

May 31, 2020

From Fr. Jim . . .

Welcome to Everyone at home, watching live stream and to those who can be present in church with us as we continue to battle the pandemic. Whether from your home or in church, it is right and just that we gather to celebrate the Eucharist on this the last day of the Easter Season and the birthday of the Church of God. Our church community resembles the first Pentecost. I feel about this Feast like I do the Feast of the Epiphany. If we did not bear the name St. Leo the Great, these two Feasts are so appropriate for being our parish feast days.

How evident are we of belonging to the Lord, of being filled with the Holy Spirit, of being sent to proclaim the Good news to all the nations, and of having different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit? Are there different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone? Are there different forms of service but the same Lord? Are we not the one body of Christ and doesn't this one body have many beautiful parts? Do we not speak in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God? Whether African, African – American, Guatemalan, Hispanic, Latino, European, European-American or American, in one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body. Whether black, white or brown, male or female, we were all given to drink of the one Spirit. Praise be to God and thanks be to God now and always!

It is incredible that I can write to you, today, just like St. Paul wrote to the Corinthian community and use his very words. How close is our celebration to the first celebration of Pentecost? But no matter how we celebrate, the message remains the same for all of us and for the entire universal church. We are blessed to be a microcosm of the universal church whenever we gather. May we discover this blessing and appreciate it more and more each time we come together in prayer and in service especially as our mission statement directs us with the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Thanks for being and living as the church of God and professing your faith so well and so generously. Let the church all say: "Amen!"

Happy Pentecost, everyone and may you be on fire with the love of God for all of God's people and God's church!

Last Year on the Feast of Pentecost we blessed our church's refurbished stained-glass windows and gave thanks to God for our benefactors who made such a big and necessary capital improvement to our church possible. We always rely on the virtues and generosity of our benefactors and parishioners to share their time, talent, and treasure with us to be church and to minister to God's people. This year is no different. Especially because of the pandemic and our inability to gather and be church together, our needs have grown as well as our dependence on the generosity of others. We thank all of you for thinking of us, praying for us and being so generous to us. You are always in our thoughts and prayers. Thanks for being God's Church together. Thanks for drinking of the one Spirit. We are all grateful that we have been baptized into one body.

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect.

The Bishops strongly urge those who are most vulnerable and their caregivers, and those who are not feeling well, or who fear that their own health or that of their family may be compromised, to STAY HOME

If you are unable to follow the guidelines for any reason, STAY HOME.

Sunday Mass will continue to be live streamed on *Facebook* at: *RCC St. Leo Church Cincinnati* or on *YouTube* at *RCCH TV*.

For guidelines, more info about how things will be different and the Mass schedule go to: www.saint-leo.org

Many thanks to our St. Leo Food Pantry Monthly Overhead Sponsor for June: Sunrise Treatment Center

St. Leo Church, a multi-cultural urban parish in North Fairmount, **is hiring a part-time, 3-day a week, 9am-3pm, Receptionist/Office Worker.** Telephone communication skills required. Knowledge of computer & light bookkeeping, accuracy, and good organization necessary. Interviews will be conducted virtually. Email resume to: stleocinti@aol.com.

The Catholic faithful who reside in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and all other Catholics in the archdiocese continue to be dispensed from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass. Those who are at risk or fearful that they or their family might become

sick are encouraged to stay home and join the Church by viewing live-streamed Masses.

All events, classes, and meetings at St. Leo's are canceled until further notice.



You are invited to join our entire parish community to pray together virtually every day at Noon and 6:00pm.

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 are invited to visit St. Leo Church to pray in the sanctuary, or to use the computers in Centennial Hall by appointment only. Fr. Jim is happy to administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment only. Please call the office, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 10:00am and 1:30pm to make your appointment.

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

You can **make your Sunday Offering** at:

www.saint-leo.org/DonateNow

or, you can drop off your Sunday Offering in the slot in the back door of the rectory, or you can mail your Sunday offering to: St. Leo the Great Church 2573 St. Leo Place, Cincinnati, OH 45225.

For more information: visit our website at: www.saint-leo.org

It is NOT too late to support the 2020 Hunger Walk DONATE TO OUR TEAM at: cincinnati.hungerwalk.org. Be sure to look for St. Leo Church Pantry or, make your check payable to: Freestore Foodbank Hunger Walk
Be sure to designate St. Leo Church Pantry as your recipient. Mail to: Freestore Foodbank Hunger Walk, 1141 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Your support is VERY important! ALL money designated for St. Leo Food Pantry goes to our account. This is our "money in the bank." Due to your generosity last year, we currently have a balance in our account. Our goal this year is to have enough money at the FreeStore FoodBank to last us until the 2021 Hunger Walk! With your help we can do it!