

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.*

May 24, 2026



LPI

28290 BEAUMONT ROAD, BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34134 • PHONE (239) 992-0901
WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG • OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8 AM - 4 PM
DAILY MASS: MONDAY-SATURDAY: 8 AM • CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 2PM-3PM
SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES: 3:30 & 5:30 PM • SUNDAY MASSES: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM & 5 PM
MISA EN ESPAÑOL DOMINGO - 3 PM Y LAS CONFESSIONES ANTES DE LA MISA •
MASS IN POLISH: 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH - 1:30 PM

Parish Staff

Rev. Jarek (Jaroslaw) Sniosek	Pastor
Rev. Juan Carlos Sack	Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Charles Ferraro	Deacon
Rev. Mr. Dale Bacik	Deacon
Juliana Alfano	Musician
Dan Bardauskis	Liturgy Assistant
Anne Bellows	Communications Coordinator
Hermilo Calderon	Lead Maintenance
Griselda Cisneros	Receptionist
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!

May 16 & 17
\$22,313

Catholic Communication
Campaign
\$2,715

Celebrating our Faith

BAPTISM OF INFANTS

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

CONFIRMATION

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

EUCCHARIST

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

RECONCILIATION

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

THE RITE OF ANOINTING

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

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

ANNULMENT - Re-establishing the freedom to marry.

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

VOCATION

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

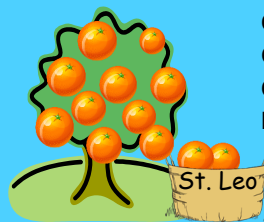
ONLINE GIVING

WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG

2026 CFA

Congratulations !

Now that we have reached 100% of the Diocesan goal we have an opportunity to help St. Leo even more. Every dollar in excess of the goal, up to 25% will be returned to the parish assessment free!



Our goal..... \$664,000
Contributions to date .. \$778,007
Our pledges \$798,417
Pledge goal attained.... 120.24%

= 10% of Goal

Next Weekend's Mass Schedule

Saturday, May 30

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

Sunday, May 31

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

Changes may occur without notice.

Daily Reflections

by Father Jarek

SUNDAY, MAY 24 - PENTECOST SUNDAY

WHEN GOD UNLOCKS THE ROOM

“Receive the Holy Spirit.” (John 20:22)

The disciples are behind locked doors, and honestly, who can blame them? Fear has a way of shrinking life. It narrows the imagination. It turns tomorrow into a threat and ordinary noises into possible disasters. Some people lock doors. Others lock hearts. We hide behind schedules, distractions, sarcasm, endless scrolling, or the very spiritual phrase, “I’m fine,” which occasionally means, “Please do not ask a second question.”

And yet Jesus enters the room anyway. He does not wait for courage to appear before He appears Himself. He comes into frightened spaces carrying peace, not shame. Then He breathes the Holy Spirit upon them. Pentecost reminds us that God’s Spirit does not arrive only when life is organized, calm, and emotionally mature. The Spirit enters confused families, exhausted caregivers, grieving hearts, anxious minds, divided communities, and people quietly wondering how much longer they can keep carrying everything alone.

The miracle of Pentecost is not only that the disciples speak. It is that people finally hear. The Spirit still does this. He teaches us how to speak hope to discouraged people without sounding shallow, how to speak truth without cruelty, and how to bring peace into rooms where fear has been leading the conversation for years. The Holy Spirit does not erase our humanity. He fills it with courage.

Prayer: *Come, Holy Spirit. Enter the locked rooms within me. Breathe peace into my fears, clarity into my confusion, and courage into the places where I have grown tired of hoping. Amen.*

Readings: Acts 2:1–11; Psalm 104; 1 Corinthians 12:3b–7, 12–13; John 20:19–23

MONDAY, MAY 25 - MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

WHEN GOD ASKS, “WHERE ARE YOU?”

“The LORD God called to him and asked him, ‘Where are you?’” (Genesis 3:9)

God’s first question after humanity falls is surprisingly tender. Not, “What have you done?”

Not, “How could you?” But, “Where are you?” God already knows where Adam is hiding. The question is an invitation, not an interrogation. Come out from fear. Come out from shame.

Come back into relationship. It is the same question God still asks every soul trying to disappear beneath busyness, resentment, exhaustion, noise, or the quiet ache of pretending everything is okay.

Adam and Eve hide because shame always pushes people into isolation. Mary stands beneath the cross because love refuses to run away. She remains present in the heartbreak. Present in the confusion. Present in the silence where so many others fled. That is part of what makes her Mother of the Church. She teaches believers how to remain faithful when life does not make sense and when prayers seem to echo without answers.

The Church itself is born in woundedness. Not from success, power, or comfort, but from the pierced side of Christ with Mary standing nearby. Real holiness often begins there too. Not in controlling life perfectly, but in remaining present with love when every instinct says to escape. Some of the holiest people are simply those who stayed when it would have been easier to leave.

Prayer: *Mary, Mother of the Church, teach me not to hide from God or from others. Help me remain faithful, tender, and courageous beneath the crosses I do not fully understand. Amen.*

Readings: Genesis 3:9–15, 20 or Acts 1:12–14; Psalm 87; John 19:25–34

TUESDAY, MAY 26 - MEMORIAL OF SAINT PHILIP NERI, PRIEST

HOLINESS WITH A LIGHT HEART

“Be holy because I am holy.” (1 Peter 1:16)

Holiness sometimes gets mistaken for heaviness. People imagine saints as permanently serious, mildly intimidating, and possibly incapable of enjoying dessert. But Saint Philip Neri reminds us that deep holiness can also laugh easily, smile warmly, and bring peace into a room without announcing itself. He understood something many people forget: joy is not superficial when it flows from trust in God.

Peter says to Jesus, “We have given up everything and followed you.” It is such an honest human moment. Most generous people eventually ask some version of that question. Lord, did You notice? The sacrifices. The caregiving. The forgiving. The countless quiet acts no one applauded. Jesus does not shame Peter for asking. He reminds him that nothing offered in love is ever wasted, even when life includes persecutions, disappointments, misunderstandings, and the occasional church meeting that mysteriously lasts longer than salvation history itself.

Saint Philip Neri knew that gloomy pride can disguise itself as holiness. A harsh spirit rarely brings people closer to God. Joy does. Humility does. Mercy does. The saints are not people who floated above ordinary life untouched by irritation or weakness. They are people who learned how to let grace soften them instead of hardening them. Sometimes one of the clearest signs of spiritual maturity is the ability to take God seriously without taking yourself quite so seriously.

Prayer: *Lord, give me the joyful heart of Saint Philip Neri. Save me from harshness, self importance, and gloomy pride. Teach me to love deeply, laugh kindly, and serve You with freedom and peace. Amen. Readings: 1 Peter 1:10–16; Psalm 98; Mark 10:28–31*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 - LOVE THAT DOES NOT WITHER

“The word of the Lord remains forever.” (1 Peter 1:25)

Peter reminds us that human glory is like grass. It appears vibrant for a season and then quietly fades. That truth unsettles a world obsessed with staying youthful, relevant, successful, productive, and properly filtered in photographs. We spend enormous energy trying to preserve what time inevitably touches. Yet there is strange freedom in remembering that we were never meant to build our identity on applause, beauty, status, or the approval of strangers scrolling while distracted in waiting rooms.

In the Gospel, James and John ask Jesus for places of honor just moments after He speaks about suffering and sacrifice. It feels painfully familiar. Human beings have always wanted faith to

bring importance, recognition, and security. We prefer crowns to crosses and influence to humility. Yet Jesus gently redirects them toward something greater. Real greatness is not found in being admired, but in learning how to love without constantly needing to be noticed in return. Flowers fade. Titles fade. Applause fades. Even the names engraved on buildings eventually gather dust. But every hidden act of mercy, every sacrifice made quietly for another person, every prayer whispered through tears, every moment of patient love offered when no one else sees it remains held forever in the heart of God. The love rooted in Christ is the only thing that time cannot wither.

Prayer: *Lord, free me from chasing what fades so quickly. Teach me to build my life on what lasts forever: humility, mercy, truth, and love poured out for others. Amen. Readings: 1 Peter 1:18–25; Psalm 147; Mark 10:32–45*

THURSDAY, MAY 28 - TAKE COURAGE, GET UP

“Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you.” (Mark 10:49)

Bartimaeus sits by the roadside blind and begging while crowds move around him without really seeing him. When he hears that Jesus is passing by, he cries out for mercy. The crowd immediately tells him to be quiet, which proves that crowds are not always wise. Sometimes the loudest voices around us, and even inside us, say the same thing: stay small, stay quiet, do not hope too much, do not expect healing, accept the limits of your life and stop bothering God with your ache.

But Bartimaeus refuses despair. There is something holy about that kind of persistence. Not stubbornness rooted in pride, but stubbornness rooted in hope. He keeps calling out until Jesus stops. Then Bartimaeus throws aside his cloak and runs toward Him. That detail matters. The cloak was familiar. It represented survival, identity, and security. Yet healing often begins when we loosen our grip on what has become comfortable but keeps us sitting beside the road. Jesus asks him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The question sounds obvious, yet grace often begins with honest desire. Lord, I want to see. I want clarity instead of confusion. Mercy instead of bitterness. Courage instead of fear. Sometimes the deepest prayer is not complicated theology. Sometimes it is simply a tired heart finally becoming honest before God.

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, give me the courage of Bartimaeus. Help me throw aside whatever keeps me stuck, trust Your mercy more than my fear, and rise when You call my name. Amen. Readings: 1 Peter 2:2–5, 9–12; Psalm 100; Mark 10:46–52*

FRIDAY, MAY 29 - WHEN FAITH HAS LEAVES BUT NO FRUIT

“Above all, let your love for one another be intense.” (1 Peter 4:8)

The fig tree looks alive from a distance, covered with leaves and appearing healthy. But when Jesus comes closer, there is no fruit. It is an uncomfortable image because it quietly asks whether our faith is mostly appearance or genuine transformation. It is possible to know religious language, attend church faithfully, hold strong opinions, and still struggle to produce patience, kindness, forgiveness, humility, or mercy in ordinary daily life. Leaves can impress people from far away. Fruit nourishes those who come near.

Then Jesus enters the temple and overturns the tables. His anger is not impulsive. It is purifying. He reveals God’s desire for worship that is honest, prayerful, and open to all people. Sometimes Christ lovingly overturns the tables inside us too. The tables where pride negotiates superiority. The tables where resentment quietly keeps accounts. The tables where distraction consumes attention meant for prayer, gratitude, or love.

Peter gives the antidote: love intensely, serve generously, and practice hospitality without complaining. Without complaining may be one of the more underrated miracles in Scripture.

Anyone can love beautifully for ten minutes. The deeper test comes when we are tired, inconvenienced, overlooked, or finally sitting down after a long day and someone suddenly needs us again. That is where real fruit quietly grows.

Prayer: *Lord, let my faith bear real fruit. Clear away whatever keeps my heart divided, deepen my love for others, and teach me to serve generously even when it costs me something. Amen. Readings: 1 Peter 4:7–13; Psalm 96; Mark 11:11–26*

SATURDAY, MAY 30 - WHEN “I DON’T KNOW” IS NOT HONEST

“Keep yourselves in the love of God.” (Jude 21)

The religious leaders question Jesus about authority, but when He asks them a sincere question in return, they begin calculating instead of answering honestly. They are not searching for truth. They are managing consequences. Their “We do not know” is not humility. It is self protection dressed politely. Human beings still do this all the time. Sometimes publicly. Sometimes privately. Sometimes in meetings. Sometimes in prayer.

There is a difference between honest uncertainty and evasive uncertainty. Honest uncertainty says, “Lord, I do not fully understand, but I genuinely want the truth.” Evasive uncertainty says, “I may already see the truth, but accepting it would require change, forgiveness, humility, or courage.” The first opens the heart toward wisdom. The second slowly fills the soul with confusion. Eventually people can become so practiced at avoiding truth that they no longer recognize what they are avoiding.

Jude offers another path: build yourselves up in faith, pray in the Holy Spirit, remain in the love of God, and show mercy to those who struggle. That is wise spiritual advice for every age, especially our own. Stay rooted. Stay prayerful. Stay honest. Stay merciful. Not every question in life will be answered immediately, but every heart can remain open to God while waiting for light.

Prayer: *Lord, keep my heart honest before You. Give me humility when I am uncertain, courage when truth asks something difficult of me, and mercy toward those still searching for their way. Amen. Readings: Jude 17, 20b–25; Psalm 63; Mark 11:27–33*

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

NO OCCASIONAL SNOWFALL, JUST AN OCCASIONAL HURRICANE OR TWO PENTECOST SUNDAY

by Father Jarek

When Bishop Frank Dewane welcomed the newly appointed bishop of the Diocese of Venice by joking that he would not experience “occasional snowfall, just an occasional hurricane or two,” people understandably laughed. It was warm, clever, and unmistakably Floridian. But beneath the humor was something surprisingly profound, because in many ways that sentence describes not only Southwest Florida, but the human condition itself.

As our diocese welcomes Bishop-elect Emilio Biosca Agüero, the timing of that image feels almost providential. He arrives not merely to sunshine, palm trees, and beautiful coastlines, but to a Church filled with real people carrying real storms: families carrying grief after unexpected loss, parents worrying quietly about children they cannot protect from every hardship, marriages strained by exhaustion and misunderstanding, elderly people sitting with loneliness after long decades of love, young adults carrying anxiety about the future, and countless souls fighting battles no one else fully sees. Most people spend part of their lives believing that eventually things will calm down. We imagine that maturity, careful planning, financial stability, enough therapy, enough discipline, or finally organizing the garage properly will somehow create a life where peace becomes permanent and problems become manageable. But sooner or later reality humbles all of us. Life rarely settles into complete predictability. Instead, existence becomes a mixture of beautiful sunshine and sudden storms.

One season feels stable, and then unexpectedly a diagnosis arrives. A friendship fractures. A child struggles. A parent declines. A career changes. A betrayal wounds deeply. Sometimes the hurricane comes from outside us, and sometimes it rises quietly within us. Many people appear calm externally while carrying enormous interior winds no one else can see. Lately entire societies feel as though they are standing in dangerous weather. People are emotionally exhausted, politically divided, spiritually distracted, and quietly overwhelmed. Outrage spreads faster than wisdom. Loneliness grows despite endless connection. We consume more information than any civilization in history, yet many hearts feel less anchored than ever before.

Modern culture promises control, but human beings remain fragile. We organize, optimize, monitor, insure, schedule, update, analyze, and track nearly every aspect of life. Many of us now wear smart watches capable of measuring heartbeat, oxygen level, sleep quality, stress level, and perhaps whether we seemed emotionally discouraged while eating kale. Yet despite all our technology and planning, storms still arrive, not only meteorological storms, but emotional, spiritual, relational, and cultural ones as well.

Anyone who has lived through hurricane season in Florida understands the strange emotional ritual that unfolds before landfall. Stores become crowded. Water disappears from shelves. Gas station lines stretch endlessly down the road. People stare at weather maps late into the night hoping the projected path shifts somewhere else. Beneath all the preparation sits the uncomfortable realization that much remains beyond our control, and that is precisely why Pentecost matters so deeply.

Pentecost begins not in calm certainty, but in fear. The disciples are gathered behind locked doors. They are anxious, wounded, uncertain, and afraid of what comes next. The death of Jesus shattered their expectations about how life was supposed to unfold. Their future feels unclear. Their confidence has collapsed. Their world suddenly feels unstable, much like the world many people experience today.

Then Pentecost erupts into that locked room like a storm from heaven itself. “There came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind.” Scripture is remarkably honest here, because God often enters human history not by removing turbulence, but by meeting people directly inside it. And what does Jesus say when He stands among frightened disciples? “Peace be with you.”



Not because suffering disappeared. Not because uncertainty ended. Not because the world suddenly became safe and predictable. But because His presence had entered the room. That is the difference Christianity offers. Christian faith is not the promise of a hurricane free existence. It is the promise that the Holy Spirit can create an interior peace strong enough to survive the storm.

The Sequence for Pentecost expresses this with breathtaking honesty: "In our labor, rest most sweet. Grateful coolness in the heat. Solace in the midst of woe." The Church does not pretend life is easy. The Spirit comes precisely because human beings become weary, dry, wounded, stubborn, anxious, and afraid. Pentecost is not God congratulating strong people. It is God breathing divine life into exhausted ones.

That is why the image of the hurricane becomes even more meaningful for us here in Southwest Florida, because hurricanes reveal what is truly anchored. When strong winds come, shallow roots fail first. The same is true spiritually. A life built entirely on appearance, achievement, politics, control, entertainment, comfort, or constant distraction eventually becomes fragile under pressure. But souls deeply rooted in God often develop a remarkable steadiness, not perfection, not fearlessness, but resilience.

Some of the calmest people you will ever meet are not people who avoided suffering. They are people who survived enough storms to discover what truly matters. They learned that panic rarely helps, bitterness slowly poisons the soul, and no storm lasts forever. Somewhere through their losses, disappointments, illnesses, and fears, they discovered that God remained faithful even when life felt uncertain.

The Holy Spirit forms that kind of person slowly over time. The Spirit softens hardened hearts, melts frozen places within us, bends stubborn pride, heals hidden wounds, renews tired souls, and teaches us how to remain compassionate in a cynical world. Pentecost is ultimately about transformation. Frightened disciples become courageous witnesses. Different languages become mutual understanding. Locked doors become open mission. Fear becomes peace. Scattered people become one body.

And honestly, that may be one of the greatest miracles we need today, because our world is filled with noise but starving for peace, filled with information but lacking wisdom, filled with performance but hungry for authenticity, and filled with outrage while quietly longing for healing. The Holy Spirit does not erase every hurricane around us, but He prevents the hurricane from owning us.

That may be why Bishop Dewane's humorous line resonates so deeply as our diocese begins a new chapter. Yes, there may be hurricanes. But grace can still flourish here. Joy can still survive here. Faith can still remain standing here. Perhaps mature faith is finally learning that the goal of life is not finding a place without storms. The goal is becoming the kind of person who remains anchored when the winds begin to rise, because the Spirit of God is still breathing peace into the middle of the storm, and although the wind still blows, it now fills sails instead of sinking hearts.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, when life feels uncertain and the winds grow strong, keep my heart anchored in You.

When fear rises within me, breathe Your peace into the locked rooms of my soul.

Soften what has hardened, heal what has been wounded, and strengthen what has grown weary.

Teach me not to panic, not to surrender to bitterness, and not to lose hope when storms arrive.

Help me trust that even in confusion, grief, or change,

You are still present, still guiding, and still carrying me safely toward Your peace. Amen.





On Thursday, June 11, 2026, as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. bishops will consecrate the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Please join us at Sam Mass as we join parishes around the country in this national consecration.

Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

June 3 -11



United States
Conference of
Catholic Bishops

This Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus draws its daily devotions from the [Litany of the Sacred Heart](#).

Each day reflects on the wisdom of saints and pontiffs on the Sacred Heart and offers opportunities for prayer and action, framed by Pope Francis' encyclical [Dilexit Nos](#) (He Loved Us) and Pope Leo XIV's apostolic exhortation [Dilexi Te](#) (I Have Loved You).

The novena concludes with the consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



To participate in this Novena go to www.usccb.org/novena-sacred-heart-jesus

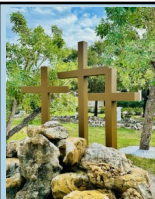


Join Our Faith Formation Team!

Are you passionate about our Faith?
Are you willing to share a few hours of your time to help educate our St. Leo's students?
We are looking for committed parishioners to join our Religious Education team as catechists or catechist assistants on Wednesday evenings or Sunday afternoons for the upcoming school year.

We provide curriculum, training, and support to ensure you succeed in this rewarding ministry.
To learn more or to sign up, please contact Paula Hand at csc@stleocatholicchurch.org

Make a difference in the faith journey of our youth by becoming part of this important ministry!



MEMORIAL BRICKS FOR THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS GARDEN

The St. Leo Stations of the Cross Garden is a sacred space to pray and reflect. Placing a brick in memory of a loved one, to mark a special event, or celebrate an anniversary is a timeless way to remember what matters most in our lives.

Memorial bricks may be ordered in two sizes, 4"x 8" (\$125) or 12"x12" (\$300). Brochures with more information and order forms are available in the parish office. Brick orders will be submitted and installed 3 times per year. The next deadline for brick orders is May 31st, and installation of those bricks is expected in July.

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



DIOCESE OF
VENICE
IN FLORIDA

Please Attend!

Seeing members of their faith community reminds many homebound individuals that they are loved and not forgotten by their brothers and sisters in Christ.



TV MASS
FILMING

Wednesday, June 10
10:00 AM



PENTECOST

THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Pentecost marks the glorious fulfillment of Easter. Fifty days after the Resurrection, the promise Jesus made to his disciples came true: the Holy Spirit descended upon them in wind and fire, transforming fear into courage and confusion into mission. This feast celebrates the birth of the Church and the power of the Spirit that continues to move within it today. Gathered in the Upper Room, the apostles and others waited in prayer with Mary. Suddenly, “a sound like a strong driving wind” filled the house, and “tongues as of fire” rested on each of them (Acts 2:2–3). They began to speak in many languages, and people from every nation heard the Gospel in their own tongue. From that moment, the Good News began to spread to the ends of the earth. Pentecost reveals that the Holy Spirit is not distant but active, breathing life into the Church, inspiring faith, and guiding believers. The same Spirit who hovered over creation and descended on Jesus at his baptism now dwells in every baptized person, empowering us to live as witnesses of Christ.

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord, enable us to grow in holiness and to share God’s love in the world. Pentecost is sometimes called the “birthday of the Church,” but it is more than an anniversary. It is a living reality. The Spirit who descended at Pentecost still renews the earth, stirring hearts, awakening faith, and giving courage to proclaim Christ’s peace. As we celebrate this feast, we pray: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.

A New Shepherd for Venice

Edited from an article by Bob Reddy



On May 13, 2026, Pope Leo XIV accepted the resignation of Bishop Frank J. Dewane, and appointed Bishop-elect Emilio Biosca Agüero, OFM Cap., as Bishop-elect of the 10-county Diocese of Venice.

At a press conference in Venice, Bishop Dewane introduced Bishop-elect Biosca, a member of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars of the Province of Saint Augustine in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, who since 2018 has served in Washington D. C. as Pastor of the Shrine of the Sacred Heart. The new Bishop, a native of Colorado Springs, CO, was ordained to the priesthood on May 21, 1994 for the Capuchin Franciscans and has also served as a missionary in Papua New Guinea and later in Cuba.

Bishop Dewane continued, “As of today, I am officially the Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Venice and have been appointed its Apostolic Administrator until the day of Bishop-elect Agüero’s ordination which will take place on July 11, 2026.”

Bishop-elect Biosca said that he accepted the appointment with trust in the Divine Providence of God. He also expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Holy Father, Pope Leo, for “his prayerful support and for the confidence he has placed in me through this appointment. Mindful of the weight of this responsibility, I entrust myself to Our Lady of Mercy and to St. Mark, co-patrons of this youthful and thriving Diocese of Venice.”

“I am thrilled to be here and filled with joy to begin this new chapter together in faith and charity. I am also eager to join you in the great task of evangelization, growing together in our knowledge of Christ and sharing the profound hope of the Gospel,” Bishop-elect Biosca said. He added, “I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Bishop Dewane, who has faithfully shepherded this local Church for 20 years. His pastoral charity, generous heart, and warm welcome have already been a great gift to me. I look forward to continuing to seek his guidance as I begin this ministry.”

“I look forward to entering into the life of this local Church: to know its people, to understand its history, to appreciate its customs and traditions, and to learn the events that have shaped the spiritual character of this region,” Bishop-elect Biosca added. “I hope to discover not only the history written in books and archives, but also the living history preserved in families, parishes, neighborhoods, and their witness to Christ.”

To the priests of the Diocese, who Bishop-elect Biosca said were going to be his principal and closest collaborators, he offered his fraternal greeting and deep respect. Bishop-elect Biosca offered the same greeting to the men and women religious of the Diocese, thanking them for the witness of their consecrated lives and said that he hopes to meet with them and support their evangelical form of life in the Church. Bishop-elect Biosca also extended his gratitude to the lay leaders of the Diocese and of the Parishes, whose fidelity and generous service prove indispensable to the mission and structure of the Church. After offering comments in Spanish he concluded by saying, “I ask for your prayers, that I may serve faithfully and joyfully as a shepherd after the Heart of Christ for the Good Shepherd. God Bless you!”

Bishop Dewane, who has served here since 2006, stated, “...it is my plan to remain in the Diocese of Venice, which has become my home, as it has for so many others from the Midwest. To the Priests, Deacons, and joy-filled laity, thank you all for being a wonderful family of faith, hope, and love. I look forward to my continued home here assisting the new Bishop pastorally, in any manner I can.”



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!



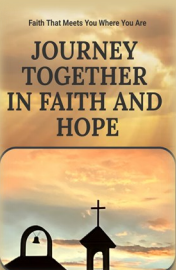
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION IN JUNE

Registration for Fall Religious Education classes for children in grades 1-12 is taking place in June. Remember – children are NOT automatically re-enrolled. The child’s parent or guardian must enroll their child EACH YEAR to attend.

Registration forms can be picked up 24/7 from the boxes outside the Religious Education Gate. Be sure to take one family form, plus a student form for each child you are registering.

Completed forms plus fees and copies of sacrament certificates (for new students) should be returned on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9am-3pm in the office in the Education Building or Wednesdays 4:30pm-7:30pm in room 13/14 of the Education Building. To drop off forms at other times contact Gisela Meraz at the Religious Education office at 992-0901.

Schedule of classes for the Fall 2026-2027 school year: Wednesday 6:10-7:30 pm for grades 1-8 Sundays for High School and Sacrament Preparation



If you enjoy Fr. Jarek’s reflections in the bulletin, take your faith journey further at 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.

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NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
MONDAY 8:00 am	MAY 25 +Gloria Scott Dedicated to Respect Life	Joan Lamanteer
TUESDAY 8:00 am	MAY 26 +Hope Harvey	Bonnie Dunne-Martin
WEDNESDAY 8:00 am	MAY 27 +Larry Hardy	His St. Leo Friends
THURSDAY 8:00 am	MAY 28 +Ron Johansson	His Loving Wife
FRIDAY 8:00 am	MAY 29 +Cathy & +Joseph Kleer	Their Loving Family
SATURDAY 8:00 am	MAY 30 +Paul L. Blickley	The DeMilia Family
3:30 pm	+Lorraine Hendrickson	Steve & Margaret Ann Chappell
5:30 pm	+Carmie Napadano	Her Loving Son & Daughter-in-law
SUNDAY 7:30 am	MAY 31 +Cynthia Phelan	Shai & Jack Miciak
9:30 am	+Lawrence Hardy	Sal & Joan Tassone
11:30 am	The Parishioners of St. Leo	
3:00 pm - Spanish	Special Cumulative Intentions	
5:00 pm	+John Swift	Stephanie Saunders



Flowers this week are dedicated to The Parishioner of St. Leo

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

Please Pray for Our Troops

Lt. Marco Colavecchia
Brian Dearcia Leon
Michael DeSantis
Cpt. Mary Kate Flynn
Lt. Thomas A. Flynn
Cpt. Sean Flynn
Aaron Gaudet
Thomas Geanuracos
Carlos Gonzales
Lt. Andrew D. Holt
Brian Howlett
Sgt. Ryan McCabe
Lt. Com. Matthew Kleine
Lt. Wm. Reed Leesman

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

We pray today for...

Jack Aiman
Linda Aquino
Clayton Aunkle
Linda Bardol
Tom Bardol
Jeffrey Bogart
Bob Brock
Hildi Brown
Tom Brown
Denise Buk
Isabelle Marie Caiola
Patrick Cain
Peter Castro
Carol Compagna
Mickey Chervitz
Michelle Chiarulli
Scott Cochell
Lourdes Coll
Greg Daeger
Eli Davis
Janet Davis
Jeff Davis
Tara DeRoma
Robby Dirks
Jaden Anthony Droz
Brad Fairfield
Rudolph & Mary Fazio
Michael Federico
Brynn Forlizzi
Cory Fredericksen
John Galli
Gisette Lupita Garcia
Vincent Gil
Kevin Glowacki
Ben Gondersone
Cory Gray
Karen Grimshaw
Luke Hass
Chie Herron
Robbin Holcomb
Mary Kobel

Karen Lamont
Joanne Laurenzana
Emily Lienesch
Debra Marcondes
Mary Mavilla
Tim McAuliff
Paul Modzelewski
Barbara Moloney
Deborah Muñiz
Audrey Grace Neeley
Glenn Nelson
Paul Nippert
Rita Off
Mary Pearce
Beverly Pecor
Michelle Pennell
Connie Phillips
Barbara Potocnik
Aiden Putnam
Mary Ritt
Jack Rubush
Tessa Santagate
Cindy Santiago
Gary Schomaker
Louis Simonini
Michael Anthony Sforza
Charlie Sweeney Jr.
Michael Taveripte
Bonnie Tenhaken
Eleanor Trevison
Debra Vannotti
Justin VanNorstrand
Jane Venuti-Tontodonato
Tim Young
William Welch
John White
Shelly Yuhus Lowry
Ray Zonghetti
Fabiala, Krislin, Michael, Michael R., Tray. Present & past parish priests.

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



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

ST. LEO MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIEST CENACLE

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

Prayer Group

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

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

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

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

The Sewing, Knitting & Crocheting Group

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



DAILY PRAYER SCHEDULE

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



ST LEO'S RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

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



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

PARISH DIRECTORY

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.....888-249-9262
Extraordinary Minister Coordinator:	
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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 Hotline888-373-7888
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 Soto992-0901
Perpetual Baby Shower	Patty Swanson713-876-5517
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 Romano601-5877
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

**Are you grieving the loss of a loved one?
Are you a widow or widower?
Are you looking for support and healing?**

You might want to consider joining our Bereavement Group which will meet for 9 weeks beginning on Thursday, June 18th, from 9-10:30am the Nest Cafe. Paula Hand will be facilitating the group, and you will be provided with a companion book to assist you in our group discussions. If you are interested in joining or have questions, please email csc@stleocatholicchurch.org or call the Parish Office at 992-0901. We look forward to embarking together on this journey from grief to healing.



On Father's Day

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HEARTS SO
WE MAY
NEVER
FORGET THE
LOSS OF
THESE
HEROES.

St. Leo's Respect Life Ministry

Please join Co-Chairs Loretta Ede & Peggy Davis at the monthly meeting, Friday, May 29th, in the Nest Café at 9am. Meetings are held on the last Friday of every month at the same place and time. All are welcome to attend, participate in discussions, and join in prayerful support of the St. Leo Respect Life Ministry. Our topic for this meeting is Mercy and Healing. June is the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Inspired by this devotion, the Church seeks to extend Christ's mercy to all who are hurting, including those suffering from post-abortion trauma, domestic abuse, and personal crises.

NOTAS EN ESPAÑOL



El Espíritu Santo llena el vacío que la Ascensión del Señor había dejado en los discípulos. Ahora da comienzo la Iglesia naciente, con la fuerza del Espíritu Santo en sus corazones. Pentecostés es la realidad presente del Padre, del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo en la Iglesia. Es el Espíritu quien nos sostiene, impulsa y fortalece. Este día, la Iglesia entera se anima con cantos y alabanzas por este gran acontecimiento: *“Dicho esto, sopló sobre ellos y les dijo: ‘Reciban el Espíritu Santo. A quienes descarguen de sus pecados, serán liberados, y a quienes se los retengan, les serán retenidos’”* (Juan 20:22-23).

La Iglesia es una, como lo recitamos cada domingo en el Credo, y es obra del Espíritu Santo. Como dice san Pablo: *“Hay diferentes dones espirituales, pero el Espíritu es el mismo. Hay diversos ministerios, pero el Señor es el mismo. Hay diversidad de obras, pero es el mismo Dios quien obra*

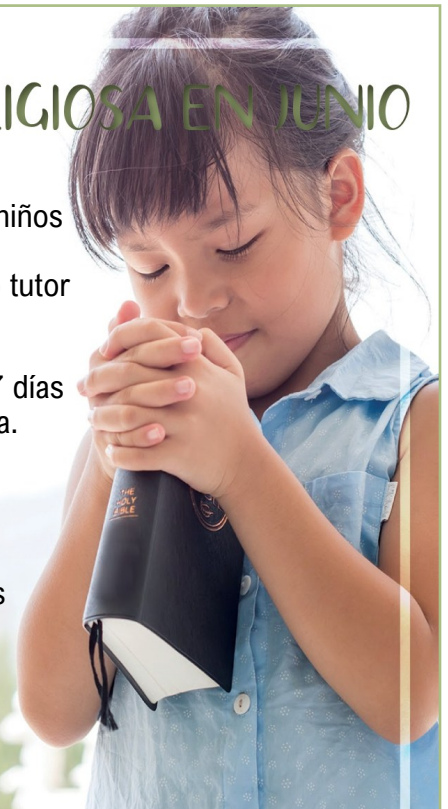
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todo en todos. La manifestación del Espíritu que a cada uno se le da es para provecho común” (1 Corintios 12:4-7). Esto nos recuerda que nadie es dueño de los ministerios en la Iglesia, ni puede aprovecharse del poder que se le otorga en el servicio. Solo somos servidores al servicio del Señor. El Espíritu Santo está para construir las comunidades, los grupos parroquiales, los movimientos y las organizaciones. Y la mejor manera de construir es obedeciendo al Señor, que nos dice en su Evangelio: *“¡La paz esté con ustedes!”* (Juan 20:21). La paz une, anima y fortalece.

INSCRIPCIÓN PARA LA EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA EN JUNIO

La inscripción para las clases de Educación Religiosa de otoño, dirigidas a niños y jóvenes de 1.º a 12.º grado, se llevará a cabo durante el mes de junio. Recuerde: los niños NO se reinscriben automáticamente. El padre, madre o tutor del menor debe inscribir a su hijo CADA AÑO para que pueda asistir.

Los formularios de inscripción pueden recogerse las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana, en las cajas ubicadas fuera del portón de Educación Religiosa. Asegúrese de tomar un formulario familiar, además de un formulario de estudiante por cada niño que vaya a inscribir.

Los formularios completados, junto con las cuotas y las copias de los certificados sacramentales (para estudiantes nuevos), deben entregarse los lunes, martes, jueves y viernes, de 9 am a 3 pm, en la oficina situada en el Edificio de Educación; o bien, los miércoles, de 4:30 pm a 7:30 pm, en el salón 13/14 del Edificio de Educación. Para entregar los formularios en otros horarios, comuníquese con Gisela Meraz en la oficina de Educación Religiosa al 992-0901.



Horario de clases para el año escolar 2026-2027: miércoles de 6:10 a 7:30 pm para los grados 1.º al 8.º
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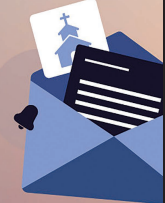
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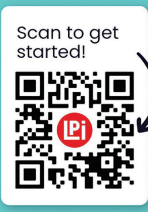
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