

**January 16, 2022**  
**From Fr. Jim. . .**

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Monday, Jan. 17, our country honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We can't forget Dr. King's labor and hard work, the laying down of his life, to eradicate prejudice and racism in our country. Indeed, we take time out from our normal routine to celebrate our country's growth in racial equality due to the conscious awareness of Martin Luther King Jr. We remember his dream. What can we do to keep his dream alive? Although we have made a lot of growth in this area, prejudice still exists because of the color of one's skin, looks, ability, gender etc. Sometimes it is really obvious as it is with the Black Lives Matter Movement and sometimes it is not as obvious. The child who is ignored or not accepted in a group just because he/she doesn't seem to fit in nor meets the standards of being "cool" or is just simply labeled as a target for rejection is but one example. Are there equal opportunities for all ethnic groups and for all the genders in our country? These are questions that we continually need to raise. The work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. didn't just happen once and for all. It is ongoing work to keep raising the awareness of everyone about this issue of justice. This was also the work of Jesus in building the kingdom of God, in breaking down barriers that keep people apart, in treating everyone as brothers and sisters. We pray for the Spirit that frees us to love everyone without conditions.

**Christian Unity:** January 18 to 25 is the Week of Prayer for Church Unity. O God, holy and eternal Trinity, we pray for your church in the world. Sanctify its life; renew its worship; empower its witness; heal its divisions; make visible its unity. Lead us, with all of our brothers and sisters, towards communion in faith, life and witness. So that united in one body, by one Spirit, we may together witness to the perfect unity of your love. Amen.

**Roe v. Wade:** January 22 is the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade, United States Supreme Court's decision to legalize abortion in this country. We keep praying that this decision will be overturned and once again our country will protect the lives of unborn human beings. We pray, too, for the millions of unborn children who have lost their lives and the women who experience the loss of their child through abortion, who lose a part of themselves, along with others involved in making that decision. We also want to continue to pray for health care reform that promotes and fosters the growth of life on all levels. Let us continue to pray for our country and our leaders in their effort to promote reform where it is most needed for the good of all.

#### **CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2021**

If you are itemizing on your tax return and need a contribution statement for your weekly envelope donations, please call the Parish Office at 921-1044.

**2022 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)** – It is time to kick off the 2022 Catholic Ministries Appeal throughout the Archdiocese! The CMA is our opportunity each year to support the work of six vital ministries all of which operate right here in our diocese. Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's CMA.

**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](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](http://www.saint-leo.org/Publications/StLeoSundayBulletin)  
You can read **Fr. Jim's letter** at:  
[www.saint-leo.org/Publications/FromtheDeskofFrJim](http://www.saint-leo.org/Publications/FromtheDeskofFrJim)



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](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.**

**The Pope Wants to Hear From You!**- The Holy Father is asking for as many of the baptized as possible to participate in the diocesan meetings to discuss ways the Church can better advance the message of salvation through the collaborative input of its members. For the Cathedral Deanery the town hall meeting will be held on Saturday January 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at Saint Francis Xavier Parish in downtown Cincinnati. You can sign up to participate using the Archdiocesan website at [www.catholicaoc.org](http://www.catholicaoc.org). If you have questions please call Mike at 513.884.4916 or Rita at 513.236.9498.

The tri-state's largest Catholic Men's Conference of 2022 is coming, featuring Matthew Kelly and Gus Lloyd! Please join us for the 2022 E6 Catholic Men's Conference, which will be taking place on Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> 2022, at the East Central High School Performing Arts Center in St. Leon, IN (35 minutes northwest of Cincinnati). We cordially invite every man to attend this 7<sup>th</sup> annual event. Please join us for inspiring talks, confession (available all day), celebration of the Holy Mass and fraternity with fellow men of Christ. We pride ourselves on presenting a quality, substance-driven, inspirational and faith-filled event that will change men's lives and help equip them to be the man Christ calls them to be. **Do not miss this!** Tickets are on sale now at [www.e6cmc.com](http://www.e6cmc.com).