

August 29, 2021 From Fr. Jim . . .

I can remember when I was a child, growing up and attending Sunday Mass with my parents, leaving Mass a little early before Mass was over was a common occurrence. People had different reasons for leaving Mass early but one reason was to get to your car and drive out of the parking lot without incident. The lot was always crowded and then people needed to enter it and find a parking space before the next Mass started. Horns were honking and people didn't always say kind things to each other, and people didn't always treat each other as Christians. I can also remember that some Protestant faiths considered Catholics to be hypocrites because we would say and do one thing in church on Sunday and then say and do the opposite in the parking lot.

Jesus quotes the Prophet Isaiah to the Pharisees when he says: "This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts." We cannot pay "lip service" to the Law without loving God with the heart. And Saint James tells us to "welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your soul." He also says, "Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves." We are deeply connected to God's Word in such a way that to hear the Word without living it out would be to wither on a tree or to dry up and crack as desert soil.

Pope Francis urges his brother priests to go out as shepherds where there is suffering and brokenness so that they have the "odor of the sheep." The Word of Truth calls all of us to be "doers of the word and not hearers only" and to care for the most vulnerable in our midst. How is the Word of God that you just heard calling you into action when you leave Mass today? From the church to the parking lot, to where? To whom?

MASS and HEALING SERVICE- Celebrate mass followed by a healing service on **Wednesday September 1st at 7: 30 p.m. at St. Ignatius Parish** located at 5222 North Bend Road in Monfort Heights. Sponsored by Lighthouse Renewal Center, for more information visit www.LRC1.org or call 513.471-LITE.

Mentors needed for Refugee Youth!- The Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio Refugee Youth Mentoring Program is looking for mentors to work with youth ages 18-24 who ARE NOT enrolled in high school. Mentors act as a point of contact for youth as they learn to navigate life in Cincinnati. If you would like to mentor or learn more please call their offices at 513.672.3714.

SAVE THE DATE- The 41st Annual Pete Bushelman "Friends of CISE" Raffle will be held virtually on December 17, 2021. Proceeds provide tuition aid to low-income students attending ten Catholic inner-city, elementary schools in Cincinnati. For more information or to purchase tickets contact the CISE office at 513.263.3472 or TMiller@CISEKid.org.

"Patience helps us to be merciful in the way we view ourselves, our communities and our world." Pope Francis

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
https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=rcc%20st%20leo%20church%20cincinnati&epa=SEARCH_BOX



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 one table that can fit 8 chairs each. 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://AoCSafeParish(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. **The Food Pantry and Office will be CLOSED September 6th.**

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.