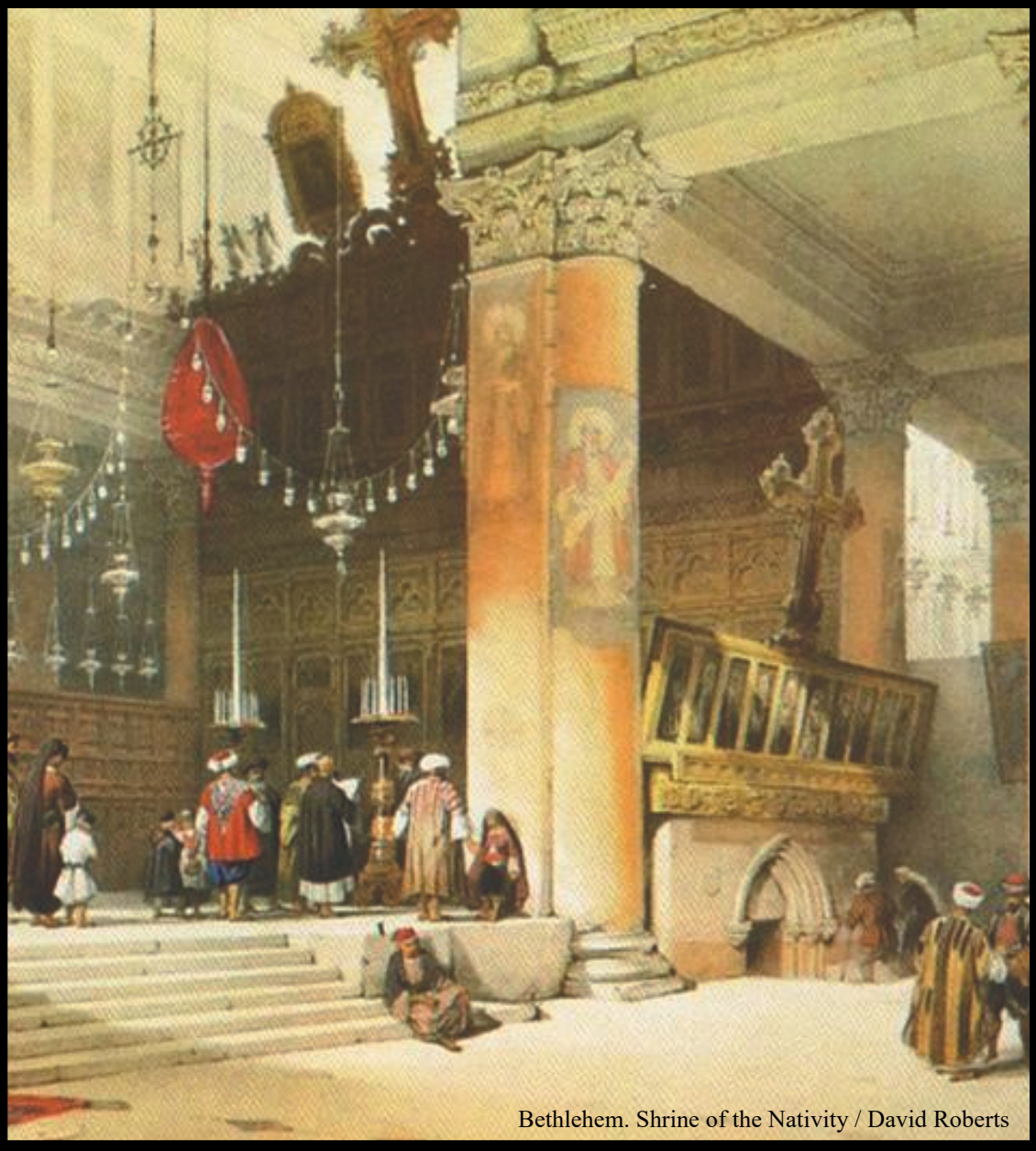
St. Leo The Great Catholic Church

We are a welcoming Catholic Community called by God to live out the message of Christ in love and service to all people.

December 13, 2020



Bethlehem. Shrine of the Nativity / David Roberts

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 9-10:30am
Saturday Vigil Masses: 3:30 & 5:30 pm • Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am & 5 pm
Misa en español Domingo - 7 pm y las confesiones antes de la misa
Mass in Polish: 3rd Sunday of the month - 1:30 pm

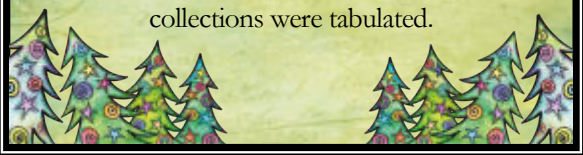
Parish Staff

Rev. Jarek (Jaroslaw) Sniosek	Pastor
Rev. Kristian Villafana	Parochial Vicar
Rev. Luis Albarracin	Parochial Vicar
Anne Bellows	Assistant to the Pastor
Hermilo Calderon	Lead Maintenance
Griselda Cisneros	Receptionist
Rogelio Delgado	Maintenance
Sandra Edwards	Receptionist
Daniel Gonzalez	Maintenance
Elsy Hernandez	Graphics Designer
Annemarie Jardon	Director of Religious Education
Lauryn Kay	Cantor
Marcin Malewski	Director of Music
Martha Mercado	Maintenance
Frank Murray	Youth Ministry
Gisela Saldana	Religious Education Assistant
Henry Soto	Accountant
Milana Strezeva	Musician

Parish Church Support

Thank you for your continued generosity!

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



DONATE ONLINE

AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.STLEOCATHOLICCHURCH.ORG

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 Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult. To enroll in RCIA, 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 9-10:30am on Saturday in English and 6:15pm on Sunday in Spanish in the St. Leo Auditorium/North Door . 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

Thank You for Your Generosity!

LET'S TOP IT OFF!

The 2020 Catholic Faith Appeal

Our Goal $462,000
Contributions to date..$491,285
Our Pledges $493,558
Pledge Goal Attained....106.98%

= 10% of Goal

Because of your amazing generosity we have gone over 100% of our pledge goal for the 2020 Catholic Faith Appeal. Please remember that the excess contribution amount collected up to 25% of our goal is returned to the Parish assessment free. This year, more than ever, maximizing the amount of money we can receive without assessment ($115,500) is vital to us.

If you would like to make a pledge or contribution you can pick up an envelope in the back of the church or call the parish office (992-0901) and we will mail an envelope to you. You can place the envelope in the collection box, mail it directly to the diocese, or send it to the parish office where we will forward it for you.

If you are contemplating end of the year charitable contributions we would appreciate your consideration of making a new or increased pledge to the 2020 Catholic Faith Appeal.

Thank you for considering this important way to most efficiently help St. Leo.

Daily Reflections

Sunday, Dec 13, 2020
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Discern the spirit
Often we get an intuition, a burning in the heart that feels motivating. It may tell us to speak up or shut up; to reach out or keep our hands off a situation; to admit we need help or to stop leaning on others. Do we obey the prompt, or ignore it? The problem with following what may be a divine nudge is that we can't always discern the Holy Spirit from a lesser kind. Discernment involves prayer, familiarity with scripture, consultation with faithful others, and sometimes spiritual direction. Above all, it needs to be practiced. Befriend the Spirit!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28 (8). "Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances."*

Monday, Dec 14, 2020
MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Be a light in the darkness
We have so many options in our modern world that it's easy to walk away from any organization or community that we struggle with and simply join ones that are more agreeable to us. But what if we stayed and worked to make them better instead? Saint John of the Cross did exactly that and reformed his Carmelite order, despite imprisonment for his efforts. When you feel disillusioned with institutions you love, be guided by John's writing—considered among the greatest in all of Spanish literature—about darkness leading to the light.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a; Matthew 21:23-27 (187). "By what authority are you doing these things?"*

Tuesday, Dec 15, 2020
ADVENT WEEKDAY

The darkness before dawn
Two days ago we celebrated Gaudete Sunday with refrains of rejoicing. Two days from now, we'll begin to pray the O Antiphons—seven days to laud the fast-approaching Messiah. What to make of this in-between time, when scripture shows Jesus chiding religious leaders and Old Testament prophets preach fire and brimstone? "The day in which we now find ourselves is still night," wrote Saint Augustine. But the promise of salvation is sure. "Keep your attention closely fixed on it, as you would on a lamp shining in a dark place until the first streaks of dawn appear."

TODAY'S READINGS: *Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32 (188). "Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God."*

Wednesday, Dec 16, 2020
ADVENT WEEKDAY

Usher in a renewed Advent
This Advent season is so different from any other in our lifetimes, and the holidays may not allow for worship in person with our faith communities or celebrations with beloved families. For many of us, this brings sadness to these Advent days as we mourn the loss of familiar rituals. The poetic words of theologian, educator, and civil rights leader Howard Thurman remind us that the work of Christmas is to "find the lost, heal the broken, feed the hungry . . . rebuild the nations and bring peace among others." Let us pray for the grace to overcome any disappointment we feel and focus on feeding the hungry, having compassion for the broken, and rebuilding the relationships around us. In such practices, we will find Advent hope and peace.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Luke 7:18b-23 (189). "The poor have the good news proclaimed to them."*

Thursday, Dec 17, 2020
ADVENT WEEKDAY (O WISDOM)

Heavenly sounds
Today is the first of the O Antiphons, an Advent tradition from the seventh century whereby for a week the church's evening prayer salutes the coming Messiah by different names each evening. Tonight monasteries, parishes, and ordinary Christians will sing or recite "O Sapientia" (Wisdom). Reading about the loveliness of this prayer is no substitute for hearing it. Let the ethereal sound of this ancient tradition uplift your prayer today. is "O Sapientia" sung by Dominican friars in Oxford, England.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17 (193). "Thus the total number of generations from Abraham to David is fourteen generations."*

Friday, Dec 18, 2020
ADVENT WEEKDAY (O SACRED LORD)

A call to rescue and restore
The calamities that piled up in 2020 point surely to the longing of today's O Antiphon. A wave of global pandemic, quarantine, massive unemployment, fires, floods, and protest for racial justice crests, resonating with the yearning for freedom. More than ever, we yearn for the Leader who will restore justice and rescue us with mighty power. And at a time when more people are exiled from their homes than ever before in human history, we commemorate Migrants Day with a plaintive call: *Come, Lord Jesus to our human mess. We need you as we have throughout the centuries.*

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25 (194). "O sacred Lord of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain: come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free."*

Saturday, Dec 19, 2020
ADVENT WEEKDAY (O FLOWER OF JESSE'S STEM)

Creation is full of surprises
The image of "Jesse's Stem" in today's O Antiphon comes from the Book of Isaiah. Using the image of a tree much like we use a family tree to trace our lineage, Isaiah traces the lineage of the kings of Judah forward from Jesse, the father of King David, to the hoped-for Christ, the new king who might restore the monarchy to its former greatness. But like the birth of John the Baptist, the actual coming of the Christ would be a surprise, a new revelation of a heavenly Kingdom. Reflect on the various ways God has surprised you in your life.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25 (195). "O Flower of Jesse's stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples."*

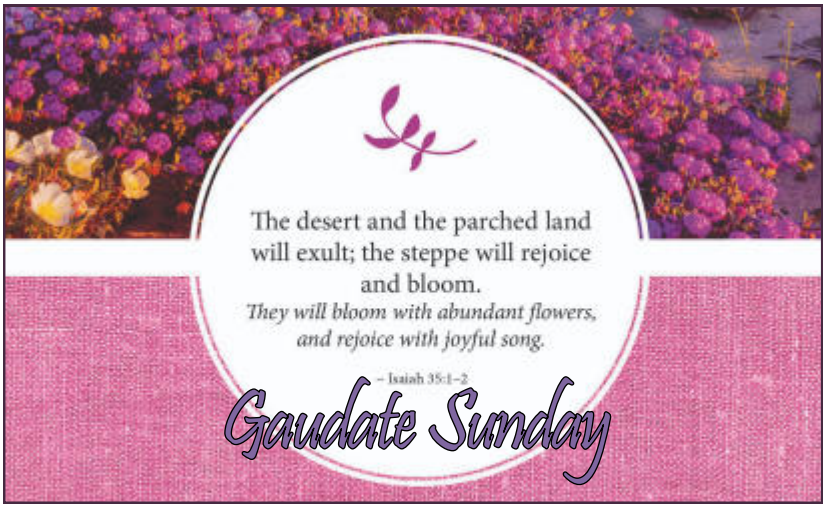
Angel Tree 2020

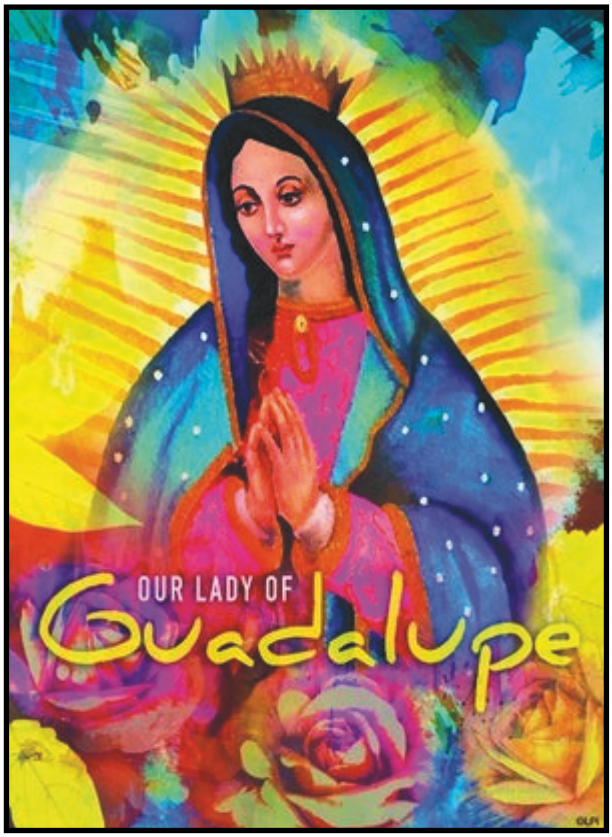
The current pandemic requires a safer way to handle providing Christmas gifts to our children in need this year. For 2020 only we will be giving each child a gift card to Target, which the parish will purchase in bulk, and St. Leo will add a treat for each of their stockings. To make this happen we ask that you make your contribution of $25 per child payable to the St. Leo Poor Box. Last year we were able to provide gifts to over 700 children in Bonita Springs, and this year the need will be even greater.

Your generosity and enthusiasm for our annual Angel Tree is truly unbelievable. Next year when we are back to normal our angels will be shopping again!

We Pray for the Recently Deceased of Our Parish

Sarah Thomson Crosier
Camilo "Carl" Gallo





Due to the pandemic our annual Christmas Gala will have to be rescheduled.... but we hope you can enjoy this physically distanced alternative event.

Celebrating Christmas

Spreading Some Cheer-Despite the Year

Take Home Supper Concert
Parish Life Center
Sunday, December 20th

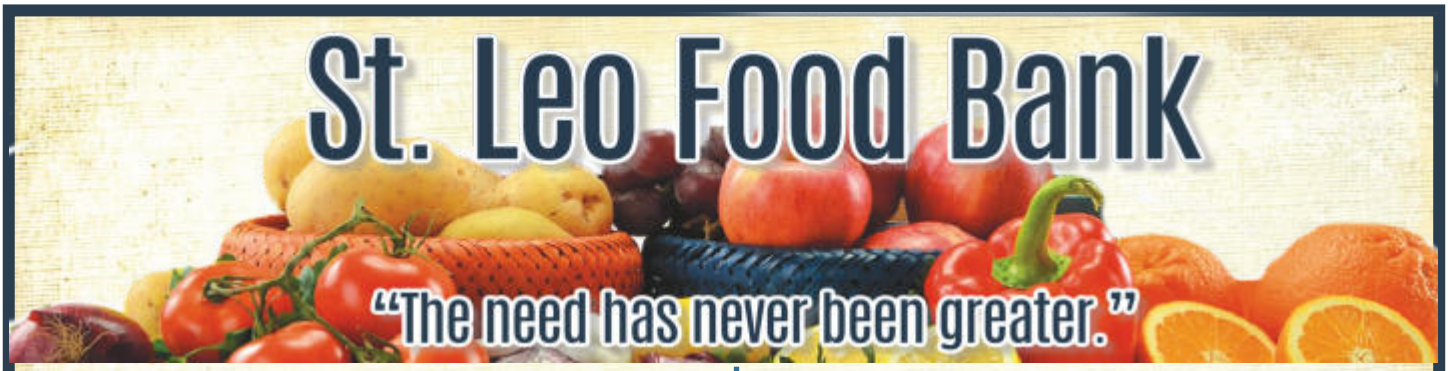
$20 per person
Doors Open at 4:45pm - Concert begins at 5pm
Tickets are on sale in the Parish Office.

Some of your beloved St. Leo talent....
Father Jarek, Zofia Majewski and Marcin Malewski...will be entertaining us with their favorite holiday songs.

A very limited number of tickets will be issued, and seating will be spread out as we socially distance and gather together.

Masks are required and food and drink are not allowed at the event. As you exit you will receive a delicious gourmet boxed supper provided by Frisco's.

St. Leo Food Bank



The St. Leo Food Bank supports Catholic Charities on our campus 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).

Thanksgiving Food Drive

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

Be an Angel! Please support our Angel Tree!

To volunteer with Catholic Charities contact Joan Pierce at 844-385-2407 or joan.pierce@catholiccharitiesdov.org

The Perpetual Baby Shower Donation Bassinet

is located in the narthex of the church. Please remember all the infants who are in need of diapers (especially sizes 4-5-6) and new clothes for the season. 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. Donations may also be taken to the parish office.

The St. Leo Food Bank is always in need of supplies to share with local food pantries. These listed items are suggested but **all unopened, non-perishable foods are welcomed, especially Maseca!**

- ☑ breakfast cereals
- ☑ canned fruit & vegetables
- ☑ canned pasta & soup
- ☑ canned tuna & chicken
- ☑ baby wipes, diapers, especially sizes 4-5-6
- ☑ pasta, spaghetti
- ☑ peanut butter & jelly
- ☑ powdered milk
- ☑ toothbrushes, tooth-pastes, laundry soap, bar soap

These food are especially needed:

- ☑ dried beans
- ☑ maseca (corn tortilla flour)
- ☑ sugar
- ☑ vegetable oil
- ☑ white rice
- ☑ cooking oil
- ☑ juice
- ☑ flour
- ☑ salt

You may continue to drop your donations
- •when you come to Mass
- •when you pick up Thursday's catered dinner
- •at our office front door Monday - Friday from 8am-3pm. Our staff will remove these donations regularly.

PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATIONS OF HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND CLOTHING TO THESE LOCAL SHOPS:

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

****

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

A fundraising event to make your mouth water!

St. Leo Shares

Thursdays - 3pm until sold out
Parish Life Center - $15 per meal

Sicilian Harvest Supper

Menu for December 17th

- Traditional Chicken Parmesan
- Spaghetti Marinara
- Signature Garlic Knot
- Richly Layered Tiramisu

EXACT CASH PAYMENTS or CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO FRISCO'S please. Frisco's Catering will provide a delicious take home meal at a great price & generously contribute $3 from each meal to the St. Leo Food Bank.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Priests will be available for extended hours to hear your confession in the New Auditorium.

•Saturday, December 19
9am to 12 noon

•Monday, December 21
9am to 12 noon, and
4pm to 7pm

Liturgical Schedule

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Thursday, December 24

Church - 3:30, 5:30, 8:00 pm (Midnight Mass)
Auditorium - 3:30, 5:30, 8:00 pm (Midnight Mass)
Carols begin at 7:30 pm in Church

Friday, December 25

Church - 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am
Auditorium - 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am

5:00 pm Mass in Spanish **- Church**

Prayer at the Time of the Coronavirus

Lord Jesus, our Divine Healer,
we ask You to guard and protect us
from the deadly virus.
For all who have died from it, have mercy;
for those who are suffering now, bring healing
and peace. For those searching for a remedy,
enlighten them, for those offering medical care,
shield and strengthen them.
May your Precious Blood be our defense and
your grace turn the evil of disease into the
moments of consolation and hope.
May we always find strength in You and abandon
ourselves to your infinite mercy. Amen

ADVENT

SAYING "YES" TO GOD

The will of God is to make each of us "full of grace," just like Mary. A wonderfully appropriate Scripture passage for Advent, the Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38) is a main part of the Christmas story.

Christ became human because Mary was willing to yield to "the power of the Most High." Without Mary's assent at the Annunciation, God's plan for the Incarnation would have had to unfold another way. Mary's cooperation was essential, for God does not force his creatures to bend to his will. Rather, we are invited to cooperate with grace.

Mary serves as a model for each of us who have also been invited to cooperate with God's transforming presence. Christ can only be born in us if we, like Mary, are willing to say "Yes" to God's invitation and open ourself to the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit. Like Mary, we are all called to nurture and give birth to Jesus so that he may be born anew in our hearts and in our world.

ADVENT: THE SEASON OF AFFIRMATIONS

When Mary said "Yes" to God, Christmas became possible. She agreed to bear Jesus in her womb. During Advent, each one of us needs to be able to say our own "Yes" to God as we prepare to celebrate Christmas—and bear Jesus in our hearts.

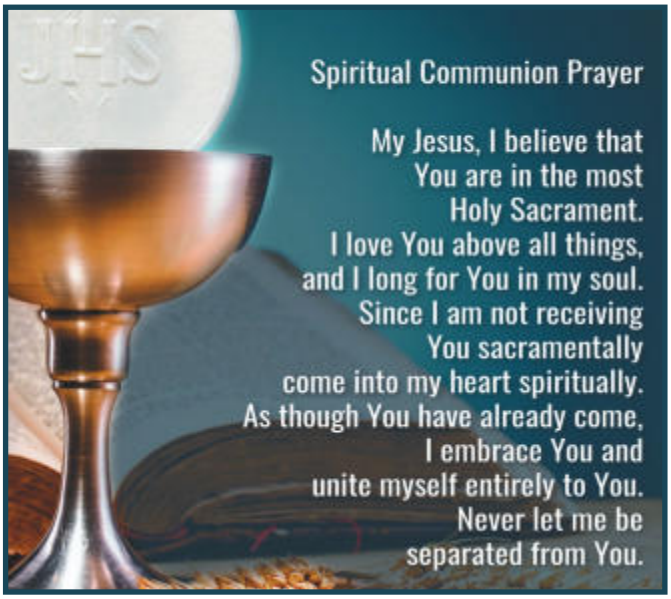
YES to what has been... We affirm that Jesus was truly the Son of God, our Emmanuel, God-With-Us. We also believe that through his life, death and resurrection, he saved us from sin and death. Advent is a time for us to acknowledge that Christ came to save us, and he did just that by his dying and rising.

YES to what is... God is with us in all the joys and the sorrows of our lives. More than just a random collection of atoms, our lives are blessings given to us by God according to the divine plan. Advent prepares us to celebrate the presence of God in our lives and in the lives of other people, especially the poor.

YES to whatever will be... Lord of time itself, God presides over the future, each tomorrow as well as every millennium. As we yearn for the full coming of the kingdom of God, our desire for the coming of Christ gets renewed in Advent.

PARISH DIRECTORY

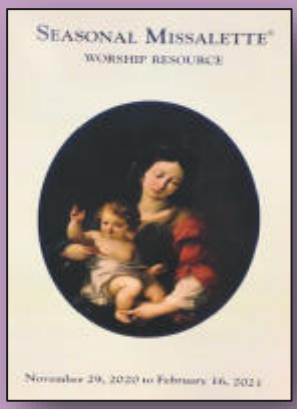
Altar Servers - Adults	Griselda Cisneros..... 992-0901
Altar Servers - Youth	Griselda Cisneros..... 992-0901
Arimatheans	Parish Office..... 992-0901
Bereavement Support Group	Cate Staid 992-0901
Bible Study	Marge Salow……734-243-5233
Bulletin	Anne Bellows..... 992-0901
Catholic Charities at St. Leo	 390-2928
Cenacle Legal Services (Low Income)	……..941-244-0308
Counseling Services	Catholic Charities 455-2655
Discovering Christ	Sal & Joan Tassone..... 985-9336
Extraordinary Minister Coordinators:	
Daily Mass	Amy Campanile……..563-650-6442
Weekend Masses	Parish Office..... 992-0901
Homebound	Allan Degnan..... 495-1195
Hospice - Hope Hospice	Parish Office 992-0901
Hospitals/Nursing Homes	Parish Office..... 992-0901
Finance Council	Henry Soto..... 992-0901
Greeters Ministry	John Bonney 221-8170
Human Trafficking Hotline	……..888-373-7888
Landings	Parish Office..... 992-0901
Lector Ministry Coordinator	Peggy Bischoff 992-0901
Lector Coordinator for Weekdays	Amy Campanile……..563-650-6442
Mass in Polish Coordinator	Maryla Basara..... 405-2151
Money Counters	Henry Soto..... 992-0901
Perpetual Baby Shower	Mary Ellen French 405-0215
Polish Classes	Renata Dabrowska-Klimczak 384-9726
Prison Ministry	Robert Hiniker……863-558-0407
Project Gabriel	Carol Dangler 793-0826
Project Rachel	Sylvia Jimenez……..941-412-5860
Respect Life	Diane Corcelli..... 992-6723
Respite	Bonnie Dunne-Martin 992-0901
Retrouvaille	Doug & Jeanne Lindberg..800-470-2230
Rite of Christian Initiation	Griselda Cisneros..... 992-0901
Sacristan Ministry	Annette Smith..... 948-1640
Sewing-Knitting-Crocheting	Bernice Romano 601-5877
Sing a Long	Penny Kelly……..314-412-4022
St. Leo the Great Ladies Guild	Amy Campanile……..563-650-6442
Usher Ministry	Parish Office..... 992-0901
Youth Ministry	Frank Murray 992-0901



Due to the pandemic we are not permitted to have Missalettes in the pews.

For those who are interested in owning your own copy to bring with you to Mass we have a limited supply available in the parish office.

We are requesting a donation of $2 per book which is less than we have paid. The readings cover the time from the beginning of Advent to the beginning of Lent.



INFORMATION FOR ATTENDANCE

Those who are more vulnerable to Covid-19 are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass into the New Year. We will continue posting our online Masses on our website www.stleocatholicchurch.org.

- **Attendance at all Masses is limited to 50% capacity with social distancing.**
- **Doors open 45 minutes before Mass.**
- **Face masks are required inside parish buildings.**
- **Holy Communion is distributed in the hand only, and leave your face masks on until after you step away from the person distributing Communion.**
- **Please exit immediately to allow for sanitation and preparation for the next Mass.**

The chapel is open following weekday Masses Monday-Friday until 3pm for private, silent prayer.

NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
MONDAY	**DECEMBER 14**	
8:00 am	+Roseanne VanNorman	Rozanne& John De Nardo & Mary Lembo
TUESDAY	**DECEMBER 15**	
8:00 am	+James Melfi	Marie Wahler
WEDNESDAY	**DECEMBER 16**	
8:00 am	+Juanita Kelly	Marcia & Gary Muller
THURSDAY	**DECEMBER 17**	
8:00 am	+Jim Moran	Marion Anderson
FRIDAY	**DECEMBER 18**	
8:00 am	+Kathleen Pecorella	Loving husband Ronnie
SATURDAY	**DECEMBER 19**	
8:00 am	+Marie Walz	Tom Mooney
3:30 pm	+George Krug	Angelo Marino
5:30 pm	+Bob Meisterling	Paul & Nancy Schreiner
SUNDAY	**DECEMBER 20**	
7:30 am	+Deacon William J. Tansey MD	His loving family
9:30 am	Julia Cisneros, 84th Birthday	Her loving family
11:30 am	The Parishioners of St. Leo	
5:00 pm	+Dennis Pereira	Loving children and grandchildren
7:00 pm	Special Cumulative Intentions	

If you would like to memorialize your love one or friend, you may still request intentions for Masses, candles and flowers by calling the parish office at 239-992-0901.

Hearing Loops are installed around the pews adjacent to the north and south entrances of the church and throughout the large room 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.

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING?

OUR UNIQUE AND COMFORTABLE MASKS ARE GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS.

COME SEE THEM IN THE PARISH OFFICE.

Flowers and Candles this week are dedicated to †Dr. Andres B. Lao Jr
Requested by Herminia C. Lao & Family

Please Pray for Our Troops

Lt. Marco Colabecchia
Michael DeSantis
Lt. Connor Flynn
Lt. Thomas A. Flynn
C. Sean Flynn
Thomas Geanuracos
Carlos Gonzales
Brian Howlett
Maj. Nickolas LoRusso
Daniel McDonald
Kyle Martin
Michael Oliveira
Sgt. Thomas Pauls
Nick Parrorzio
Sean Michael Perry
Maj. Frank D. Razzano Jr.
Lt. Evan Razzano

All serving in the military, especially those in combat.

We pray today for…

Shelly Allette
Jackie Baker
Peter Bambic
Frances Bernard
Dan Bird
Dave Bowezs
Connie Bozzi
Isabelle Marie Caiola
Patrick Cain
Mary Ann Clukey
Scott Cochell
Lourdes Coll
Marie Corrao
Ronald Dery
Lucy Donmoyer
Frank Duggan
Doug Hawk
Neriah England
Karen Esposito
Brad Fairfield
Matthew Fairfield
Diane Fosnow
Marion French
Richard Gagliani
Gissette Lupita Garcia
Gerald Gerber
May L. Gerbode
Quinn Gorman
Pauline Graziano
Phil Greco
Karen Grimshaw
Emilio & Estela Gutierrez
Kimberly Hachey
Luke Hass
Jeff Herberholz
Bob Holloran
Robbin Holcomb
Bill Hough
Natalie Huppee
Connie Ingerson
Jerry Kaehle
John Kasper
Carol Kelly
Madeline Kennedy
Mary Kobel
Karen Kugelman
Barbara Le Rose
Emily Lienesch
Gerald Patrick Lynch
Bill Mantani
Willian Meyer
Jose Manuel Meraz
Jay Miller
Conrad Molter
Josephina Morales
Jay Morgan
Audrey Grace Neeley
Hal Ousley
Connie Phillips
Arlene Plunket
Merlin Psenicka
Aiden Putnam
Cal Raugh
Tony Ross
Judy Ross-White
John Sanders
Tessa Santagate
Jennifer Schultz
Annette Smith
David Socha
Sheryl Southerd
Jim Stokes
Charlie Sweeney Jr.
Lyle Troxel
Ryan Vaughan
George Witkowsky
Sienna Rose Yeager
Anthony, Bill, Don, Joey, Gary, Mary, Nicole, Pat S.
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

NUESTRA SEÑORA DE Guadalupe

MADRE DE LAS AMÉRICAS

El 12 de diciembre se celebra en casi todas las Américas la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Esta fiesta conmemora la aparición de la Santísima Virgen María al indígena campesino Juan Diego en 1531 como una mujer campesina de piel morena en el cerro pedregoso del Tepeyac cerca de la Ciudad de México. La Virgen llevaba puesto un vestido rosado con una cinta verde, el vestuario típico de las mujeres embarazadas de esas épocas. Sobre su cabeza y su cuerpo llevaba un manto azul lleno de estrellas, muy similar al vestuario de las mujeres aztecas. Su mensaje, "Construyanme un templo," se ha extendido mucho más allá de la basílica que fue construida en ese sitio. Este mensaje se ha extendido por toda Centro y Sudamérica y Las Filipinas, donde las personas humildes luchan hoy para construir una iglesia—para crear una comunidad de discípulos que son el Pueblo de Dios.

MADRE MARÍA, NUESTRO CONSUELO, FUERZA Y ESPERANZA

"En estos momentos cuando tantas familias son separadas o se ven forzadas a emigrar, cuando hay tantos que sufren a causa de la pobreza, la corrupción, el abuso doméstico, el tráfico de drogas, la crisis de valores y el aumento del crimen, venimos a María en busca de consuelo, fuerza y esperanza. Ella es la Madre del Dios verdadero, quien nos invita a permanecer con fe y caridad bajo su manto, para así vencer todo el mal y establecer una sociedad más justa y fraternal."

—Papa Benedicto XVI

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe es la única aparición de María en las Américas que ha sido oficialmente reconocida por la Iglesia. En 1945 el Papa Pio XII la designó "Patrona de todas las Américas" y en 1961 el Papa Juan XXIII la invocó como "Madre de las Américas." Esta fiesta también nos recuerda que nuestras diferencias étnicas contribuyen a la bendecida plenitud y diversidad del Pueblo de Dios. Los católicos hispanos, incluyendo a los filipinos, son especialmente devotos a ella y alegremente celebran su día con música de mariachi, liturgias, bailes, comidas, y el recuento de su historia, así como también con una abundancia de rosas en diciembre. Su santuario en la Ciudad de México es el segundo más popular (después del Vaticano) en el mundo católico.

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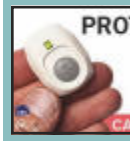

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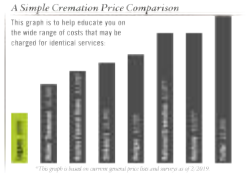

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