

November 17, 2019

From Fr. Jim . . .



Catholic Campaign for Human Development: This weekend is the appeal for the annual collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the national, anti-poverty campaign of the U.S. Bishops. CCHD has been an immeasurable blessing for thousands in our Archdiocese over the years. The agencies funded by CCHD empower people to break the cycle of poverty through such feats as finding jobs, responsibly reentering society after prison, educating youth, and securing decent housing and public services for their communities. Through the grants that are made to well-vetted organizations, CCHD uniquely empowers those in poverty to identify their own needs and to become their own agents of positive change. Please prayerfully and generously consider how you will give on Collection Weekend, November 23- 24. Your dollars are making real change! Visit www.usccb.org/cchd to learn more. Also check out the Archdiocesan CCHD website for more local information: www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction. Thank you!

St. Leo Anniversary Song by Rick Nohle: We sang this song by our own Rick Nohle last week for communion meditation. November 10th is the Memorial of St. Leo the Great, our patron saint and the day that we celebrate our anniversary of the founding of the parish or as the song says: "St. Leo Church is born." This song truly and succinctly captures the history and growth of our parish and the gratitude we feel for the wonders and marvels of God's love and all that God has done and is doing for us at St. Leo. I had tears in my eyes last week as I sang this beautiful song and as I could see all of you singing it. In our diversity, we are truly one in the Lord. With Mary, our mother, we can say, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my Spirit rejoices in God my Savior." I thank Rick for his wonderful music and the choir and musicians who lead us in prayer each week and the children's choir who joined us last week. Their voices singing different languages truly announced the birth and the continued birthing of St. Leo and the gratitude that is ours for all that God is doing to bring and keep us together. I asked Rick for his permission to print the lyrics to his song for your continued prayer, reflection and thanksgiving.

*One hundred and thirty-three years ago, in the place where we now stand,
A small band of struggling immigrants, when you took them by the hand,
They did not have much money, but they gave you all they could,
And you multiplied their sacrifice, and we see that it was good. It was good!*

*From Germany and Italy, they traveled, from elsewhere in Europe, they came.
With various cultures and languages, but their hopes were much the same.
They set to work building an edifice, with mortar, brick and stone,
As a result of their laboring, St. Leo Church was born! It was born!*

*Would you lead us in the future, as you have led us in the past?
Give us faith, and hope, and charity, the only things that last.
In the love poured down from heaven, by the father and the Son,
We invite the Holy Spirit, to unite our hearts as one.*

*The immigrants now come from other lands, but our mission is the same,
Africa, Central America, Still we preach in Jesus' name,
Of the love poured down from heaven, by the Father and the Son,
And invite the Holy Spirit, to unite our hearts as one.*

*Imana Shimwe! Alabare al Senor! Everyone praise the Lord!
Gott sei dank! Grazie a Dio! Everyone thank the Lord!*

*Let us show the works of mercy, that we ourselves receive.
Let us mirror godly gladness Until everyone believes.
In the love poured down from heaven, by the Father and the Son,
And invite the Holy Spirit, to unite our hearts as...*

*One hundred thirty-three years ago, St. Leo Church was born!
Thanks everyone for being the church that God has created us to be.*