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St. Leo's Quarterly Outlook

Fall 2017

From the Pastors Desk



Dear parishioners of St. Leo's Church,

It's that time of the year for the Fall Quarterly Newsletter. It's a challenge to think that we are entering the last quarter of 2017. But here we are and praise the Lord!

You probably already know that we have had a change in the office personnel. Donna Willnerd, our Office Manager has resigned and will be moving away. We will miss her very much and all the positive energy and skills she brought to the parish community. We wish many blessings on her and her whole family as they begin anew in Arizona.

We are grateful to have Sue Kohles in the front office now. She is rapidly learning the many aspects of a parish office and community activities. Her positive personality and desire to learn combined with her many skills will enhance our parish.

In the last quarter many things have happened including many youth and young adult activities; Vacation Bible School, Young Neighbors In Action, M.A.D. Camp and this year Totus Tuus. I hope most of the families of the parish took advantage of these formation opportunities. As you consider summer plans for next year remember that these will be offered again. I know I'm prejudice in this area but in my opinion a church camp experience may do much more for a child than a volleyball or football camp. Just saying! Do them both for a well-rounded person.

I know with the Fall and early Winter comes all kinds of athletic experiences; football, volleyball, wrestling, golf and more. These things will keep young people and many adults entertained. From my perspective the hunting season will begin. Therefore much planning must be made. But I also remind you that many Religious experiences are offered as well. These experiences includes; Religious Formation for our children and youth on Wednesdays and Sundays. Adult Faith Formation opportunities such as Early Morning Men's group, Women's Bible Study, Moms Study Group and this year we will offer ample opportunities to take advantage of the Catechetical series, *Symbolon*. "Theology On Tap" will be offered again this Fall at the Chicken Coop for those ages 20 to 40. If you want to form your own Bible Study group you can ask Rita Hemmer to assist you. If you want to learn more about your faith by helping form our children, you can volunteer to be a Catechist and Jodi Stauffer will help prepare you. There are a lot of experiences to be a part of this Fall and Winter.

As the season changes in the environment so it is with the liturgical year. We will approach the end of the year with an awareness of the end times and celebration of Christ the King. Advent will begin December 3rd. This year Christmas is on a Monday, which means Christmas Eve will be a Sunday night. That will mean changing the Mass schedule to support both Sunday Obligation as well as the Christmas Obligation. Last year you got two-fers. Not this year. Sorry! Take note of those changes elsewhere in this publication.

At the end of this month (August) the parish will offer a Time and Talent survey during the weekend Masses. This will be a way for you to indicate how you wish to share your gifts in the community. All of us have been blessed by our God and we nurture a desire to give thanks by giving of ourselves in the community. It starts with weekly participation of the Eucharist. It may continue through involvement in ministry or in a community activity. Begin praying about what you have to offer of your time and talents.

Finally, the Fall is the traditional time of year for the harvest. Thanksgiving is the national holiday which helps us give thanks to God for all we have been given. To be grateful is not a once a year activity but a way of life. When you gather with your family and friends for the holiday, know that I am grateful for all of you and your participation in St. Leo's community. God bless you.

Rev. Donald A. Buhrman, Pastor

Special points of interest:

- ◆ From our Parish Nurse
- ◆ Winter Storm Protocol
- ◆ Women's Spirituality Group
- ◆ Outreach
- ◆ Reconciliation
- ◆ Ladies of St. Leo's
- ◆ St. Leo's Music
- ◆ St. Leo's Children
- ◆ St. Leo's Youth & Young Adult
- ◆ St. Leo's Scholarships
- ◆ ADVENT & Reconciliation Schedule
- ◆ Golden Gems
- ◆ Knights of Columbus

St. Leo's Quarterly Outlook

St. Leo's is publishing a quarterly Newsletter. We are going to address the four seasons in our year: Advent, Lent, Summer and Fall.

Take the time to **Read it and Be Informed**

We're on the Web!

www.saintleos.org



From our Parish Nurse

If you or a family member is homebound with an illness, please contact the Parish Office and we will assist you with getting the Eucharist brought to you by a Homebound Minister on Sundays.

A big thank you to all who participated in our summer Blood Drive! Seventeen units were collected on June 30. The Red Cross was in critical need of blood at that time so every unit helped. Watch the bulletin for the Blood Drive that will occur during the Christmas season.

Mom's Bible Study is gearing up for another great year of fellowship! This fall we will be reading "**Consoling the Heart of Jesus: A Do-It-Yourself Retreat- Inspired by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius**". The group will meet on Tuesday mornings from 9:30-10:30 in the Gathering Room. Children are welcome and treats and coffee are provided. First meeting will be Tuesday September 12, 2017 and will feature guest speaker Catherine Boucher. Catherine is a mother of four and a Catholic blogger from Lincoln, NE. Books can be purchased on Amazon and there will be a limited amount available at the study. Questions? Please contact Kari Bazan at 701-771-8677 or kadeplazes@gmail.com

Yearly flu vaccination is the best tool currently available to protect against influenza (flu), a serious disease which sickens millions of people each year.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a yearly flu vaccination as the first and most important step in protecting against flu and its potentially serious complications. Millions of people have safely received flu vaccines for decades. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations.

Reasons to get a flu vaccine:

- Flu vaccination can keep you from getting sick from flu.
- Flu vaccination can reduce the risk of flu-associated hospitalization, including among children and older adults.
- Flu vaccination is an important preventive tool for people with chronic health conditions.
- Vaccination helps protect women during and after pregnancy. Getting vaccinated also protects the baby several months after birth.
- Flu vaccination also may make your illness milder if you do get sick.
- Getting vaccinated yourself also protects people around you, including those who are more vulnerable to serious flu illness, like babies and young children, older people, and people with certain chronic health conditions.

CAUTION

**COLD & FLU
SEASON**

Capital Campaign Update:

Thank you very much for all the support the parish has shown in completing the campaign pledge drive and for the contributions that have already been received. God bless you.

As you can tell the parking lot portion of the Capital Campaign is nearly complete. The concrete is poured and finished. Finishing touches with the grounds is nearing. Thank you very much for the generous support offered for this first phase. We have already collected enough to pay the full bill.

The two remaining parts of the Capital Campaign are the replacement of the accordion walls in the Parish Hall as well as replacing the shake shingle roof of the whole complex. Information is still being gathered in regards to the Parish Hall walls. Once the decision is made on what to do and the bid is accepted we will schedule the change. As of now, the earliest could be over the Christmas break but more likely next spring or summer. That will provide sufficient time for the funds to keep coming in so we can pay the bill on time.

The final phase of the Campaign will be to replace the roof. As of now the roof does not leak. Since we do not have the funds in hand we will wait until the pledges are complete. At the earliest we will work for the summer of 2018 but may wait till 2019 when all the funds are in.

Thank you very much for the support of this Capital Campaign.



Knights of Columbus upcoming activities



Husker Harvest Days—The Knights will help with the Central Catholic Food Stand September 12, 13, and 14. Call Francis Sindelar (380-4561) if you can help out.

Shoot for Life - Pro-life fundraiser at Heartland Shooting Park. Call Francis Sindelar (380-4561) for details.

Donut Sunday - The Knights serve donuts the 4th Sunday of every month and this will start September 24th so if you are able to help out, call Francis Sindelar (380-4561).

Harvest of Harmony Parade - The four Grand Island councils will participate in the parade on October 7th. All members and families are invited to walk the parade route and distribute tootsie rolls. We will meet just North of 6th and Cedar St.

Tootsie Roll Drive - The annual tootsie roll drive will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 14 & 15. We will be at Walmart & Hy-Vee stores again this year. We will be calling members to assist in the distribution and collection of donations for 2 hour shifts at these stores.

Highway Cleanup - North Highway 281 cleanup is yet to be scheduled. (watch the bulletin for dates). There will be a light lunch at 5pm and the cleanup starts at 5:30pm. We will meet at North East part of Eagle Scout Lake (located by the stop light on HWY 281).

Memorial Mass - All Knights are invited to a memorial Mass for deceased Knights. We will honor all the Knights who have passed away since last November for all four councils. The memorial Mass will be held on November 13 (tentative date) at 6:30pm at Blessed Sacrament.

Christmas Eve the Knights will be serving dinner at St. Mary's Hall. All are welcome. We are in need of donations of pumpkin pies or a salad in disposable containers. Help is needed for food prep work on December 23. Please deliver these to St. Mary's on December 23rd from 11 - 5pm or early in the morning on December 24th. Thank you for all your help!

New Members - Please contact Mark Volkl (308-850-3380), Dusty Hast (379-6568) Francis Sindelar (380-4561) if you are interested in joining the St. Leo's Knights of Columbus.

Thank you for your support from our Make A Difference Camp

Make A Difference Campers again made a big impact in Grand Island. With thirty middle schoolers, their eight high school mentors and five adult leaders, nine different Grand Island service agencies were served. From playing softball with G.I.'s Special Olympians, walking dogs at the Humane Society to pulling weeds at several agencies, the M.A.D. Campers helped out in big and small ways.



The evenings were spent with fun and meaningful activities (many that involved getting wet!) and relevant prayer experiences. We thank you for your prayers!



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) "CATECHUMENATE PROCESS"

The RCIA/CATECHUMENATE process is designed to be an introduction to Catholicism. It is a restoration of an ancient process of the early church. The first purpose is to provide an experience of God's love. Evangelization is the key to RCIA, ie, to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. It is likened to the journey of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. During the journey they pondered the Scriptures, how they related to their lives, and finally recognized the Lord in the breaking of the bread.

The RCIA involves a team approach. Teachings are done, not only by priests and sisters, but by the lay people as well. The core materials this year are from the DVD series, *Symbolon* produced by the Augustine Institute in Denver, CO. This is a community experience and members of the community assist in leading the sessions and guiding the discussions. All will share in the faith journey. This gives the participants the important experience of other lay people sharing their faith, and the dimension of knowledge and experience that comes from their lives. Hopefully the result is an experience of Christian community.

Here at St. Leo's Church the RCIA program will start September 28th and runs through Easter, in the Spring. The sessions are held on Thursday nights from 7pm to 8:30pm in the Gather Room. Interested candidates and their sponsors will gather at that time. A teaching on a particular topic will be presented followed by discussion time.

Every candidate will need a Catholic sponsor to journey with them through this process. The Sponsor must be a Catholic who has all the Sacraments of Initiation, practices their faith and is able to communicate regularly with the candidate. The Sponsor is not to be a spouse and is highly encouraged to participate in the sessions if at all possible.

Fr. Don Buhrman is the Coordinator. Fr. Mark Maresh, Michelle Matthews and Zac Peirce are part of the team that will journey with you. If you are interested in this process please call the office at 382-4753 for more information. Fr. Don will be happy to meet with you and visit about your involvement with RCIA.



Reminder from the Finance Council:

A charitable contribution of long-term appreciated securities — i.e. stocks, bonds and/or mutual funds that have realized significant appreciation over time — is one of the most tax-efficient of all ways to give. This method of giving has become increasingly popular in recent years.

The two key advantages:

- Any long-term appreciated securities with unrealized gains (meaning they were purchased over a year ago, and have a current value

greater than their original cost) may be donated to a public charity and a tax deduction taken for the full fair market value of the securities — up to 30% of the donor's adjusted gross income.

- Since the securities are donated rather than sold, capital gains taxes from selling the securities no longer apply. The more appreciation the securities have, the greater the tax savings will be.

Pray for guidance and talk to your financial advisor before making any decisions. **Fidelity Charitable**



From Deacon Bill

WHAT IF PARENTS received an email from your activity director stating Junior High and High School students may only practice band, cheerleading, dance, football, musicals, volleyball, golf and cross country for one hour a week this fall? However, imagine if you did only practice an hour a week? Would that prepare you for upcoming activities?? NOT EVEN CLOSE!! Please practice your faith for more than an hour on Sunday at Mass. Can you read the life-changing Gospels 15 minutes a day? Can you eat lunch with someone sitting alone at a table? Can you pray an "Our Father" out loud on your way to school as a family and offer your day to God? Can you do chores around your home without being asked to do them? Can you read about the Saints? Can you help a neighbor in need? Practice your faith more than one hour a week.

DID YOU KNOW : "The Mass consists in some sense of two parts, namely the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, these being so closely interconnected that they form but one single act of worship. For in the Mass is spread the table both of God's Word and the Body of Christ, and from it the faithful are to be instructed and refreshed. There are also certain rites that open and conclude the celebration." – General Instruction of the Roman Missal

THE ANIMA CHRISTI – (Prayer after Communion) –

Soul of Christ, sanctify me, Body of Christ, Save me,

Blood of Christ, inebriate me, Water from the side of Christ, wash me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me, O Good Jesus, hear me

Within your wounds hide me, Do not allow me to be separated from you.

From Satan, our evil enemy, defend me, in the hour of my death, call me.

And bid me come to you,

that with your saints, I may PRAISE you forever and ever. AMEN

Ladies of St. Leo's News

Next meeting - September 6 @ 7:00 in the meeting room. Please join us!!!

Upcoming Events:

Ladies Fall Salad Supper - Sunday, October 15 @ 5:00 in the parish hall.

All St. Leo's ladies are invited to bring your favorite salad and enjoy food, fun and social time with your church family. Bring a friend!

Christmas Painting Party at the Happy Brush

Watch the bulletin for date and time

Winter Storm Protocol

If the Grand Island schools are closed there will not be Mass or classes at St. Leo's that day and the office will be closed as conditions are serious. If the schools are open the presumption is that there will be Mass and the office will be open. Hopefully this will save people wondering if they should get out or not. We want our parishioners and staff to be safe and not take unnecessary risks. If in doubt contact the Church office or check weather closings on TV, Radio or Internet.



St. Leo's Music

PLEASE COME SHARE YOUR MUSICAL GIFTS WITH ST. LEO'S! REHEARSALS ARE WEDNESDAYS AT 7 PM IN THE SANCTUARY.

YOUTH GRADES 6-12 ARE WELCOME TO SING THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE 10:30 MASS. WE PRACTICE AT 9:30 BEFORE THE MASS, AND YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO COME AND JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT 7 PM! YOUTH CHOIR WILL START SEPTEMBER 17TH, AND WE WILL PRACTICE AT 9:30 BEFORE MASS. I HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

PICTURE: 2017 MUSICIANS FROM ALL FOUR PARISHES IN GRAND ISLAND FOR FR. MATT NASH'S ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD



Ministry Schedule Information

If you are signed up as a Eucharistic Minister, Greeter, Server, Homebound Minister, Lector, or Commentator you should be getting an email from our Ministry Scheduling Program. Please let Terri know if you aren't receiving emails.

Our Ministry Schedule can also be found on our Web page www.saintleos.org

If you don't have access to a computer, Terri will have hard copies available in the gathering area.

Special movie presentation to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the miracle at Fatima:

THE 13th DAY

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

5:30 p.m and 7:30 p.m.



"October 13th 1917, Fatima, Portugal.

FACT: Over 70,000 witnesses watched the sun spinning in the sky before plummeting towards the earth, in an extraordinary prophesized event, which became known as 'The Miracle of the Sun'".

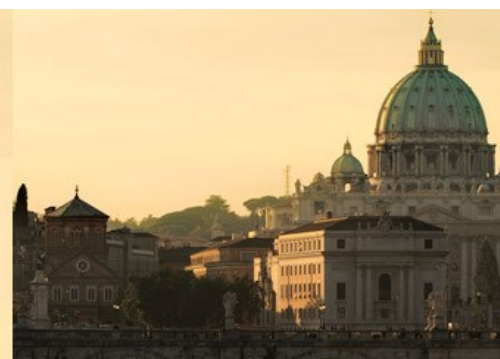


Witness the greatest miracle of the 20th Century, and experience the incredible, emotionally-charged and often harrowing world of three young children whose choice to remain loyal to their beliefs, even in the face of death, would inspire thousands. In a world torn apart by persecution, war and oppression, 3 children were chosen to offer a message of hope to the world.

Based on the memoirs of the oldest Seer, Lucia Santos, and many thousands of independent eye-witness accounts, The 13th Day dramatizes the TRUE story of three young shepherds who experienced six interactive apparitions with a "Lady from Heaven" between May and October 1917, which culminated into the final prophesized Miracle. Abducted from their homes, thrown into prison and interrogated under the threat of death in the government's attempt to silence them, the children remained true to their story. The entire community is invited to this message of hope!

Free Admission. Concessions will be served.

Symbolon™ is a stunning new video series that systematically presents the BIG picture of the Catholic Faith. Filmed on location in Rome, the Holy Land, Calcutta, and elsewhere, dozens of nationally-known teachers clearly present the beauty and brilliance of Catholicism. Symbolon™ is perfect for group or individual learning.



Adult Faith Formation

Symbolon, the Catholic Faith Explained
Part 1, Knowing the Faith

Fall Schedule 2017

Dates and times Subject/Topic

Sun, Sept. 17 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm The Journey of Faith: Trinity, Faith and God Who is Love
Wed, Sept 20 @ 9:45am & 5:30pm same

Sun, Sept. 24 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm Divine Revelation: God Seeking Us & the Compass for our Lives
Wed, Sept 27 @ 9:45am & 5:30pm same

Sun, Oct. 01 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm The Bible: God's Love Letter to Humanity
Wed, Oct 04 @ 9:45am & 5:30pm same

Sun, Oct. 08 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm The Story of Salvation: Creation, Fall and Redemption
Wed, Oct 11 @ 9:45am & 5:30pm same

Sun, Oct. 15 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm Who is Jesus?: Just a Good Man or Lord of Our Lives?
Wed, Oct 18 @ 9:45am & 5:30pm same

Sun, Oct. 22 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm The Paschal Mystery: The Mystery of Jesus' Death and Resur.
Wed, Oct 25 @ 9:45am & 5:30pm same

Sun, Oct. 29 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm The Holy Spirit & the Life of Grace:
Wed, Nov. 01 @ 9:45am & 6:30pm (note time change) same

Sun, Nov. 05 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm Why Do I Need the Church?
Wed, Nov. 08 @ 9:45am & 5:30pm same

Sun, Nov. 12 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm Mary and the Saints
Wed, Nov. 15 @ 9:45am & 5:30pm same

Sun, Nov. 19 @ 9:15am & 5:30pm The Last Things: What Happens After We Die?
Wed, Nov. 22 @ 9:45am & 5:30pm same (Last session)

These sessions will last about 75 minutes. They will take you through the Creed, or statement of beliefs that Catholics all around the world profess at every mass. Symbolon is not just about an intellectual understanding of Catholicism, but a journey of faith, discovery and friendship with Christ that will make a lasting impression on your life. Your participation on this journey of faith as you view the DVD's, participate in small group discussion, and engage in prayerful meditation on God' plan for your life will be enlightening and enhancing.

Participant Guide books will be ordered. Their cost is \$20 each. No one will be refused due to financial limitations.

St. Leo's PREP...Parish Religious Education Programs

At St Leo's it is our challenge to provide positive, safe and educational programs for our parishioners. The bonus is that we also attempt to make it fun, lively and worthwhile. We've had many compliments over the years that kids, youth and even adults enjoy the programs we have, asking for more! One of the best compliments we've received (several times, every year) is "We only had to MAKE our child go to _____(fill in the blank – RE Class, Empower Youth, confirmation)_____ one time, after that they **WANT** to go/never question about going/get sad when it's a week off/can't wait to go ... etc." We've heard several variations. 😊😊😊

We know the love of God is burning heavily in their hearts, even though *they* may not know it **we** know it, but we also know they are **wanting** to participate because of the experiences and the relationships they are building by attending these programs. Sometimes it is the information, i.e. the education, that draws them; but 90% of the time it is the relationship connection that is huge draw. And that's ok, because "**Wherever two or more are gathered in my name, I am there in the midst....**"

Matthew 18:20

We are not *only* building relationships with each other by attending these RE Programs, but we are developing, deepening our relationship with the **Father, the Son** and **the Holy Spirit!**

We are **PREP**ping ourselves to become, to continue to live our lives as disciples participating in the life, mission and work of the Catholic faith community. We are **PREP**aring for growth in our spiritual and personal lives.

In our Elementary **PREP** – we are engaging our children by helping them find God & Jesus in the world around them. Sometimes this involves games, crafts or other tactical learning. Other times it involves reading, discussing, and dissecting Scripture, the Catechism, or the world around them. In all ways, the children are learning, developing and engaging in what it means to be a **Catholic** Child of God.

In our Empower Youth **PREP** – we strive to bring the world around them into our Catholic Faith. We delve into how as Catholic's do we view, integrate and live in THEIR world. We explore our Catholic Faith and what it means in THEIR lives. We give them tools and information to help build THEIR relationships & foster THEIR spiritual growth.

In our Confirmation **PREP** – the goal is to educate our young people in **WHY** to continue and defend the Catholic Faith. We offer challenges, answers, questions and Catholic 101. We teach about the **Church**, and how we got here. They learn about themselves, each other and that special relationship we've been building on since their baptism.

In our Adult **PREP** – we're working on programs that help us continue on this journey of faith, as well as ones that help develop knowledge of our Catholic Faith, our Catholic Catechism and how to live in today's world. In our Adult **PREP** we try to gear toward what our parish is seeking, what's happening in our society and what's needed in our parish community. In doing so, we always seek to find ways to develop our community and our personal, as well as, spiritual relationships.



Theology On Tap is a speaker series for young adults, married and single, in their 20s and 30s. Each session offers a different topic and presenter, so choose the topics or presenters that appeal to you. Come to one or better yet, come to many!

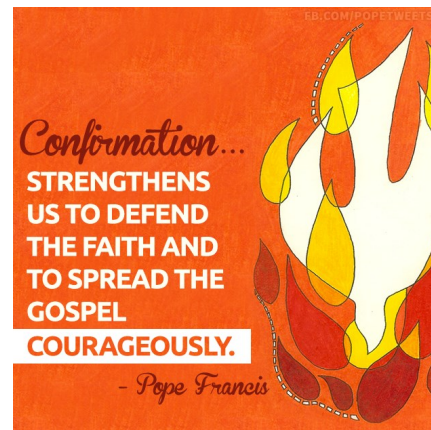
Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., Sept. 26 / Oct. 3 / Oct 10 / Oct 17
The Chicken Coop, 3rd and Sycamore Streets

Check out our Facebook page, [Theology on Tap - Grand Island](#) for updates

Please pray for our St. Leo's Confirmation candidates

Thirty seniors will celebrate the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, August 20 at 2:00 p.m. You are invited to come celebrate with our candidates. Please keep them in your prayers as they enter into their final preparations to receive this sacrament.

High School Juniors—Preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation begins with a parent / candidate orientation on Sunday, Sept 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Leo's parish hall. If you are a junior in high school this fall, please plan on attending with your parents. For the schedule of preparation sessions, go to the saintleos.org website and search under 'Confirmation.'



Empower Youth Ministry

Empower Youth on Wednesday Nights

Begins on Sept. 20, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Because life with Christ is so much better.

Empower Youth is for all middle school, ninth and tenth graders of the St. Leo's parish.

A place for young people to belong, to be encouraged,
to develop a deeper relationship with Christ, to serve and to lead.



Get ready Grand Island for Going Bananas For Jesus XX, March 29-31, 2019.
Grand Island will host the next GB4J. Many are needed for host families, committee organizers and many other volunteer positions. Be a part of something big! Stay tune for details.

Outreach



St. Leo's is responsible for 20 dozen cookies a week for the American Red Cross blood drives from September. Please consider making cookies and dropping them off at St. Leo's.

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Winter Coat Drive

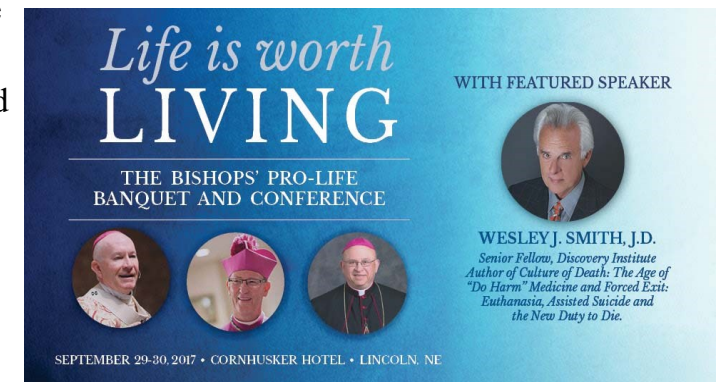


St. Leo's Free Coat Give-away is October 26. We need your help to make this a success again this year. We need donations of new and gently used coats to give to those in need. We need people to wash and perform simple repairs to coats so that we are giving out useable coats to keep our brothers and sisters warm. We need people to help sort coats during October so that we can find the ones that need washed and repaired. We need people to help with the distribution of the coats and to show dignity to those in need. Your parish needs you to help show mercy to others!



Don't miss *Life is Worth Living: The Bishops' Pro-Life Banquet and Conference* hosted by the Bishops' Plan for Pro-Life Activities! Join Archbishop Lucas, Bishop Conley and Bishop Hanefeldt for a social hour and banquet dinner on Friday, September 29 at 5 p.m. at the Cornhusker Hotel in Downtown Lincoln. And on Saturday, September 30, reignite

your passion and knowledge of the pro-life movement at the Pro-Life Conference, also at the Cornhusker Hotel. The keynote speaker for the banquet and conference is Wesley J. Smith, J.D., an expert and author in bioethics, euthanasia and assisted suicide. To register for the conference, visit [necatholic.org](#) or contact the Nebraska Catholic Conference ([402.477.7517](#)).



Golden Gems

We've had a spectacular summer at Golden Gems! Golden Gems is our monthly luncheon for senior citizens in the community. In May, we had a guest speaker who discussed the different types of hearing loss and solutions. June brought sunshine and warmth as well as a guest speaker discussing hospice care and answered many different questions that community members had. In July, we played a lively game of Bingo, and in August we played Jeopardy. We have exciting Fall programming to look forward to; on September 12, Elizabeth Killinger from the Hall County Extension will be here to answer all your Autumn planting questions. Golden Gems is a wonderful opportunity to meet other members of our church family around a casual, potluck meal. It occurs every second Tuesday at noon in the parish hall. Newcomers are always welcome. Blood pressures taken at 11:30 am and the meal is served at 12 PM. If there is a funeral dinner on the same day, Golden Gems is cancelled. If you have questions, please contact Julie Gortemaker, parish nurse.



Parish Registration



Are you registered at St. Leo's? For Baptisms, Sponsor letters, Weddings, and Funerals, belonging to a parish is the first requirement. People are sometimes surprised when they move to another city and want to have a Baptism or Wedding in a parish, but are not allowed to because they do not belong to that parish. Most all Catholic ministry is based on the parish you belong to. Most dioceses follow the basic law of the church about parish boundaries, so you belong to the parish that you live in. Whatever parish you choose, it's important to make a commitment to that parish, and be actively involved. We are happy to give permission for Baptism at another parish or to do Baptisms for family members from another parish, but a letter of permission from the proper Pastor is needed. Please make sure you are registered at your parish.

Fall/Winter Schedule

Sunday	Sept 10	Religious Ed begins
Wednesday	Sept 13	"Movie—13th Day" @ Grand Theater 5:30 & 7:30 pm
Sat/Sun	Sept 16/17	Catechetical Sunday
Sunday	Sept 17	Symbolon Adult Faith Formation begins for 10 wks in the Gather Room 9:15 am & 5:30pm
Wednesday	Sept 20	Symbolon Adult Faith Formation begins for 10 wks in the Gather Room 9:45 am & 5:30pm
Sunday	Sept 24	Abide Adoration in church 7 pm
Tuesday	Sept 26	Theology on Tap @ Chicken Coop for 4 weeks
Thursday	Oct 26	Coat Giveaway
Wednesday	Nov 1	All Saints Day Mass-Holy Day of obligation 9am & 5:30pm
Friday	Nov 3	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9:30 - 1pm
Sunday	Nov 5	Memorial Mass for deceased of past year 8am
Thursday	Nov 23	Thanksgiving Day Mass (office closed) 9am
Friday	Nov 24	NO Mass (office closed)
Sunday	Nov 26	Abide Adoration 7pm
Wednesday	Nov 29	Advent Night 5:45 pm
Friday	Dec 1	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9:30 - 1pm
Sat/Sun	Dec 2/3	First Sunday of Advent
Sunday	Dec 3	YNIA Craft Fair
Friday	Dec 8	Immaculate Conception-Holy Day of obligation Mass at 9am & 5:30pm
Sat/Sun	Dec 9/10	Second Sunday of Advent
		Saturday Reconciliation times 3 - 4:30pm
Sat/Sun	Dec 16/17	Third Sunday of Advent
		Saturday Reconciliation times 3 - 4:30pm
Monday	Dec 18	Parish Reconciliation Service 7pm
		Additional Reconciliation services
	Dec 17	Blessed Sacrament 7pm
	Dec 19	Resurrection 7pm
	Dec 20	St. Mary's Cathedral 7pm
Tuesday	Dec 19	Additional Reconciliation at St. Leo's 11am - 1pm
Friday	Dec 22	Reconciliation time 4:30 pm—6:30 pm
Sat/Sun	Dec 23/24	Fourth Sunday of Advent Sat 5 & 7 pm Mass (Note 2 masses) Sun 8 am Mass only
Sunday	Dec 24	Christmas Eve Mass 4:45pm, 5pm, 7pm
Monday	Dec 25	Christmas Day Mass 10:30am
Saturday	Dec 30	St. Leo's Blood Drive
Sun/Mon	Dec 31/Jan 1	Solemnity of Mary Sun: 5pm Mass & Mon: 10:30am

Children's Advent Challenge

We will again coordinate the Advent Challenge amongst the elementary disciples to collect loose change to be donated to Project Hunger. They are to bring their loose change to class during the month of December. Whichever class

produces the most change will receive a special treat for each member of that class. This service project is done as a fun and rewarding event showing the children that we can work together to help others. If you would like to donate your spare

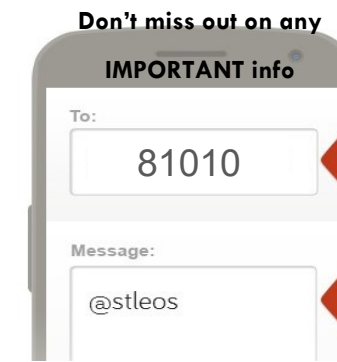


change please deliver it to Jodi! If you would like to learn more about Project Hunger check out their website: <http://www.projecthunger.org/>

REMIND

What is REMIND and why is it safe? Remind is a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that helps teachers share important updates and reminders with students & parents. Subscribe by text, email or using the Remind app. All personal information is kept private. Visit remind.com to learn more.

GRAB YOUR PHONE!



TYPE IN THIS #

TEXT & SEND THIS And then follow instructions... find out more at www.remind101.com

St. Leo's Children's Ministry Calendar

Sunday, September 10	9:15am	Class	Wednesday, October 25	5:30pm	Class
Wednesday, September 13	5:30pm	Class	Sunday, October 29	4pm	First Reconciliation
Sunday, September 17	9:15am	Class	Wednesday, November 1	5:30pm	Class
Wednesday, September 20	5:30pm	Class	Sunday, November 5	9:15am	Class
Sunday, September 24	9:15am	Class	Wednesday, November 8	5:30pm	Class
Wednesday, September 27	5:30pm	Class	Sunday, November 12	9:15am	Class
Sunday, October 1	9:15am	Class	Wednesday November 15	5:30pm	Class
Wednesday, October 4	5:30pm	Class	Sunday, November 19	9:15am	Class
Sunday October 8	9:15am	Class	Wednesday, November 22	5:30pm	Class
Wednesday, October 11	5:30pm	Class	Sunday, November 26	9:15am	Class
Sunday, October 15	9:15am	Class	Wednesday, November 29	5:45pm	Advent Night
Wednesday, October 18	5:30pm	Class	Sunday, December 3	9:15am	Class
Sunday, October 22	9:15am	Class	Wednesday, December 6	5:45pm	Class

Every person has their own style of how to pray. What we may not think about is helping our children develop their style of praying. As parents, we are our children's first teachers of everything: life, love, and especially faith. Our children are often excellent imitators of our actions and even our thoughts; what we model for them can

become their behavior as well. Prayer to some may be a very private time, to others they openly invite everyone to join. Have you asked your child how they pray? When do they pray the most? Or even what they pray for or about? You may be surprised at some of the answers you get when you are willing to ask and listen. This would be a

great opportunity to share the importance of prayer in your life and the difference prayer makes in your life. Take some time to pray, make the time to talk with your kids about your Time Alone With God.



Prayer is asking God to align you with His will rather than asking Him to be aligned with yours

Catholic Social Teaching: Rights and Responsibilities

Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities — to one another, to our families, and to the larger society. In simpler terms, this means people have a fundamental right to life, food, shelter, health care, education and employment.

One way to help is Food for Thought, the program where we take bags of food to Starr Elementary each week for children who do not have enough to eat. This is about a once every two month commitment. You pick up the bags from the Salvation Army and deliver them to Starr. If you are interested or if you would like more information, please call Donna Douglass at 308-382-4753.

Another way to work toward providing the right of education is Stuff the Bus which was just held in the beginning of August. School supplies were collected from the public at local stores and then those supplies were given to the children in homeless shelters and other families in need in the area. If you would like to be

During the month of September to aid the Salvation Army Men’s shelter, St. Leo’s will have a Giving Board. You can aid the Poor and Vulnerable by a donation to the board.

Another way to reach the Poor is giving food to St. Mary’s Food Pantry. The Human Concerns Committee and St. Mary’s Cathedral thank you for your food donations to Camille’s Cupboard at St. Mary’s. We will be doing a large sack food collection again the first weekend in November. Thank you for feeding the hungry!



*Thank you for your support from the St. Leo's
Young Neighbors In Action*

Twenty St. Leo’s youth and four adult leaders traveled to Gallup, NM in June for a week of service through the Young Neighbors In Action program. YNIA is a national program that matches youth groups with areas around the United States, working along side community members trying to make the world a better place. The St. Leo’s

team was joined in Gallup with a team from Resurrection Church of Grand Island and Our Lady of Assumption Church from Claremont, CA. Together they served at six different community service agencies in Gallup, NM. We would like to thank our parish and community for their support!

It's not too soon to plan for Advent!!

Advent is a season of expectation of Christ and has a slight penitential tone, not as direct as that of Lent. It is four weeks long, or slightly less, the first two weeks focusing on Jesus’ final coming as Lord and Judge. The final eight days anticipate his coming in history (Christmas). Since the tenth century, the first Sunday of Advent has marked the beginning of the (Western) Church year. [p 295, *Catholic*

Source Book]

The word Advent (Latin adventus, “coming”) originally described the whole mystery of the Incarnation. The conception of Jesus was an Advent, but so was His birth and what will be His final coming at the end of time. [p43, *Catholic Customs & Traditions]* We begin this season anticipating the coming of the Lord in history and in mystery.



ADVENT NIGHT

November 29th at 5:45pm

Join us for an evening of prayer, fellowship and preparations for the season of Advent.

The evening will begin with a prayer service at 5:45pm with a meal at 6pm followed by a program of fellowship & fun!

Please RSVP at 382-4753 or our visit our Web at www.saintleos.org

Reconciliation opportunities during Advent:

The normal times for **Reconciliation** are from 4-4:30pm on **Saturdays**.

On **December 9** and **16** the times will be extended from 3-4:30 pm.

Friday, **December 22** from 4:30-6:30pm and Tuesday, **December 19** from 11am-1pm

The **Communal Reconciliation Service** for St. Leo's will be Monday, **December 18** at 7pm

Other opportunities for Communal Reconciliation services in Grand Island will be 7pm: **December 17** at Blessed Sacrament; **December 19** at Resurrection; **December 20** at St. Mary's

If you have questions or want to set up a private time for confession call

Fr. Buhrman or Fr. Mark Maresh at 382-4753.

Each of us is an innkeeper
who decides
if there is room
for Jesus!
Neal A Maxwell



Mass times at St. Leo's during Advent

4th Sunday Advent
Saturday, December 23

5 & 7 Pm

Sunday, December 24

8 am

**NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE FROM THE
NORMAL WEEKEND SCHEDULE WITH 2
MASSES SAT. NIGHT & ONLY 1 MASS ON
SUNDAY MORNING**

Christmas Mass
Sunday, December 24

4:45pm - Church

5pm - Parish Hall

7pm - Church

Monday, December 25

10:30 am

Mary, Mother of God
Mass

Sunday, December 31

5pm

Monday, January 1

8am & 10:30am