

Saint Leo the Great Catholic Church

Very Reverend Justin L. Ward, S.T.L, Administrator

February 28, 2021 **The Second Sunday of Lent Year B**

<p>Mass Intentions</p> <p>St. Leo Church Sunday February 28 8AM †Christy Marsh 10AM <i>Pro Populo</i></p> <p>St. Francis Church 1PM † Sara Parris</p> <p>Please call the Church Office to submit your Mass intentions.</p>	<p>Lector Schedule</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>8:00AM</td> <td>10:00AM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>February 28</td> <td>Kay Courtney</td> <td>Petra Miranda</td> </tr> <tr> <td>March 7</td> <td>Marti Waters</td> <td>Denise Duke</td> </tr> <tr> <td>March 14</td> <td>Diane Brooker</td> <td>Joyce Weiss</td> </tr> <tr> <td>March 21</td> <td>Casey Trusler</td> <td>Brian Sellers</td> </tr> </table>		8:00AM	10:00AM	February 28	Kay Courtney	Petra Miranda	March 7	Marti Waters	Denise Duke	March 14	Diane Brooker	Joyce Weiss	March 21	Casey Trusler	Brian Sellers
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<p align="center">Religious Education Schedule</p>																
<p><u>Lenten Pilgrimage</u></p> <p>If you have signed up for the Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament/Ave Maria Grotto, you should have received an email with the itinerary. Please reach out to Mary Hays if you have not received the itinerary.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>- CCD Grades K-12 Sundays at 9:00 AM</td> <td>- Men's Group First Tuesday 6:00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Women's Bible Study Second & Fourth Wed 6:00 PM*</td> <td>- Campus Ministry Tuesdays at 6:00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Confirmation Grades 7th-12th Sundays at 5:00 PM</td> <td>- Ladies Auxiliary First Wednesday 6:00 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>- ChristLife Hispanic Ministry Wednesdays 3:00 PM*</td> </tr> </table> <p align="center">*Lent Only</p>	- CCD Grades K-12 Sundays at 9:00 AM	- Men's Group First Tuesday 6:00 PM	- Women's Bible Study Second & Fourth Wed 6:00 PM*	- Campus Ministry Tuesdays at 6:00 PM	- Confirmation Grades 7th-12th Sundays at 5:00 PM	- Ladies Auxiliary First Wednesday 6:00 PM		- ChristLife Hispanic Ministry Wednesdays 3:00 PM*							
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<p><u>Baby Drive</u></p> <p>This Lent the CCD program is hosting a Baby Drive for the Sav-A-Life Pregnancy Center. Please contribute newborn baby items such as diapers, wipes, clothes, ect. Each classroom has its own box for donations, and the class that contributes the most will win a prize. You can also bring the baby items to box at the back of the church. The drive will end on March 21. Please consider this act of almsgiving during this Lenten season!</p>	<p align="center"><u>Rededication of the Church</u></p> <p>The rededication of the Church is scheduled for Friday, March 12 at 6 PM.</p>															
<p>2/21/21 St. Leo \$2,815.00</p>	<p>2/21/21 St. Francis \$105.00</p>															

Last week we had the great joy of celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism for Ximena Paola Martinez! It was a great joy for the parish as one is added to God's flock! As we round the corner to the completion of our Church renovation, I was reminded that our next baptism will be with a new font.

Our new font will be located in the refurbished baptistery (where the old one was as well). It is not ideally visible from the entire church, but in a sense, that is intentional.

Traditionally the Baptistery and Font was located near the entrance of the Church to emphasize the progression and stages of the Christian life. Those not yet baptized do not receive the Sacraments of the Church, or fully participate in the other Sacraments. Baptism is known as the Gateway to the other Sacraments and is the starting place for the life of the Christian. In baptism, we go from being loved creatures of God, to being adopted sons and daughters of God. As sons and daughters have rights, inheritance, and dignity because of their relationship to their parents, so we through our baptism have rights (to the sacraments), inheritance (to Eternal Life), and dignity because God is Our Father. The waters of baptism are the very bridge that connects the secular with the sacred and allows entrance into the Life of God.

Baptism, in addition to destroying Original Sin, and bringing New Life (similar to the two natural qualities of water, e.g. flooding (destruction), growth (new life)), also reflects a the ongoing spiritual battle with Satan. St. Ambrose in the 5th century explains how at baptism the candidate faces the west to renounce Satan, "You entered to confront your enemy, you intended to renounce him to his face [facing the West]. You turned towards the east for one who renounces the devil turns towards Christ and fixes his gaze directly on him." After baptism the newly baptized then process to the Altar. This too is a liturgical action meant to emphasize a turning away from sin and turning towards Christ made present at the Altar. Once made Children of God, our Journey is not finished, our Spiritual life is meant to be continually sustained by the Eucharist, so that we may grow into mature Adults in the Christian life.

As we continue in our Lenten journey, during which we will move back into our church, I encourage you to continue to find ways to see with sacramental eyes the symbolism of our various liturgical acts. If you have kept your promise not to peek into the church during construction, I can tell you that you will have lots to meditate on in the coming months!

God love you!- Fr. Ward