

**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, December 15** – 6:00pm Mass; Mass Intention for the people of the parish; Readings: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9-13

**Sunday, December 16** – 10:30am Mass; **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
Mass Intention for our volunteers and benefactors;  
Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

**Monday, December 17** – No Service.  
Readings: Genesis 49:2,8-10; Matthew 1:1-17

**Tuesday, December 18** – No Service.  
Readings: Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25

**Wednesday, December 19** – No Service.  
Readings: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Luke 1:5-25

**Thursday, December 20** – 7:00pm Mass;  
Mass Intention for Rev. Francis Massarella;  
Readings: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38

**Friday, December 21** – No Service;  
Readings: Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45

**Saturday, December 22** – 6:00pm Mass;  
Mass Intention for the People of the Parish;  
Readings: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56

**Sunday, December 23** – 10:30am Mass; **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
Mass Intention for Faith, Hope, Love for All;  
Readings: Micah 5:1-4; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45


**MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS FOR DECEMBER 16**


*Lectors* – Paul R., Yvone  
*Distributors* – Ivy P., Antonia, Carlos M., Rosaria B., Larry  
*Servers* – Angelica, Pedro, Amila

**MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS FOR DECEMBER 23**

*Lectors* – Larry, Albert  
*Distributors* – Myles, Epiphany, Berlamino T., Berta M., Kate  
*Servers* – Venyete, Christopher, Joseph

**ST. LEO FOOD PANTRY**  
**Serving Hours: Mon., Wed. and Fri. 1:00-3:30pm**  
**Pantry Requirements:** Serving North Fairmount, English Woods, Roll Hill Apts., and Millvale once every 30 days. See website: [www.saint-leo.org](http://www.saint-leo.org) or call (513-921-1044) to see if your street is covered. To meet St. Leo's Acts of Mercy pantry donor guidelines, current proof of residence (Duke or telephone bill), photo ID & Social Security Cards for all members of household must be presented at each visit. **Plan ahead: Children must be supervised while at our Food Pantry.**

 **ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES FREE!**  
Saturdays, 10:00 – Noon

**COMMUNITY PHONE NUMBERS**  
 North Fairmount Community Center/Referral Services:  
Linda Klem: 513-921-5842, Housing: 513-921-5889  
Hopple Street Neighborhood Clinic: 513-541-4500  
GED Referral: Roll Hill: 513-542-8333x5  
Literary Network: 513-621-7323

**ANGELS' ARMS STORE**, 1882 Baltimore Ave. Accepting donations of clothing, kitchen, bath and bedding. Open 9:00-4:00pm, Monday-Friday. Call Linda Klem at 623-9897.

**VISIT US!** **St. Leo's website:** [www.Saint-Leo.org](http://www.Saint-Leo.org)  
**Facebook:** St. Leo the Great Catholic Church  
**St. Leo's YouTube Channel:** [StLeoTheGreatParish](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



**YOUR GIFT TO ST. LEO IS MOST APPRECIATED!**

Collection for December 9: \$1,619.50

Thank you for generously supporting your parish!

**EASY ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE:**

Go to <http://saint-leo.org/DonateNow.aspx> and click on the Donate Now Button.

**SHOP AT AMAZON SMILE AND SUPPORT ST. LEO:**

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-0538556>

**SHOP AT KROGER'S AND SUPPORT ST. LEO:**

<https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> Enter St. Leo's #KC265 or search for St. Leo the Great Church.

**Make a long lasting difference! Leave a Legacy by remembering St. Leo the Great Church in your Will. For more information contact Casey Betz at 513-921-1044 ext. 30.**

**PRAY FOR OUR PARISH PARTNERS**

In deepest gratitude for their most generous contributions of time, talent and treasure to St. Leo's, this week please keep in prayer Gloria Dei Lutheran.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED**

Please keep in your prayers all those listed in our Parish Petition/Special Prayer Books. Please call the Parish Office if you are hospitalized and wish to be visited. Hospitals no longer share that information.

**VOCATION VIEW**

Rejoice; never cease praying. Let us never cease praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

**LET US PRAY**

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

- December 9** Retirement Fund for Religious Collection  
All Youth Advent Service
- December 16** All Youth Happy Birthday Jesus
- December 24** Christmas Eve/ Office Closed
- December 25** The Nativity of Our Lord Office Closed
- December 26** Office Closed
- January 1** Office Closed

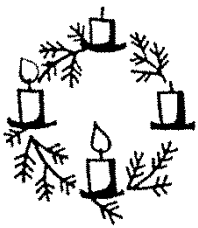
Bulletin information is always welcome! Articles must be in the office by 10am the Monday prior to publication, provided there is still Room. Please call Casey at 921-1044X30 or email to [cbetzstleo@aol.com](mailto:cbetzstleo@aol.com)

To receive the parish weekly bulletin by e-mail, go to [www.DiscoverMass.com](http://www.DiscoverMass.com) and search St. Leo in Cincinnati, OH. Under bulletin, click on sign-up for e-mail notification. Enter your user name and e-mail address.

**Sign up to receive St. Leo's Monthly Newsletter:** call the office at 513-921-1044, email your name and address to: [cbetzstleo@aol.com](mailto:cbetzstleo@aol.com) or sign up online at: <http://saint-leo.org/Publications/StLeoMonthlyNewsletter.aspx>

# Third Sunday of Advent – December 16, 2018

From Fr. Jim . . .



**Prepare the Way of the Lord.** Today's Gospel tells us that John the Baptist came to testify to the light so that all might believe through him. He, himself, was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. As we prepare the way to celebrate the Feast of Christmas, it is good to imitate John the Baptist and to remember that Christmas is not about us. It is about the light that has

come into our dark world. It is about the Word of God that has taken on human form and shape. It is about the love of God in and through Jesus who has come to save us and free us from sin and death. Like John, we are to witness to this light so all might believe in Jesus.



By remembering that Christmas is always about the light of Christ who has come into the world, then even our shopping, buying, giving gifts, decorating, cooking, sharing food, welcoming family and guests can be opportunities to witness to Christ's light so that all might believe through us. I believe this is best done by our actions and attitude more so than by our

words. The best way to witness to the light of Christ's presence and love, especially during this time of the year, is by clothing ourselves with Divine presence and virtues and doing our best to wear them out. Kindness, forgiveness, compassion, mercy, loving without conditions, generosity, acceptance, understanding, patience, hope and humility will always brighten a dark world or home with the presence of God and an implied invitation to believe in the love of our Savior. We, too, are not the light but we testify to the light so that all can believe.

With our prayer and worship and by living together the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, we hear and see the works of the Christ who is ever so present among us. We continue to build the kingdom that God has already started and handed onto us as we actively wait for God to come back and complete what Jesus started and what the church continues to do in His name.

We are so blessed by everyone (parishioner, partner, visitor) sharing their time, talent and treasure to build God's kingdom and to prepare the way for the Lord's return. God is present in our love for one another. Thanks for building the kingdom of God. Thanks for witnessing to the light of Christ. Thanks for witnessing to the faith and bringing others to faith. Come, Lord, Jesus. Come.



**What can I do this week in Advent?** Light the third candle on the Advent wreath and think of someone who is longing for our savior's light and love and pray for that person; Pray for the sick in our parish. Call someone you haven't talked to in a while. Volunteer to help with any preparations. Have fun and enjoy doing what needs to be done. Reflect on the Christmas song, Silent Night. Watch a good Christmas movie with popcorn, of course! Pray for anyone who is alone and afraid.

"To prepare the way for the Lord who comes, it is necessary to take into account the demands of conversion. Conversion requires changing your attitude. It leads to humbly recognizing our mistakes, our infidelities, and defaults. One necessary step is "making concrete gestures of reconciliation with our brothers, asking for forgiveness of our faults. The Lord helps us in this, if we have good will. Christians are called to help people understand that despite everything, the kingdom of God continues to be built day by day with the power of the Holy Spirit. —Pope Francis



**Confirmation Class, January 6, following Mass.**



## YOUTH PROGRAM

for students 10-12 years and 13-18 years  
Dec. 16, All Youth Happy Birthday Jesus!  
January 11-12 High School Retreat

**Volunteer Needed! Help keep St. Leo's church and rectory neat and tidy!** 3-4 hours a week vacuuming and dusting the offices and meeting spaces, and cleaning the restrooms and kitchen. If you would like to help out, please call 513-921-1044 ext. 20.

Bayley, a non-profit ministry of the Sisters of Charity, now offers Home Services, "Anytime Care in Your Home", for Seniors living on our campus or in the community. Perhaps you have provided personal care or companionship to family members or Seniors in your neighborhood. Interested Caregivers and State Tested Nurse Aides are invited to join the Bayley team. For more information, visit our website at [www.baylelife.org](http://www.baylelife.org) or call 347-5458.

**If Your Marriage Needs Help,** Retrouvaille is a Christian-based, Catholic in origin, confidential peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and healing, just as they have done in their own marriages. For information: [www.cincyretrouvaille.org](http://www.cincyretrouvaille.org), [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org), or call 513-456-5413

**Amicus Children Learning Centers,** 2569 St. Leo Place (Next Door to Church / A lado de la Iglesia) Hours/Horas: Before or After School / Antes ó Despues de la Escuela 2:00p.m. - 6:00p.m. Year-round Services And School Breaks / Servicios todo el Año y Vacaciones Escolares, Vouchers Accepted / Aceptamos Resguardos Assist with applying for Vouchers / Ayúdamos aplicar para Resguardos Please Call / Ms. Mabel at 513.518.1001

Dear friends of the community, Cincinnati Film Society is looking for your volunteer support. CFS will be presenting a Guatemalan Film Festival that will showcase films from Guatemalans around the world at St. Leo the Great parish. We are looking for teens, 13-18 interested in making a film. To learn more and sign up please email us at [Info@cincinnatifilmsociety.org](mailto:Info@cincinnatifilmsociety.org)

The Archdiocesan Mission Office is very grateful for the donations you gave this past World Mission Sunday collection. Your prayers and generosity will help 1,100 mission dioceses worldwide to serve the millions of people who seek the hope, mercy, and healing they find in Jesus Christ through the Church. For further information on the remarkable work you make possible, contact Dr. Mike Gavle at (513-421-3131 x 2630 or send an email to [mission@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:mission@catholiccincinnati.org).



Thanks to Christopher Carver  
CAN YOU CHECK SANTA'S NICE LIST ...  
I'M PRETTY SURE I'M ON THAT ONE

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