

A MESSAGE OF HOPE FROM

Our New Holy Father

With reverent joy, the Church welcomes Pope Leo XIV, the first American-born pope and a member of the Order of St. Augustine. Formerly Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost of Chicago, he brings a pastoral heart, missionary experience from Peru, and global leadership as former Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops.

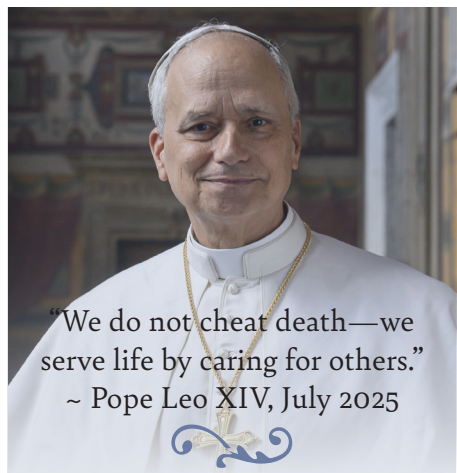
Pope Leo's deep pastoral spirit is rooted in his years of service in Chiclayo, Peru, where he ministered to the poor and built strong communities of faith. His priorities reflect Pope Francis's legacy and continue the call to: Serve the poor - Promote peace - Care for creation - Listen with mercy.



Photo credit: Ohio Patron Member Mr. Harry Gremore.

Pope Leo XIV greeting pilgrims in St. Peter's Square on May 28, 2025.

Pope Leo XIV has already made it clear that his papacy will continue the spirit of Pope Francis, calling Catholics to care for the poor, the planet, and one another. His early messages emphasize mercy, unity, and social justice, encouraging all people to live out the Gospel in practical ways.



"We do not cheat death—we serve life by caring for others."
~ Pope Leo XIV, July 2025

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His episcopal motto, "*In Illo Uno Unum*" ("In the One, we are one"), expresses his Augustinian spirituality and his desire for unity in the Body of Christ. This message is also beautifully captured in his coat of arms, symbolizing purity, divine love, and conversion.

From his first words as Holy Father—"Peace be with you!"—to his continued presence on social media (@Pontifex), the Church is to become a people of dialogue, reconciliation, and shared mission.

As his pontificate begins, Pope Leo XIV offers a hopeful vision not of fear or division, one grounded in grace, courage, and communion: "although we Christians are many, in Christ we are one."

CHAIRMAN LETTER

Ciao Patrons,

Summer has arrived in full force here in Cleveland—with its share of sunshine, heat, and plenty of rain to keep things interesting! Despite the weather, we've been embracing all the joy and energy this season brings.

We kicked off summer in the best way possible—by spending time together! It was such a pleasure to see so many of you at our recent Wine Tasting Event. The evening was filled with laughter, great conversation, and of course, some truly wonderful wines. Be sure to check out the photo highlights in this newsletter—you may spot a few familiar faces!

Spring and early summer also brought many of our members to Rome for unforgettable visits to the Vatican and the Vatican Museums. We've received glowing feedback and some fantastic photos from these once-in-a-lifetime experiences. While we wish we could share every Patron's special moment, enjoy a few snapshots featured here from friends who kindly shared their memories.

Looking ahead, we're excited about what the rest of the year holds. We hope you'll join us for our upcoming events—starting with a truly special evening featuring Dr. Elizabeth Lev, renowned art historian and author, who will join us from Rome. She'll speak on the Jubilee Year and explore the history behind some of the Vatican's most treasured masterpieces. It's not to be missed!

You'll find a full list of upcoming events in this newsletter, and we hope to see you at each one. These gatherings are more than just social—they're opportunities to support our mission, share goodwill, and enjoy meaningful time with fellow Patrons.

Wishing you a safe, joyful, and healthy summer. As always, I look forward to welcoming you to our next event. And remember—if you know someone who would enjoy being part of our vibrant Ohio Chapter, we'd love to share more about how to join. *~*

*Best regards and heartfelt
thanks to all of you,*
Lorraine Dodero, Chairman
PAVM, Ohio Chapter

PAVM
PATRONS OF THE ARTS IN
THE VATICAN MUSEUMS
OHIO CHAPTER



Experience the Vatican Museums Like Never Before

Become a Member



With more than 6.8 million visitors in 2024, **the Vatican Museums rank among the most visited museums in the world.** Guests travel from around the globe to catch a glimpse of Michelangelo's iconic frescoes in the Sistine Chapel, explore the Gallery of Maps, admire religious relics, and marvel at the papal carriages that once transported the Holy Fathers of the Church.

But for members of the Ohio Chapter of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums, a visit offers something far more extraordinary. **As a Patron, you gain access to private, personalized tours that bring the Vatican's masterpieces to life—**away from the crowds, often before the Museums open to the public. Enjoy peaceful, early-morning access to the Sistine Chapel, Raphael Rooms, Borgia Apartments, and the Upper Galleries, or add exclusive entry to select venues only available during morning hours.

Afternoon tours—offered only on Tuesdays and Thursdays—may include a visit to one of the Vatican's renowned Restoration Laboratories, where expert conservators care for historic documents, sacred vestments, paintings, sculpture, and more. These behind-the-scenes glimpses reveal the extraordinary mission Patrons help support.

Tours are reserved for current Patron Members and must be booked at least three weeks in advance.

Membership Levels:

- Junior Membership (ages 18-34): \$250
- Clergy Membership: \$250
- Individual Membership (ages 35+): \$600
- Family Memberships include children under 18: \$1,200

Tours may be requested directly through our website:
patronsvaticanmuseums.org/book-your-visit

Questions? We're happy to help! Contact us at vaticanpatronsoh@aol.com or call 440.498.1300.

Salute to Spring!

OHIO PATRONS SIP, SAVOR & CELEBRATE TOGETHER

SWIRL
SIP
ENJOY

On Monday, April 29, the Ohio Chapter of the Patrons welcomed the season in style with an elegant and joy-filled wine tasting at Via Roma Event Center & Ristorante in North Royalton.

More than 75 Ohio Patrons and friends gathered for a festive evening of fine wine, delicious pairings, and warm camaraderie. Guests were treated to six hand-selected wines from four countries, expertly curated and presented by special guest and certified sommelier, Jim M. Francisco. Each wine was paired with a thoughtfully crafted small plate, designed to complement and elevate the tasting experience.

As glasses clinked and laughter filled the air, the evening also offered a special moment to celebrate the birthday of our beloved Ohio Chaplain, Father Dan Schlegel. Patrons joined together to raise a toast in his honor—a fitting tribute surrounded by friendship and good cheer.

To everyone who attended, thank you for making it such a memorable night. We look forward to gathering again soon. Until then—salute! ~

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Jim Francisco, Wine Sommelier



Mark and Mary
Elizabeth Coteleur



Lorraine Dodero,
Chorbishop Anthony Spinosa



Father Robert Ramser
and David Krakowski



Fr. Dan Schlegel



Yakov Muskin, Megan Petrello,
Corinne Salvador, Lorraine Dodero, Nick Salvador



Bill Dodero, Frank Grk



Carolyn Mandato, Connie Frankino, Alice Kljun



SWIRL
SIP
ENJOY

Salute to Spring!

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SIP, SAVOR & CELEBRATE TOGETHER

Phila Patrons



Frank Grk and Lisa Fazio-Grk



Dan Sirkot, Lorraine Dodero, Lisa Dukles



Raquel and Louis Berroteran, Donna D'Attona



Joan Kosko, Gloria Solarz



Mary Beth and John Lee



Paul and Kimberly Trickett, Anthony and Michelle Togliatti



Ron and Rosemarie Mintz, Father Dan Schlegel,
Tom and Julie Corcoran



Suzi and Dennis Castiglione



Mary Elizabeth and Mark Coteleur, Sandra Graubard and Scott Irwin



Sydney Phillips, Nicholas Zerinsky,
Lorraine Dodero, Michael Nowacki

Become a Sponsor of the 2025



Family CLAMBAKE

Sunday, September 28 at StoneWater Golf Club

The Annual Family Clambake to benefit the Ohio Chapter of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums is more than a great evening—it's a celebration of art, culture, and community.

For more than 16 years, this beloved tradition has brought Patron members and friends together to support the restoration and preservation of the sacred treasures in the Vatican Museums. This year's event, held **Sunday, September 28 at StoneWater Golf Club**, promises all the delicious tradition, joyful spirit, and meaningful connection our guests love—plus a few exciting new surprises! We invite you to **become a sponsor** and play a vital role in making this special night possible. Your support not only enhances the experience—it directly advances the conservation of priceless works of art that reflect our faith and heritage. It's a unique opportunity to align your name with a mission rooted in beauty, history, and purpose.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AVAILABLE

- **Preservation Sponsor* (two available) \$5,000** – Includes 10 tickets, name/logo on program, website, PAVM OH Newsletter and signage at Wine Toss station; verbal recognition during the event; opportunity to include an item in the swag bag.
- **Distinguished Patron Sponsor \$2,500** – Includes 8 tickets, name/logo on program, website, PAVM OH Newsletter and signage; verbal recognition during the event; opportunity to include an item in the swag bag.
- **Friends of the Arts Sponsor \$1,000** – Includes 2 tickets, priority seating, name/logo on program, website, and onsite signage; verbal recognition during the event.

To learn more about sponsorship

QUESTIONS? CONTACT RACHEAL SEIBERT AT
440.532.2548 OR RESIBERT@VATICANPATRONSOHIO.ORG





OHIO MEMBERS VISIT THE

Vatican Museums

Our Ohio Patrons have been busy this spring traveling to Italy and, of course, touring the Vatican Museums!

OHIO MEMBER: Antonio "Tony" Perfetto

During his visit in March, **Antonio "Tony" Perfetto** had the unique opportunity to explore some of the Vatican's most breathtaking sites. His exclusive tour included the Papal Palace of Castel Gandolfo - Apostolic Palace, a walk through the serene Secret Garden, and a final stop at the renowned Vatican Observatory (Specola). This extraordinary journey offered a rare and unforgettable glimpse into the history, beauty, and grandeur of these iconic Vatican locations



Tony Perfetto



Michael and Katie Poliner

OHIO MEMBERS: **Michael and Katie Poliner**

Columbus, Ohio members **Michael and Katie Poliner** visited the Vatican Museums and Castel Gondolfo in May to celebrate their honeymoon. Upon returning, they said "Chiara and Roberta were both wonderful guides. These private tours were the highlight of our honeymoon. Thank you again for making our visit so special!"



John and Lisa Rydell at Castel Gandolfo

OHIO MEMBERS: John and Lisa Rydell

College Grove, TN residents **John and Lisa Rydell** visited the Museums only days after Pope Leo XIV was inaugurated, adding an extra layer of excitement to their visit! Following their tour, John told us "Our guide was great and the security allowed us in rooms our guide had never seen before. She was even more excited than we were!"

OHIO MEMBERS VISIT THE *Vatican Museums*

OHIO MEMBERS: The Nemeh family

The Nemeh family visited the Museums in early June. Ashley Nemeh said "Our tour guide was spectacular, and it was truly wonderful! We will never forget the beauty we saw and the kindness we were shown. We were treated like family!"



Dr. Issam and Kathy Nemeh, Deborah Nemeh, Fadia Nemeh, Ashley Nemeh, & Wadi Nemeh

OHIO MEMBERS: The Soulsby family

Following the recent Museums tour by the **Soulsby family**, Dave Soulsby shared their photos on social media and stated "we received a VIP private tour at the Vatican today. Easy access to everything. No waiting in line. The Sistine Chapel was amazing!"



Dave Soulsby, Priya Soulsby, Joe Soulsby, & Asha Soulsby

OHIO MEMBERS: The Gremore family

The Gremore family, new from Columbia, MO, had an extra-special surprise during their trip to the Vatican Museums. While greeting visitors to the Vatican, Pope Leo XIV came to a stop right in front of them (*You can see a photo of this unique moment on the cover page of this newsletter.*) Harry Gremore said "We just happened to be standing in the right place in the Square! He stopped right in front of us to bless a baby! And this was May 28th- our granddaughter's 6th birthday." He added that their tour "was fantastic! Our guide was so good and kept our granddaughters engaged the whole time. It was incredible to visit the Sistine Chapel before it was open to the public. We're so thankful we had the opportunity!"



*(In back) Julia Warren, Matthew and Marsha Gremore, Harry and Cathy Gremore;
(In front) Savannah Gremore and Saige Gremore*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
BOOKING A SPECIAL PATRONS TOUR,
PLEASE VISIT THE PATRONS' WEBSITE:
patronsvaticanmuseums.org/book-your-visit**

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Keynote Speaker ~ Dr. Elizabeth Lev

*Joins us from Rome, Italy.
Renowned author, historian, and Vatican expert*

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

6:00 pm DOORS OPEN • **6:30 pm** PRESENTATION

Experience an evening of historical enlightenment as Dr. Elizabeth Lev brings the masterpieces of the Vatican Museums and the rich history of the Jubilee Year to life through her captivating storytelling and unparalleled expertise.

Gilmour Academy
The Lorraine and Bill Dodero Center for Performing Arts
2045 SOM Center Road, Gates Mills, Ohio

Special Guest Performance by Ashley Nemeh
Musical Artist & Songwriter

Ticket Price: \$50 per person
Open seating | Business Casual

A meet-and-greet reception will follow the presentation.

Kindly RSVP by Wednesday, August 27

Purchase online only. Scan the QR code or visit vaticanpatronsohio.org. This is a ticketless event. Your name(s) will be held at the door for check-in.

For questions, please contact Racheal Seibert at rseibert@vaticanpatronsohio.org or 440.532.2548.




YOU'RE INVITED

2025

CLAMBAKE

Family CLAMBAKE

ENTERTAINMENT | RAFFLE PRIZES | SILENT AUCTION

*Get ready for an unforgettable fall celebration!
Join fellow Patrons, friends, and families
for an afternoon filled with a delicious clambake,
lively entertainment, raffle prizes, and a great silent auction.
There's something for everyone—come for the fun, stay for the cause!*

~ Mark your calendars ~

Sunday, September 28, 2025 • 3:30 pm

STONEWATER GOLF CLUB
1 Club Drive, Highland Heights, OH 44143

Formal invitation to follow.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO A RESTORATION PROJECT WITHIN THE VATICAN MUSEUMS

We encourage you to reach out to our Ohio Chapter office or view the Wishbook Iubilaeum 2025 at
https://irp.cdn-website.com/c5b54846/files/uploaded/Wishbook_Iubilaeum_2025.pdf

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

It is with pleasure that we “welcome” the following families and individuals as new members to the Ohio chapter.

MR. CHAS BRITTON VOORHEES, NJ MS. KATHERINE COOK COLUMBUS, OH	MR. & MRS. RONALD DEES WESTLAKE, OH MR. & MRS. HARRY GREMORE COLUMBIA, MO	MR. & MRS. MATTHEW GREMORE COLUMBIA, MO MS. ARLEEN MARINI BRECKSVILLE, OH	MR. ANTONIO PERFETTO KNOXVILLE, TN MR. ERIC PERFETTO KNOXVILLE, TN	MS. JULIA WARREN COLUMBIA, MO MS. SHANNON WEILAND WESTLAKE, OH
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OHIO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GUEST SPEAKER - DR. LIZ LEV
Author & Professor of Art History, Rome, Italy
Wednesday, September 3, 2025 - Gilmour Academy at The Lorraine and Bill Dodero Center for Performing Arts, Gates Mills, Ohio

ANNUAL FAMILY CLAMBAKE
Sunday, September 28, 2025
StoneWater Golf Club, Highland Heights, Ohio

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY
Friday, December 5, 2025
InterContinental Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio

Look for formal invitations to follow to all our members.



Check our website and follow us on Facebook for updates!
vaticanpatronsohio.org/events

Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums, Ohio Chapter now accepts credit card payments for donations, membership fees and events. **Thank you!**







CHAPTERS OF THE PATRONS OF THE ARTS IN THE VATICAN MUSEUMS					
North American Chapters	Florida	Michigan	Ohio	International Chapters	Italian & International Principality of Monaco United Kingdom
	California & Northwest	Georgia	Pennsylvania		
	Canada	Illinois	Texas		
	Colorado	Louisiana	Washington, DC		
		New England			
		New York			