

September 5, 2021 From Fr. Jim . . .

Labor Day: Labor Day is the unofficial end to summer. Many schools are back in session and many more will be back in session soon. Normally most people have taken their vacations and the normal lull in activity and meetings etc. is no more. The pandemic continues to change things quite a bit and challenges us to proceed with caution so people can return to work and school.

So, this Labor Day we want to continue being grateful to first responders, police, fire, doctors, nurses, medics, nursing home facilities and all those who are in the trenches still fighting the virus and working diligently to find a cure. Let's not forget the lab technicians and those responsible for developing vaccines. Those who work in grocery stores and food pantries, we honor your work this Labor Day too, and with the others, are so grateful to you for the sacrifices you make to keep us all safe and healthy and fed. Thank you for who you are and what you do. Our appreciation extends to all who work as volunteers to help others in need during this time and all those who generously share the fruit of their labors as benefactors to organizations and churches in need. Also, we never want to take the work of teachers and school administrators for granted. We are so grateful for your skills and dedication and for "stepping-it-up" to such a high level to open our schools during this second round of the pandemic.

This Labor Day is a good time for praying in thanksgiving for the opportunity to work and with our work, to help make the world a better place to live. We want to pray for the gift of being able to share in God's creative energies with the work that we are capable of doing. We want to accept God's invitation to use our labor to also build the kingdom of God on earth. We ask for the strength and the courage and the generosity to please not only our bosses with our work but also God.

We give thanks for the privilege to work and for all the benefits that a worker deserves and needs – safe and healthy environment; right to form unions, vacation time, health benefits, just wage and salary, balanced work schedule and benefits for overtime and more. We pray for those who are out of work and who are looking for work. We pray for our economy and for our leaders and government who are working hard to create more jobs and to keep people working. We pray for both union and non-union labor. For what else about our work and the work of our cities, neighborhoods, families, and church do we want to pray as we celebrate this holiday?

Bless the work of our hands, O Lord. Bless the work of our hands. May all that we do be pleasing and honorable in your sight. Amen. Alleluia! Happy Labor Day, everyone!

JOIN our Partner Parish!! On September 17th join Our Lady of the Visitation Parish Picnic at Stricker's Grove, located at 11490 Hamilton Cleves Road, Hamilton, OH 45013 from 5:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m. Enjoy rides and games for all ages. This year there will be **NO BUS** transportation, however if you need a ride please call the parish office 513.921.1044 for arrangements.

SAVE THE DATE- The 41st Annual Pete Bushelman "Friends of CISE" Raffle will be held virtually on December 17, 2021. Proceeds provide tuition aid to low-income students attending ten Catholic inner-city, elementary schools in Cincinnati. For more information or to purchase tickets contact the CISE office at 513.263.3472.



Sunday Mass: 10:30am, limited seating available, or join Fr. Jim as he livestreams Sunday Mass at 10:30am at: RCC St. Leo Church Cincinnati

https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=rcc%20st%20leo%20church%20cincinnati&epa=SEARCH_BOX

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

There are a few items that have been added to our Parish Wish List! **The Food Pantry is in need of a new garbage can and caddy.**

Here are the links to the specific ones: Rubbermaid Commercial Products Brute 32 Gal. Gray Round Vented Trash Can with Lid-2031188 - The Home Depot; Rubbermaid Commercial Products Brute Trash Can Dolly-FG264020BLA - The Home Depot .

We are looking for one table that can fit 8 chairs each. The Food Pantry is looking for rolling luggage if you have any to donate!

We would love to receive gift cards to help with our everyday needs, please consider Staples, Amazon, Kroger, or Home Depot when donating. You can see our latest needs on our Amazon Wish List Link

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref_=wl_share. **Please call the office at 513-921-1044 if you have questions or would like to donate these items.**

COMMENT ON DRAFT "FAMILIES OF PARISHES" – Make sure your voice is heard! Beacons of Light, the archdiocese-wide pastoral planning process currently underway, will result in all parishes being grouped into "Families" under the leadership of one pastor. A draft of this plan will be shared for public comment October 1-20 at www.BeaconsAOC.org. Do not miss this opportunity to provide your input to this important initiative which will shape the future of our archdiocese.

BEACONS UPDATE: BE HEARD, STAY INFORMED, SIGN UP –

Beacons of Light, the archdiocese-wide pastoral planning process currently underway, will impact every parish in the archdiocese, including ours. To stay on top of the latest developments on Beacons of Light, sign up for the free monthly *Beacons Update* newsletter at www.BeaconsAOC.org.

"What is the secret of a blessed life, a happy life? Recognizing Jesus as the living God. For it is not important to know that Jesus was great in history. What matters is the place I give him in my life." ~ Pope Francis