizza & drink)
- Register [www.faithandale.com](http://www.faithandale.com)

Joe's message "...provides lessons from Chesterton's life and writings for practicing the virtue of having good arguments without falling into the vice of quarrelsomeness."



### JOURNEY TOGETHER IN FAITH AND HOPE



If you enjoy Fr. Jarek's reflections in the bulletin, take your faith journey further at [CatholicJourneyToday.com](http://CatholicJourneyToday.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](http://CatholicJourneyToday.com) and continue growing in faith—one reflection at a time

## St. Leo's Respect Life Ministry



ST LEO RESPECT LIFE meetings will begin again on January 30, 2026 and continue on the last Friday of each month.

At 9:00 a.m., we will meet in The Nest, next to the church.

We hope you all had a wonderful and happy Christmas and we wish you many Blessings in 2026.

Looking forward to seeing some new faces at our meeting to add fresh and meaningful ideas to further our Mission.

For more information please call Loretta at 917.886.7273 or Peggy at 239.293.3201

## NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 12</b>	
8:00 am	+Maureen Broitzman	Her St Leo Daily Mass Friends
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 13</b>	
8:00 am	+Leona Mazzoli	Mary Jorgeson
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 14</b>	
8:00 am	+Luke Bogacz	Anna-Marie Waller
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 15</b>	
8:00 am	+Patrick Cushnahan	Micha Cushnahan
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 16</b>	
8:00 am	+Blair Todt	Bob Campbell
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 17</b>	
8:00 am	+John Finley	His Loving Wife, Edith
3:30 pm	+Michael DeMarrais	His Loving Wife, Carmen
3:30 pm - Overflow	+Peter Caruso	Philip Sohn
5:30 pm	The Parishioners of St. Leo	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 18</b>	
7:30 am	+Luke Bogacz	Ethel Figurski
9:30 am	+Dennis Toomey	Bob Campbell
9:30 am - Overflow	+Maureen Broitzman	Louis Perry
11:30 am	+Ron Travisano	Bob Campbell
1:30 pm - Polish	Special Cumulative Intentions	
3:00 pm - Spanish	Special Cumulative Intentions	
5:00 pm	+Carmine, +Michael & +Rose DiSebastiano	Terri & Stevie Harapsky

Hearing Loops are installed around the pews adjacent to the north and south entrances of the church and in the new auditorium. Hearing Loops transmit sound directly into a hearing aid or cochlear implant. To receive the Loop signal, manually activate the T-coil or telephone setting on your device. Consult your audiologist or hearing aid professional with problems.



### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

### ST. LEO MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIEST CENACLE

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

### Prayer Group

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

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

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

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



### 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 †Lauren & †Anthony Aquino  
Requested by Virginia Aquino

Candles this week are dedicated to †Clare Murphy  
Requested by Antonia Daughtry

### 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...

Clayton Aunkle  
Tom Bardol  
Jeffrey Bogart  
Dave Bowezs  
Tom Brown  
Denise Buk  
Isabelle Marie Caiola  
Patrick Cain  
Carol Compagna  
Mark Chambers  
Mickey Chervitz  
Michelle Chiarulli  
Kevin Clark  
Scott Cochell  
Lourdes Coll  
Greg Daeger  
Eli Davis  
Janet Davis  
Tara DeRoma  
Carrie Derse  
Robby Dirks  
Brad Fairfield  
Paula Fairfield  
Linda Fischel  
Sean Flynn  
Brynn Forlizzi  
John Galli  
Gisette Lupita Garcia  
Ben Gondersone  
Esmeralda Gomez Moreira  
Cory Gray  
Pauline Graziano  
Karen Grimshaw  
Ryan Hammond  
Alan Handsman  
Tara Handsman  
Luke Hass  
Robbin Holcomb  
Jack Jeffrey  
Jerry Kaehle  
Nolan Kane  
Mary Kobel  
Peggy Land  
Joanne Laurenzana  
Emily Lienesch

Cole LoRusso  
Tim McAuliff  
Misaela Mendiola Sandoval  
Jose Manuel Meraz  
Jay Miller  
Paul Modzelewski  
Barbara Moloney  
Jay Morgan  
Deborah Muñoz  
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  
Gary Schomaker  
Martha Simons  
Michael Anthony Sforza  
Rosemarie Smedile  
Sheryl Southerd  
Irene Stange  
Jim Stokes  
Charlie Sweeney Jr.  
Debra Tailerco  
Michael Taveripite  
Vivian Thomas  
Fabio Thurman  
Tom Thurman  
Eleanor Trevison  
Keanu Vallette  
Debra Vannotti  
Tim Young  
John White  
George Witkowski  
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](mailto:ehernandez@stleocatholicchurch.org)



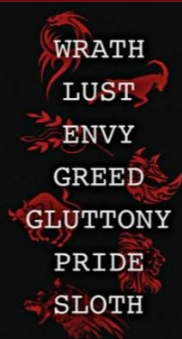
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Altar Servers – Adults & Youth	Joe Stegle.....551-427-9045
Arimatheans	Parish Office ..... 992-0901
Bulletin	Anne Bellows..... 992-0901
Catholic Charities at St. Leo	..... 390-2928
Cenacle Legal Services (Low Income)	.....941-244-0308
Counseling Services	Catholic Charities..... 455-2655
Extraordinary Minister Coordinator:	
Daily Masses	Dan Bardauskis.....992-0901
Weekend Masses	Dan Bardauskis.....992-0901
Homebound	Dan Bardauskis ..... 992-0901
Hospice-Hospital-Nursing Homes	Parish Office ..... 992-0901
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
Prison Ministry	Robert Hiniker.....863-558-0407
Project Gabriel	Carol Dangler.. .....793-0826
Project Rachel	Sylvia Jimenez.....941-412-5860
Respect Life Ministry	Loretta Ede.....917-886-7273
Retrouvaille	Doug & Jeanne Lindberg.....800-470-2230
Order of Christian Initiation	Griselda Cisneros ..... 992-0901
Sacristan Ministry	Annette Smith ..... 948-1640
Sewing-Knitting-Crocheting	Bernice Romano ..... .601-5877
Sing a Long	Penny Kelly.....314-412-4022
St. Leo the Great Ladies Guild	Beth Daniels.....248-376-2997
Usher Ministry	Parish Office ..... 992-0901
Youth Ministry	Gisela Meraz..... 992-0901

## BEGINNING THIS WEEK

### 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).



## 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.

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.

They will resume January 13th, at Brookdale in North Naples. Contact Penny at 314-412-4022 for more information.



Please join us for our next two events!



Kelly Wahlquist  
Catholic author  
and founder of  
WINE: Women  
In the New  
Evangelization

January 22, 2026

Kally Wahlquist  
Blessed is the Fruit  
St. John XXII  
Parish Life Center

Registration ends January 19 at Noon

Carol Razza ~ February 19, 2026  
Church of the Resurrection

Registration is \$28.00 per event

Join us for dinner with wine, of course, followed by a presentation and the opportunity for community and connectivity with other faith-based women.

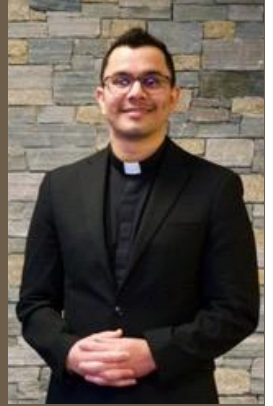
For more information on speakers and to register online please visit our website:  
[www.faithandwineleecounty.com](http://www.faithandwineleecounty.com)

# NOTAS EN ESPAÑOL

Nos complace dar la bienvenida al Padre Gustavo Correa García a la Parroquia de San León Magno.

El Padre Gustavo nació en Colombia y fue ordenado sacerdote el 3 de junio de 2023. Desde temprana edad, su madre lo animó a ser un buen y fiel hombre de Dios, una guía que finalmente lo llevó a discernir su vocación al sacerdocio.

Antes de ingresar al seminario, el Padre Gustavo trabajó en el campo de la educación en Colombia, una experiencia que ha marcado profundamente su enfoque pastoral. Como sacerdote, valora la importancia de escuchar atentamente, acompañar a las personas en su vida diaria y construir relaciones basadas en la compasión, la fe y el respeto.



El Padre Gustavo tiene una devoción especial a Nuestra Señora de la Medalla Milagrosa, San Miguel Arcángel y Santa Rita de Casia.

Se siente verdaderamente bendecido de unirse a la Parroquia de San León y humildemente pide la bendición de Dios al comenzar esta nueva misión entre nosotros.



≡  
¡Este es  
mi Hijo  
amado!

Las lecturas de hoy nos presentan al prometido por Dios desde el Antiguo Testamento. Al ser bautizado por Juan, Jesús asume su misión pública, nada fácil, por cierto. Sin embargo, no está solo. El Espíritu Santo lo acompañará a lo largo de su vida y misión. *“En ese momento se abrieron los cielos y vio al Espíritu de Dios que bajaba como una paloma y se posaba sobre él. Al mismo tiempo, se oyó una voz del cielo que decía: ‘Este es mi Hijo, el Amado; en él me complazco’.* (Mateo 3:16-17). La liturgia de este domingo nos invita a descubrir la magnitud de nuestro bautismo. Desde ese día, el Espíritu Santo nos acompaña y guía en cada momento de nuestra vida. Solo basta con dejarlo actuar, y hará maravillas en nosotros. ¿Sabes la fecha y el día de tu bautismo? ¿Conoces el nombre del sacerdote que te dio el sacramento?

*“Los bautizados se han revestido de Cristo”* (Gálatas 3:27). *“Por el Espíritu Santo, el bautismo es un baño que purifica, santifica y justifica”* (Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, #1227). Gracias, Señor, por amarnos tanto, porque por nuestro bautismo nos acogiste y abrazaste en tus brazos, y nos manifestaste ante la comunidad para formar parte de la familia cristiana. Todos somos hijos e hijas de Dios por el bautismo. Desde su bautismo, Jesús pasó haciendo el bien durante su vida terrena. Por lo tanto, nuestro compromiso como bautizados debe ser el mismo: ¡hacer el bien!









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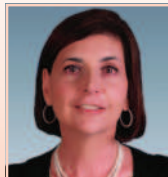
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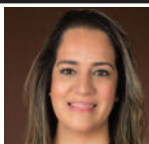
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