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 29, 2026



Saint Barbara/unknown artist/late 18th C./Feast December 4/Metropolitan Museum of Art

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 CONFESIONES 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. Chuck Ruoff	**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
Kevin Dearcia	Maintenance
Maria Fernandez	Religious Education Assistant
Daniel Gonzalez	Maintenance
Elsy Hernandez	Operations Supervisor
Marcin Malewski	Director of Music
Zofia Majewski	Musician/Administrative Support
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!

November 14 & 15
$40,600

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 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 sameillness, 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

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 condition units in the Parish Life Center and Education Building. 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.

ONLINE GIVING
WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG

Next Weekend's Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 5

3:30 pm	Fr. Jack
5:30 pm	Fr. Jack

Sunday, December 6

7:30 am	Fr. Chuck
9:30 am	Fr. Jarek
11:30 am	Msgr. Cullen
3:00 pm-Spanish	Fr. Juan Carlos
5:00 pm	Fr. Stan

Changes may occur without notice.



Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Mass Schedule
Monday, December 7
5pm

Tuesday, December 8
8am
12noon
6pm (in Spanish)



faith&ale
a gathering of catholic men

Faith & Ale, a Catholic Men's Apostolate presents:

Bob Allen Kroll

CATHOLIC SPEAKER, SURVIVOR OF AN ABUSIVE HOME

"The Incredible Impact of a Father"

DECEMBER 10, 2026
6:30PM - 8:00PM

Our Lady of Light Catholic Community
19680 Cypress View Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33967

$10 REQUESTED DONATION.
REGISTER TODAY.
PAY ONLINE OR AT DOOR.
HTTPS://FAITHANDALE.COM/EVENTS/WELCOME/

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

Parish Life Center
Monday, December 14th - 12 noon

If you are an active volunteer in one of St. Leo's Ministries,
we want to take this time to acknowledge all that you do
and show you how much you are appreciated.
To RSVP please email us at info@stleocatholicchurch.org
or call the parish office at 239-992-0901 and provide your name and
ministry in which you serve by Wednesday, December 9th.

Daily Reflections

by Father Jarek

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29: GOD IS ALREADY HERE
"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." (Mark 13:33)

There is a particular exhaustion that comes from waiting for something important. Waiting for medical results, a relationship to improve, a loved one to return to faith, or life to become less complicated. We tell ourselves we will finally relax when everything is settled. Unfortunately, life rarely sends a notification announcing that all our problems have been resolved and we may now enjoy ourselves.

Advent begins with a surprising invitation: not to predict when God will act, but to recognize that He is already present. Isaiah cries out for God to tear open the heavens, yet remembers that we are clay in the hands of a loving Potter. Paul assures us that God is faithful. Jesus urges us to remain awake, not because we should live in fear, but because distracted hearts can overlook the very grace they have been praying to receive.

Perhaps the greatest danger in waiting is allowing tomorrow's hopes to steal today's blessings. We become so preoccupied with what God has not yet done that we overlook what He is quietly doing. An unexpected kindness, strength for another difficult day, or peace without explanation may be blessings we never thought to ask for. Sometimes we spend so much time waiting for God to arrive that we fail to notice He has been waiting with us all along.

Prayer: Lord, awaken my heart to Your presence in what remains unfinished. When waiting becomes exhausting, remind me that I am never waiting alone. Teach me to recognize today's blessings without demanding tomorrow's answers. Amen.

Readings: Isaiah 63:16b–17, 19b; 64:2–7; Psalm 80:2–3, 15–16, 18–19; 1 Corinthians 1:3–9; Mark 13:33–37

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30: FOLLOW WITHOUT A MAP
"At once they left their nets and followed him." (Matthew 4:20)

Most of us would feel considerably more comfortable following Jesus if He provided a detailed itinerary. We would appreciate knowing the destination, anticipated difficulties, available accommodations, and preferably whether breakfast was included. Instead, Jesus approaches ordinary fishermen during an ordinary workday and offers them something wonderfully unsettling: an invitation to follow Him without knowing exactly where the journey will lead.

Andrew and Peter are not discussing their spiritual ambitions. They are working. Their nets represent everything familiar: their livelihood, responsibilities, and expectations. Yet something about Jesus makes them recognize that the life they know is not necessarily the fullness of the life they are meant to live. Saint Paul reminds us that faith comes through hearing, but the Gospel reveals that hearing God's invitation changes nothing unless we find the courage to respond.

Not every invitation from God requires abandoning a career or moving across the world. Sometimes following Christ means forgiving someone, beginning an uncomfortable conversation, or allowing an old certainty to be challenged. We often imagine that faith means knowing where God is leading us. Andrew suggests something more demanding: trusting the One who leads when the destination remains hidden. Sometimes the life God is inviting us to discover begins when we finally find the courage to leave what has become too comfortable to question.

Prayer: Jesus, You know how tightly I hold on to what is familiar, even when it prevents me from growing. Give me courage to recognize Your voice above my fears. I do not need to know every turn in the road. Help me trust the One who walks ahead of me. Amen.

Readings: Romans 10:9–18; Psalm 19:8–11; Matthew 4:18–22

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1: HOPE GROWS FROM RUINS
"A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse." (Isaiah 11:1)

Few experiences are more discouraging than watching something we invested years in slowly fall apart. A marriage becomes strained, a career ends unexpectedly, health changes, or a cherished dream quietly disappears. We look at what remains and wonder whether anything meaningful can grow there again. Sometimes people even begin describing themselves in the past tense, as though their most worthwhile years have already been lived.

Isaiah offers an astonishing image of hope: a tiny green shoot emerging from what appears to be a dead stump. God does not promise merely to restore yesterday's circumstances. He promises something new, a kingdom shaped by justice, wisdom, and peace. In the Gospel, Jesus rejoices because God's deepest truths are revealed not necessarily to the impressive and accomplished, but to those humble enough to receive them. God's possibilities are rarely limited by our assessments of what remains.

We are remarkably quick to declare something hopeless, especially when we have already tried everything we know. Fortunately, God has never been particularly impressed by our final assessments. A friendship can heal after years of silence. An older person can discover a new purpose. Someone who has made terrible mistakes can become a source of extraordinary compassion. Perhaps the most beautiful chapters of our lives begin not when everything falls into place, but when we discover that something can still grow from what has fallen apart.

Prayer: Father, there are places in my life where disappointment has quietly replaced hope. I place them in Your hands without pretending they do not hurt. Give me patience to trust what I cannot yet see and humility to welcome beginnings I never imagined. Amen.

Readings: Isaiah 11:1–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17; Luke 10:21–24

Daily Reflections

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2: COME AS YOU ARE
"The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces." (Isaiah 25:8)

Anyone who has hosted a family gathering knows that a beautifully prepared table does not guarantee everyone sitting around it is happy. Someone may be grieving, another quietly worried about money, and someone else struggling with a relationship nobody wants to discuss. Occasionally, the greatest miracle of a family dinner is that everyone remains reasonably civil until dessert. Yet beneath our complicated lives lies a universal longing: to be welcomed somewhere without having to pretend.

Isaiah describes God's salvation as an extraordinary banquet where death is defeated and every tear is wiped away. In the Gospel, Jesus heals suffering crowds and then notices something remarkably practical: they are hungry. His compassion does not stop with their spiritual needs. He cares about their aching bodies and empty stomachs. The disciples see insufficient resources; Jesus sees people who must not be sent away hungry. He does not ask them to prove they deserve to be fed.

We sometimes imagine that we must become stronger, happier, or more spiritually accomplished before approaching God. Yet the table He prepares is precisely for people who are weary, wounded, and hungry for something more. We participate in His banquet whenever we make room for another person's pain, listen without judgment, or refuse to let someone suffer alone. At God's table, nobody has to pretend to be whole in order to have a place.

Prayer: Lord, You know the sorrows I carry behind an ordinary smile. Thank You for loving me without requiring explanations or appearances. Help me offer others the same welcome, especially when their struggles make loving them inconvenient. Amen.

Readings: Isaiah 25:6–10a; Psalm 23:1–6; Matthew 15:29–37

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3: WHAT HOLDS US TOGETHER
"Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock." (Matthew 7:24)

It is relatively easy to feel spiritually grounded when life is cooperating. The bills are manageable, relationships are peaceful, and the doctor says everything looks fine. We may even congratulate ourselves on our remarkable serenity. Then something unexpected happens, and we discover that our inner peace was apparently dependent on everyone behaving properly, nothing breaking, and the internet working without interruption.

Jesus describes two houses that appear perfectly adequate until the storm arrives. The difference is not their appearance but their foundations. Isaiah describes God as an eternal Rock who gives peace to those who trust Him. Neither reading promises a life without storms. What makes Jesus' teaching challenging is that both builders hear His words, but only one acts upon them. A faith that sustains us through suffering is built through ordinary choices long before difficulties arrive.

Saint Francis Xavier carried the Gospel across enormous distances, discovering that following Christ requires more than admirable intentions. The same is true in our smaller daily journeys. Forgiveness must become more than a beautiful idea. Generosity must survive inconvenience. Trust must remain possible even when our prayers seem unanswered. We cannot always choose what life will take away, but we can choose what we build our lives upon. Sometimes the strongest part of our lives is not what we manage to hold together, but the God who holds us when we cannot.

Prayer: Lord, I have sometimes mistaken comfortable circumstances for strong faith. Forgive me for placing my security in things that cannot last. Build within me a trust that survives disappointment, a love that endures inconvenience, and a peace rooted in Your faithfulness. Amen.

Readings: Isaiah 26:1–6; Psalm 118:1, 8–9, 19–21, 25–27a; Matthew 7:21, 24–27

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4: THE BLESSINGS WE OVERLOOK
"Then he touched their eyes and said, 'Let it be done for you according to your faith.'" (Matthew 9:29)

It is remarkable how easily we overlook what is obvious to everyone else. We recognize a friend's shortcomings immediately but remain wonderfully patient with our own. We remember one criticism and somehow forget ten expressions of gratitude. We can spend an entire day surrounded by blessings and go to bed thinking primarily about the one thing that went wrong. Human vision is an extraordinary gift, but perspective sometimes requires considerable adjustment.

In today's Gospel, two blind men follow Jesus, pleading for mercy. Before restoring their sight, He asks whether they believe He can help them. Isaiah promises a day when those living in darkness will see, and the humble will rejoice. These readings invite us to consider blindness beyond the physical. Resentment can obscure another person's goodness. Fear can hide opportunities. Familiarity can make us indifferent to people whose presence once filled us with gratitude.

Advent invites us to ask God not simply to change our circumstances, but to change how we see them. Perhaps the difficult person in our life carries a burden we know nothing about. Perhaps the ordinary day we are rushing through contains moments we will someday desperately wish to experience again. Spiritual sight does not mean pretending everything is beautiful. It means recognizing beauty without denying what is broken. One of life's deepest sorrows is realizing too late that what we considered ordinary was actually extraordinary.

Prayer: Jesus, forgive me for the blessings I have treated as ordinary and the people I have taken for granted. Open my eyes to goodness hidden beneath familiar routines. Help me recognize the

Daily Reflections

beauty of this day before it becomes a memory. Amen.

Readings: Isaiah 29:17–24; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13–14; Matthew 9:27–31

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5: THE ANSWER TO SOMEONE'S PRAYER

"Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give." (Matthew 10:8)

Most of us have experienced an unexpected kindness that arrived at exactly the right moment. Someone called when we were feeling forgotten, offered help before we knew how to ask, or said something simple that made a difficult day bearable. Often, the person had no idea how much their gesture mattered. They were simply being thoughtful, while God was quietly accomplishing something greater through their ordinary generosity.

Isaiah promises that God will hear His people's cries, guide them along the right path, and bind up their wounds. The psalm celebrates a God who heals the brokenhearted. In the Gospel, Jesus looks upon troubled and abandoned crowds with profound compassion. But then He does something significant: He sends His disciples to care for them. The compassion that begins in Christ's heart is meant to become visible through the hands and lives of His followers.

We sometimes hesitate to help because we cannot solve the entire problem. We cannot cure every illness, repair every broken family, or eliminate loneliness from the world. Fortunately, Jesus never asked any of us to personally solve every problem on the planet. He asks us to love the people entrusted to us. A patient conversation, a visit, or a small act of generosity may seem insignificant. Perhaps one of heaven's most beautiful surprises will be discovering how many prayers God answered through us without our ever knowing.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for the kindnesses that carried me through difficult days, especially those whose importance I never expressed. Keep my heart attentive to people whose struggles remain unspoken. Let my words bring encouragement, my presence bring comfort, and my generosity reflect Your love. Amen.

Readings: Isaiah 30:19–21, 23–26; Psalm 147:1–6; Matthew 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8

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

Christmas Toy Drive

Please remember to return your unwrapped gift, with the Angel Tag attached to the church or the parish office by Friday, December 11th.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to sort and distribute the Angel Tree Gifts.

Please call the Parish Office at 992-0901 if you would like to help on Tuesday, December 15th or Wednesday, December 16th.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT



Your Generosity was Amazing for Our Thanksgiving Food Drive!

Thanks to all who shared their own abundance with those in need. Thanksgiving was much brighter for over 1,000 families in our area because of the generous spirit of St. Leo Parishioners.

Your contributions of money and time to the Thanksgiving Food Drive made it all happen.

Thanks also to our special volunteers who worked tirelessly to sort, pack and distribute all of the food and gift cards.



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!

DON'T SPEND YOUR LIFE WAITING FOR LIFE TO BEGIN
First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 63:16b–17, 19b; 64:2–7; Psalm 80; 1 Corinthians 1:3–9; Mark 13:33–37

by Father Jarek

There are people who can fall asleep within thirty seconds of putting their heads on a pillow. The rest of us would like to know their secret. Some nights, the moment our heads touch the pillow, our minds begin reviewing unfinished responsibilities, awkward conversations, and possible catastrophes. Apparently, the human brain considers 2:30 in the morning an excellent time to reconsider decisions made in 1997. Then we come to church on the First Sunday of Advent, and Jesus tells us, "Be watchful! Be alert!" Lord, with all due respect, some of us could use a little less wakefulness.

But perhaps we have misunderstood what Jesus is asking of us. We often associate being watchful with worrying about what might happen next. We watch the news, monitor our health, check our finances, and wonder what tomorrow will bring. We worry about our children even when they are old enough to have grandchildren of their own. We imagine every possible difficulty, as though anticipating a problem somehow gives us the power to prevent it. Yet Jesus is not asking us to become more anxious about the future. He is inviting us to become more attentive to the present. There is an enormous difference between staying awake because we are afraid of what might happen and remaining awake because we do not want to miss what matters.

The prophet Isaiah understands the exhaustion of waiting. "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down!" he cries. It is the prayer of someone who has waited long enough to wonder whether God is listening. Many of us know that feeling. We have prayed for someone we love to recover, for a broken relationship to heal, for loneliness to become less painful, or for a burden to become easier to carry. Sometimes the heavens seem remarkably quiet. Yet Isaiah ends his prayer with a beautiful reminder: "We are the clay and you the potter." Even when we cannot understand what God is doing, we remain in His hands. And Saint Paul offers the reassurance we need to hear: "God is faithful." Not God will be faithful once everything improves. Not God is faithful only when our prayers are answered. God is faithful, even in the middle of what remains unfinished.

Perhaps one of the greatest tragedies of human life is how easily we postpone living. We tell ourselves we will be happy when the bills are paid, when the children are settled, when our health improves, or when that difficult person finally learns to behave. Unfortunately, that last condition could postpone happiness until the Second Coming. Meanwhile, ordinary life continues passing before our eyes. The spouse who still sits across from us at breakfast, the friend who calls just to hear our voice, the familiar home we sometimes complain about, and the ability to get out of bed and begin another day are blessings we may recognize fully only when they are gone. How often do we spend today worrying about tomorrow, only to discover years later that today was one of the days we should have treasured?

Notice something important in Jesus' Gospel. The master leaves his servants in charge, giving each a responsibility. He does not tell them to abandon their work and spend every waking moment staring toward the horizon. He expects them to live faithfully while he is away. That is what Advent asks of us. Not to withdraw from life while waiting for God, but to recognize that God is already present within the life we have been given. Every act of patience, every reconciliation, every kindness offered when we are tired becomes a way of remaining spiritually awake. We do not have to accomplish something extraordinary to prepare for Christ. Sometimes we simply need to stop overlooking the extraordinary possibilities hidden within ordinary love.

And perhaps this is the most comforting truth of Advent: We are not the only ones waiting. The God whom Isaiah calls Father has never stopped reaching toward His children. He knows our disappointments, understands our fears, and remains faithful even when our attention wanders. We may not know what tomorrow holds, but we know who holds tomorrow. That does not eliminate life's uncertainties, but it allows us to live without surrendering today's peace to tomorrow's worries.

So this Advent, get some sleep. Forgive someone. Make the phone call. Enjoy the people you love while they are still here to enjoy. Stop postponing gratitude until life becomes perfect. Jesus tells us to stay awake, not because we should be frightened that God might arrive unexpectedly, but because it would be heartbreaking to spend our whole lives waiting for Him and discover that we were too distracted to recognize the countless ways He was already here.

Prayer

Loving Father, forgive us for the days we have spent worrying about tomorrow
while overlooking the blessings of today.
When waiting becomes difficult, remind us that
Your faithfulness does not depend on our circumstances.
Open our eyes to the people who need our love, the moments that deserve our gratitude,
and the quiet ways You remain present in our lives.
May this Advent teach us not merely to wait for You, but to recognize You,
trust You, and welcome You with hearts awake to love.

Amen.

NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
MONDAY	**NOVEMBER 30**	
8:00 am	+John Reed	The Withers Family
TUESDAY	**DECEMBER 1**	
8:00 am	+Carol Tedesco	Her Husband & Loving Family
WEDNESDAY	**DECEMBER 2**	
8:00 am	+Mary Francis Stone	Sandy & Fred
THURSDAY	**DECEMBER 3**	
8:00 am	+Kenneth & +Ruth Lorey	Their Son, Ken
FRIDAY	**DECEMBER 4**	
8:00 am	+Rose Scenna	Her Loving Daughter & Son in Law, Rita & Robert Sokol
SATURDAY	**DECEMBER 5**	
8:00 am	+Stella Rdzanak	Lindsey Cook
3:30 pm	The Parishioners of St. Leo	
5:30 pm	Kathy Sullivan, Spirtual	Sandie Murray
SUNDAY	**DECEMBER 6**	
7:30 am	+The McCarthy & +Figurski Family	Ethel Figurski
9:30 am	+Carol Tedesco	Her Husband & Loving Family
11:30 am	+Franklin Carrion	The St. Leo Catechists
3:00 pm - Spanish	Special Cumulative Intentions	
5:00 pm	+Walter Patrick McQueeney	Cindy & Frank Foley

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.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 2-3pm in church.

Prayer Group

All are welcome on Wednesday mornings in the Nest Cafe at 8:45am to pray for our personal intentions and those of our community, country & 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 -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 all to join us in these wonderful prayers.



ST LEO'S RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Meetings are held in the Nest Cafe on the last Friday of the month at 9am.
Due to the holiday schedule, our next meeting will be in January.
For questions call Peggy at 293-3201.



Flowers this week are dedicated to †Cynthia Caputo
Requested by Her Loving Husband, Guy Caputo

Candles this week are dedicated to
†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
Lt. Com. Matthew Kleine
Lt. Wm. Reed Leesman
Lt. Col. Nicholas LoRusso
Joseph McDermond
Daniel McDonald
Cpt. Kyle Martin
Michael Oliveira
Sgt. Thomas Pauls
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.

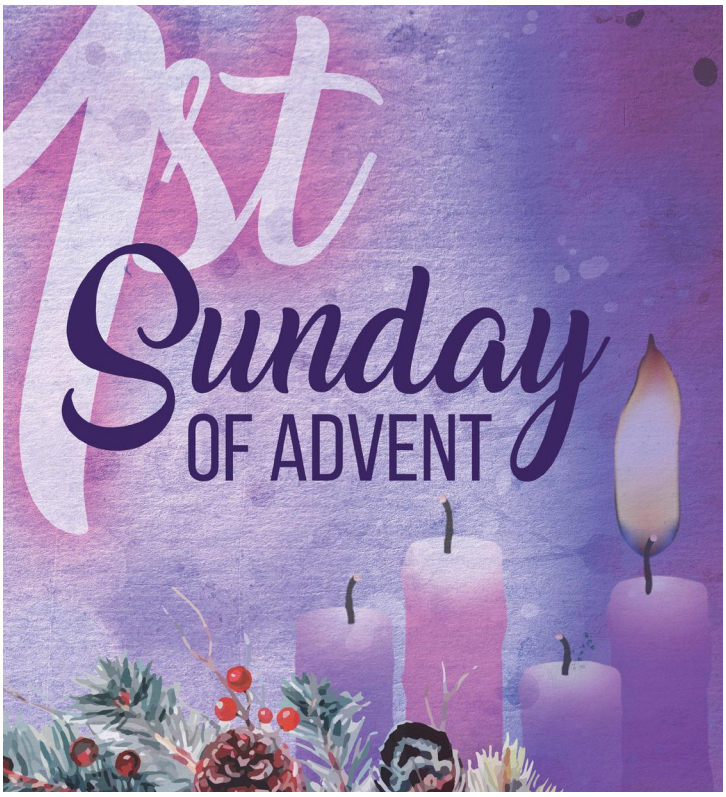
We pray today for...

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Linda Bardol
Steve Bennett
Marie Berry
Catherine Borovich
Bob Brock
Hildi Brown
Denise Buk
Isabelle Marie Caiola
Patrick Cain
Peter Castro
Scott Cochell
Lourdes Coll
Jeff Davis
Gina De Roma
Tara De Roma
Jaden Anthony Droz
Jim Esposito
Brad Fairfield
Rudolph & Mary Fazio
Michael Federico
Cory Fredericksen
Gissette Lupita Garcia
Ellie Gaspar
Paul Gaspar
Donna Gierch
Vincent Gil
Marcedes Giordawa
Kevin Glowacki
Rich Gonzalez
Elaine Gorman
Charles Granito
Karen Grimshaw
Luke Hass
Robbin Holcomb
Mathew Hughes
Kendall Hunter
Nolan Kane
Matt Knight
Mary Kobel
Stephanie Krydick
Jeff Lally
Karen Lamont
Emily Lienesch
Mary Mavilla
Tim McAuliff
Beverly McDowell
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Paul Orzech
Rev. Marcel Pasciak
Mary Pearce
Beverly Pecor
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Tessa Santagate
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Charlie Sweeney Jr.
Bonnie Tenhaken
Vivian Thomas
Tom Thurman
Eleanor Trevison
Justin VanNorstrand
Jane Venuti-Tontodonato
William Welch
Shelly Yuhas Lowry
Fabiola,Juline, Krislin, Michael, Michael R., Tray.
Present & past parish priests.

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

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The Hispanic Community of St. Leo is honored to
invite you to the celebration of
Our Lady of Guadalupe in our Parish Life Center.

Friday, December 11th
8 pm Night Vigil begins with Choir, Rosary and Prayers
9-10 pm Holy Hour

Saturday, December 12th
3 am Holy Rosary
4 am Mañanitas with Mariachi
5 am Mass in the Parish Life Center
with light breakfast to follow

6 pm Holy Rosary
7 pm Mass in the Parish Life Center
8 pm Presentation of the Apparition of
Our Lady of Guadalupe to Juan Diego
light dinner will be shared.

NOTAS EN ESPAÑOL



La comunidad hispana tiene el honor de invitarle a la celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

11 DE DICIEMBRE – VIGILIA DE 8pm a 6am.

Parish Life Center
8:00 pm – Santo Rosario
9:00 a 10:00 pm– Hora Santa

Además tendremos:
Enseñanzas • Alabanzas • Danza

12 DE DICIEMBRE – DÍA DE NUESTRA MORENITA
3:00 am– Santo Rosario
4:00 am– Mañanitas a la Virgen
5:00 am– Santa Misa
Al finalizar la Santa Misa, compartiremos un desayuno.
6:00 pm– Santo Rosario en el PLC
7:00 pm– Santa Misa
8:00 pm– Programa sociocultural

Tendremos la representación de las apariciones de la Virgen de Guadalupe, además de danzas y bailables presentados por feligreses de nuestra comunidad.

Al finalizar, compartiremos una cena para todos los asistentes.

TODOS ESTÁN CORDIALMENTE INVITADOS

MINISTERIO JUVENIL

Invitamos a todos los jóvenes que cursan los grados 9.º a 12.º a reunirse con nosotros en el salón 13/14 del Edificio de Educación, los viernes por la noche de 6:30 a 8:30, para disfrutar de comida, juegos y compartir nuestra fe.

Para más información, comuníquense con el Departamento de Educación Religiosa al 992-0901.

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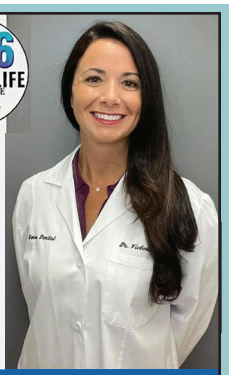
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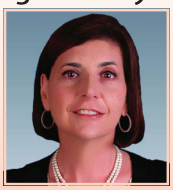
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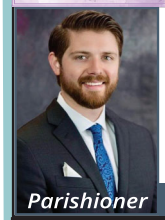
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