

St. Leo The Great Parish

2573 Saint Leo Place at Baltimore
Cincinnati, Ohio 45225-1960

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Welcome to everyone and everyone is welcome at St. Leo and especially to the Church that God is continuing to build. If you are visiting with us today, we want you to know how welcome you are. Thank you for praying with us and please feel free to join us as often as you are able.

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. James R. Schutte, Pastor

Stephanie Sepate, Business Manager, Food Pantry Administrator

Angela Anno, Pastoral Associate

Casey Betz, Development Director

Mary Beth Basch, Parish Nurse

Judie Kuhlman, Youth Minister

Obed Nkuriragenda, Burundi Interpreter/Community Health Worker

Luz Ruvalcaba-Alvarez, Hispanic Interpreter/Community Health Worker

Burundi Ministry: contact Parish Office ~ Hispanic Ministry: contact Parish Office

MISSION STATEMENT PRAYER

Lord, God, in your infinite wisdom and love, you are inviting us to be a welcoming Catholic community, grounded in Eucharistic prayer, celebrating our diversity, and sharing your love through ministries of serving and being present, in our urban neighborhoods, while focusing on the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

Help us to accept your invitation to be church, and to generously live together this mission statement. Teach us your works of mercy and unite us as your people, who serve our urban neighborhoods with your presence and grace. Let your works of mercy be common, holy ways for celebrating our diversity, and for leaving the Eucharistic table, heeding your command to "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord." With those whom you entrust to our care and among ourselves, may we see you when you are hungry and thirsty, and recognize you when you are naked or a stranger, or sick or in prison, and then welcome you, feed you, clothe you and visit you. With those whom you entrust to our care and among ourselves, bless us with your works of comforting, consoling, forgiving and patiently forbearing. We ask this always through Christ our Lord. Amen.

EUCCHARIST

Saturday Vigil Mass in Spanish: 6:00 PM

Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM

Thursday Mass: 7:00 PM

EXPOSITION: First Thursday of the month
following 7:00 PM Mass until 9:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 5:00-5:30 PM,

or by appointment

BAPTISMS: Call three weeks in advance

WEDDINGS: Call six months in advance

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 23, 2018

From Fr. Jim . . .

“As a nation, we are in a critical moment of defining who we want to be moving forward and the Catholic community has an important responsibility in helping to speak out for justice.” This is the message that I brought home with me when I visited the border in El Paso, Texas and I celebrated an interfaith prayer service with some immigrants, priests and religious leaders of all faiths and denominations with the Catholic Bishop of El Paso.

I was invited to come and meet Jesus at the border and there is no doubt in my mind and heart that Jesus is who I met. I met the Lord in stories of more than 500 immigrant children who were ripped from their parents’ arms and are still separated, including 23 under the age of five. I hear the Lord in the tears of the parents of a toddler who died after being released from a government detention facility in Texas. I see the Lord in the stories I heard about psychologically wounded children being returned to their families, frightened to be hugged and lovingly united with their parents. This is the same Lord that I meet each time I hear about ICE performing raids on communities and workplaces throughout our country including Covington, Kentucky.

Parents are suddenly not returning home from work. This cloud of fear and darkness hangs low over immigrant families in Cincinnati and throughout Ohio as real possibilities to be the next targets. With the zero-tolerance policy in effect, immigrants are being dehumanized, criminalized, and demonized. But in it all, the Lord remains ever so present asking us, “As a nation, is this who we want to be?” Softly I hear, and I am reminded that “whatever we do to the least of our brothers and sisters, we do to Him.”

Also, I met the Lord, at the border, in the universal church that is impelled and empowered to speak out against the injustices to and the inhumane treatment of immigrant families. The church’s voice is the Lord’s voice for the voice of the immigrant who has been silenced and denied. The immigrant has no voice if it is not for the universal church, all faith-based communities and faith-filled people speaking out for them, caring for them, and treating them with the human dignity and respect that they deserve.

There are places such as Annunciation House and La Casa del Inmigrante who receive immigrants who have been released from detention camps to be joined with their families or who have been deported to Mexico. When deported to Mexico, caregivers help them find jobs and give them a safe place to stay. At Annunciation House, caregivers provide legal resources and medical help and try to create a more human environment and healthy family atmosphere until they are deported as a family. Here, I met the Lord loving beyond conditions with compassion, and solidarity, and trying to forgive, heal, redeem and renew. Here, I heard the Lord ask again, “As a nation, is this who we want to be?” and I heard, as church this is who we must be.” Again, I am reminded that “whatever we do to the least of my brothers and sisters, we do to Him.”

When I visited families of parishioner families in Guatemala this past June, the parents and grandparents of our parishioners implored us to keep working for comprehensive immigration reform and they wanted all of us to know that their children are not criminals. I heard this at the same time the first group of detainee children were torn from their families at the border. I had no response but to promise them that we will keep trying to care for their children as if they were our own and in the way that they would love them. I’ve been to the border and I believe that as a nation we are in a defining moment of who we want to be and the Catholic community with the universal church, has an important responsibility in helping to speak out for justice, to declare that families belong together, that immigration detention is not a solution to family separation, and to continue to care for the immigrant in the way of Christ.



Do you or someone in your family need to be confirmed or would you like to help with preparing persons for Confirmation? Classes will be held once a month after Sunday Mass.

Contact Angela Anno alannoleo@aol.com or Judie Kuhlman judiekuhlman@gmail.com for more information.



Do You Like Things Neat and Tidy? Looking for a way to help out at St. Leo’s? Volunteer Needed:

3-4 hours a week to keep the rectory clean and presentable, including cleaning the restrooms and kitchen, vacuuming and dusting the offices and meeting spaces. If you are interested, please call 513-921-1044 ext. 20.

Volunteers are needed to help us show kindness to persons in need at the St. Leo Food Pantry: Coordinator for Fridays, noon-4:00, to act as point person for other volunteers. Assistant Administrator about 9-12 hours a week, to tend to ordering, organizing the inventory, and conveying to coordinators/volunteers what’s up. Volunteers are especially needed to help out on Wednesdays and Fridays. To participate in any of these volunteer opportunities, please call at 513-921-1044!

Life In The Spirit Seminar Sept. 19-Oct. 17, 2018:

Do you want to know Christ more personally? The Seminar is a life-transforming experience where you will discover Christ’s personal and unconditional love for YOU. Listen to dynamic teachings to help you experience Christ personally and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Five consecutive Wed. evenings from 7 – 9 pm at St. Ignatius Parish in Hilvert Center, 5222 North Bend Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45247. **For more info or to register call Mary Ann at 513-378-4431 or Lighthouse Renewal Center at 513-471-5483.** Visit our website at www.LRC1.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/lrc1.org

Amicus Children Learning Centers

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Please Call / Porfavor Llamé Ms. Jacquie Miller 513-478-8555

Theology On Tap For Young Adults Through lively conversations & interesting speakers, people in their 20s and 30s have an opportunity to reflect on their faith. Our series “Learning to Love the Scriptures” will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays in October at Mecklenburg Gardens in Clifton. For questions or info please call Jenni Lindgren at 513-541-1563.

Fall Craft Fair, St. Antoninus church undercroft, Julmar & Linneman, Saturday, October 27, 2018, 9:00am-2:00pm. Admission \$2.00, Food café available. Wide variety of crafters and vendors.

“The Church is Mother, and her motherly attention is expressed with special tenderness and closeness to those who are obliged to flee their own country and exist between rootlessness and integration. This tension destroys people. Christian compassion—this ‘suffering with’ compassion—is expressed first of all in the commitment to obtain knowledge of the events that force people to leave their homeland, and where necessary, to give voice to those who cannot manage to make their cry of distress and oppression heard. They are all elements that dehumanize and must push every Christian and the whole community to concrete attention.” —Pope Francis



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