

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.*

November 23, 2025



The First Thanksgiving at Plymouth/1914/ Jennie A. Brownscombe

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. Raul Zamora	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!

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

Celebrating our Faith

BAPTISM OF INFANTS

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

CONFIRMATION

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

EUCHARIST

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

RECONCILIATION

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

THE RITE OF ANOINTING

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

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

ANNULMENT - Reestablishing the freedom to marry.

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

VOCATION

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

ONLINE GIVING

WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

AGES 5-10

AT SUNDAY 9:30AM MASSES

Begins Next Sunday, November 30th.

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, November 29

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

Sunday, November 30

7:30 am	Fr. Jack
9:30 am	Fr. Jack
11:30 am	Fr. Jarek
3:00 pm-Spanish	Fr. Raul
5:00 pm	Fr. Jarek

Changes may occur without notice.



Sunday, November 23

**The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
The Throne That Does Not Flinch**

“Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” (Luke 23:43)

Kings usually sit on polished thrones far from the turmoil. Christ reigns from two rough beams planted in the middle of human cruelty. The insult above His head is accidentally true, and the only one who seems to grasp it is a condemned criminal with nothing left to offer but a plea. While experts mock and soldiers gamble, a thief gives Jesus the one gift still in his possession: trust.

Saint Paul tells us that in Christ all things hold together. It does not always feel that way. Families fracture, institutions wobble, tempers flare on the evening news, and our own inner world can look more like a crowded courtroom than a kingdom of peace. Yet on Calvary, nothing looks “held together” except the love of God. That is exactly where the Lord chooses to reveal a different kind of power, one that does not flinch at sin, sorrow, or failure, but goes straight through them.

The good thief reminds us that holiness is not a lifetime achievement award but a final yes to the mercy that has been chasing us all along. The gates of Paradise swing open for the one who dares to say, “Remember me.” If there is room for him, there is hope for us.

Prayer: *Christ my King, reign in the real world of my fears, my habits, my relationships. When I am tempted to measure worth by strength or success, remind me that Your throne is mercy. Remember me when I forget You, and turn my last minute prayers into the beginning of trust. Amen. 2 Samuel 5:1 to 3; Psalm 122; Colossians 1:12 to 20; Luke 23:35 to 43*

Monday, November 24

**Memorial of Saint Andrew Dung Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
Quiet Choices, Strong Souls**

“Please test your servants for ten days.” (Daniel 1:12)

Daniel and his friends do not stage a rebellion; they make a request. No slogans, no outrage, just a quiet line drawn in the heart and lived at the table. Surrounded by pressure to blend in, they choose fidelity over flavor. Their reward is not frailty but a strength and wisdom even a pagan king cannot ignore.

The martyrs we honor today did the same on a larger scale. They did not hate their persecutors or savor their own heroism; they simply refused to pretend that anyone but Christ was Lord. Most of our tests are smaller: saying something kind when gossip starts, closing the laptop when resentment tempts us to scroll for fuel, keeping prayer when the day feels too full and we feel too empty. Heaven notices.

Courage is rarely loud. More often it sounds like a gentle no or a quiet yes. Daniel’s vegetables and the widow’s coins belong to the same spiritual family. Both whisper to God, “I am Yours, even when no one is cheering.”

Prayer: *Lord, give me integrity in the small, inconvenient, unseen places. When compromise looks easier and approval feels addictive, strengthen my heart to say yes to You. Make my quiet choices a hidden praise. Amen. Daniel 1:1 to 20; Daniel 3:52 to 56; Luke 21:1 to 4*

Tuesday, November 25

The Kingdom Without a Pedestal

“The stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.” (Daniel 2:35)

Nebuchadnezzar dreams in metals and power: gold, silver, bronze, iron, all stacked like a monument to human achievement. Impressive, yes, but standing on fragile feet of clay. One unassuming stone, not cut by human hands, brings the whole structure down and quietly grows into a mountain that fills the earth. God seems strangely fond of underwhelming beginnings.

Our world still loves statues, even if we now build them with brands, titles, and follower counts. We polish our images, calculate our alliances, and forget how quickly one illness, one failure, one shift in history can crumble the pedestal. Meanwhile, the kingdom of God slips into the world through things that rarely trend: patient parents, honest workers, hidden intercessors, ordinary believers who forgive seventy times seven.

The real question is not whether we admire the statue, but whether we stand on stone that lasts. The mountain is already growing. Each small act of trust and sacrifice is another foothold in what cannot be shaken.

Prayer: *God of all ages, free me from worshipping what is shiny and temporary. When I cling to false security, gently topple what cannot save me, and plant my life on Your quiet, unshakable love. Amen. Daniel 2:31 to 45; Daniel 3:57 to 61; Luke 21:5 to 11*

Wednesday, November 26

The Handwriting on Our Hearts

“You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.” (Daniel 5:27)

Belshazzar drinks from sacred vessels as if they were party glasses, praising gods of gold and stone while ignoring the Lord who holds his next breath. Then a mysterious hand appears and writes on the wall. It is the most sobering moment of his life and probably the quietest that banquet hall has ever been. Judgment arrives in three words and no speeches.

We may not see glowing letters above our dinner table, but God still writes warnings in our days: a troubled conscience, an uneasy peace, a conversation that hits too close, a child’s question we cannot dodge. These are not divine attempts to embarrass us but invitations to

wake up before we drift too far. The Lord who weighs us is also the one who wants to heal what is missing.

The saints do not fear examination because they know who is holding the scales. Holiness is not perfection on display; it is honesty in motion. Better to read the writing now, with grace near at hand, than to pretend the wall is blank.

Prayer: *Lord, if there is writing on the walls of my life, help me not to look away. Show me where I am found wanting, not to crush me, but to free me. Give me the courage to change while there is still music and mercy. Amen. Daniel 5:1 to 28; Daniel 3:62 to 67; Luke 21:12 to 19*

Thursday, November 27

Thanksgiving Day

The One Who Turned Back

“And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice.” (Luke 17:15)

Ten lepers cry for mercy, and all ten receive it. Only one returns. Jesus seems less offended by the numbers than saddened by the missed joy. Gratitude does not increase the miracle; it completes it. The Samaritan realizes that the blessing is not just clear skin but a new relationship. He does not simply get his life back; he finds the Giver.

On a day filled with recipes, football, and strategic seating charts, it is easy to treat gratitude like seasoning sprinkled on a very full plate. Yet real thanksgiving is not an item on the menu; it is a way of seeing. It notices that the people who irritate us are also the ones who have carried us. It recognizes that every breath, every second chance, every quiet protection we never saw is evidence of a patient love.

The nine are not monsters. They are busy. They hurry back to normal. The one who returns chooses wonder instead. That is the road where faith becomes worship and ordinary days become holy. May your Thanksgiving be more than a meal. May it be a turning back, a rediscovery of the Giver in every gift, and a reminder that joy begins where gratitude remembers to look up.

Prayer: *Giver of every good gift, rescue me from casual blessings taken for granted. Open my eyes to see how deeply I have been carried, forgiven, and surrounded. Make my gratitude loud enough to honor You and gentle enough to bless others. Amen.*

Sirach 50:22 to 24; Psalm 145; 1 Corinthians 1:3 to 9; Luke 17:11 to 19

Friday, November 28

When Beasts Roar and Heaven Does Not Panic

“His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away.” (Daniel 7:14)

Daniel’s night is crowded with monsters: winged lions, lurching bears, leopards with too many heads, and a final beast that defies description. It feels like watching the evening news with the volume too loud. Yet above all this chaos, thrones are set in place. The Ancient One sits, luminous and calm, and one like a Son of Man receives a kingdom that no beast can touch.

Every generation is tempted to think, “This is it. The worst time. The loudest beast.” Maybe. Maybe not. The point of Daniel’s vision is not to feed our charts, but to anchor our hearts.

Empires strut and stagger. Trends rise and fall. Algorithms shout. God does not hold emergency sessions. The Son of Man is still handed the kingdom.

Faith does not mean ignoring the claws and teeth of history. It means remembering that they are on a leash. The final word is not terror, but a rule of mercy that will never be voted out.

Prayer: *Ancient of Days, when the world feels unhinged and my thoughts follow close behind, seat my heart beside Your throne. Help me trust that Your Son’s quiet victory outlasts every roaring power. Amen. Daniel 7:2 to 14; Daniel 3:75 to 81; Luke 21:29 to 33*

Saturday, November 29

Awake for the Right Reasons

“Be vigilant at all times and pray that you may have the strength to stand before the Son of Man.” (Luke 21:36)

Daniel is shaken by visions and beasts, by timelines and threats, until an angel quietly assures him that in the end the kingdom belongs to the holy ones. Jesus, for His part, warns us not so much about monsters as about drowsy hearts. The real danger is to be lulled to sleep by pleasure, worry, or endless distraction until the great moment of meeting finds us spiritually in our pajamas.

Christian vigilance is not nervous doom watching. It is the alertness of someone in love, staying awake not to calculate dates but to welcome a Person. It remembers that every choice leans us either toward deeper communion or quieter indifference. The Lord is not trying to catch us in a trap, but to keep us from drifting so far that joy feels like a surprise we are not ready for.

Perhaps holiness can be summed up simply: live so that if Christ walked into your day at any moment, you would not need to scramble to hide anything. You would just stand up, a little amazed, and say, “I was hoping it was You.”

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, wake what is sleepy in me. Shake loose the habits, excuses, and mild addictions that steal my freedom. Teach me to live each day ready to look into Your eyes without fear, only gratitude. Amen. Daniel 7:15 to 27; Daniel 3:82 to 87; Luke 21:34 to 36*

THE THRONE THAT LOOKS LIKE A CROSS

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe ~ Luke 23:35–43

By Father Jarek

If you have ever chaired a parish committee (except St. Leo, of course), you already know that thrones are seldom comfortable and never quiet. Everyone wants progress, no one wants change, and by the end of the meeting, you would gladly trade the crown for a nap. Leadership, even in its smallest form, rarely feels majestic. It feels like standing in the tension between gratitude and grumbling, between the desire to serve and the temptation to escape.

That is why Christ the King Sunday always lands with such unexpected beauty. The Gospel gives us no golden palace, no trumpet fanfare, no circle of loyal followers. Instead, our King reigns from two rough beams planted in the middle of human cruelty. He wears a crown of thorns, and His throne is a cross.

The scene could not look less like victory. Soldiers gamble for scraps. Experts mock. Spectators sneer. The only one who seems to recognize the majesty before him is a condemned criminal with nothing left to offer but a final plea: “Jesus, remember me.” And Jesus, with royal calm, replies, “Today you will be with me in Paradise.” It is the strangest coronation in history and also the truest.

A Kingdom That Turns Power Inside Out

The world admires power that dominates, that controls, that secures results. Christ rules by surrender. His throne is not lifted above human suffering; it is planted firmly within it. His rule is not maintained by fear but by forgiveness. His kingdom has no borders, no army, no treasury, and yet it outlasts every empire that ever raised a sword.

This feast reminds us that the King we serve does not govern by the logic of this world. His authority is not enforced but offered. His subjects are not

coerced but invited. His victory does not erase pain; it redeems it from within.

Most of us spend our days trying to build small kingdoms of comfort, success, or control. But those kingdoms tremble.

One illness, one loss, one

disappointment, and they begin to crumble. Christ’s kingdom does not tremble because it is founded on self gift, not self preservation. Love is the only power that cannot be dethroned.

And here, just days before Thanksgiving, gratitude becomes the daily act of stepping out of those fragile kingdoms and into His. Every thank you we offer, whether for a warm meal, a kind word, or a mercy we did not deserve, is an act of citizenship in His realm. Gratitude dethrones pride and enthrones love.

The Astonishing Logic of the Cross

If we are honest, the cross still offends our instincts. It is absurd that salvation should come through apparent defeat. It is absurd that the Almighty should refuse to save Himself in order to save others. Yet this divine absurdity is the seed of all hope. It means that no sorrow, however deep, is beyond redemption. It means that weakness is not wasted, that tears carry authority, that compassion is stronger than coercion. On Calvary, God does not explain suffering; He shares it. He takes the full weight of cruelty and transforms it into mercy.

And gratitude is born there, at the intersection of pain and love. True thanksgiving does not wait for everything to be perfect; it begins when we recognize that even in loss, God is near. Every Eucharist, which means “thanksgiving,” draws us back to this truth: that our King reigns not by taking, but by giving Himself completely. Every Mass is a royal banquet where love conquers pride and where heaven quietly whispers, You have more to be thankful for than you can ever count.

The King Who Does Not Flinch

Every throne built by human hands eventually trembles. Power built on applause fades when the crowd grows silent. Strength built on pride collapses when life humbles it. Even the most confident heart falters when its plans unravel. But Christ’s throne does not tremble. It absorbs every blow and still forgives.

At the heart of this solemnity stands Saint Paul’s astonishing truth: “In Christ all things hold together.” That includes our families, our failures, our futures, and every uncertain place where we fear the pieces will never fit again. Even when the world seems to fracture, Christ remains the center that holds.

To live under His kingship is to trust that love has the final word. It means standing beneath the cross not as spectators but as citizens of His kingdom, one where mercy outweighs judgment and hope endures longer than despair. It means learning to see divine order within human confusion, divine peace within the storm, and divine presence within pain.

Gratitude, then, is not sentiment; it is strength. It is the quiet defiance of faith that says, “Christ still reigns.”

When we give thanks in the middle of hardship, we declare our allegiance to a kingdom that does not flinch.

The Humor of Heaven

There is a kind of holy humor in the whole story. The soldiers who mocked Him, the rulers who sentenced Him, the sign they nailed above His head, each was meant as ridicule, yet each proclaimed the truth. "This is the King of the Jews." They meant it as sarcasm. Heaven meant it as revelation.

Perhaps God Himself smiled at the irony. Humanity tried to dethrone Him, and He turned the instrument of death into His throne. The world designed a cross for humiliation, and God used it for coronation. This is the laughter of divine love, quiet, knowing, victorious.

And maybe Thanksgiving, in its simplest form, is our way of joining that divine laughter: seeing grace where the world sees loss, finding blessing where the world sees burden, and giving thanks not because everything is easy, but because love is still alive.

Citizens of a Different Kingdom

We live in an age where outrage is currency and humility is mistaken for weakness. But Christ the King shows us that real strength does not shout. It bleeds. It forgives. It keeps loving.

Our King is not distant. He reigns in hospital rooms and kitchen tables, in moments of patience, in hidden acts of generosity, in faith that refuses to give up. He reigns every time forgiveness outpaces resentment, every time gratitude wins over entitlement, every time faith survives disappointment.

So when we gather this Thanksgiving, around tables or hospital beds, in laughter or in quiet, we are not just celebrating a national holiday. We are acknowledging a kingdom that cannot be shaken. Gratitude is its language. Love is its law. And joy, even in sorrow, is its crown.

Yes, the throne looks like a cross. The crown looks like thorns. The royal decree sounds like mercy. But this is the only kingdom that will last forever, the one built not on fear of losing but on love that never stops giving.

And when we finally stand before that King, He will not test us on knowledge or achievement. He will ask only one question: Did you learn to love like

I did, from the cross outward?

If we can answer yes, even tremblingly, then we will hear again the royal promise spoken to a dying man who saw what no one else could: "Today you will be with me in Paradise."

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

**Parish Life Center
Monday, December 15th
12 noon**



If you are an active volunteer in one of St. Leo's Ministries, please call the parish office at 992-0901 by Wednesday, December 10th to RSVP. We want to take this time to acknowledge all that you do and show you how much you are appreciated.

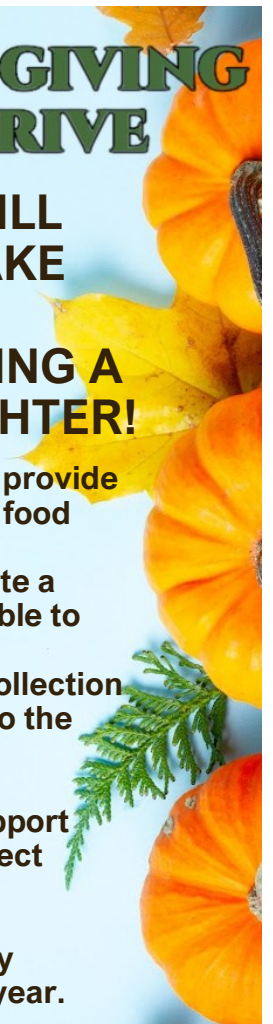
THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

**THERE IS STILL
TIME TO MAKE
A FAMILY'S
THANKSGIVING A
LITTLE BRIGHTER!**

If you would like to provide an area family with food for their holiday dinner you may write a check for \$50 payable to St. Leo Poor Box and drop it in the collection basket, or bring it to the Parish Office.

Your continued support for this annual project is appreciated.

We will serve nearly 1,000 families this year.





Thanksgiving Blessings to You and Your Family

*From Frs. Jarek, Raul, Stan, Jack
and the Parish Staff*

Christmas Toy Drive

Angels are up on the trees at the entrances of the church.
Once again we are requesting that you purchase a toy for your child,
rather than clothing which can be difficult to determine the correct size.

Taking an angel and supplying a gift will help families who are looking
for assistance in making their children's Christmas brighter.

**PLEASE DO NOT WRAP YOUR PRESENT.
BRING IT UNWRAPPED, WITH THE ANGEL LABEL ATTACHED,
TO THE CHURCH OR PARISH OFFICE BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT



Venetian Dreams

St. Leo's Ladies' Guild

Fashion Show – February 10, 2026

Doors Open at 11am – Lunch Served at Noon

Parish Life Center

Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorships include the cost of seat tickets plus an additional tax-deductible donation.

Benefits of ALL Sponsor levels include: Advanced ticket purchase, priority seating for stage viewing, priority entry, recognition in the event program and the parish bulletin.

Sponsorships are limited, and seating is assigned based on sponsorship level and date of receipt of sponsorship form.

Tickets are non-refundable, but transferrable.

- ☐ **GRAND CANAL \$1000** Full Table (8 VIP Tickets, priority seating) Name will be recognized at the luncheon, on a sign, table, program and in the parish bulletin.
- ☐ **PIAZZA SAN MARCO \$500** Half Table (4 VIP tickets, priority seating) Name will be recognized at the luncheon, in program and parish bulletin.
- ☐ **RIALTO BRIDGE \$250** Two VIP tickets. Priority seating. Recognition in program and Parish bulletin.
- ☐ **GONDOLA \$125** One VIP ticket. Priority seating. Recognition in program.
- ☐ I am unable to attend. Donation \$ _____ enclosed.
- ☐ **CHECK HERE IF YOU PREFER TO BE LISTED ANONYMOUSLY.**

Sponsor Information

Please print name as you would like it to appear on the printed material.

Company/Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Tickets may not be mailed. Pick-up only January 13, 2026
at the Auditorium/Nest Café or by arrangement.

Please make checks payable to:

St. Leo the Great Ladies' Guild

Return or mail to: St. Leo the Great Ladies' Guild

Attention: Fashion Show Sponsorship

28290 Beaumont Road – Bonita Springs, FL. 34134

For more information, please contact Bonnie Shelor at

bps929@gmail.com or 804-380-7227

SPONSORSHIP DEADLINE:

MUST BE POST MARKED OR IN THE PARISH OFFICE – DECEMBER 12, 2025

St. Leo Food Bank

"The need has never been greater."

The St. Leo Food Bank is always in need of supplies to share with local food pantries.

All unopened, non-perishable foods that are not expired are welcomed.

**You may continue to drop off your donations when you come to Mass,
or at our office Monday - Friday from 8am-3pm.**

THESE ITEMS ARE ESPECIALLY NEEDED

MOST NEEDED

- ☐ COOKING OIL
- ☐ DRIED BEANS
- ☐ MASECA (CORN TORTILLA FLOUR)
- ☐ WHITE RICE

- ☐ TOOTHPASTE
- ☐ TOOTHBRUSHES
- ☐ BAR SOAP
- ☐ SHAMPOO/BODY WASH
- ☐ TOILET PAPER
- ☐ ANTIBACTERIAL WIPES

- ☐ CANNED FRUIT & VEGETABLES
- ☐ CANNED TUNA & CHICKEN
- ☐ FLOUR & SUGAR
- ☐ CANNED SOUP

- ☐ POWDERED MILK
- ☐ PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY
- ☐ CEREAL
- ☐ JUICE

If you prefer, you may donate money directly to St Leo Food Bank. These funds will be dispersed to those in need both directly, and through our partner parishes and organizations.

Catholic Charities is in need of volunteers to help with food pantry distribution every other Wednesday from 9am to noon at their building on the St. Leo campus.

If you would like to help please contact Michael Vega at 239-270-3291 or mvega@ccdov.org

The St. Leo Food Bank supports Catholic Charities on our campus, Café of Life in Bonita Springs, as well as the food pantries at the parishes of Jesus the Worker (Ft. Myers), St. Margaret (Clewiston) and Our Lady Queen of Heaven (LaBelle).

If you need assistance from Catholic Charities for food, financial assistance, or tele-mental health counseling, please call 239-390-2928 between the hours of 9am-5pm Monday-Friday.

TO DONATE HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND CLOTHING BRING THEM TO:

Our Lady of Light Thrift Shop
24600 S. Tamiami Tr. Ste. 600A (992-1576)

St. Vincent de Paul Resale Shop
3725 Bonita Beach Road (992-1899)

The Perpetual Baby Shower



Please remember all the infants who are in need of diapers and new clothes. Their toddler brothers and sisters grow so fast and need clothes also.

The Ladies of St. Leo Guild thank all of you for your past support. Contributions may be left in the donation boxes at the doors of the church or taken to the parish office.

BABIES ALWAYS NEED

- ☐ WIPES
- ☐ FORMULA
- ☐ BABY WASH
- ☐ BABY SHAMPOO
- ☐ DIAPERS (ESPECIALLY SIZE 6)



WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROSITY!

CHRIST

THE KING

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE

The Feast of *Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe* is celebrated on the last Sunday of Ordinary Time, before the beginning of Advent that starts the new Church Year. As the last Sunday of the year, Christ the King Sunday is the conclusion of the Church's liturgical journey through the life of Christ and the gospel message. Its purpose is to celebrate the coming reign of Christ as ruler of the renewed creation that will characterize the fullness of the Kingdom of God. That hope is born from the entire life of Christ and his teachings that we have been celebrating during the past twelve months.

The first Sunday of Advent follows Christ the King Sunday and consequently, a new cycle of Sunday Mass readings, drawn from a different Gospel, begins the new cycle of the Church Year.

History

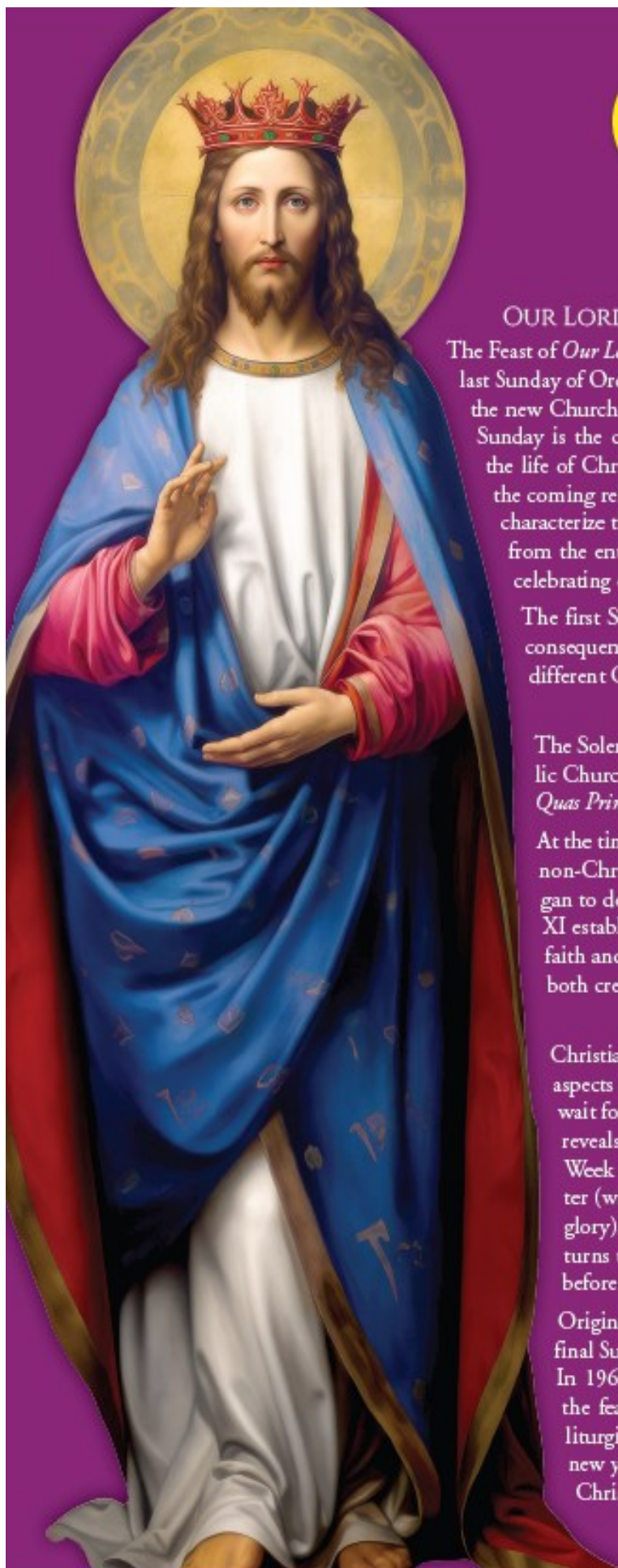
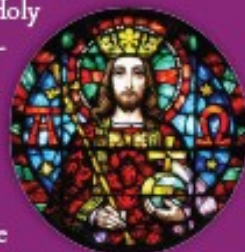
The Solemnity of Christ the King is a newer feast in the Catholic Church that was instituted by Pope Pius XI in his encyclical *Quas Primas* in 1925.

At the time, secularism was on the rise with the establishment of non-Christian dictatorships in Europe and many Christians began to doubt Christ's existence and authority. In response, Pius XI established the feast with the intent to reaffirm and refocus faith and respect for the kingship of Jesus and as the ruler over both creation and history.

Christ as King

Christians have long celebrated Jesus as Christ, and various aspects of his reign are celebrated in Advent (when Christians wait for his second coming in glory), Christmas (when his star reveals him to be "King of the Jews"), Holy Week (when he is the crucified king), Easter (when he is resurrected in power and glory), and the Ascension (when he returns to the glory he had with the Father before the world was created).

Originally, the feast was celebrated on the final Sunday of October, prior to All Saints Day. In 1969, to emphasize its importance, Pope Paul VI moved the feast to the last Sunday before Advent. So now the old liturgical year ends by celebrating Christ's kingship and the new year begins with Advent, when we await the coming of Christ to rule our hearts and lives.



NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
MONDAY	NOVEMBER 24	
8:00 am	Eileen Grana Steinhauer on her 50th Birthday	Peter & Pati Grana
TUESDAY	NOVEMBER 25	
8:00 am	+Michael Smith Dedicated to Respect Life	His Family
WEDNESDAY	NOVEMBER 26	
8:00 am	+Virginia Rodriguez	Her Loving Husband, Ernie
THURSDAY	NOVEMBER 27	
8:00 am	+Margaret Jenkins	Her Loving Husband & Family
FRIDAY	NOVEMBER 28	
8:00 am	+Yolanda Falco	Donna Handes
SATURDAY	NOVEMBER 29	
8:00 am	+Nick, +Rita & +Gary Miller	Natalie & Merlin
3:30 pm	+Edward J O'Brien	Bertha Brando
5:30 pm	+Mario Enrique Torres	Hugo & Marie Torres
SUNDAY	NOVEMBER 30	
7:30 am	The Parishioners of St. Leo	
9:30 am	+Theresa Solazzo	Her Loving Family
11:30 am	+Tracey Hodge	The Rubio Family
3:00 pm - Spanish	Special Cumulative Intentions	
5:00 pm	+Jim Colgan	His Wife, Lois Colgan

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.

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



Flowers this week are dedicated to Parishioners of St. Leo

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



Please Pray for Our Troops

Lt. Marco Colavecchia	Joseph McDermond
Brian Dearcia 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 Parrorzio
Thomas Geanuracos	Sean Michael Perry
Carlos Gonzales	Cpt. Evan Razzano
Lt. Andrew D. Holt	Lt. Riley N. Schliem
Brian Howlett	Lt. Col. Jonathan W. Schwarz
Lt. Com. Matthew Kleine	Lt. Col. Peter Shayhorn
Reed Lessman	All serving in the military,
Lt. Col. Nicholas LoRusso	especially those in combat.

We pray today for...

Tom Bardol	Emily Lienesch
Jay Bavaro	Cole LoRusso
Jeffrey Bogart	Tim McAuliff
Dave Bowezs	Pauline McKeen
Tom Brown	Misaela Mendiola Sandoval
Denise Buk	Jose Manuel Meraz
Isabelle Marie Caiola	Jay Miller
Patrick Cain	Linda Mizeur
Carol Compagna	Paul Modzelewski
Mark Chambers	Barbara Moloney
Mickey Chervitz	Jay Morgan
Michelle Chiarulli	Deborah Muniz
Kevin Clark	Audrey Grace Neeley
Scott Cochell	Glenn Nelson
Lourdes Coll	Kathleen Nelson
Greg Daeger	Paul Nippert
Eli Davis	Rita Off
Janet Davis	Beverly Pecor
Tara DeRoma	Connie Phillips
Carrie Derse	Aiden Putnam
Paul Duggan	Michelle Rendon
Brad Fairfield	Norman Robinson
Paula Fairfield	Jack Rubush
Linda Fischel	Tessa Santagate
Sean Flynn	Cindy Santiago
Brynn Forlizzi	Martha Simons
John Galli	Rosemarie Smedile
Gisette Lupita Garcia	Sheryl Southerd
Ben Gondersone	Jim Stokes
Esmeralda Gomez Moreira	Charlie Sweeney Jr.
Louise Grantt	Debra Tailerco
Cory Gray	Michael Taveripte
Pauline Graziano	Fabio Thurman
Karen Grimshaw	Tom Thurman
Ryan Hammond	Eleanor Trevison
Alan Handsman	Keanu Vallette
Tara Handsman	Debra Vannotti
Luke Hass	Tim Young
Robbin Holcomb	John White
Jack Jeffrey	George Witkowsky
Jerry Kaehle	Ray Zonghetti
Nolan Kane	Annie Zanussi
Mary Kobel	Anthony, Christine, Fabiala,
Peggy Land	Krislin, Michael, Tray. Present
Diane Lamdi	& past parish priests.

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

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Weekend Masses	Dan Bardauskis.....992-0901
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Lector Coordinator for Weekends	David Froelke.....646-831-9733
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Project Rachel	Sylvia Jimenez.....941-412-5860
Respect Life Ministry	Loretta Ede.....917-886-7273
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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

A Farewell Message from Fr. Raul Zamora

I want to express my sincere gratitude to the community of St. Leo the Great for the kindness and warmth I have experienced during my time here. It has been a true blessing to share in the life of this parish and to get to know so many wonderful people.

As I prepare to leave the country to continue serving the Lord in a new mission, I carry with me many good memories and a deep appreciation for your friendship and support. Please know that you will remain in my thoughts and prayers.

Please join us next Sunday, November 30th, following 3pm Mass for refreshments and the opportunity to say goodbye to Father Raul.

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.

Handling Grief During the Holidays

Are you grieving the loss of a loved one, and uneasy about the upcoming holidays?

If so, we invite you to come to a special presentation on Tuesday, November 25th at 9am in the Nest Café.

Sharing ideas on how to cope during these difficult times, as well as feeling support from others who are in similar situations, is designed to bring comfort to those who are struggling with loss.

YOUTH MINISTRY

All youth in grades 9-12 are invited to join us in room 13/14 of the Education building on Friday nights from 6:30-8:30pm for food, games and sharing of our faith. Call the Religious Education Department at 992-0901 for more information.

NOTAS EN ESPAÑOL

Mensaje de despedida del P. Raúl Zamora

Quiero expresar mi sincera gratitud a la comunidad de San León Magno por la amabilidad y el cariño que he recibido durante mi tiempo aquí. Ha sido una verdadera bendición compartir la vida de esta parroquia y conocer a tantas personas maravillosas.

Al prepararme para dejar el país y continuar sirviendo al Señor en una nueva misión, me llevo conmigo muchos buenos recuerdos y una profunda gratitud por su amistad y apoyo. Por favor, sepan que permanecerán en mis pensamientos y oraciones.

Les invitamos a acompañarnos el próximo domingo 30 de noviembre, después de la misa de las 3 de la tarde, para disfrutar de un refrigerio y tener la oportunidad de despedirnos del Padre Raúl.

La comunidad hispana tiene el honor de invitarle a la celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
El Viernes 12 de diciembre

Iniciamos el Jueves 11 de diciembre

7 pm Vigilia

Hora Santa de 8-9pm

Coro, Rosario y Oraciones

Viernes 12 de diciembre

12 am Presentación de la Aparición de la Virgen de Guadalupe a Juan Diego

4 am Mañanitas con Mariachi

5 am Misa en el Centro Parroquial siguiendo con un desayuno ligero

6 pm Procesión de la Iglesia al Centro Parroquial

7 pm Misa en el Centro Parroquial y una cena ligera después de misa.



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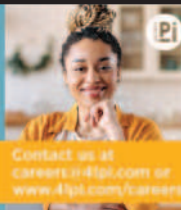
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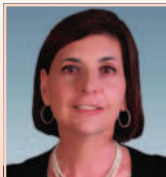
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