

Saint Leo the Great Catholic Church

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

April 25, 2021 The Fourth Sunday of Easter Year B

Mass Intentions			Lector Schedule		
St. Leo Church					
Sunday	April 25	8AM <i>Pro Populo</i>	April 25	8:00AM	10:00AM
		10AM †Charlie Partridge		Marti Waters	Joyce Weiss
St. Francis Church					
		1PM Roe Collins	May 2	Marti Waters	Brian Sellers
Please call the Church Office to submit your Mass intentions.			May 9	Casey Trusler	Joe Veres
			May 16	Casey Trusler	Jan McDonald

In Memorial

Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Charlie Partridge, a former member of Saint Leo Church. A graveside service will be held today (Sunday, April 25) at 3pm at Riverside Cemetery in Demopolis. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

Saint Francis Mission Schedule

In light of Fr. Ward's schedule and responsibilities with Saint Leo and the Diocesan Office of Sacred Liturgy, the following schedule will be observed for Saint Francis Mission during the month of May.

May 2	No Mass
May 9	1pm Holy Mass
May 16	No Mass
May 23	No Mass
May 30	1pm Holy Mass

When Holy Mass is not offered at St. Francis Mission, all parishioners are encouraged to attend the 8am and 10am Masses at Saint Leo Church in Demopolis. Services of Holy Communion will not be offered on this day.

Last Week's Offertory

4/18/21 St. Leo \$3,030.00

4/18/21 St. Francis \$1,245.00

First Communion

Congratulations to St Leo the Great First Communicants! The following have been preparing for their First Communion since January: Gael Galvan, Brayam and Analia Olivor, Anne Suttle Reynolds, and Andrew Thomasson. Please pray for them as they continue to grow closer to Christ through the Eucharist.

May Crowning

Children and youth are invited to the procession of crowning the Blessed Virgin Mary! If your child is participating, please meet outside the Church 5 minutes before the 10:00 AM Mass on May 2nd to line up. Flowers are provided.

Pentecost Celebration

On the day of the Pentecost the Holy Spirit manifested Himself to the Apostles as of tongues of fire and filled them with Himself (Acts 2). This day is so significant that it is considered the birthday of the Church. Therefore, in honor of Pentecost Sunday and the Confirmation Candidates, there will be a parish wide celebration after the 10:00 AM Mass on the Feast of the Pentecost, May 23. At this event the parish will be celebrating with plenty of outdoor activities and food.

Good Shepherd Sunday and World Day of Prayer for Vocations

World Day of Prayer for Vocations is observed on Sunday, April 25, which is also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." This year, 2021, marks the 58th Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of this special day is to publically fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, this day affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the *ordained ministries* (priesthood and diaconate), to the *religious life* in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic), to *societies of apostolic life*, to *secular institutes* in their diversity of services and membership, and to the *missionary life*.

St. John Paul II said: And never stop praying for priestly vocations and for perseverance in the commitment of consecration to the Lord and to souls. But, above all, create in your families an atmosphere suitable for the flourishing of vocations. And, you parents, be generous in responding to God's plans for your children.

Today and always we must pray for all religious vocations, male and female, in order that this testimony of religious life in the Church may be more and more numerous, alive, intense, and always efficacious. Today more than ever the world needs convinced witnesses who are completely consecrated! Beloved Faithful, I conclude by recalling the heartfelt invocation of Jesus the Good Shepherd: "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest" (*Mt 9,37 Lc 10,2*).

Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, and societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.