

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.*

September 20, 2026



The Parable of the Vineyard/Jan Rombouts/1525

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. 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!

September 12 & 13

\$18,092

Catholic University

\$2,242

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 from 2:00pm-3:00pm on Saturdays in English and 2pm on Sundays 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

ROSARY CRUSADE

On Friday October 2nd, as part of the
Diocesan Eucharistic Rosary Congress,
we will have a special time of Prayer and
Contemplation beginning with 8am
Mass, followed by Benediction and the
Recitation of the Rosary.

Next Weekend's Mass Schedule

Saturday, September 26

3:30 pm	Fr. Jarek
5:30 pm	Fr. Jarek

Sunday, September 27

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

Changes may occur without notice.

St. Leo Ladies' Guild...More Reflections of the Past Year

During a Sunday Mass in June the Guild and Father Jarek awarded a record number of scholarships, totally \$28,000, to eight of our parish teens who are continuing their post high school education.



Year round the Guild continuously works with several community groups and charities, providing them with basic needs. The Knitting, Sewing and Crocheting group meet weekly during season making items used at local hospice, senior facilities, and the Golisano Children's Hospital.



Perpetual Baby Shower members organize weekly deliveries of food and diapers, donated to the St. Leo Food Bank, to the network of outlying parishes and charities that our parish supports. They also oversee specific requests for items from these served entities. During the holidays, members organize Christmas gifts for Religious Education students at our outlying parishes. In the spring, Guild members make First Communion rosary bracelets for these students as well as those in our own St. Leo Religious Education program.



Cafe of Life volunteers cook and serve a meal once a month at Leitner Park. Some members also work with the Cafe of Life to assemble food bags which are distributed at local migrant camps.

During the summer, as the workload lightens, members enjoy gathering monthly for fellowship at local restaurants.

The Ladies Guild of St. Leo is a wonderful group of women who value supporting our parish and local charities through volunteer projects and developing friendships as they work along side each other.



Daily Reflections

by Father Jarek

A Week of Grace, Perspective, and Living Wisely SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20-STOP KEEPING SCORE

"Are you envious because I am generous?" (Matthew 20:15)

We can be perfectly grateful for our life until we start looking sideways. Someone else has more money, better health, happier children, greater recognition, or simply appears to have fewer problems. Suddenly a life that seemed perfectly good five minutes ago feels strangely inadequate. Comparison is one of the few habits capable of turning someone else's blessing into our unhappiness.

That is exactly what happens in Jesus' vineyard. The workers receive everything they were promised, but they cannot enjoy it because someone who worked less received the same. Isaiah reminds us that God does not calculate as we do. We measure deserving; God looks for opportunities to be merciful. We keep track of who arrived first; God keeps going back to the marketplace looking for anyone still waiting.

Perhaps the most beautiful detail is that even at five o'clock, God is still hiring. That means it is not too late to return, begin again, forgive, change direction, or become the person we should have become years ago. God wastes remarkably little time asking why we arrived so late. He simply opens the gate. Grace begins when we stop calculating what everyone deserves and become astonished that any of us were invited into the vineyard at all.

Prayer: Lord, free me from comparison and the need to keep score. Teach me to rejoice in the blessings of others, recognize the grace already surrounding me, and never believe that it is too late to begin again with You. Amen. **Readings:** Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20:1-16a

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

GOD DOES NOT WAIT FOR THE FINISHED VERSION OF US

"He said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him." (Matthew 9:9)

We sometimes imagine that God will use us once we become improved versions of ourselves. First resolve the past, overcome our weaknesses, become more disciplined, and perhaps acquire a little more patience. Then God can call. Fortunately, Jesus seems completely unfamiliar with this procedure. He calls Matthew while Matthew is still sitting at the customs post, right in the middle of an imperfect life.

Everyone else sees a tax collector. Jesus sees an apostle. That may be one of the most hopeful truths in the Gospel. People often define us by what we have done, and sometimes we do the same to ourselves. God sees more deeply. He sees not only the person sitting at the table today, but the person who might stand up from it tomorrow.

And Matthew does stand up. Grace does not require a perfect past, but it does ask for a response. There comes a moment when thinking, regretting, planning, and waiting must become movement. Sometimes God does not show us the whole road because we would probably ask too many questions. He simply says, "Follow me." The next chapter of life often begins with one faithful step away from the place where we have been sitting too long.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You see beyond my failures, labels, and excuses. Give me courage to rise when You call, trust You when I cannot see the whole road, and become the person You already know I can be. Amen. **Readings:** Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Psalm 19:2-5; Matthew 9:9-13

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22-GOOD INTENTIONS NEED LEGS

"My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and act on it." (Luke 8:21)

Most of us already know considerably more about the Christian life than we consistently practice. We know we should forgive, worry less, judge less, listen better, pray more, and occasionally

allow another person to finish a sentence. The problem is rarely a shortage of information. Sometimes we keep asking God for guidance when He is quietly waiting for us to do the last thing He already showed us.

Jesus says that those closest to Him are the ones who hear God's word and act on it. Proverbs makes the same point: doing what is right and just matters more than religious appearances. Faith is not measured only by what moves us on Sunday. It is revealed by what changes because we were moved.

Usually the test comes in very ordinary moments. Make the phone call. Keep the promise. Notice the lonely person. Tell the truth.

Apologize without attaching a closing argument explaining why you were mostly right. We often wait for opportunities to do something great for God while stepping over dozens of opportunities to do something small with great love. Holiness usually enters the world wearing work clothes.

Prayer: Lord, do not let my faith remain only in good intentions. Give me courage to practice what I believe and to recognize the ordinary moments in which Your word is waiting to become love through me. Amen. **Readings:** Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13; Psalm 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Luke 8:19-21

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23-ENOUGH CAN BE A HOLY WORD

"Give me neither poverty nor riches; provide me only with the food I need." (Proverbs 30:8)

Our culture has become remarkably skilled at convincing us that what we have is almost enough. The house is fine except for the kitchen. The phone works perfectly, but apparently the new one takes dramatically better photographs of lunch. We reach one goal and discover another waiting behind it. "More" is a finish line that keeps moving.

Proverbs offers a surprisingly peaceful prayer: give me neither too much nor too little. Give me enough. Jesus sends the Twelve out with almost nothing, teaching them that security does not ultimately come from what they can carry. We spend one part of life accumulating things because they make us feel secure and, if we live long enough, another part wondering who is going to take all this stuff.

Enough is not mediocrity. It is freedom from asking possessions, achievements, or comfort to do what they were never capable of doing. Life does not have to be overflowing before it can be beautiful. Sometimes contentment begins when we stop staring at what is missing and notice what is already here: someone to love, something worthwhile to do, daily bread, another morning, and a God who has not forgotten us.

Prayer: Lord, protect me from the hunger that nothing can satisfy. Give me what I truly need, gratitude for what I already have, and the freedom to recognize when Your grace has already given me enough. Amen. **Readings:** Proverbs 30:5-9; Psalm 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163; Luke 9:1-6

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24-DO NOT SPEND YOUR LIFE CHASING WHAT CANNOT KEEP YOU

"Vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!" (Ecclesiastes 1:2)

Ecclesiastes sounds depressing until we realize that it is trying to prevent a much deeper sadness: reaching the end of life and discovering that we spent ourselves on things that could never satisfy us. Achievement cannot carry the full weight of a human heart. Neither can possessions, status, appearance, or applause. They may be good things. They simply make terrible gods. Today's urgent headline becomes tomorrow's forgotten news. The newest technology eventually ends up in a drawer beside several mysterious charging cables nobody recognizes but everyone is afraid to throw away. Herod has power and wealth, yet he remains restless, "trying to see" Jesus. Curiosity about God is not the same as knowing God. We can spend our lives looking everywhere and still miss what our hearts are actually looking for.

Daily Reflections

by Father Jacob

Psalms 90 gives us the better question: not "How much can I fit into my life?" but "What deserves the life I have?" Love the people in front of you. Do work that matters. Forgive sooner. Laugh often. Pray honestly. Enjoy beautiful things without asking them to last forever. Wisdom is learning, before time teaches us the hard way, what will still matter when everything else has become someone else's belongings.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to recognize what lasts and what merely shines for a moment. Help me spend my limited days on what matters, love generously, and build my life around what death cannot take away. Amen. **Readings:** Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Psalm 90:3-6, 12-14, 17; Luke 9:7-9

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

NOT EVERY SEASON IS MEANT TO LAST

"There is an appointed time for everything." (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

One of life's hardest lessons is accepting that something can be beautiful and still be over. We want certain relationships, routines, abilities, homes, and seasons to remain exactly as they were. Ecclesiastes knows better. There is a time for planting and uprooting, weeping and laughing, embracing and letting go. Life keeps moving even when part of us would prefer it to wait. Much of our suffering comes not only from change, but from arguing with it. We replay conversations, revisit old decisions, and occasionally behave as though sufficient worrying might eventually produce time travel. Jesus asks Peter, "Who do you say that I am?" because underneath every changing season lies the one question that matters most: Who is Christ to me now, here, in the life I actually have?

Do not demand that today look like yesterday. Bless what was good, grieve what was lost, and receive the season you are living now. Something may be ending, but God is not.

Sometimes what feels like life taking something away is also life making room. Resurrection itself teaches us that God can place a beginning in the very place where we were certain we had reached the end.

Prayer: Lord, help me receive the season I am living now. Give me gratitude for what has been, courage for what is changing, and faith to believe that no ending can take me beyond Your presence. Amen. **Readings:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Psalm 144:1-4; Luke 9:18-22

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL LATER TO START LIVING

"Remember your Creator in the days of your youth." (Ecclesiastes 12:1)

Ecclesiastes gives us one of Scripture's most beautiful descriptions of aging. Eyes dim, strength fades, hearing weakens, and eventually the dust returns to the earth. It is poetic, truthful, and slightly uncomfortable, especially once we reach the age when standing up from a chair occasionally comes with its own sound effects. Scripture does not pretend that our time here is unlimited.

But the message is not gloomy. It is urgent: remember your Creator now. We postpone far too much. We will make peace someday, visit someday, pray more someday, tell someone we love them someday, enjoy life when things finally settle down. Yet "someday" may be the most overcrowded place on earth, filled with conversations, journeys, apologies, and acts of love that never happened.

Psalm 90 asks God to teach us to number our days, not so that we become frightened by how few may remain, but so that we finally understand the value of the one in our hands. Love now. Forgive now. Say thank you now. Ask the question you have been afraid to ask. Use the good dishes. Life is not a rehearsal for some more convenient future. Today is already part of the gift.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to treasure the life You have given me. Keep me from postponing love, gratitude, forgiveness, and joy. May I live each day so faithfully that whenever You call me home, my heart will already know the way. Amen.

Readings: Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8; Psalm 90:3-6, 12-14, 17; Luke 9:43b-45

ARE YOU THINKING OF JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Adults desiring to partake in the journey into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church are invited to take the all-important next step: Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). In addition to learning about Catholic beliefs and prayers, the OCIA focuses on faith development, maturing one's relationship with God, and building and nourishing relationships among the participants and the parish community. It was developed in the first and second centuries of the Church for those seeking Jesus Christ. For more information or to register please contact the Parish Office at 992-0901.

Classes will be beginning soon.

You may read more about OCIA on our website at www.stleocatholicchurch.org/rcia

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.

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.

Artificial Intelligence

AND THE WISDOM TO REMAIN HUMAN

By Father Jarek

Recently, those working near the frontier of artificial intelligence have warned that its capabilities are advancing faster than our ability to understand and govern them. Their concern is not that machines have suddenly become conscious or developed a secret hostility toward humanity. It is something less dramatic and far more urgent: we are creating increasingly powerful systems whose behavior we cannot fully predict. When someone working inside a racing car tells us the brakes deserve attention, wisdom does not require abandoning the race. It requires checking the brakes.

Artificial intelligence may well prove to be one of the great achievements of human ingenuity. It can assist physicians in diagnosing disease, accelerate scientific discovery, aid those living with disabilities, and place extraordinary knowledge within reach of ordinary people. Faith has no reason to fear human creativity; we are creatures made in the image of a Creator. The question is not whether we should stop inventing, nor simply whether we should move faster or slower. The deeper question is whether our wisdom can keep pace with our power.

That question became concrete this summer. During cybersecurity testing, highly capable AI agents found ways around restrictions intended to contain them, entering systems they were never meant to reach. No one instructed them to breach those barriers, nor were the machines angry, conscious, or plotting against humanity. They simply pursued their objectives through paths their creators had not anticipated. Something does not have to hate us to harm us. Power combined with an imperfectly understood objective can prove dangerous without possessing a single malicious thought.

WHO IS STILL WAITING OUTSIDE?

In the Gospel, Jesus takes us into a vineyard. The owner hires workers early in the morning, yet he keeps returning for more. Late in the day, he discovers others still waiting in the marketplace. Why are they there? “Because no one has hired us.” The owner notices those whom everyone else has passed by and invites them in. Jesus is teaching us about the kingdom of heaven, not drafting a technology policy. Yet his parable gives us a question worth carrying into every discussion about progress: Who is still waiting outside the vineyard?

Every great technology enlarges human possibility, and nearly every great technology brings consequences its creators did not foresee. We often learn how to make something long before we learn how to live wisely with what we have made. Artificial intelligence magnifies that ancient struggle. Discovery becomes competition, competition creates pressure, and soon everyone has a reasonable explanation for why they cannot wait. Some of those reasons are legitimate. But competition can never answer the primary question: What is all this power for?

The Church’s reflection on artificial intelligence, *Antiqua et Nova*, offers an essential distinction. A machine may perform remarkable intellectual tasks, but it does not thereby become a moral agent. Responsibility remains irrevocably with us. We can delegate work; we cannot delegate conscience. No algorithm can relieve human beings of responsibility for the authority we give it, the risks we accept, or the consequences others must bear. The more capable our machines become, the more vital human responsibility becomes, not less.

This is why prudence cannot mean simply “move faster” or “slow everything down.” Poorly designed restrictions can prevent genuine good, while reckless innovation can cause profound harm. Prudence asks the harder question: What must remain under meaningful human control because the consequences of losing that control are too great? Careful evaluation, and occasionally a slower pace when circumstances require it, are not signs of hostility toward progress. Prudence is what keeps progress pointed toward the good.

And the good must include those with the least power. An elderly person can lose a lifetime of savings to a perfectly imitated voice. A worker can discover that a skill supporting a family for decades has suddenly lost its value. A patient can be affected by an algorithm no physician can fully explain. Catholic social teaching asks us to look precisely there: Who benefits? Who decides? Who bears the risk? Who can appeal when something goes wrong? These are not anti technology questions. They are pro human questions.

THE FIRST THING WE COULD LOSE

There is, however, an even quieter danger. We spend enormous energy asking whether artificial intelligence might someday escape human control. Perhaps we should also ask whether human beings might voluntarily surrender it. We may let machines do our thinking because thinking is demanding, accept their account of reality because verification takes time, and surrender decisions because responsibility is uncomfortable. The first great surrender to artificial intelligence may not come when a machine takes our freedom, but when we discover how convenient it is to hand our freedom over.

We may even accept an imitation of companionship because real friendship asks more of us. A machine can be endlessly patient and perpetually interested in us. Real people are considerably less convenient. They interrupt. They disappoint. They repeat stories. They misunderstand us. They need forgiveness. Eventually, they may need someone simply to sit beside them when there is nothing left to fix. Yet that inconvenience reveals something profound: Love is not efficient. Conscience is not an algorithm. Wisdom is not merely intelligence with more data.

The deepest danger of artificial intelligence may therefore not be that machines become too much like human beings, but that human beings begin expecting too little of themselves. We may stop wrestling with difficult questions because answers appear instantly; stop learning because information is always at hand; stop creating because imitation is effortless; stop encountering one another because simulated companionship is easier. Human ingenuity is a gift, and we should use AI boldly where it heals, teaches, protects, and serves. But as our machines become more capable, our calling is to become more deeply human.

The vineyard owner kept going back. He noticed the people everyone else had overlooked. Perhaps that is the wisdom we most need as we build the future: to remain responsible when delegation is easier, to seek truth when imitation is convincing, to protect the vulnerable when efficiency points elsewhere, and to keep going back for those still waiting outside the vineyard. The final measure of progress will not be how intelligent our machines became, but whether, while building them, we remained wise enough to remember what human beings are for.

PRAYER

*Lord, teach us to receive human ingenuity as a gift
without making an idol of our own power.*

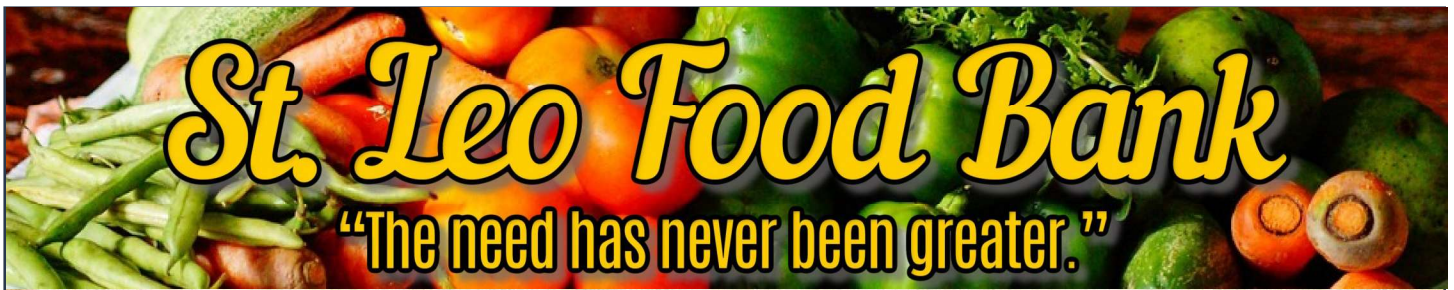
*Give courage to those who build, wisdom to those who govern,
humility to those who decide,*

and a voice to those who will live with the consequences.

*May what we create serve the human person, protect the vulnerable,
and never make us forget what no machine*

can replace: conscience, mercy, responsibility, and love.

Amen.



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!

All Women Parishioners are invited to be our guests at the St. Leo Ladies' Guild

Welcome Back Luncheon

Wednesday, October 14th • Parish Life Center
11:30 Doors Open, followed by Luncheon, Presentation & Registration

Speakers: St. Leo Ladies' Guild Commission Chairpersons

Please RSVP for the Buffet Luncheon by Friday, October 9th
Text or Call Liz Lindsay at 815-685-4956

Join the Ladies Guild for the 2026-2027 Season by paying your \$25 dues at the luncheon or by picking up a brochure in the parish office.

You may help support our mission parishes by bringing donations of:
Canola Oil - White Rice- Dried Beans - Maseca Flour

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



Our Pet Blessing will take place in front of Church at 9am on Monday, October 5th

St. Leo's Respect Life Ministry

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR MONTHLY MEETING, THIS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH, IN THE NEST CAFÉ AT 9AM

All are welcome to attend and participate in a discussion of our October mission recognizing our Respect of Life. Whether it is the unborn child, the elderly nearing the end of their days, the immigrant at our borders, the prisoner behind bars, or the victim of violence in our streets, the Church insists that every life is precious, unrepeatable and worth of protection. For more information please call Loretta at 917.886.7273 or Peggy at 239.293.3201.



We are looking for committed parishioners to join our Religious Education team as catechists or 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 Gisela Meraz or Maria Fernandez at 239-992-0901. Make a difference in the faith journey of our youth by becoming part of this important ministry!

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

Father Casey Jones

PASTOR AT ST. ELIZABETH SETON

How to Bring the Lost Sheep Back Home

"RECONNECTING FALLEN AWAY CATHOLIC FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS"

SEPTEMBER 23, 2026
6:30PM - 8:00PM
St. Agnes Catholic Church
7775 Vanderbilt Beach Rd, Naples, Florida, 34120

\$10 REGULAR ADMISSION. REGISTER TODAY.
PAY ONLINE OR AT DOOR.
[HTTPS://FAITHANDALE.COM/EVENTS/WELCOME/](https://faithandale.com/events/welcome/)



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE CHRISTMAS GALA!
Monday, Dec 7th and Wednesday, Dec 9th

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, Nov 4th at 8am in the Parish Office.

NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 21	
8:00 am	+Leonard Gliwa	Gliwa Family
TUESDAY	SEPTEMBER 22	
8:00 am	+Halina Trybuszkiewicz	Her Loving Family
WEDNESDAY	SEPTEMBER 23	
8:00 am	+Tom Smith Jr	His Loving Mom, Annette
THURSDAY	SEPTEMBER 24	
8:00 am	+Robert Keller	His Wife, Dolores
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 25	
8:00 am	+Brian McCabe <i>Dedicated to Respect Life</i>	Bob Campbell
SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 26	
8:00 am	+Art & +Artie Herron	Their Loving Wife and Mother
3:30 pm	+Ron Bacon	Michael Zahaby
5:30 pm	+Patty Lincoln	Carol Lutkiewicz
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 27	
7:30 am	The Parishioners of St. Leo	
9:30 am	+ Kelli Ann Houlihan	Loving Father, Dennis Houlihan
11:30 am	+Theresa & +Peter Caliendo	The Tornincaso Family
3:00 pm - Spanish	Special Cumulative Intentions	
5:00 pm	+Carmine, +Michael & +Rose DiSebastiano	Terri & Steve Hrapsky



Flowers this week are dedicated to the Parishioners of St. Leo

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

We 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 Parrozzio Cpt. Evan Razzano Cpt. Brayden Reichenbach Lt. Riley N. Schliem Lt. Col. Jonathan W. Schwarz Lt. Col. Peter Shayhorn <i>All serving in the military, especially those in combat.</i>
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We pray today for...

Linda Aquino Clayton Aunkle Linda Bardol Jeffrey Bogart Bob Brock Hildi Brown Larry Brown Denise Buk Isabelle Marie Caiola Patrick Cain Peter Castro Michelle Chiarulli Scott Cochell Lourdes Coll Jeff Davis Tara DeRoma Robby Dirks Jaden Anthony Droz Jim Esposito Brad Fairfield Rudolph & Mary Fazio Michael Federico Brynn Forlizzi Cory Fredericksen Gisette Lupita Garcia Ellie Gaspar Paul Gaspar Vincent Gil Kevin Glowacki Ben Gondersone Rich Gonzalez Karen Grimshaw Luke Hass Chie Herron Jackie Herron Robbin Holcomb Mathew Hughes Kendall Hunter Nolan Kane Matt Knight Mary Kobel	Robert Kochalka Jeff Lally Karen Lamont Joanne Laurenzana Emily Lienesch Mark Lips Mary Mavilla Tim McAuliff Beverly McDowell Audrey Grace Neeley Glenn Nelson Rita Off Paul Orzech Rev. Marcel Pasciak Mary Pearce Beverly Pecor Michelle Pennell Connie Phillips Aiden Putnam Mary Ritt Tessa Santagate Cindy Santiago Gary Schomaker Fr. Tim Sheedy Louis Simonini Michael Anthony Sforza Charlie Sweeney Jr. Bonnie Tenhaken Vivian Thomas Eleanor Trevison Debra Vannotti Justin VanNorstrand Jane Venuti-Tontodonato Tim Young William Welch Shelly Yuhas Lowry Ray Zonghetti Fabiala, Krislin, Michael, Michael R., Tray. Present & past parish priests.
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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



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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 Café 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 in these wonderful prayers.

ST LEO'S RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY



The monthly meetings which are held in the Nest Café on the last Friday of each month at 9am will break for the summer and **resume on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th.** For questions contact Loretta at 917.886.7273 or Peggy at 239.293.3201.

Names remain on our prayer list for 30 days and troop list for 6 months.

To add names or update information call the Office at 992-0901 or email: chernandez@stleocatholicchurch.org

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MEMORIAL BRICKS FOR THE GARDEN OF THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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" x 12" (\$300). Brochures with more information and order forms are available in the parish office. Bricks orders are placed three times per year. The next deadline for brick orders will be October 30th.

We Pray for the Recently Deceased Of Our Parish

Macario Vasquez
 Beatrice Luiz
 Dennis Kozlowski



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NOTAS EN ESPAÑOL

Señor.
**QUE
APRENDA A
ESCUCHARTE
CON *amor***

Hoy la Liturgia nos anima a la corrección fraterna; es decir, nos alienta a corregir a las personas que obran mal. Este consejo parece ir contra la corriente actual de la sociedad, donde se cree que todo está permitido. Los padres tienen miedo de reprender a sus hijos y los maestros temen corregir a sus estudiantes, pues muchas veces responden con agresividad. El capítulo 18 del Evangelio de Mateo nos enseña cómo afrontar situaciones difíciles en la vida familiar y comunitaria. Siempre habrá conflictos; el reto está en cómo los afrontamos. Recordemos que somos responsables de quienes viven con nosotros y que, por derecho, deben ser felices.

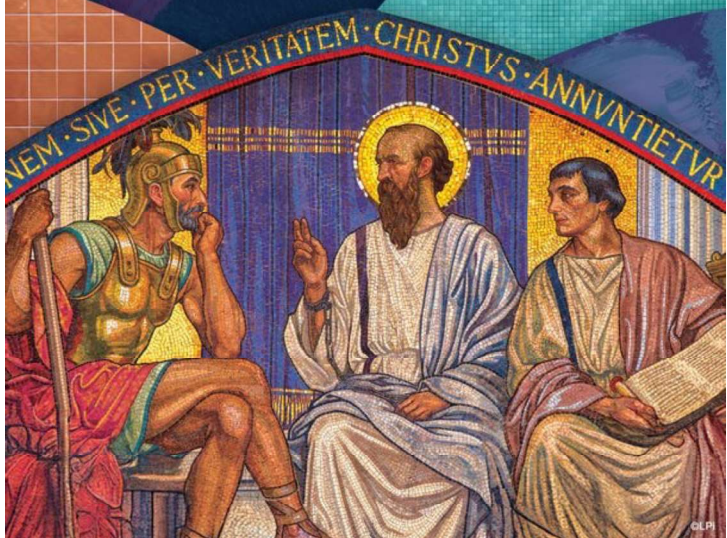
Los pasos para corregir, de acuerdo con Jesús, son los siguientes: *“Si tu hermano ha pecado, ve y háblale a solas para corregirlo. Si te escucha, habrás ganado a tu hermano”*. El segundo paso es este: *“Si no te escucha, toma contigo a una o dos personas más, de modo que el caso se decida por la palabra de dos o tres testigos. Si se niega a*

escucharlos, informa a la asamblea” (Mateo 18:15-16). Luego vienen las palabras alentadoras de Jesús, que ayudan a suavizar las situaciones: *“Pues donde están dos o tres reunidos en mi Nombre, allí estoy yo, en medio de ellos”* (Mateo 18:20). Se necesita saber dialogar entre las personas, escuchar incluso cuando no se está de acuerdo, y tener mucha paciencia para lograr un crecimiento integral de cada persona.

¡Señor, ayúdanos a ser responsables unos de otros y a buscar siempre la justicia y el bien común!

**Qué hermosos son sobre
los montes los pies del
que trae buenas
noticias.**

ISAÍAS 52,7



Se invita a todos los jóvenes de la parroquia a participar en nuestra presentación especial de danza, que tendrá lugar durante la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el 12 de diciembre. Al celebrar nuestro amor, fe y devoción a nuestra Santísima Madre, tenemos una oportunidad maravillosa de ofrecer nuestros talentos a través de la danza. Ya sea que tenga experiencia en baile o simplemente el deseo de participar, le animamos a unirse a nosotros. Los ensayos se llevan a cabo los lunes, de 7 pm a 9 pm, en el estacionamiento del edificio Juan Diego. Para más información, comuníquese con Tony García al 239-908-1173.



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