

January 2, 2022
From Fr. Jim . .

This Feast celebrates another aspect of the Incarnation: Christ's coming into the whole world as light and salvation for all. In the darkness of winter, we can celebrate that our light has come to us. The love of Christ is light for the world's darkness. The familiar story of the three kings following the star to the manger and presenting gifts to the Christ-child signifies that the light of God's love shines on all people. No one is to live in darkness anymore. Where do we still need to "see" Christ in the world today? What part of our lives needs to be "illuminated" by Christ's love? What gifts/talents do we have that we can place before our king in order to celebrate and acknowledge his presence with us through whom the light of Christ's love will shine?

On the Feast of the Epiphany, the blessing of homes has been traditional custom in various ethnic groups, and a fine reminder that Christ is incarnate in the love and care we manifest to each other in our ordinary, daily lives. One custom is to trace crosses, the initials of the "kings" and the numerals of the year over the doorway with chalk, 20 +C+M+B +21. Legend names the kings, Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar. However, the initials were long ago reinterpreted by northern European Protestants who love the custom but not the legend. CMB became Christus mansionem benedicat. This is Latin for: "May Christ bless this House." This prayer of blessing for a home is taken from the Book of Blessings, the Roman Ritual, p.685:

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who live in it. Fill them with the light of Christ, that their concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Let us ask the Lord to bless the house that is our parish family! Let us ask the Lord to bless the house that is the universal church. Let us ask the Lord to bless the houses and families of all nations. Let us ask the Lord to bless the house that will become our family of parishes. Amen. Alleluia!

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.

WELCOME NEW YEAR, WELCOME GUESTS! If you are visiting with us today, we want you to know how welcome you are, whether you have come from another parish here in the Archdiocese, from across the river, or from further reaches. Thank you for praying with us. Feel free to join us as often as you can! REGISTER PLEASE! If you are attending St. Leo regularly and consider us "your parish," please register yourself and your family. Call the office at 513-921-1044 to register.

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

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.**

MARCH FOR LIFE 2022- January 19th – 22nd in Washington D.C.- SPONSORSHIP NEEDED: This trip gives you the full March for Life experience with the march itself, the opportunity to meet with Ohio representatives and opportunities for prayer, processing and learning. We are in need of sponsors for this event, the cost of each student to go on this trip is \$325. If you are interested in sponsoring please call the office at 513.921.1044.

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 29th 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. If you have questions please call Mike at 513.884.4916 or Rita at 513.236.9498.

2022 Cincinnati Men's Conference- "Actor Jim Caviezel (*Mel Gibson's The Passion of the Christ*) and Raymond Arroyo (*EWTN/ FOX News*) are coming to Cincinnati April 2, 2022 to speak at the Cincinnati Men's Conference. Go to www.CincinnatiMensConference.com to get tickets. Give the gift of spiritual uplift this Christmas season, your men will thank you!"