

May 22, 2022
From Fr. Jim. . .

Next Sunday is the Feast of the Ascension: Some of you may remember that we used to celebrate this Feast on the Thursday before the Seventh Sunday of Easter as a Holy Day of Obligation. A number of years ago, the Bishops decided that this Feast could be moved to the Seventh Sunday of Easter. This allows more of the faithful to celebrate this feast as part of one's Sunday obligation and it also keeps the Feast connected to the one event of Jesus' dying, rising, the descent of the Spirit upon the Apostles at Pentecost and his Ascension into heaven. It reinforces our belief that if we die with the Lord, we too will rise with him and our bodies eventually will, too. We are truly an Easter people and Alleluia is our song. What signs of this promise from God to us are we able to see now as we journey through this world to the next one? How is God lifting us up, raising us up over sin and death now? From what are we able to ascend now? Does keeping our minds and hearts focused on the "higher things" help us realize this promise now?

Another Advocate, the Holy Spirit is coming who will teach us everything and remind us of everything that Jesus has taught us. Traditionally from the Thursday before The Seventh Sunday of Easter (The Feast of the Ascension) until Pentecost Sunday, Christians prayed a novena to the Holy Spirit in preparation for the Feast of Pentecost, inviting the Spirit to enter our hearts and create us anew. Can we pray for our parish and the church throughout the world asking for understanding, right counsel, and peace and to be set on fire with all the Spirit's virtues to live and proclaim God's merciful love? "Come Holy Spirit, come. Fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit so that we may be created and you may renew the face of the earth!" Amen. Alleluia!

Rejoice and Be Glad: This Sunday, May 22, Fr. Rudy has received faculties from Archbishop Schnurr to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on a good number of people at St. Boniface and Fr. Jim has received faculties to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on a substantial group of people at St. Leo on June 5. Also, last Sunday, Fr. Jim received faculties to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on three children from St. Boniface parish – two in our religious education program and one from our school. We have been praying for them all through Lent and the Easter season and now we rejoice with them as they complete their initiation into the Church. Some, also, will be receiving Eucharist for the first time. Welcome to the table. Welcome to the Church. Welcome to ministry and service. Welcome to the love of God that knows no limits, gives us freedom from sin and death and directs us to the joy, life, and grace of the eternal kingdom of God. Amen! Alleluia!!

Mass and Healing Service- There will be a mass and healing service on Wednesday June 1st at 7: 30 p.m. at Saint Ignatius Church located at 5222 North Bend Road in Monfort Heights. For more information visit www.LRC1.org.

Servers Training Sunday- There will be servers training on Sunday May 22nd immediately following mass. Anyone who has made their first communion is eligible to become a server. If you have questions please call the office at 513.921.1044.

GARDEN RENOVATION HELP-

We still have a few garden beds left that need a little tender care. We are still welcoming native plants if anyone has some to divide or donate, as well as shrubs for along the back fence.

We are still looking for volunteers to help plant flowers, clean, re-structure as well as maintain the area. If this is something that interest you please send an email to akleemanstleo@aol.com



You can **read the Sunday bulletin** at: www.saint-leo.org/Publications/StLeoSundayBulletin
You can **read Fr. Jim's letter** at: www.saint-leo.org/Publications/FromtheDeskofFrJim

Please continue your generous almsgiving by donating, you can see our latest request on our Amazon Wish List Link: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref_=wl_share. **We also have a request for a baby crib. Please call the office at 513-921-1044 if you have questions or would like to donate these items.**

HELP US CELEBRATE!! Join us for **Father Jim's Life of Service retirement mass and party. On Sunday June 12th help us celebrate at 11:00 a.m. mass at St. Boniface (no mass at St. Leo that Sunday) and a reception immediately following in the school gym and cafeteria with light bites, and drinks.** If you wish to share a picture or special memory to highlight Fr. Jim's significance in your life, please send your photo or letter to the address below to be presented to Fr. Jim at his reception to 2573 St. Leo Place Cincinnati OH 45225 or email akleemanstleo@aol.com

HUNGER WALK 2022-WE ARE TWO WEEKS AWAY!!! Mark your calendars for Monday May 30th and Join our team St. Leo's Lighting the Way for the 2022 Annual Hunger Walk! To join our team or to donate go to <https://cincinnatihungerwalk.org/2022> and look for the donate or join team button and pick St. Leo's Lighting the Way for us to get the credit. There are also registration forms in the back of church.

TREASURE CHEST NEWS- With the changes that are occurring, the retirement of Father Jim and the combining of parishes we have decided to discontinue the Treasure Chest effective immediately. We want to thank Marianne Brater for her years of service and dedication to this project. We will be introducing a new fundraising effort called "4Grand", look for this announcement around August. If you have questions or concerns about this please call the office at 513.921.1044.

"Each of us is called to #holiness, to a unique and unrepeatable form of holiness. The Lord has a design of Love for everyone. He has a dream for your life. Welcome it! Pursue it joyfully!" ~ Pope Francis