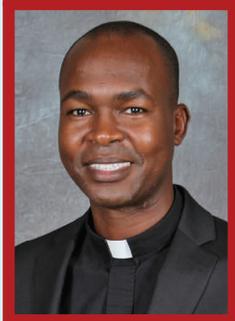




St. Leo the Great Parish

May Newsletter 2018



I don't know what your experience of hunger might be. I don't know if you have ever experienced life without the basic necessities of food, water and shelter. Coming from Turkana County in northern Kenya, I have experienced frequent drought and the hunger that comes from that drought. There is poverty and starvation in my home area, like I hope no one here has ever had to experience. My family has always been poor and we had no means of support. So, I lived on streets as a boy until I found the generosity of good neighbors or well-wishers like you. Or should I say, they found me! Many people, including family members starved to death. But I was fortunate to have people that cared and fed me. These conditions in Kenya continue today, when rains don't fall and thanks to the effects of deforestation and climate change.

I know that many of you have been kind and generous in supporting poor or starving families locally and in other countries. Without your generous donation and support, many of our vulnerable and poor brothers and sisters would face starvation and hold within them, a fear that they, or their children might be next to die. Starvation and hunger is continuing at this moment in many places of the world, and even in some of our own American neighborhoods.

St. Leo's Food Pantry serves, on average, 900 individuals each month, including 230 households, 250 children and 100 seniors. We make every effort to provide at least two weeks worth of groceries and cleanliness and hygiene items for each family, no matter the size.,

And so I ask you to join us on... for our Hunger Walk.
—Ben Lotianga

JOIN OUR TEAM: <http://freestorefoodbank.org/hungerwalk-saintleo-join>

DONATE TO OUR TEAM: <http://freestorefoodbank.org/hungerwalk-saintleo-donate>

Please consider a \$20 sponsorship to allow one of our Youth Group members to participate in the Hunger Walk. If you are willing to sponsor a student, please send a \$20 check made out to St. Leo the Great Church with the note: Youth Group Hunger Walk Sponsorship.

Mail to: St. Leo the Great Church, 2573 St. Leo Place, Cincinnati, OH 45225

Pastor's Ponderings . . .

"Mercy, Mercy, Mercy!" "Have Mercy!" Often one hears these words from the veteran radio voice of the Cincinnati Reds and Hall of Famer, Marty Brennaman. Mr. Brennaman will beg for mercy on behalf of the Cincinnati Reds professional baseball team from the opposing team when the game is all but lost for the Reds and there is no chance that the Reds would be able to win the game. When the opposing team is so much better than the Reds or when the Reds are playing so badly, the kind and loving thing to do for everyone, including the fans in the stands, is to ask the other team to have mercy. Go easy. Let the substitutes play. Take out the starting players. Get the game over quickly so everyone can go home and the pain of losing and watching the home team who is beaten so badly can end.

Once, I stood before a judge in a court of law, on behalf of someone who had been found guilty by a jury of her peers. It was at her sentencing hearing that I begged the judge and the court to show mercy. Based on the fact that the accused had no prior record and that she was a very good person and an asset to society and a blessing to the many people she served in her profession; based on the fact that she had already served a couple of years in jail waiting on her trial and knowing and believing that she had shown remorse for what she had done and that she had suffered much pain being separated from her children for so long, I asked the judge to show mercy and to be lenient in sentencing her.

What is mercy? It can be difficult to define and describe. But I believe when we ask for this incredible virtue for ourselves or for someone else or when we are asked to show it or offer it to another, mercy has everything to do with not inflicting unnecessary pain upon another or allowing the existing pain to cease and the healing and redemptive qualities for suffering to begin. It is a choice to love and not to condemn. With mercy, one receives the gift of salvation and redemption and one is restored to life. With mercy, love and life get the final say over us and not death. Mercy includes forgiveness and allows one to distinguish the sin from the sinner. Mercy doesn't abolish the Law. It fulfills it. The Good Samaritan who cares for the man who was beaten by robbers, the Prodigal Son and the Prodigal Father, the woman caught in adultery, Jesus forgiving the good thief and offering him eternal life are wonderful stories of mercy.

Psalms 118 uses love and mercy synonymously. The refrain is: *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*

The first verse is: *Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever." Let those who fear the Lord say, "His mercy endures forever."* And again the refrain: *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.*



In this Easter time, the eternal life and love that the Lord offers to everyone through his Resurrection is clearly expressed with an everlasting mercy that covers all of creation. It redeems and saves. Jesus redeems and saves us with a merciful love. Behind, around and deep within every Alleluia that we sing is God's merciful love. Singing and saying Alleluia, the church praises and thanks God for God's redeeming, saving, eternal, merciful love.

Let the House of St. Leo and the Church of God say, *"His mercy endures forever."* Giving food to the hungry and drink to the thirsty, *Let those who fear the Lord say, "His mercy endures forever."* Visiting the sick and those who are in prison, *Let those who fear the Lord say, "His mercy endures forever."* Welcoming the immigrant and the refugee, bringing light and love to those who are in darkness, healing the broken-hearted, lifting up the lowly, forgiving endlessly, praying ceaselessly, serving others selflessly, let the entire House of God say, *"His mercy endures forever."*

The Easter Season ends this month with the great Feast of Pentecost. We are reminded that the Lord appeared to the frightened apostles after his resurrection and offered them "peace". He breathed on them and gave them the Holy Spirit and the power to forgive sins and to help others live freely over sin and death with God's merciful love. They witness to the Lord's resurrection and new life and they live as the Body of Christ for others. As Christians, who are baptized, confirmed and who receive Eucharist regularly, we can do the same. Let the House of God say: *"His mercy will continue forever!"* "This is always the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!" Amen. Alleluia!!

—Fr. Jim

St. Leo's Prayer Wall is a place where all, regardless of age, race or creed, are invited to sing God's praises, give Him thanks, and/or call upon His presence for help in times of need. The wall, a place of prayer for all peoples (much like the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem), captures the faces of the community, as well as peacemakers and saints who have inspired us through the ages.



The Wall is a place for staff and volunteers, youth groups, community meetings, and for individuals who pass through our parking lot on the way to work, school, etc., to pray, reflect and pause. We invite you to share in this special way of prayer, joy, and thanksgiving. Praise God!

God cares about every need in your life and knows what you need even before you ask Him for help. Our St. Leo the Great parish community promises to remember you in our private prayer, as well as in our communal prayer, which is to say that we are praying for you all the time.

All prayer requests are held in strictest confidence. **Send your prayer request to:** Saint Leo the Great Church, 2573 Saint Leo Place, Cincinnati, OH 45225. You can also submit your prayer request online at: <http://saint-leo/WorksofMercy/PrayerWallMinistry.aspx>.

Listen to the Children . . .



The last time I was visiting in Baltimore my 12-year-old grandson told me a story he wanted me to share with “everybody in your church and get it translated if needed.” He talked about an incident on his school bus in which an eighth grader refused to share her seat and was loudly confronting the bus driver. Just when it seemed things were going to escalate further, another eight-grade girl came up, talked with the disruptive student gently and sat down next to her. Incident over-- the bus continued on its way.” Grandma, she was a peacemaker,” Sam said.

“Everybody needs to hear that story.”

At this time of year when we often mark transitions in young people’s lives—First Communion, graduations, and taking steps into adulthood—it seems a good time to listen to what they have to say, Pope Francis also seems to think this is a good idea.

One day after the March for Our Lives drew more than a million people to rallies around the world, Pope Francis used a Palm Sunday sermon in Vatican City to mark World Youth Day and encourage young people to lead.

The pope urged youths to make sure their voices are heard. “Dear young people, the joy that Jesus awakens in you is a source of anger and even irritation to some, since a joyful young person is hard to manipulate,” Francis said. “The temptation to silence young people has always existed.”

Francis warned that an effort would be made to make “invisible” or “anesthetize” young people who demand change. “There are many ways to sedate them, to keep them from getting involved, to make their dreams flat and dreary, petty and plaintive,” the pope said. “Dear young people, you have it in you to shout.”

“It is up to you not to keep quiet,” the pope said in his sermon. “Even if others keep quiet, if we older people and leaders — so often corrupt — keep quiet, if the whole world keeps quiet and loses its joy, I ask you: Will you cry out?”

The pope’s message reminded me of the same grandson as a toddler. His parents were on a retreat and expected their very active 18-month old to struggle with the extended quiet. Instead, he sat next to his dad on a bench for nearly 20 minutes—an eternity for him—listening to the sounds around him. “Birdies,” he whispered, “Trees, bells.” Then after several minutes of silence, he stood up and shouted, “Yeah, God!!”

The older we grow we seem to find fewer occasions to observe God’s handiwork in nature or experience God’s presence among us and shout, “Yeah God!” We miss out on so much and often forget that God walks with us in every moment of our lives. That’s sad, but sadder still is how frequently we ignore God’s nudge to speak up against injustice and follow that with action. The students’ “Our Lives Matter” movement is breaking through the inaction of adults and inviting us to stand up with them.

I remember the excitement of standing with others for the cause of justice. As a college student I was involved in the civil rights movement of the 1960’s. It was energizing to be with other young people and commit ourselves to working for justice. It wasn’t easy, it wasn’t comfortable, and to be honest, it was often frightening. But it was important. People listened and we made a difference.

The actions of young people have often pricked the consciences of their elders and changed the directions of nations. Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani girl who spoke out for the education of women and was almost murdered by the Taliban, was the youngest person to ever receive a Nobel Prize. She was 17 at the time. Her advocacy for the education of women continues today. Linda Brown whose attempt to enroll in an all-white school led to the landmark Brown vs. the Board of Education ruling helped open the door to school integration. Imagine the courage it took for a 7-year-old to walk into unfamiliar school doors and be met by people who didn’t want her there. She persevered and many lives were changed as a result.

But there is still so much work to be done to decrease racism, fight poverty and hunger, to end violence and overcome divisions that keep us from seeing the spark of God’s love and goodness in every person.. As any loving parent, I’m sure God wants all of us to love, respect, and play well together. Maybe our children can teach us how to do this.

—Angela Anno



Join us on Monday, May 28th for the 15th annual Hunger Walk and 5K Run!

Your support of the Hunger Walk on behalf of the St. Leo Food Pantry is VERY important to our continued operation. Although all checks are made payable to Freestore Foodbank, ALL money (even shirt money) designated for St. Leo Food Pantry goes to our account. This is our “money in the bank.” When we make purchases at FSFB it is deducted from our account.

Our goal this year is to have enough money at the FreeStore FoodBank to last us until the 2019 Hunger Walk! With your help we can do it!

JOIN OUR TEAM: <http://freestorefoodbank.org/hungerwalk-saintleo-join>

DONATE TO OUR TEAM: <http://freestorefoodbank.org/hungerwalk-saintleo-donate>

SPONSOR A STUDENT

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Mail to: St. Leo the Great Church, 2573 St. Leo Place, Cincinnati, OH 45225

HUNGER WALK AND 5K RUN

2018 REGISTRATION

Only one entry per form please. (FORM MAY BE COPIED)

All mail entries must be received by Thursday, May 24, 2018.

Make checks payable to: Freestore Foodbank Hunger Walk

Mail to: Hunger Walk 1141 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202



REGISTRATION FEES

\$20 = Entry Fee	\$
\$25 = Entry Fee with T-Shirt	\$
Additional Contribution	\$
Total	\$

We only guarantee t-shirts to the first 1,000 registered participants.

All t-shirts are adult sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL. Preferred T-Shirt Size _____

PARTICIPANT INFO

first name _____ last name _____

street address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

cell phone (your time will be sent via text following the race) _____ email _____

date of birth _____ gender _____ emergency contact phone _____

I would like my registration and donation to benefit this agency:

St. Leo Food Pantry, Acct. # 297

Yes, Freestore Foodbank can share my contact information with the agency I am supporting today.

To identify an agency you'd like to help, please refer to the list at:

cincinnatihungerwalk.org

WAIVER

In consideration of the acceptance of my registration fees and for being permitted to participate in this event, I hereby release, waive and discharge, on my own behalf and on behalf of my heirs, executors and assigns, Freestore Foodbank, its employees, volunteers, officials, sponsors or affiliated individuals, from any and all claims of any nature, including personal injury, arising from my participation in this event. I also hereby agree to abide by all rules for participation. I further consent to emergency treatment in the event of an injury or illness. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to consult my physician prior to beginning an exercise program or otherwise engaging in strenuous physical exercise, I also understand the risks for such run/walk and I am physically able and have trained adequately in preparation.

I hereby give permission for images of myself, captured during the event through video, photo, and digital camera, to be used solely for the purposes of Freestore Foodbank promotional material and publications, and waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto.

signature _____ date _____

parent or guardian signature (if under age 18) _____

For the safety of all participants, inline skates and pets are not permitted on any part of the route during this event. Thank you for your cooperation.

TOGETHER WE CAN SOLVE HUNGER

ONE COMMUNITY ONE GOAL END HUNGER

HUNGER WALK & 5K RUN

KraftHeinz

MEMORIAL DAY MAY 28, 2018

THE BANKS CINCINNATI, OH

cincinnatihungerwalk.org



CLANCY'S CLICHÉ'S



Even I, when walking on concrete, get hot paws. Well, think of a cat jumping on a hot tin roof. Boing-g-g-g-g! Is that how we live our lives? Popping from one thing to another? Planning for the future, worried about getting something done without noticing the people in the moment?

Cat On A Hot Tin Roof by Tennessee Williams makes some interesting points. We can go through life doing so much, providing material things, working and working to make it a "better life" by fixing and doing things for family or friends, yet not really live life with them, or not being present to just love them. On the other side of the coin, do we wait around to see what others will do for us? Expecting people to act a certain way, acknowledge your "generosity" and "what you did for them"?

Well, this old dog thinks it's really not fair to try to fix anybody and make them into a clone of us. Just BE with everybody and don't make an issue out of "stuff." Accumulate the memories, the moments shared, the tears and laughter, the good and bad of living.

We all hunger for trust, hope, love and joy - and sometimes an extra treat here and there. Sometimes we're unaware it's needed - did you know we really need water before we feel thirsty and we need nourishment before we feel hungry? Just like nourishment for our bodies, nurturing and nourishing our deep-rooted emotional and spiritual hunger is needed before everything culminates into an explosion of confusion, doubt, mistrust, disappointment, and sadness.

Let's all get back to the basics. Look into the eyes of family, friends, strangers, and see the soul that hungers for your presence with them. And watch out for life's hot tin roofs.

Spring Sprung awhile ago now, but it's never too late to get started on the proverbial Spring Cleaning...a la Poochie Pointers, of course:

- Focus on behavior, not the person
- Focus on action, not the intent
- Focus on problem, not the cause
- Focus on heart matters, not material matter
- Focus on the dog bowl being half-full, not half-empty



Howlin's hootn'; Growlin's not gooten! - Clancy



St. Leo Parish and Community Contact Information



Pastor: Rev. James R. Schutte

Address: 2573 Saint Leo Place,
Cincinnati, OH 45225

Phone: 513-921-1044

Parish Nurse: 513-862-4398 **Fax:** 513-921-8048

E-Mail: stleocinti@aol.com **Website:** www.saint-leo.org

Facebook: St. Leo The Great Catholic Church

St. Leo's YouTube Channel: StLeoTheGreatParish

Worship Schedule: Saturday 6:00pm Mass in Spanish;
Sunday Mass: 10:30am; Weekday Mass: Thursday 7:00pm
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: First Thursday following 7:00pm Mass.

FOOD PANTRY: At the corner of Carll & Baltimore
Serving Hours: Mon., Wed., & Fri., 1:00pm to 3:30pm
Pantry Requirements: Serving North Fairmount, English Woods, Roll Hill Apts., and Millvale once every 30 days. See website: www.saint-leo.org or call (513-921-1044) to see if your street is covered. To meet St. Leo's Acts of Mercy pantry donor guidelines, current proof of residence (Duke or telephone bill), photo ID & Social Security Cards for all members of household must be presented at each visit.

Volunteers are needed to help us show kindness to persons in need at the St. Leo Food Pantry: Coordinator for Fridays, noon-4/4:30, point person for other volunteers. Assistant Administrator about 9-12 hours/week, to do ordering, organizing inventory, and communicating with coordinators/volunteers. To participate in any of our volunteer opportunities, please call at 513-921-1044!

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES

We welcome all wishing to learn English. **FREE!**

Thursdays, 9:30 – 12:30 am and Saturday 10:00-Noon.

COMMUNITY PHONE NUMBERS

North Fairmount Community Center/

Referral Services: Linda Klem: 513-921-5842

Housing: 513-921-5889, Healthy Moms & Babies: 513-591-5600

Hopple Street Neighborhood Clinic: 513-541-4500

Literary Network: 513-621-7323

 **HELPING HANDS STORE** 2568 Beekman St, 45225, at the corner of Beekman and Dempsey, and

ANGELS' ARMS STORE, 1882 Baltimore Ave. Both accepting donations of clothing, kitchen, bath and bedding. Open 9:00-4:00pm. Monday-Friday. Call Linda Klems at 623-9897.

Visit Us!

St. Leo's website: www.Saint-Leo.org

Facebook: St. Leo the Great Catholic Church

St. Leo's YouTube Channel: StLeoTheGreatParish

Enjoy the online edition with color photos!

Save the www.saint-leo.org site in your "favorites" list to visit often. Feel free to send corrections, updates, news and/or info to be included on the website to Casey Betz, Development Director, at cbetzstleo@aol.com. If you'd like to receive St. Leo's Newsletter, call 921-1044 and we'll add you (or anyone else you know) to the mailing list.



Clancy's Cackles

What do you call a dog magician?
Labracadabrador!

Why do ducks make great detectives?

They always quack

Why isn't my brother Jake a good dancer?
He has two left feet!

How you make an octopus laugh?

With ten-tickles!



How You Can Help . . .

Treasure Chest



- Treasure Chest tickets are sold on a monthly basis at \$5.00 each.
- Winner based on Pick 3 played straight every day.

- Each \$100.00 prize will be sent in the mail.
- **Get In On the Fun!** To purchase Treasure Chest tickets, send \$5.00 per ticket by the first of the month to: St. Leo Treasure Chest, 2573 Saint Leo Pl., Cinti., OH 45225
- **Volunteers Needed to help sell tickets!**

March Winners: Pat Heller, Debbie Swain, The French Family, Cheryl Roy, Sue Palermo, Dolores Ritchie, James & Mary Menetrey



WISH LIST

- **Stove** for the rectory (\$380-\$425)
- **Wireless Doorbell** w/Flashing Light (\$30-\$50)
- **Toddler size Baptism Bibs** (about 20)
- **Small Chest Freezer** for Youth Group
- **Folding utility carts for Food Pantry clients** (again - the bigger the better)
- **Folding utility Step Stool for Food Pantry**-nothing too big or heavy, to replace our little flimsy wooden one (\$30-\$60)
- **3 Correll Seminar 96" Rectangular Training Tables**, Item: 1560623 Model: SP1896PX-15 \$272.69 Ea. Only Available Online at Staples: https://m.staples.com/-/product_1560623

Gift Cards for the continuing work and maintenance of the parish, and our Youth Group functions: **Lowe's, Home Depot, Staples, Hobby Lobby, Kroger, etc. Priceless!**

Easy Online Giving

Make a one-time donation, or set up a weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual gift to be deducted from your banking account, or to charge your gift to your credit card:

Go to <http://saint-leo.org/DonateNow.aspx>

And click on the Donate Now Button.



SHOP AMAZON SMILE SUPPORT ST. LEO:

[http://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-0538556)

0538556

SHOP KROGER'S AND SUPPORT ST. LEO:

<https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> Enter St. Leo's NPO #28680 or search for St. Leo the Great Church.

iGive: Shop the sites you love and support St. Leo! Sounds easy? It is! Sign up at <http://www.igive.com/>



Pantry Press

In March the Food Pantry served 608 individuals, in 226 households, including 244 children and 84 seniors.

Needs for May:

- Deodorant, shaving cream, ANY household or personal cleaning items
- Canned: tuna, salmon, chicken, mixed veggies, spinach, pineapple
- Small ketchup, small mustard, vinegar, cooking oil
- Diapers size 1, 2 & 5
- Walkers & supporters for our 2018 Hunger Walk!!!

Join us on Monday, May 28th for the 15th annual Hunger Walk and 5K Run!

JOIN OUR TEAM: <http://freestorefoodbank.org/hungerwalk-saintleo-join>

DONATE TO OUR TEAM: <http://freestorefoodbank.org/hungerwalk-saintleo-donate>

 ★
 ★ **SPONSOR A STUDENT** ★
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 ★ send a \$20 check made out to St. Leo the Great Church with the note: ★
 ★ Youth Group Hunger Walk Sponsorship. ★
 ★ Mail to: St. Leo the Great Church, 2573 St. Leo Place, Cincinnati, ★
 ★ OH 45225 ★
 ★*****

Building the Kingdom of God

St. Leo's is growing! Please join us in living the spiritual and corporal works of Mercy in real and concrete ways by:

Making a donation by cash or check.

Your **weekly, monthly, or quarterly gift** helps maintain us throughout the year. Sustaining gifts are most welcome and are tax deductible.

Remembering a Loved One. Your gift to St. Leo's is a caring way to honor or remember a special person, or mark a special occasion.

Gifts-In-Kind including food items, clothing, toiletries, and wish list items are just a few of the useful and practical items that help us assist those in most need.

Giving a gift of **stocks, bonds or mutual funds** that have increased in value. You can deduct the entire value from your taxable income and avoid the capital gains tax.

Please consider remembering St. Leo the Great Church **in your Will.** For more information contact Casey Betz at 513-921-1044.

Volunteering! Be sure to check us out on Facebook at: St. Leo the Great Catholic Church and on our Web Page at www.saint-leo.org, and please spread the word about us to your family and friends.

Without a doubt, **your ongoing prayers** are much needed and most appreciated!

ST. LEO THE GREAT CHURCH
2573 St. Leo Place at Baltimore Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45225-1960

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		1	2 Food Pantry open	3 Mass 7pm; English as 2nd lang. class 9:30am	4 Food Pantry open AA Meeting 7:30pm	5 Mass in Spanish 6pm; English as 2 nd lang. class 10-noon
6 Mass: 10:30am Youth Group 12- 1:30pm	7 Food Pantry open	8	9 Food Pantry open	10 Mass 7pm; English as 2nd lang. class 9:30am	11 Food Pantry open; AA Meeting 7:30pm	12 Mass in Spanish 6pm; English as 2 nd lang. class 10-noon
13 Mother's Day Mass: 10:30am	14 Food Pantry open	15	16 Food Pantry open	17 Mass 7pm; English as 2nd lang. class 9:30am	18 Food Pantry open; AA Meeting 7:30pm	19 Mass in Spanish 6pm; English as 2 nd lang. class 10-noon;
20 Pentecost Mass: 10:30am	21 Food Pantry open	22	23 Food Pantry open	24 Mass 7pm; English as 2nd lang. class 9:30am	25 Food Pantry open; AA Meeting 7:30pm	26 Mass in Spanish 6pm;; English as 2 nd lang. class 10-noon;
27 Mass: 10:30am	28 Memorial Day Hunger Walk Office Closed Food Pantry	29	30 Food Pantry open	31 Mass 7pm; English as 2nd lang. class 9:30am		