

St. Leo the Great Parish

January 2017 Newsletter

Continuing the Ministry of Mercy . . .

Although the official year of mercy may be over, the call to continue to live mercifully remains. St. Leo's is committed to doing this through its ministries that strive to live out the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

The need for mercy is always with us. Pope Francis gave us this challenge in his homily at the Mass ending the year of mercy, "Let us ask for the grace of never closing the doors of reconciliation and pardon, but rather of knowing how to go beyond evil and differences, opening every possible pathway of hope." He said,

"The Church without frontiers, mother to all, spreads throughout the world a culture of acceptance and solidarity in which none is seen as useless, out of place, or disposable." This is the charge the Pope gives to us. Thus we commit ourselves to:

- feed the hungry
- shelter the homeless and welcome the stranger
- clothe the naked
- visit the sick and imprisoned
- bury the dead
- gives alms to the poor
- instruct
- advise
- console
- forgive
- bear wrongs patiently

Living out the Gospel is not easy. We often fail, but we keep on trying. In this spirit in 2017 the newsletter will be exploring some of the ways that St. Leo's and its partners work together to "love one another" as Jesus directed us. Since National Migration Week is January 8 to 14, focus this month will be on St. Leo's ministry with immigrants and refugees.

*"Let us build a house
where love can dwell,
and all can safely live.*

*A place where
Saints and children*

Tell how hearts

Learn to forgive.

*Built of hopes and
dreams and visions,*

*Rock of faith and
vault of grace;*

Here the love of Christ

shall end divisions;

All are welcome,

all are welcome

in this place."

Marty Haugen



**Join us for our
Annual
Feast of Epiphany
"Prayer Service and
International
Pot-Luck Dinner"
January 8, 2017**

**Evening prayer begins at 4:00 pm
in the church, immediately
followed by a bounty of
international dishes in the
undercroft of the church. Be sure
to bring your favorite ethnic dish**