

August 22, 2021
From Fr. Jim . . .

Vocations: Praying for vocations is an important and essential element of Beacons of Light, the Archdiocesan official planning process for the future. Some time ago, our Archbishop asked all the parishes in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati to pray for vocations and he wrote a prayer that he would like all of us to say regularly and often. The following is his prayer and I invite you to pray it as you are able and pray for an increase in priestly, religious, and church vocations often and always. In my opinion, the shortage is not just with priests and religious but with all church vocations – just ask any business manager, youth minister or music director.

Almighty Father, you have created us for some definite purpose. Grant us the grace to know the path you have planned for us in this life and to respond with a generous, “Yes.” Make our archdiocese, parishes, homes, and hearts fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations. May our young people respond to your call with courage and zeal. Stir within Your Church a strong desire and the strength for good and holy priests. Bless us with consecrated religious and those called to a chaste single life, permanent deacons, faithful husbands and wives, who are a sign of Christ’s love for His Church. We commend our prayer for vocations to You, Father, through the intercession of Mary our mother, in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

More Vocation prayers:

-O God, Father of all Mercies,
Provider of a bountiful Harvest, send Your Graces upon those
You have called to gather the fruits of Your labor;
preserve and strengthen them in their lifelong service of you.
Open the hearts of Your children
that they may discern Your Holy Will;
inspire in them a love and desire to surrender themselves
to serving others in the name of Your son, Jesus Christ.
Teach all Your faithful to follow their respective paths in life
guided by Your Divine Word and Truth.
Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary,
all the Angels, and Saints, humbly hear our prayers
and grant Your Church’s needs, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

-Gracious God,
You have called me to life and gifted me in many ways. Through
Baptism You have sent me to continue the mission of Jesus by
sharing my love with others. Strengthen me to respond to your
call each day.
Help me to become all You desire of me.
Inspire me to make a difference in others’ lives.
Lead me to choose the way of life You have planned for me. Open
the hearts of all to listen to Your call. Fill all with Your Holy Spirit
that we may have listening hearts and
the courage to respond to You. Enkindle in my heart and the
hearts of others the desire
to make the world a better place by serving as Lay Minister, Sister,
Priest, Brother, or Deacon.
Amen.

Sunday Mass: 10:30am,
limited seating available, or
join Fr. Jim as he
livestreams Sunday Mass at
10:30am at: RCC St. Leo
Church Cincinnati
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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

There are a few items that have been added to our Parish Wish List! **The Food Pantry is in need of a new garbage can and caddy. Here are the links to the specific ones:** [Rubbermaid Commercial Products Brute 32 Gal. Gray Round Vented Trash Can with Lid-2031188 - The Home Depot](#); [Rubbermaid Commercial Products Brute Trash Can Dolly-FG264020BLA - The Home Depot](#) .

We are looking for two tables that can fit 8 chairs each. There is also a request for a refrigerator new or used, has to be working. The Food Pantry is looking for rolling luggage if you have any to donate! We would love to receive gift cards to help with our everyday needs, please consider [Staples](#), [Amazon](#), [Kroger](#), or [Home Depot](#) when donating. You can see our latest needs on our [Amazon Wish List Link](#) https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref_=wl_share. **Please call the office at 513-921-1044 if you have questions or would like to donate these items.**

SAFE PARISH REMINDER- For anyone who volunteers with youth at the parish you must register with safe parish go to [AoC Safe Parish \(aocsafeenvironment.org\)](http://AoCSafeEnvironment.org); click on REGISTER, enter the passcode **protectcincy** when asked, select your location, St. Leo from there. Then fill out the questions and information.

The Food Pantry is looking for volunteers to help serve! We NEED volunteers on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from noon - 4:00 p.m. If anyone is interested please call the parish office at 513.921.1044.

BEACONS UPDATE: BE HEARD, STAY INFORMED, SIGN UP – Beacons of Light, the archdiocese-wide pastoral planning process currently underway, will impact every parish in the archdiocese, including ours. To stay on top of the latest developments on Beacons of Light, sign up for the free monthly *Beacons Update* newsletter at www.BeaconsAOC.org.

“Prayer is vital for life: just as we cannot live without breathing, so we cannot be Christians without praying.” ~~ Pope Francis