

Saint Leo Magnus Roman Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in Elk County since 1874

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY DECEMBER 26, 2021



Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesdays & Thursdays 9 am - 7 pm

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Rev. Justin P. Pino, *Pastor*
frjustin@comcast.net

Deacon Lawrence M. Caggese
814.772.3135

Mrs. Margie R. Gausman,
Faith Formation
mrkepple@yahoo.com

ST. LEO SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Lynne Kucenski, *Principal*
kucenskil@eccss.org

Mr. Sam MacDonald, *Pres., ECCSS*
macdonalds@eccss.org

Weekend Masses:

Saturday evening: 5:15 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

Radio Broadcast: Sundays, 9:00 a.m.
(97.5 WDDH)

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday thru Friday:

8:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. during Advent

Holy Day Masses:

Evening before: 6:00 p.m.

On the Holy Day: 8:30 a.m. &
12:05 p.m.

Confessions:

Wednesdays: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION

111 Depot St., Ridgway, PA 15853
Phone: 814-772-3135

Website: www.stleomagnus.org

Mrs. Rena Urmann, *Office Manager*
Email: secretary@stleomagnus.org

A Christmas Reflection



BY DOUGLAS CULP



When you look at a Christmas tree
Can you see past the lights and evergreen?
Do you see what St. Boniface first did see?
A triangular symbol of the Trinity, one God in three.

What about a wreath so round,
Do you see just ornaments and sleigh bells that sound?
Or can you see the One in victory crowned?
Not the Roman or Greek, but the Savior who on the cross is to
be found.

The halls will no doubt be decked with boughs of holly,
Wrested from a sacredness attributed to it by folly.
No longer do we honor the Roman god Saturn with a piece,
But can you see it is to glorify Christ, the true King of Peace?

And what's so special about the day, the 25th of December?
For earlier pagans it was also a birthday to remember:
The Iranian Mithras or perhaps the Roman "unconquered sun."
Yet can you see it was made holy only through the Incarnate One?

And then there is the giving of gifts,
Can you see the generous bishop who really was St. Nick?
Or do you just see a fictional man in red
Whose name derived from a mispronunciation instead?

For this season holds more
Than what can be bought in a store.
St. Francis discovered that which our souls seek secretly
Lying in peaceful sleep in the humble scene of the Nativity.

With its vision so simple and clear,
It is the one symbol of Christmas some seem to fear.
For it unmistakably calls the world to draw near,
To the newborn child, to whom the three kings their gifts did bear.

With hope that in our hearts, as in the manger scene,
Christ the center of our lives will be.
And we with a resounding "Yes!" might finally
Be able to answer the Father's unceasing plea,
"Can you my children see what I see?"

*Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in an area of Parish Ministry. Please reflect on the ways you are called to **SHARE YOUR GIFTS** to help our community grow. Contact the parish office for more information about all of our ministries.*



ST. LEO MAGNUS CATHOLIC CHURCH *Membership Form*

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Please drop this form into the offertory basket or mail to Parish Office

- New Registration
- Change of Address or Phone
- Moving Out of the Parish
- Need Envelopes

From the Pastor's Desk

My dear parish family:

Merry Christmas, again! Throughout Advent, we reflected on the five joyful mysteries of the rosary. Yesterday the Church throughout the world celebrated the most joyful mystery of all – the Birth of Jesus! The Christian world continues to rejoice on this Sunday with the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Yes, Christmas continues. The Christmas season, liturgically speaking, will last for two more weeks until the Feast of the Lord's Baptism on January 9th. At the Vatican, the immense Christmas tree in the center of Saint Peter's Square will stay up until February 2nd – the feast of another joyful mystery – Jesus' Presentation in the Temple. So don't pack away those decoration or nativity sets yet! Let the joy continue. The world needs it - we need it!

A few weeks ago, I was visiting my parents. It was a Sunday evening and my mother and I usually watch television together. There was absolutely nothing on! Have you ever have that experience? I turned to Turner Classic Movies and an old black and white film was just about to start – *The Bishop's Wife*. Here's a quick synopsis of the 1947 motion picture. An Episcopalian bishop, Henry Brougham (played by David Niven), has been working for months on the plans for an elaborate new cathedral which he hopes will be paid for primarily by a wealthy, stubborn widow. He is losing sight of his family, especially his adoring wife, Julia, (played by Loretta Young) and of why he became a churchman in the first place. Enter Dudley (portrayed by the ever-debonair Cary Grant), an angel sent to help him. Dudley does help everyone he meets, but not necessarily in the way they would have preferred. With the exception of Henry, everyone loves him, but Henry begins to believe that Dudley is there to replace him, both at work and in his family's affections, as Christmas approaches.

You'll have to watch the movie to see how it plays. However, at the end of the film – it's Christmas Eve. As everyone gathers in church for Henry's Christmas Eve sermon, Dudley stands outside, unrecognized. He smiles and walks off into the city. Henry delivers this sermon: *"Tonight I want to tell you the story of an empty stocking. Once upon a midnight clear, there was a child's cry, a blazing star hung over a stable, and wise men came with birthday gifts. We haven't forgotten that night down the centuries. We celebrate it with stars on Christmas trees, with the sound of bells, and with gifts. But especially with gifts. You give me a book, I give you a tie. Aunt Martha has always wanted an orange squeezer and Uncle Henry can do with a new pipe. For we forget nobody, adult or child. All the stockings are filled, all that is, except one. And we have even forgotten to hang it up. The stocking for the child born in a manger. Its his birthday we're celebrating. Don't let us ever forget that. Let us ask ourselves what He would wish for most. And then, let each put in his share, loving kindness, warm hearts, and a stretched out hand of tolerance. All the shinning gifts that make peace on earth."*



May we not forget our families this Christmas or any day. May we be emboldened to share as much as we can with our families, especially the irreplaceable gift of faith. Yes, faith is what should fill stockings, be under wrapped gifts, flowing from each one of us; parents to children and children to parents, and everyone in between – close relatives and distant family not seen often. The Holy Family is not as a romantic ideal as in the movies, but as an inspiration for our families. The Holy Family conquered their struggles through their strong faith. This is very clear in the life of the Holy Family. Mary's faith enabled her to accept God's plan. Joseph's faith made him strong to protect and provide for the family. Jesus, having emptied himself to become one of us, had faith in the Father's will and in his parents to care for him. Whatever is the situation we are in now, the example of the Holy Family gives us hope and inspiration in the struggles our families face each day. If Jesus, Mary and Joseph, though poor and simple, successfully overcame all challenges in life, our families too can be successful because we put our faith in God who is with us, and we are always ready to follow His path in our lives.

May the joy of Christmas continue in our hearts! Father Justin



Weekend of December 12, 2021

<u>Weekly Contributions</u>	<u>Weekly Budget</u>
\$7,903	\$10,160
<u>Contributions Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget Year to Date</u>
\$185,144	\$243,840

CSA--

due by January 2022
\$46,962

Received to date: \$28,537

79 Families have contributed

PARISH LOAN

St. Leo requested a loan from the Diocese of Erie to pay our school subsidy December, 2019 in the amount of \$185,000.

Balance due: \$125,000

*Have an IRA?
Would like to gift to a qualified charity, tax free?*

If you make donations, and are subject to required minimum distributions (RMD) rules for your IRA, gifting some of your RMD income using the qualified charitable distribution will count toward satisfying your RMD, and neither you or the charity will have to pay income taxes.



BLESSING OF CALENDARS ON THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

+ In every age, O God, you have been our help. To the wise men of the East, your star rose at the appointed time to lead them to your Son. To those at the Jordan, your Spirit descended upon Jesus to show us that indeed the time of your kingdom had come. And at the wedding banquet of Cana, time stood still as the guests drank fully from the bottomless cup of joy Christ provided. You created all time and set the stars in motion, and yet not one second of our life goes by without your care. Bless then our time-keepers—our calendars and clocks, watches and fit bits, computers and cell phones, notepads and notebooks. Help us not be slaves to them or to fill them so much that we miss your presence here and now. But let us use them to help us be in the right place at the right time where we can do your will and witness you at work in our world. May we remember each moment and never forget that you are with us until the end of time. This we pray in the name of Christ, yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega. To him be glory and power through every age for ever and ever. Amen.



THANK YOU TO
David Thompson & the Thompson Funeral Home,
FOR AGAIN SPONSORING CALENDARS FOR THE NEW YEAR! YOU CAN PICK UP A CALENDAR IN THE GATHERING SPACE.

**K of C
300 Club
Final
Drawing**

\$1,000	Dan Gangloff	
\$100	Noel Murphy	Joe & Darcy Martin
	Angela Love	Mary Comerford
	Debby Richards	
\$50	Diane Buhler	F.J.S.
	Nancy Peterson	Alice Piccirillo
	Rose Ann	Steve Dybowski
	Ron & Kate	Rose Wolf
	Helen Petrosky	Teresa Bjorkquist

WAYS TO REMEMBER

There are many ways to memorialize both living and deceased family and friends:

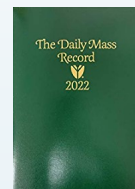
- Mass -- \$10
- Sanctuary Candle -- \$10/week
- Hosts and Wine -- \$40/month
- Beat the Heat/Cancel the Cold -- \$10/date
- Radio Mass Broadcast -- \$100/week
- Memorial Space on the bulletin ads - \$50/week

Or anything you would like to see in the parish - statues, artwork, equipment.
Please contact Rena in the office or Father Justin.

Masses, sanctuary candles and Host & Wine are now being scheduled for 2022

Call or visit the rectory to schedule. Our number is 814-772-3135.

The parish office is open Monday thru Thursday 9am - noon and 1 - 4pm.
(Closed holidays and holy days)



Synod: Key Term #4 What is Discernment?

Discernment is the process for finding out what we should be doing. It might involve doing research or making a list of pros and cons, as you would for any major decision, but it is more than that. Especially in a religious context, discernment means trying to recognize God's will. Fruitful discernment takes place in a space of prayer and study. It includes sincere conversations with appropriate people, self-reflection, and attempting to read the signs that God may be placing around us.

We often speak of someone "discerning their vocation," which is something every person should do. In a similar way, discernment also happens on a communal level, from the local all the way up to the universal Church. Councils and Synods are always attempting to discern the will of the Holy Spirit, so that what they decide and teach may be what God wishes in that particular context. For communal discernment, dialogue is always more helpful than debate. Discernment should help us to understand our own needs and desires, but the final goal is to accept the will of God.

What is the Synod on Synodality?

Pope Francis has asked the entire world to participate in a synod on the topic "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission." The central question asks of everyone is:

A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, "journeys together." How is this "journeying together" happening today in our diocese? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our "journeying together"?

You may be invited to participate in listening sessions at your local parish, or you may wish to give your input online. Participation in a synod should always involve prayer, listening, discussion, and above all, discerning the way that the Holy Spirit is guiding us. Hopefully these questions and answers can help you as you prepare your input.

Series of articles on the synod by Maria Caulfield Graduate theology student, Franciscan University of Steubenville Executive Assistant to the Offices of the Vicar General and the Chancery Diocese of Erie



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission



ADORATION

**Tuesday and Thursday
9 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Nothing can compare to the intimate presence of the Lord Jesus in the Eucharist. Come be with Him. Prayers are answered

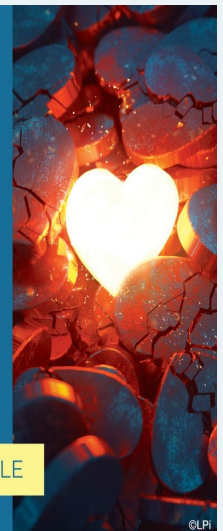
Prayer Chain

CALL OUR PRAYER CHAIN
COORDINATOR
**FELCIA NELSON AT
814-772-5460**

IF YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU
KNOW,
ARE IN NEED OF PRAYERS.

"GOD IS
LOVE.
WHOEVER
LIVES IN
LOVE LIVES
IN GOD
AND GOD
IN HIM."

ST. JOHN, APOSTLE



MONTHLY SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

On behalf of Father Justin and the entire parish we want to thank all of our sponsors who advertise in the bulletin. This month we especially recognize:

Elco Electric

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

SACRAMENT PREPARATION

Save the Date - March 12, 2022 - 7th Annual Women's Conference. www.138women.com for more information.

Cursillo Weekends - The Erie Cursillo Movement is currently planning and accepting candidate applications for a Men's Cursillo February 11-13, 2022, and a Women's Cursillo April 29 to May 1, 2022. Applications can be found at www.eriecursillo.org or by calling the Cursillo office at 814-824-1119. If interested, ask someone you know who has completed a Cursillo weekend to serve as your sponsor.

Bethany Retreat Center offers retreats in 2022 - Bethany Retreat Center in Frenchville has a variety of retreats planned for 2022. Go to www.bethanyretreatcenter.org to see what retreats are in the works. In addition, Bethany offers private retreats for groups and organizations and personal retreats for individuals wishing to get away for silence and solitude. To inquire, call 814-263-4855.

Engaged couples are invited to attend an Engagement Encounter this January 28-30, 2022. Engagement Encounter is a restful retreat designed to provide engaged couples the tools for a happy, holy, and lasting marriage. Learn more or register at <https://www.eriecatholic.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html>. We would love to welcome you this January!

Pre-Cana Class

- Call ahead for reservations
- **Jan. 29** 8 am-5:15 pm Sacred Heart, St. Marys
814-834-7861
- **Feb. 11** 5 pm - 9 pm Our Lady of Peace, Erie
- **Feb. 12** 9 am - 1 pm www.olp.org

Baptismal Training Sessions

- * Call ahead for reservations
- * **Jan. 4** 6:30 pm Queen of the World, St. Marys,
814-834-4701
- * **Jan. 19** 7:00 pm Holy Rosary, Johnsonburg
814-965-2819
- * **Feb. 1** 7:00 pm St. Joseph, Force 814-787-4151
- * **Feb. 17** 6:30 pm St. Mark, Emporium
814-486-0569

Observances for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: The Holy Family

Monday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Tuesday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Wednesday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

Thursday:

Friday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve

Saturday: New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors

Ministry Schedule Week of Jan. 2, 2022

Money Counters Team 1

Ridgemont Minister Jan Wonderly

Altar Guild (12/31) Group 5
Pew 5

Mass Ministry Schedule Weekend of January 2, 2022

	New Year Day, 12 noon	5:15 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Altar Servers	A Corl, Mary MacDonald	J & I Nicklas	N & P Washburn	Jack & Thad Gardner
Eucharistic Minister	J or C Fink	N or H Nicklas	D Richards	L Caggese
Lector				



Sunday, December 26 - *The Feast of the Holy Family*

9:00 am **Maria & Francisco Vilella** (Rosa Aiello Family)

Saturday, January 1, 2022 - *Mary Mother of God*

12:00 pm **People of St. Leo Parish**

Saturday, January 1 - *Vigil - Epiphany of the Lord*

5:15 pm **Joseph, Angeline & Eugene Fachine** (Family)

Father Justin and Deacon Larry will be away visiting family December 26 - 31. There will be no Daily Masses or Communion Services.

Please take advantage of Daily Masses offered at other area parishes.

Sunday, January 2 - *Epiphany of the Lord*

8:00 am **Deceased members of the Judice-Boggia Families** (Art & Mary Therese Cianca)

10:00 am **Giuseppe Vilella, 41st anniv.** (Rosa Aiello Family)

The Sanctuary Candle for the week of December 26th will burn in memory of Clara Jane Mago from George & Karen Kutcher.

Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

The Wine and hosts for the month of December have been donated in memory of Albert Paladino from Helen Paladino

The Parish offers our prayers and sympathy to the family of Jim Zawatski, brother of Mary Lou Leslie. May he and all the faithful departed, rest in eternal peace.

CANCEL THE COLD

†WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYER†

December 24

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Viglione
Mr. & Mrs. Arturo Morelli
Bonnie Morelli
Mike Viglione
Mary Popson
John Addeo
Frank Clark

December 25

Deceased members of Verbeck Family
Deceased members of Peterson Family
Edith & Joseph Fusco
Mary Helen Jacobs
Joseph & Janice Casolo

December 26

Arthur & Susan Cianca
Jeanne Gier
Karen Whitlow
Joe Wilhelm
Evelyn Airgood
Joe Macdonald
Anna Mae Haberberger
Tom Fitch

Deceased members of the Cianca & Caggese families
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Viglione
Mr. & Mrs. Arturo Morelli
Bonnie Morelli
Mike Viglione
Mary Popson

January 1

Michael DeStefano
Edith & Joseph Fusco
Don Peterson
Mary Helen Jacobs
Joseph & Janice Casolo

Parish office will be closed December 23-27 to observe the Feast of Christmas.