

July 7, 2019

From Fr. Jim . . .

Latino Fest: Saturday, July 6 is our Latino Fest or Culture Fest. Our Latino parishioners organize it and their intention is to celebrate all the cultures that comprise the wonderful diversity that we experience here at St. Leo the Great. The Culture Fest starts at 1pm and will end at 9:30pm. We will stop at 6pm for Mass and the Culture Fest will continue again, after Mass, in the parking lot.

We welcome all our parishioners, guests and visitors to celebrate Mass with us as well as enjoy the great food, fun and prayer of the Culture Fest. We are delighted that you would take time to pray with us and to celebrate our diversity. All of us at St. Leo are very grateful that God has brought us together and is teaching us how to be Church. We consider our diversity to be a tremendous blessing and we are so grateful for your interest in us, support and encouragement and for all the ways that you share the Lord's mission and ministry with us. The Latino Fest is another way to bring us all together to praise God for the great work that God is doing with all of us and to do it through prayer, praise, song, fun and food – lots of great food.

Our Guatemalan parishioners who sponsor this Latino Fest each year really want to show their appreciation to St. Leo's for the opportunity that they have been given to be members of St. Leo Parish. They do not want to be their own parish within our parish, but we want to be one parish together. You will see signs of this in our prayer and worship and in the varieties of food at the Festival that represents the different nationalities that comprise the parish community. Like in years past, musical groups from St. Leo and other faith-based communities in the area will provide praise and worship music throughout the day. Please come and join us and bring everyone with you! May all that we do be for the praise and glory of God!

Fourth of July: This is the Fourth of July weekend. As we celebrate our country's independence, let us be mindful of all those who have fought for our rights and given their lives in service to their country and who are still fighting and sacrificing their own lives for our independence and freedom. Let us pray for peace in our hearts, homes and throughout the world. Isn't peace one of the greatest freedoms for the body, mind and spirit?

Let us pray for nations, lands and peoples who are not as free as we are free, especially places where governments are corrupt, oppressive, immoral and unjust. Let us pray for refugees and immigrants that they can celebrate with us the freedoms that brought them to our country. Let us pray that we will be good stewards of our country's freedoms and never take them for granted. Let us pray for politicians and government leaders who are responsible for legislation that promotes equal rights for all people. We join with our Bishops and Catholics and Christians throughout our land in praying for continued religious freedom and for laws that would not punish or penalize anyone from following religious beliefs.

Let us pray for a deeper trust in God, who is the author of all life and who has set us free from the bondage of sin and death. Let us pray that we can live truly in the freedom that all children of God have been given. Let us pray to always know the truth of God's love because this Truth will set us free now and forever.

Many thanks to our St. Leo Food Pantry Monthly Overhead Sponsor for *July In Loving Memory of Joan Belak*



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, July 11: immediately following 7:00pm mass until 9:00pm.

Youth Program

Wednesday, **July 10**, 10:00am-2:00pm

Friday, **July 12**, Winton Woods Kids Outdoor Expo 10:00am-2:00pm

Sunday, **July 14**, 1st Communion Meeting after Mass

Monday, **July 15**, Summer Day-pottery painting 10:00am-2:00pm

Friday, **July 19**, 1st Communion Class, 10:00am-Noon

Sunday, **July 21**, 1st Communion Meeting after Mass

Monday, **July 22**, Vacation Bible School planning and set-up

Wednesday, **July 24**, Vacation Bible School, 10-1:30pm

Thursday, **July 25**, Vacation Bible School, 10-1:30pm

Friday, **July 26**, Vacation Bible School, 10-1:30pm

Day of Hope, Saturday August 17th Noon – 4:00pm at Wayne Playfield on Beekman. **FREE** food, clothing and hygiene kits. 20+ social service agencies will be on hand to provide information.

33rd Annual Bible Institute, Friday July 26 – Friday, August 2 at Xavier University Campus. It is a one of a kind conference that offers to make you a powerful disciple of Christ. There are daytime seminars, daily mass, plus evening healing services and weekend general sessions. Our very popular Youth Program will be held on Friday, August 2. Cost is a free will donation. Web registration is available at www.presentationministries.com and click on the tab 'Bible Institute' or call at 513-922-0923. Deadline for meals and lodging is July 3, 2018.