

Confronting Racism: A Call to Lenten Conversion

St. Leo the Great Catholic Church Spring Newsletter 2021

How Many Pietas?

How many Pietas hang in my studio?

Dozens

How many are lost, painted over, given away?

Dozens

How many sold?

One, now in Jamaica

Why do I keep painting them?

I have to

My heart keeps suffering

Mothers keep embracing their dead children

Violence, war, executions, drugs, AIDs

Mothers die twice at least, sometimes more

I can only be present, weep, and paint.

This painting and reflection by the late Jesuit priest and artist is shared with permission from the Claver Jesuit ministry of which he was a member. Though he died in 2011 his words are still true today.



“Through creation, as a divine gift, God has endowed each person with intrinsic worth and value. Human life is sacred. Every human being is created in the image and likeness of God. The dignity and sanctity of each person, without exception, is inherent and permanent, and is to be respected from conception to natural death. Because of this, the Catholic Church opposes as profoundly sinful racism and anything that is antithetical to God’s will and the Gospel of Life. We cannot turn a blind eye to the humiliation, indignity, and unequal opportunity experienced by millions of our brothers and sisters simply because of their race or the color of their skin and yet still profess to respect every human life. Opposing racism must therefore be an integral part of our pro-life witness as Catholics. “

~~ Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr Archbishop of Cincinnati

INTRODUCTION : A CALL TO CONVERSION OF HEART

Archbishop Dennis Schnurr's words on the cover come from his June 2, 2020 statement, written in the wake of George Floyd's murder. Further along in the statement, he goes on to say, "What is needed, and what I am urging for each of us, is a genuine conversion of heart, a conversion that will compel change and ultimately reform our institutions and society." We at St. Leo the Great enter this Lent, a beautiful season of conversion, aware of our need to more fully answer our Archbishop's call to work against racism within ourselves, our families and neighborhoods, the Church, and society as a whole. Throughout the pages of our newsletter, you will read reflections from staff, parishioners, and other Catholic voices that explore this call to anti-racist conversion. We invite you to take this Lenten journey with us.

One place to start is to JOIN US for a special ZOOM listening session on racism with the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Anti-Racism Task Force. Both St. Leo's and our covenant partner parish, Our Lady of Visitation, will participate in this opportunity on SUNDAY MARCH 14th from 2: 30 p.m.—4:00 p.m. We will hear from two individuals about their experiences with racism, and then we'll take time to reflect and share your own experiences.

To Register please use this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/SL-OLV-Listening-Session>

If you are having trouble registering please email Sr. Tracy Kemme, SC at srtracystleo@gmail.com

To close his June statement, Archbishop Schnurr encouraged parishes to pray the following prayer, which you may like to pray throughout Lent. Blessings upon you and your loved ones in this season of conversion that leads to new life!

As one body in Christ, let us pray:

We thank you, O Lord, for in your loving wisdom you created one human family with a diversity that enriches our communities.

We pray to you, O Lord, that we always recognize each member of this human family as being made in your image and beloved by you, with worth and dignity.

We pray to you, O Lord, that we may envision a way forward to heal the racial divisions that deny human dignity and the bonds between all human beings.

We pray to you, O Lord, that we may affirm each person's dignity through fair access for all to economic opportunity, housing, education, and employment.

We pray to you, O Lord, that we may have eyes to see what is possible when we reach out beyond fear, beyond anger, to hold the hand of our sisters, our brothers.

We thank you, O Lord, for your call and challenge to us that we may reveal your teachings and your love through our actions to end racism, and to proclaim that we are all your children, heirs to your sacred creation.

Amen.

"DID NOT UNDERSTAND MY OWN WHITE PRIVILEGE "

I remember moving into a new neighborhood when I was 4 years old and asking my Mom when black families will be moving in? She got very quiet and then said "probably not for a very long time." It is 53 years later, and there is still no diversity in that neighborhood. I also remember when Martin Luther King Jr. was killed and all the neighbors were out talking about possible riots and the importance of locking your doors. I remember thinking, "Thank goodness this issue of prejudice will not be a problem for me and my friends when we become adults. People will be so much smarter when I am an adult."

In 1980 at the age of 19 I took a Greyhound bus by myself to Chicago to meet a friend. When the bus stopped in Gary Indiana the bus filled up. I looked around and realized I was the only white person on the bus. I remember thinking this a good experience for this young white social work student who grew up with very little diversity. While I was resting my eyes, I heard two little girls sitting behind me whisper; "it is okay now because she is asleep." I then felt little hands stroking my hair. A memory of me as a little girl in the sand box feeling the hair of black child I was playing with came back to me. When I "woke up" I engaged these little girls in conversation. Initially, they were afraid to talk to me. Can you blame them?

One of my first real light bulb moments about racism came in 1994, after having a very frank conversation with a black co-worker who grew up when she could not use the same rest room or drinking fountain as whites. The realization that the issues of segregation and racial prejudice are still major issues in our country. Why didn't we discuss this more in school? Why was this issue not discussed in sermons at Church? Understanding more about my co-workers' experiences helped me as a social worker. I was working with a bi-racial boy named William who was being raised by his black grandmother. She was very reserved and did not seem to trust me. I asked her about her childhood and offered validation and support. That conversation changed our relationship. More importantly, her grandson learned about his grandmothers' experiences dealing with racism. William was able to verbalize his complicated feelings about being bi-racial and not fitting in with either race. Why do you have to fit in with a race? What does that even mean? So very complicated.

In April 2001 after being a Social worker for over 15 years, my white privilege was still guarding me from the severity of the racial tension in our city. I was working in Walnut Hills and we had to leave work early due to the riots. I lived in the City of Cincinnati and we had a curfew. How can this be happening in 2001? The memory of me as a smug little girl, knowing that racism would no longer be an issue when I am an adult haunted me.

Now in 2021, white supremacists are becoming more vocal and the realities of racial injustice and white privilege cannot be denied. We are living in a time where the reality of racial discrimination is at the for front. It is time for all of us to look inward and evaluate our own blind spots and be intentional about being part of the solution.

As noted in "*Open wide our hearts: the enduring call to love,*" a pastoral letter against racism, the evil of racism festers in part because as a nation, there has been very little formal atonement. The pastoral letter also states that, "When one culture meets another, lack of awareness and understanding often leads to grossly distorted value judgments and prejudice. This prejudice fuels attitudes of superiority that are embedded in, and reinforced by, social structures and laws. It is time for us to embrace the words of St. Paul: "Brothers and sisters, be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong. Your every act should be done with love." I pray that love wins over fear."

~~ Lynn Hensler

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS . . .

Having spent my formative years as a child, growing up in Reading, Ohio in the 1950's and 60's, in a predominantly white neighborhood, I have to say that I have always been affected by racism without really being aware of it and knowing how to name my feelings about it.

Sitting on the front porch that day, with my parents, when black and African American people were marching for their civil rights all the way from downtown Cincinnati on Reading Road through Reading, we watched the Reading police drive passed our house multiple times, three to a patrol car with rifles in their hands, protecting the borders of the city and ready to defend us if a riot would occur.

I can remember neighbors angrily gathered down the street, also with rifles, ready to take matters and justice into their own hands if the need demanded it or maybe even if the need didn't demand it. As I look back on this, I can honestly say, not so much because I felt it but because I was led to believe it, that I should be glad that my skin is white and that I am not hated and underprivileged like people of color. Racism affected me early in my life by hardening my heart and causing me to be unaware of how we acted or what we said was racist. We were always given good excuses for not feeling and thinking that racism was wrong.

It wasn't until I started to claim a strong interest in my faith that I could feel and admit that racism was truly wrong and horribly sinful. I must realize my own sinful tendencies in this regard and know that the temptation and thoughts are always there, but these feelings and thoughts do not have to control me. I can choose not to act on them. How do I feel about racism, now? I feel the need for forgiveness, mercy and lamenting the wrongs and injustice of racism today. Without mercy, forgiveness, and sorrow for racism, I remain in bondage to this evil.

The Gospel of the Lord is my way and guide to freedom. Accepting that there is no special privilege because of the color of one's skin in the kingdom of God, without exception, we are all members of God's family, equal and precious in God's eyes. The Gospel calls me to hear the cries of the poor of my brother and sister immigrants and refugees who are most troubled by racism today, to stand with them in their hurt and pain and help them find their voice for rights and justice in this country. Together we work for comprehensive immigration reform to over-turn the effects of the evil of racism that holds them captive in this country.



When visiting the families and parents of our parishioner families in Guatemala, I am told by the parents that their children are not criminals like they are being treated when they cross the border. Nor are they evil or demonic as they are often made out to be. Many, if not most, are good, faith-filled people who are fleeing for their lives from the corruption and political unrest in their own country. They want opportunities to provide for their families and they want to contribute to the well fare of this country. Some go to incredible sacrifice to come to this country to seek healing for their sick children and to get excellent medical attention.

When telling their story and fighting for their rights, there is some drawback. Sometimes there is the cry to "shoot the messenger!" Sometimes others will argue that our country has the right to defend our border at any cost and that immigrants shouldn't come here unless they can speak and learn English. Others will say that our neighborhoods aren't safe because of them, they take jobs away from Americans, and we can't mix religion with politics.

This kind of reasoning, stereotyping, and falsifying is done to justify treating immigrants and refugees with meanness and rejection. Especially today, I believe racism is calling me to treat all others with the respect and dignity God has given them and to love others as God loves us. It is the only way that anyone can be truly free.

~~ Father Jim

"My friends, we cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life."

~~ Pope Francis



St. Leo's Prayer Wall is a place where all, regardless of age, race or creed, are invited to sing God's praises, give Him thanks, and/or call upon His presence for help in times of need. The wall, a place of prayer for all peoples (much like the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem), captures the faces of the community, as well as peacemakers and saints who have inspired us through the ages.



The Wall is a place for staff and volunteers, youth groups, community meetings, and for individuals who pass through our parking lot on the way to work, school, etc., to pray, reflect and pause. We invite you to share in this special way of prayer, joy, and thanksgiving. Praise God! God cares about every need in your life and knows what you need even before you ask Him for help. Our St. Leo the Great parish community promises to remember you in our private prayer, as well as in our communal prayer, which is to say that we are praying for you all the time.

All prayer requests are held in strictest confidence. [Send your prayer request to: Saint Leo the Great Church, 2573 Saint Leo Place, Cincinnati, OH 45225.](#)

WITNESS ON WHITE PRIVILEGE

I grew up in Delhi in an all-white neighborhood. As a matter of fact, I had virtually no interaction with anyone black until I was in high school

When I attended Elder High School as a freshman, I had my first exposure to black classmates. But there were only two or three among the 200 freshmen that I can remember, and they were not in any of my classes outside of possibly a Phys-Ed class. My memory of them was that they were quiet. No wonder.

When I was a senior, I definitely remember two racist chants at our football games. We always had large cheering sections at the games. It was a long and proud tradition at Elder and I was thrilled to be a part of it. We had many chants; most were typical and benign. But whenever we played a predominately black school, there were two I remember that made me bristle." In general, I received a wonderful education at Elder, but certainly not in regards to race relations or any history of racism. I think in many of our minds, we simply figured slavery had ended years and years ago, so it was in the past. We were blind to the lingering legacy of it within our totally "white" culture

After graduating from Xavier University, I was hired as a news reporter at WLW Radio in 1983. Once again, there were next to no black people working there that I recall. We eventually did hire an African American man who worked overnights by the name of Jim Morris. It happened to be the anniversary of Martin Luther King Junior's assassination. As I walked into the newsroom, I heard the sound of King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech. And without thinking, I said out loud, "Oh no, not that again." At that very moment, Jim looked around the edge of the large reel-to-reel tape machine he was working behind as he had obviously heard me. His eyes were piercing as he looked right at me in disbelief. I was suddenly overwhelmed with embarrassment at what had just come out of my mouth. Not at what I said but because I was caught. It was my true feelings but completely inappropriate and hurtful. I felt bad and tried to mumble through some shoddy excuse. The truth is, again, I felt that we were making too much over racism. My feeling was, "Can't we just move on?" This was "White Privilege" exemplified. But I didn't see it.

After leaving radio in 2007 and becoming a Youth Minister at Our Lady of Visitation, another major turning point for me was my time at Good Samaritan Hospital between 2012 and 2014 taking Clinical Pastoral Education classes for chaplaincy. There was one veteran chaplain on the staff who was an African American minister. We were told he was going to teach us that day about "white privilege." I remember how that phrase evoked offense inside me. "*White privilege? Why are we having a class about that? Okay, I'll go along with it.*"

What followed was a very life-changing hour or so. Chaplain Levi used part of a video of a talk given at a conference he had attended that explained how being white had long been the prerequisite for being accepted as an American. All sorts of European immigrants could successfully integrate into the "in" crowd, while those who were of color could not. There was example after example. Situation after situation was shown where people of color did not receive the same acceptance as white people. It was like scales falling from my eyes. Truly, I felt like I had just discovered a massive secret that was so insidious and pervasive and yet somehow, I had *never noticed it.*

As part of my job at the parish, I also was in charge of social action. I was introduced, to the Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching. The theme that most impacted me was "Solidarity." It stated: "We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences." I had to ask myself: Am I really of one human family with my black brothers and sisters? I've had such little real relationship with them.

I recently joined a prayer group. When Rodney, an African American member of the group heard me say that I had graduated from Elder, he noticeably winced. He said he played football for Aiken High School and had horrible memories of playing at Elder. He said there were lots of racist comments yelled at them and things thrown at them when they got on the bus to leave after the game. Rodney said he was glad to get out of there alive. I told him I was so sorry. I had *no* idea.

I hope from this time forward to stop being a *silent* part of the *problem*, and to be a *vocal* part of the *solution*.

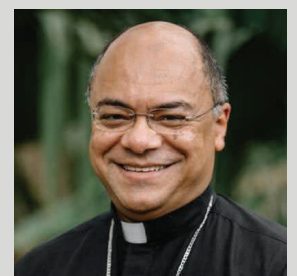
~~ Bill Tonniss

REFLECTIONS FROM CATHOLICS OF COLOR:

"We know that by the work of our hands and by the grace of almighty God we can be a part of advancing the discussion and moving hearts and moving people and moving society to root out racism and intolerance. ...I fully believe an important part of that is our call for each and every person to examine their hearts and their experiences and to encounter those who are on the margins, who are not part of our ordinary circle of friends. When we do that, we can hear the pain and reality of racism. ...[O]nce we are able to put a face and a name on it, I think those encounters will lead people to be stronger advocates to work to dismantle racism and to pray and to do all of this as people of faith who are willing to accept the challenge that Jesus Christ calls us to embrace in loving one another.

Right now in the United States, the church has always been diverse and is becoming more and more racially diverse. Learning about the richness of that diversity and the many different cultures in the church can only strengthen who we are as a church and be the best disciples of Jesus Christ that we can be."

(Bishop Shelton J. Fabre of Houma-Thibodaux, Louisiana, chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism)



I WANT TO UNDERSTAND

I'm a white female and that alone brings me advantage I did nothing to deserve. It is an unfair result of the color of my skin. Most of the time I'm not even aware of this reality. I just take for granted that this is the way life is. I'm wrong.

I was raised in an all-white neighborhood. We often struggled to make ends meet but we always had enough. It was a safe and comfortable life. I never had to worry about being accepted or being treated differently because of how I looked. I thought that was true for everybody. I never met anyone who didn't look like me until I was a freshman in high school when two girls became the first African American students to enroll at Seton.

Initially I was cautious and thought they were very different from me. As I got to know them, I discovered we had many things in common like love of family and striving for good grades. But there was so much in their lives we never talked about. I was shocked, surprised, and angered that a class boat ride to Coney Island excluded them because African American people weren't welcomed either on the boat or at the amusement park. They weren't surprised. That was part of their everyday lives that I knew nothing about. We might have been in the same religion class and students at the same school, but our day-to-day-worlds rarely intersected. And I didn't make an effort for that to happen.

When I was a senior at Mount St. Joseph College a theology professor invited us to take part in a local march for Jobs and Freedom. For me it was a small step for racial equality, but then I returned to the safety of my own comfortable world. I wanted to know but I had no real insight into what that march meant for the African Americans who were there. I didn't ask.

I tried to understand and stand up for justice and an end to racism. There were other marches I took part in though I really didn't get it. I continually found myself surprised by things that people who didn't look like me had to endure. I never considered that the lifestyle I experienced and what I thought was normal needed to be examined and changed.

More than 50 years later much remains the same. I still have unearned privilege I'm usually oblivious to unless something egregious happens. I raised two sons and never had to give them "The Talk" about interacting with police. I just assumed that they would be safe. That's not true for African Americans.

The amount of work that needs to be done is overwhelming. There are inequalities in justice, education, housing and employment, as well as limited access to health care and high infant mortality for African Americans. I don't know what I can do will make any difference. I see that racism affects anyone whose skin is a different color from mine. I hear first-hand accounts of racism affecting the Latino and African parishioners that are part of my St. Leo family. Racism is pervasive. It is evil. It eats away at our souls.

I want to be open to taking a hard look at myself and finding out uncomfortable things—and changing. I know there's so much I don't know, but I do want to learn.

I want to understand.

~~ Angela Anno



In an effort to get feedback about racism a sampling of parishioners was asked to respond to three questions:

1. What do you think about what is happening now?
2. Have you or any family members ever experienced racism?"
3. What do you think is needed to help us heal?

Answers were anonymous:

"I saw my father beaten with "billy" clubs by police when I was 7 years old. If I close my eyes I can still see his teeth on the front doorstep."

"I feel that it is wrong to be or to say that, we, they or us, are better than one another. The only one who is better is God."

"Vote out the bad, bring on love, peace and joy."

An African parishioner told of having "Go Back to Africa" written on the sidewalk with arrows pointing to their door. Another knew little English but remembered the swear words hurled at her by a neighbor.

"It's heartbreaking to see what is going on."

"My wife is of another race. She reminds me of what I'm not aware of."

"Racism is wrong because God has created each one of us unique and in his image and likeness from the beginning of creation. God destined us to be happy as human beings. We are people of relationships and we need each other. God has given us the responsibility to care for creation, but for this to take place it is important that man be reconciled to God, that he have a personal encounter with God first and only in this way, all human beings can live in peace and to be happy and not discriminate against anyone because of their color, or nationality. We are all one in Christ Jesus. May God bless this country and the whole world, so that we can live according to God, listening to his word and putting it into practice, so that we can have a world in peace and be happy with ourselves, with the family and with all the people around us."

"Racism has been going on for a long time. Our system is failing us. Police often are not accountable for their bad behavior. We need to have something else. I have been helped by some wonderful police but we can't give a pass card to those who are racist."

"One day I went to the Zoo with my family and a white child moved away and seemed scared of us. That is sad. God made all of us."

"We need to work together—all of us—to hold systems accountable. We need more black people in leadership roles and given more opportunities. It's going to take everybody. This is our home All of us are immigrants. This country was built by immigrants. We all need to keep doing our part."

"Felt like I was getting turned down for promotions based on my color more than my experience or potential experience. People were getting trained over me that had just come in the door. Bad part about that for me was sometime I ended up having to train them; helping them to get promoted over me. Another time was in a small clothing store where I felt I was being watched while others were shopping freely being the only person of color in the store. When I walked out the store, looking back through the glass window of the store I saw the customers and the cashier looking more relaxed. Did not feel comfortable going back in the store again. Sad part from me was they have some really nice clothes."

Jake's Jabbers



It takes great courage to admit things we wish not to recognize in ourselves.

It takes greater courage to take action on the wrongs we may have committed with or without the knowledge of hurting others. Whether as a result of our culture, traditions, environment or teachers, we are ALL in the ultimate place where either the buck stops here or we feed the ugliness that is privilege and systemic behavior.

WWMD? That translates to What Would Michelangelo Do. It's quite the pivotal moment where we're not sure where or how to begin. That's quite a normal feeling and totally OK. What a perfect place to start. Like a sculptor with a huge piece of marble, the first question is always, what in the world should we do with this? Second, third, fourth and more questions: I wonder...? ...What if? ...How? We only have to pick up the tools to let the transformation and conversion begin. So...

Prepare. Hold your hands to your heart and feel the love, the hurt, the anguish, the challenges and all those feelings you can - and most probably can't - even imagine for those experiencing what we have never had to experience because of conditioned judgments and unfair practices. Hold.

Send out Forgiveness. How many complex layers of guilt and denial have built up over centuries? What about within your lifetime? Think back on those who have hurt you and those you have hurt. Forgive the behavior - even if you can't understand it. Forgive the person. And forgive yourself while you're at it.

Put Love out into the World. Embrace all of humanity with love and peace. ALL. EVERYONE. Imagine not only those you care for, but mostly for those you do not understand or feel you just cannot tolerate in any way shape or form. DO NOT let hate win. Love must win.

Breathe in the freedom of Soul, of Mind...and of Body. Everyday is a celebration of Freedoms. It can be taken from you when you least expect it, as past and current history has shown.

Especially when you least expect it.

Jake's Jokes

NO JOKIN' JUST QUOTIN'

*I am not longer accepting the things I cannot change; I am changing the things I can no longer accept.

*Laundry is the only thing that should be separated by color.

*No one is born racist, it's taught. Quit teaching it.



ST. LEO PARISH AND COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION



Pastor: Rev. James R. Schutte

Address: 2573 Saint Leo Place,
Cincinnati, OH 45225

Phone: 513-921-1044

Fax: 513-921-8048

E-Mail: stleocinti@aol.com **Website:** www.saint-leo.org

Facebook: St. Leo The Great Catholic Church

St. Leo's YouTube Channel: StLeoTheGreatParish

Worship Schedule: Saturday 6:00pm Mass in Spanish;

Sunday Mass: 10:30am; Weekday Mass: Wednesday 11:30 a.m.

Thursday 7:00pm

FOOD PANTRY: At the corner of Carll & Baltimore

Serving Hours: Mon., Wed., & Fri., 1:00pm to 3:30pm

Pantry Requirements: Serving North Fairmount, English Woods, Roll Hill Apts., and Millvale once every 30 days. See website: 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: NO CHILDREN DURING COVID**

To volunteer, or for more info, call 513-921-1044.



EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday April 1st - 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday April 2nd - 7:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil April 3rd - TBD

Easter Day April 4th - 10:30 a.m.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES



Cancelled during COVID until further notice.

COMMUNITY PHONE NUMBERS

North Fairmount Community Center/

Referral Services: Linda Klems: 513-921-5889



Housing: 513-921-5889; Hopple Street Neighborhood

Health and Community Center: 513-517-2700; Literacy

Network: 513-621-7323, GED online class referral: CPS:

513-363-6100

ANGELS' ARMS STORE, 1882 Baltimore Ave. Accepting donations of clothing, kitchen, bath and bedding. Open Mon-Wed-Fri 9-3:00 and Tues-Thurs 10-3:00. **All Items Free!** Call for hours: 513-407-

Visit Us!

St. Leo's website: www.Saint-Leo.org

Facebook: St. Leo the Great Catholic Church

St. Leo's YouTube Channel: StLeoTheGreatParish



Enjoy the online edition with color photos!

Save the **www.saint-leo.org** site in your "favorites" list to visit often. Feel free to send corrections, updates, news and/or info to be included on the website to Amy Kleeman, Development Director, at akleemanstleo@aol.com. If you'd like to receive St. Leo's Newsletter, call 921-1044 and we'll add you (or anyone else you know) to the mailing list.

HOW YOU CAN HELP . . .



Treasure Chest

Treasure Chest Tickets are sold on a monthly basis at \$5.00 each.

- Winner based on Pick 3 played straight every day.
- Each \$100.00 prize will be sent in the mail.
- Get In On the Fun! To purchase Treasure Chest tickets, send \$5.00 per ticket by the first of the month to: St. Leo Treasure Chest, 2573 Saint Leo Place, Cincinnati, OH 45225
- Volunteers Needed to help sell tickets!

December Winners: Laura Caldwell, Keith Lobring, Denise Riley, LuAnn Beiderbeck, Myra Lauber, and Shirley Whalen.

January Winners: Bob Hoppius, Vita Stange, Shirley Whalen, Jean Kessler, and Thomas Dehmer.

Thank You Again!

WISH LIST

Gas Cards for our 3 vans

Toddler Size (1, 2T, and 3T) bibs for the Sacrament of Baptism

Uber Gift Cards to assist St. Leo's parishioners who have no means of transportation to get to appointments.

Gift Cards for the continuing work and maintenance of the parish, and our Youth Group functions: Home Depot, Staples, Hobby Lobby, Kroger, Oriental Trading Company Priceless!

Cash to Cover Operating Expenses is Essential!

¡GRACIAS! MURAKOZE! THANK YOU!

Easy Online Giving

Make a one-time donation, or set up a weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual gift to be deducted from your banking account, or to charge your gift to your credit card:

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

SHOP AMAZON SMILE, SUPPORT ST. LEO: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-0538556>

SHOP KROGER'S AND SUPPORT ST. LEO: <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> Enter St. Leo's #KC265 or search for St. Leo the Great Church.

iGive: Shop the sites you love and support St. Leo! Sounds easy? It is! Sign up at <http://www.igive.com/>



Many thanks to our St. Leo Food Pantry Monthly Overhead Sponsor for January and February Generous Anonymous Donor

In January, the Food Pantry served 666 individuals, in 185 households, including 272 children and 68 seniors.

NEEDS FOR MARCH:

Bar soap, body lotion, shave cream, feminine hygiene products,



Dish soap, Kleenex, Laundry detergent, dryer sheets

Diapers of all sizes, especially newborn and sizes 5 & 6, pull-ups all sizes, cloth diapers, baby formula, baby wipes, baby lotion, baby soap, Mustard, Ketchup, Salad dressing, Salt and pepper shaker combos, White Flour, Sugar (smaller bags), Hot sauce, BBQ sauce, Jelly, Pancake syrup, Mayonnaise, Saltine and other crackers, instant coffee

Reusable Tote Bags, Rolling Luggage, Pull Carts

FOOD PANTRY IS CLOSED: APRIL 2nd and 5th for the Easter Break



Thank you very much for your generous support of the 2020 Hunger Walk and St. Leo's Food Pantry. Your gift is multiplied many times over when St. Leo's purchases the wide variety of reduced priced items, and goods offered by the FreeStore FoodBank. We had so much success last year virtually and we are looking forward to this year!!

SAVE THE DATE

Memorial Day Monday May 31st

***When you register you must select St. Leo Food Pantry (#297)**

***more information to follow as we know, STAY TUNED!!!**



ST. LEO FOOD PANTRY MONTHLY OVERHEAD SPONSORSHIPS NEEDED

We are seek-ing individuals and organizations that would be willing to "Sponsor" one month of our operating costs of \$2,323.53.

Sponsor's name will be recognized in the food pantry foyer, on St. Leo's website, in St. Leo's newsletter and in St. Leo's weekly Sunday bulletin during their month; and if interested, the organization's members would be welcome to volunteer by working in the pantry serving our clients.

If interested, please contact Amy Kleeman at 513-921-1044 x 30, akleemanstleo@aol.com, or mail to: Amy Kleeman, St. Leo the Great Church, 2573 Saint Leo Place, Cincinnati, OH 45225.

ST. LEO THE GREAT CHURCH
2573 ST. LEO PLACE AT BALTIMORE AVENUE
CINCINNATI, OH 45225-1960

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S.POSTAGE
 PAID
 Cincinnati, Ohio
 Permit No. 3402

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
				<h1>APRIL</h1>		1 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	2 Food Pantry and Office CLOSED 7:00p.m. MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	3 Mass in Spanish-TBD https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati
4 Mass: 10:30am https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati Happy Easter!!!	5 Food Pantry and Office CLOSED	6 	7 Food Pantry Open 11:30 am Mass	8 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	9 Food Pantry Open	10 Mass in Spanish 6pm; https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati		
11 Mass: 10:30am https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	12 Food Pantry Open	13 	14 Food Pantry Open 11:30 am Mass	15 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	16 Food Pantry Open	17 Mass in Spanish 6pm; https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati		
18 Mass: 10:30am https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati First Communion Celebration	19 Food Pantry Open	20 	21 Food Pantry Open 11:30 am Mass	22 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati EARTH Day! 	23 Food Pantry Open	24 Mass in Spanish 6pm; https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati		
25 Mass: 10:30am https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati Confirmation	26 Food Pantry Open	27 	28 Food Pantry Open 11:30 am Mass	29 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	30 Food Pantry Open			