

ST. LEO THE GREAT PARISH

SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



**God
raised him
on the
third day
and he
appeared
to us who
had been
chosen by
God as
witnesses.**

Acts 10.40-41

BECAUSE OF YOU . . .

St. Leo's struggle and its gift is its poverty. In order to continue and expand its mission and ministry to the community and our immigrant and refugee parishioners, we need to reach out to others to help us through prayer, finances, and service. Through God's grace, it becomes mutual blessing.

AND SO WE THANK YOU ...

Many, many thanks to the numerous parishes, companies, individual donors, and volunteers who made our Su Casa Event such a huge success!!! Our parishioners were able to enjoy coats, personal hygiene items, food boxes, baby items and health care information.



Many, many thanks to NET Ministries who hosted a retreat for our youth here at St. Leo. We can't wait to see our youth grow in Faith.

Thank you so much to the students and families at Our Lady of the Visitation School for the numerous car loads of baby items, and can food items for our parish and food pantry.



If you would like to volunteer for any of our upcoming projects (like cleaning up around the neighborhood or helping in the community garden in the Spring.) Please contact Amy at akleemanstleo@aol.com.



Many thanks to our
Monthly Overhead Sponsor
for March
Anonymous

¡GRACIAS! MURAKOZE! THANK YOU!

We are deeply grateful for your continued and generous support. Our St. Leo the Great parish community promises to remember you and your loved ones in our private prayer, as well as in our communal prayer, which is to say that we are praying for you all the time. May our gracious God fill you with every blessing!

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS . . .

Easter is coming and we continue to celebrate it in our liturgies for fifty days. All of us at St. Leo the Great Parish wish you Feliz Pascua, Pasti Conziza, Happy Easter! We hope and pray that you will thoroughly enjoy and delight in the fifty days of celebrating Easter that conclude with the grand celebration of Pentecost. We pray that you will be blessed with new and abundant life of God's presence in your life, rejoicing as you live your faith, renewed by the promises of your baptism, singing Alleluia, and practicing resurrection. Thank you for the hope you will live and bring to others by living more freely away from sin and death in our world. Celebrate the Lord's victory over death by loving unconditionally and helping raise others up over the weaknesses of the human condition. Show your family and the whole world that life, eternal life has the final say now and forever. As signs of Spring break out in abundance during this month and remind us that "unless a seed falls to the earth and dies it will not produce much fruit," join with all creation in praising and thanking God for the gift of resurrection and new life.

This Easter Season, St. Leo's rejoices for the gift of conversion and faith. At the Easter Vigil, one adult will be received into full communion with the Catholic Church. On Sunday May 1, 8 children will make their First Communion. On June 5, the Feast of Pentecost, 29 adults and children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, and some need The Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation. We continue to pray for all our catechumens and candidates in our Family of Parishes – St. Boniface, St. Joseph, St. Theresa, Little Flower, and Holy Family. Welcome! Welcome! "The Lord is truly risen! Alleluia! Alleluia! New life in Christ is abundant again at St. Leo's in so many ways and on so many levels. Please share our joy and rejoice with us.

FATHER JIM'S RETIREMENT PARTY SAVE THE DATE

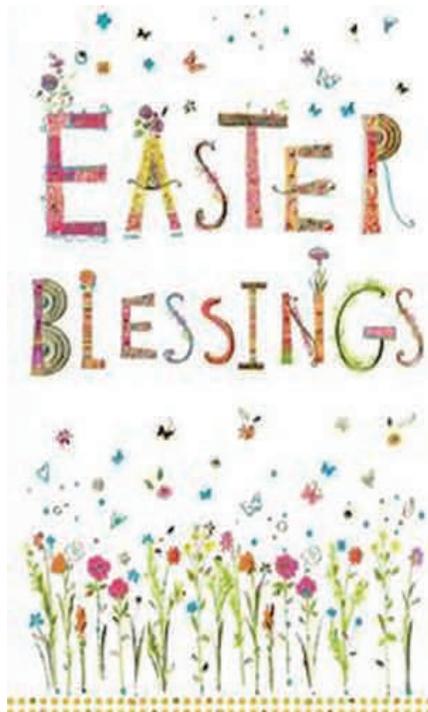
As many of you know, Father Jim will be retiring from his position as pastor on July 1st, of this year. We would like to celebrate his many years of service and dedication with a Celebration Mass and Open House reception.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday June 12th for 11:00 a.m. mass at St. Boniface with a reception to follow.

But before we come to Easter, we must finish Lent and pass-through Holy Week, the holiest of weeks in the Church's liturgical calendar. Through the



Church's ritual, we share in and celebrate the Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. May we truly be blessed and discover how marvelously, wondrously, generously, freely, and abundantly loved are we. May we become freer to love God and others with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. May we learn how to wash everyone's feet, love our enemies, bless those who curse us and pray for those who hurt us. May we accept the Lord's forgiveness and live with his mercy and compassion and become more a forgiving, loving family of God. May we be unhindered and healed from our fears, worries, ailments, problems, preoccupations, limits, and conditions. May we come to hope, know, and believe that we who die with the Lord will always rise with him.

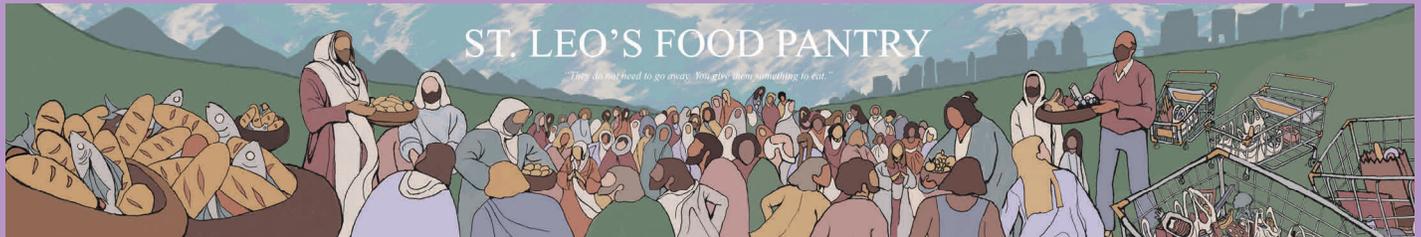


Thank you so much for your prayers and support for all of us here at St. Leo the Great. We have been the beneficiaries of the fruits of your Lenten prayer, fasting and works of charity. In so many ways, you have helped us experience the new life of the Lord's resurrection and you have shown us that life gets the final say for anyone who believes. Please know that as we praise God with Alleluias, music and dancing we are also thanking God for you and your goodness. May the Lord fill you with an abundance of Easter joy and blessings. Thank you for helping us build God's kingdom and for being God's church with us.

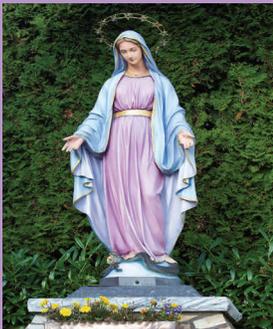


BE ON THE LOOKOUT...

We have two very exciting new projects happening on the grounds here at Saint Leo's. The first one being at the Food Pantry. We have partnered with a group of students from the University of Cincinnati College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP), who will be designing and painting a mural on the side of the building that represents St. Leo's. This mural represents who we are, and why we serve our community. Take a look at the design below. We can't wait to see the finished project!



The second is our garden renovation project. This spring/summer we are looking to renovate our community garden to a Mary/Mediation Garden to allow the vegetable beds to rest for a year. We are looking for volunteers to help prep the garden, weed, plant flowers, clean, re-structure as well as maintain the area. We are also welcoming native plants if anyone has some to divide or donate, as well as shrubs for along the back fence. We already have English daisy, cornflower, gay feather, milkweed and stella d'oro, which we can't wait to see in full bloom.



UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS:

- March 12-** Lent Service Project: Matthew 25
9-11am or 11-1pm
- March 13-** Children's Liturgy, Confirmation Class
and Retreat Planning
- March 19-** High School Youth RETREAT:
Confirmation Retreat
- March 27-** Children's Liturgy and Confirmation
Service, Clean up Day

- April 3-** Children's Liturgy and
Youth Group
- April 17-** Easter Sunday
- April 24-** Confirmation Class



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.

Come to the Table

By: Angela Anno

My twin grandsons make their First Communion May 1, which would have been their great-grandmother's 103th birthday. Though she'd been dead for seven years I can picture her rejoicing with them as they come for the first time to the table that nourished her so often in her life. I remember how excited she was when I made my own First Communion. Her mother, my Nona, who had to wait until she was 12 to receive Communion, reminded me of the privilege I had. I'm not sure I understood all that meant but I did realize it was a step in joining the adults at the sacred table for the first time. It was special, it was holy, and I could join them and experience God's presence in a new and deeper way.

As a parent I shared that experience with my own three children as they came to the Eucharistic table for the first time. Though they were still immature in many ways, their First Communion marked a change in them. Now I'm the grandma and I listen to my grandsons as they tell me how they'll be receiving the body and blood of Jesus in communion and I remember my Nona's words so long ago.

Coming to the Eucharistic table is always a cause for celebration but when children come for the first time the whole community rejoices. In a way as we watch them, we all become children again accepting that great gift as if for the first time. God who made the universe and all its beauty, who fashioned each one of us as unique persons, loves us so much that God enters the host and comes to us as food. God's love is overflowing.

The Eucharist brings us together in a way we could never do by ourselves. At St. Leo's, we determined that if we could pray Eucharist together, we could do anything together—quite a goal for a diverse group of people from many nations and cultures seeking a way to become family. There have been blips and mis-steps along the way but somehow our prayer together helped us work through them and move ahead.

We discovered that languages and cultures were not a stumbling block, but a gift. We included readings and music in Spanish and African languages as well as English. If we didn't know the words, we could join in by humming or clapping. The Our Father and sign of peace were encouraged in native tongues, Children joined in singing in multiple languages, Liturgical ministers represented our diversity. Though we didn't speak the same languages, we were becoming family.

When Ben, a young man from Kenya was ordained a deacon, we decided to have a cookies and punch reception. One of the African women reminded us that "he is African and needs African food." She organized African cooks to prepare favorite dishes and the whole community sampled African cuisine. When thanked for doing this her response was "It is our privilege. After all we are all brothers and sisters of Jesus."

And so we are—true family in Jesus. Baptisms, Confirmations, and marriages reflect this as godparents, sponsors, and witnesses are often chosen across cultures. Coming together like this opens us to the power of the Holy Spirit. It is Pentecost every Sunday at St. Leo's

We may not look alike and speak different languages but when we come to the Eucharistic table, we are one family sharing the greatest meal of all.

What a cause for celebration and rejoicing!!



SAVE THE DATE— HUNGER WALK 2022:

Thank you very much for your generous support of the Freestore Foodbank Hunger Walk and St. Leo's Food Pantry over the years. 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, hopefully in person! Join us on Monday, May 30, 2022 for the 19th Annual Hunger Walk & 5K Run presented by Delta Air Lines!

Be Sure to choose St. Leo's Lighting the Way for your team so we get credit ! You can also use this link :

<https://cincinnatihungerwalk.org/2022/>

Click on Join Team and pick St. Leo's Lighting the Way





Jake's Jabbers

Do you remember some time ago in the movie, "Guardians of the Galaxy", a character named Groot seems a strange and incapable character who seemingly has no major contributions to share. Communication is unsure with Groot, as, the only response he gives is "I am Groot" or just "Groot". And reading between his grunts, friends eventually learn to understand him albeit his limited vocabulary. Sometimes he didn't make any sense at all. He was just there. But always there. Just hanging around.

As time goes on and when the going gets rough, he reaches around his family of friends and protects them with the strength and protecting factors of his body. You see, Groot is a huge tree with incredible stretching limbs and branches. He gave all of his being to save his friends, knowing the love they shared gave him the courage to do so, and knowing that was the only way to salvation.

"Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage" as Lao Tzu penned. Yes. Deep abiding love and grace does give us the strength to reach beyond what we thought possible and handle whatever lies in our path.

This movie from 2014, I must have a good memory, reminds me of another story that may ring a bell! Somebody who's not quite understood by everyone yet occasionally gets a message through? Someone who wraps their outreaching arms around us constantly with a deep love? Someone who knows and suffers the one means to provide salvation to all? Yes, you got it. That's the story! And the joy in both of these narratives? A little seeding is planted. A new life. A new hope.



Jake's Jokes

What kind of stories do rabbits like the best?

Ones with a hoppy ending



What do you get if you cross a frog with a rabbit?

A bunny rabbit

Why did the bee get married ?

Because he found his honey



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: Children must be supervised while at our Food Pantry.**

To volunteer, or for more info, call 513-921-1044x22.

OFFICE and FOOD PANTRY CLOSED April 15, 18 and May 30

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: 513-407-7902.

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 921-1044x22 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!

January Winners: Larry Babel

February Winners: Pat Schnittker, Don Sries, and Vita Stange



Many thanks to our St. Leo Food Pantry
Monthly Overhead Sponsor for March
Anonymous

In February the Food Pantry served 623 People in 181 Households, including 243 children, and 82 seniors

NEEDS FOR SPRING

Juices (apple, grape, orange, cranberry, fruit punch, etc...), Ramen Noodles, Spaghetti, shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, Diapers Size 6, baby wipes, razors, shave cream, dish soap, Bar Soap, laundry detergent, 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, individual packaged snacks, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper

WISH LIST



Plastic Easter eggs and candy or small trinkets to fill for our youth group

Gas Cards for our 3 vans

Gift Cards for the continuing work and maintenance of the parish, and our Youth Group functions: Home Depot, Staples, Hobby Lobby, Kroger, Amazon, and Domino's Priceless!

Cash to Cover Operating Expenses is Essential!



Electric Stove for a parishioner in need

A new vacuum cleaner for our parish office

iGRACIAS! MURAKOZE! THANK YOU!

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 23rd—NO MASS

Easter Mass Schedule— April 14th 7:00 p.m., April 15th 7:00 p.m., April 16th 8:45 p.m., April 17th 10:30 p.m.

May 1st—The Sacrament of First Communion 10:30 a.m. St. Leo

May 22nd—The Sacrament of Confirmation 2:00 p.m. St. Boniface ONLY

June 5th—The Sacrament of Confirmation 2:00 p.m. St. Leo ONLY

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.aspx> 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/>



ST. LEO FOOD PANTRY MONTHLY OVERHEAD SPONSORSHIPS

We are seeking individuals and organizations that would be willing to "Sponsor" one month of our operating costs of \$2,300.00.

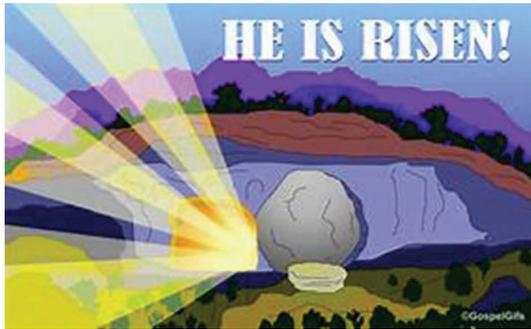
Sponsor's name will be recognized in the food pantry foyer, on St. Leo's website, in St. Leo's monthly newsletter and in St. Leo's weekly Sunday bulletin during their month; and if interested, the organization's members would be welcome to volunteer by working in the pantry serving our clients.

If interested, please contact Amy Kleeman at 513-921-1044 x 22, 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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<i>A P R I L</i>						1 Food Pantry Open 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross	2 - Mass in Spanish 6pm; https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati
3 Mass: 10:30am https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	4 Food Pantry Open	5 	6 Food Pantry Open	7 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	8 Food Pantry Open 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross	9 Mass in Spanish 6pm; https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	
10 PALM SUNDAY Mass: 10:30am https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	11 Food Pantry Open	12 	13 Food Pantry Open	14 HOLY THURSDAY 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	15 GOOD FRIDAY Food Pantry and Office-CLOSED 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	16 Mass Easter Vigil 8:45 p.m.; https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	
17 EASTER Mass: 10:30am https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	18 Food Pantry and Office CLOSED	19 	20 Food Pantry Open	21 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	22 Food Pantry Open	23 Mass in Spanish 6pm; https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	
24 Mass: 10:30am https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	25 Food Pantry Open	26 	27 Food Pantry Open	28 7:00pm MASS https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	29 Food Pantry Open	30 Mass in Spanish 6pm; https://www.facebook.com/RCC-St-Leo-Church-Cincinnati	
							