

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS . . .

Psalm 145

I will extol you, my God and king;
I will bless your name forever and ever.
Every day I will bless you;
I will praise your name forever and ever.
Great is the LORD and worthy of much
praise, whose grandeur is beyond
understanding.
One generation praises your deeds to the
next and proclaims
your mighty works.
They speak of the splendor of
your majestic glory,
tell of your wonderful deeds.
They speak of the power of
your awesome acts and
recount your great deeds.
They celebrate your abounding goodness
and joyfully sing of your justice.
The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in mercy.
The LORD is good to all,
compassionate toward all your works.
All your works give you thanks, LORD
and your faithful bless you.
They speak of the glory of your reign
and tell of your mighty works,
Making known to the sons of men
your mighty acts,
the majestic glory of your name.
Your reign is a reign for all ages,
your dominion for all generations.
The LORD is trustworthy in all his words,
and loving in all his works.
The LORD supports all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.
The eyes of all look hopefully to you;
you give them their food in due season.
You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire
of every living thing.
The LORD is just in all his ways,
merciful in all his works.
The LORD is near to all who call upon
him, to all who call upon him in truth.
He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;
he hears their cry and saves them.
The LORD watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he destroys.
My mouth will speak the praises of the
LORD; all flesh will bless his holy name
forever and ever.



The Lord has been blessing the work of our hands at St. Leo Parish in so many ways and now it is time to celebrate.

Please join us on September 9, 2018 for Mass at 10:30am and following Mass a blessing and dedication of our Food Pantry. Bishop Joseph Binzer, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, will preside at the Eucharist and offer the blessing for the dedication of the Food Pantry.

I anticipate that the blessing, dedication and Open House of the Food Pantry will begin sometime between 11:45 and noon. As soon as Mass is finished, we will process right down the street to the Food Pantry and begin the dedication. The Church is on Baltimore Ave. 45225 and the Food Pantry is just a little past the end of our parking lot, across the street, on the corner of Carll St. and Baltimore.

Although our food pantry has been operating in this new location for several years now, we have never formally dedicated it and thanked the Lord for the many wonderful volunteers for the generosity of their time, talent and treasure. The Food Pantry has a little more than half the space of the building and the other half is now remodeled into offices and meeting rooms that are ready to use. The parish can certainly use this space but it can also be used by other groups for meetings and by businesses that may want to have a satellite office in the neighborhood to offer social services of some kind.

A program will be explained that will help the parish pay the rent on this building and perhaps serve the need for more volunteers. We are inviting any interested group or company to donate one month's rent and also to invite their staffs and co-workers to volunteer in the pantry.

We are celebrating the hard work of many volunteers – parishioners, friends and professionals – who want to help us do the good work that the Lord wants us to do.



Cleaning the building from ceiling to floor and wall to wall, pulling up the old carpet, stripping the floor of carpet glue, refinishing the floor, painting the entire space, building the food pantry area and the office spaces and meeting rooms plus the supplies, tools, equipment and materials such as refrigeration, doors, trim, paint, electric, drywall, partitions, cubicles, chairs, blueprints, gondolas, shopping carts, installation of HVAC were either donated or discounted labor and materials.

We are so grateful to every volunteer, company, business, friend or parishioner who volunteered the generosity of their time, talent, and treasure. There are special plaques in the pantry that honor the generosity of their devotion to this project. I especially want to thank Jim Kokenge who

is my right hand for the move and remodeling of the Food Pantry. Jim organized all of the donors for the labor and materials and also helped with the physical labor. He truly was the "brains" behind this operation and his support, guidance, knowledge, leadership, and

perseverance were invaluable to our success and completion of the project. We are also very grateful to Catholic Charities of Southwest Ohio who first came to us with the idea of moving and redeveloping our food pantry and who sponsored the move and acquired the building for us and who helped us get started in the new building and helped us serve and feed our clients. God has truly blessed us through the work of the hands of all of our volunteers and donors. Please come and celebrate with us on September 9th.

— Fr. Jim