

8100 Cloy Road,
Centerville, OH 45458
937.435.3626



Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 AM– 4:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Fr. Larry Mick

Chaplain/Moderator
lmick46@gmail.com
937.434.4689

COME *Grow* WITH US
St. Leonard Faith Community

<http://www.stleonardfaithcommunity.org>

<http://www.facebook.comstleonardfaithcommunity>

Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome!

December 15, 2013

Presiding Today:

Fr. Larry Mick

December Announcements

Darryl McGill - Council

In Today's Mass We Pray For:

Mary Jane Gross

by: Gene Gross & Family

Proclaimers of the Word:

Jim & Marcelline Kennedy

*"What did you go out to
the desert to see? A reed
swayed by the wind?
Then what did you go
out to see?"*

Matthew 11:7

Readings:

December 15, 2013

Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

December 22, 2013

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-24

"St. Leonard Faith Community is a freely formed Catholic community sharing in the Franciscan heritage. We are committed to creating, through active worship and the offering of our individual and collective gifts, a spiritual environment which opens us to the life-giving presence of the Holy Spirit. Through a variety of ministries, we reach out to respond to the needs of others, with love. Our mission will be to live our Christian Faith, to grow spiritually, and to be actively involved in the community and Saint Leonard Faith Community."

Worshiping with us for the first time? During the preparation of the gifts we follow the gift bearers to gather around the altar to receive Our Lord as a Community. If you would like to learn more about our Community with the possibility of becoming a member, information packets are available at the back pew.

Fellowship: Refreshments are served after the liturgy. Fellowship helps to promote a sense of community. We invite everyone to join us as we continue our celebration in friendship and love.

Collections: We do not pass a collection basket during the Liturgy. Collection baskets are available on the ledge behind the back pews/chairs for donations that will assist in the operation of the Faith Community. Please make checks payable to "St. Leonard Faith Community."

Collection December 8- \$2,771.64 Weekly Budgeted Collection - \$3750.00

YTD Collections: \$70,953.39 YTD Budget \$71.250.00

Retirement for Religious - \$683.00

St. Leonard Faith Community:

Faith Formation, 9:00AM (September– May)

Sunday Mass, 10:30AM

Senior Living Community Mass:

Tuesday- Friday, 9:00AM, Saturday 4:00PM and Sunday 9:00AM Communion Service, Monday 9:00AM

December CLOW Schedule:

15-Alberta Guise

22-Christmas Break - No CLOW!

29-Christmas Break - No CLOW!

December PREP Schedule:

15-Advent Activity Day; Class in Session

22-Christmas Break - No Class!

29-Christmas Break - No Class!



Christmas Caroling This Afternoon. Families who signed up for Christmas caroling at the St. Leonard Health & Rehab Center should meet in the vestibule after Mass. We will walk over to the Health & Rehab Center together.

- **Calling Parents of Junior High Students**

Loyola Press publishes an annual magazine called *Seasons of Family and Faith* for parents of adolescents in grades 7 and 8. The magazine contains insights into the spiritual tasks of moms, dads, sons, and daughters (challenge, togetherness, sorrow, and joy) in each season of family life. Examples of articles in the *Seasons* magazine include; "Four Ways Healthy Families Navigate Transitions," "Welcoming the Person Your Child Is Becoming," "When Your Child Doesn't Make the Team," and "When Growing Up Feels Like Going Away." Magazines cost approximately \$7 each. If you would like to see a sample magazine or would like to place an order, then please contact Meghan Neumeier at slfc.dre@gmail.com or [937.435.3626](tel:937.435.3626).

- **Walking Sticks and Canes Needed.** We are looking for walking sticks and canes that can be used as shepherd staffs during a special children's entrance procession at the Christmas Eve Mass. If you have a walking stick or cane that we can borrow, then please contact Meghan Neumeier at [937.435.3626](tel:937.435.3626) or slfc.dre@gmail.com.

- **Christmas Eve Mass.** Students participating in the special Christmas Eve Mass entrance processional should arrive at St. Leonard **by 6:10PM on December 24th** to change into costumes and to rehearse with Karen Wagner and the choir. **Mass will begin at 7PM.**

Congratulations to our students who received their First Reconciliation last Tuesday!

Avery Close

Emmanuel Deng

Daniel Jensen

Maria Loal

Krista Mowell

Nicole Schroeder

Lual Siyr

Derrick Williams

We wish all our religious education students, families, and teachers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!



THE SEASON OF ADVENT

“Is Your Heart Open to Christ?”



Advent is a four-week time which includes prayer and our preparation as we look forward to the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ among us. This time fills us with joy and love in the Lord, and calls us to share those feelings with others. As our hearts open in prayer during Advent, may the “Good News” of Jesus be heard throughout the world so hearts are turned to love and peace.

Advent offers the opportunity for renewal. God invites us to let Jesus come into our hearts so that we can be more like Him. We live it in expecting the fullness of joy to come. We set out to love God each day and live out our baptismal call by loving and serving others. This is the way Jesus wants us to make straight for Him in our hearts as we await His coming.

Third Week of Advent

Begin by making the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: Who made heaven and earth.

Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-18a

Shout for joy, O daughter of Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has removed the judgment against you. He has turned away your enemies; the King of Israel, the Lord is in your midst, you have no misfortune to fear. On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged! The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty Savior; He will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in His love; He will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.

Candle Lighting

Light the two previous lit candles and the pink candle.

As we light these candles, let us give thanks to the child whom we celebrate this Advent season—the child who came to earth as an infant, died, and rose as our Savior, and for whose coming again we wait with anticipation and love.

All loving and powerful God, we shout for joy for the gladness You have placed within our hearts. As we continue to celebrate Advent, remove the anxieties that the season can bring. Remind us that we await a mighty Savior, an infant child that will bring gladness to all. We will walk with You today, Lord, with confidence in the promise of Your love. We will show Your kindness to all your people, especially those who have yet to know the goodness of Your Son. We pray this in the name of Christ Child. Amen.

Some Saints and Actions for Week Three

Nelson Mandela was remembered last week for his strength in opposing apartheid in South Africa. After twenty seven years of imprisonment, he forgave those who jailed him and was able to bring down the injustices done in his nation. He became the first elected president of his country and brought his country together in peace. He was recognized as a man of peace, world-wide.

Action: On Christmas Day, the movie “Mandela: Long Walk of Freedom,” opens nation-wide. The family might attend this film during Christmas break.

Action: Put a lamp or electric candle in a window to welcome the Christ child. Light it each night until Christmas day.

Action: Gather some friends and neighbors and go Christmas caroling.

MASS TIMES:

Faith Community :

Christmas Eve Mass 7:00PM
New Year's Eve Mass 4:00PM

St. Leonard Senior Living Center:

Christmas Day 9:00AM
New Year's Day 9:00AM

Eucharistic Minister - Confirmed Teens

Attention all Confirmed Teens! If you are interested in being a Eucharistic Minister (one who distributes Communion during Mass) text me at 937.478.4823. We will be having a training session after Mass, **January 12, 2014** at the chair side of church. If you can't make that date but want to be trained, let me know that also in your text.

Thanks, Noel Kupras-Bauer



ATTENTION

all MEN

A Great Way To Start 2014

Join us at the Bergamo Center in Beavercreek on **January 10-12, 2014** for our annual Men's Retreat. This year's theme is "**GOD IS LOVE.**" Father Earl Fernandez, Dean of the Athenaeum of Ohio will direct the retreat. He has directed retreats in Cincinnati, Toledo, Tulsa and Springfield. You are invited to participate in the 37th annual Men's Retreat for the parish of St. Francis of Assisi. **Cost:** Single room- \$160; Double room - \$125; commuters -\$80. For details contact Bill Moroney 937.885.7649.



Christmas Flowers

It has been the tradition of the Faith Community to offer the opportunity to honor the memory of your deceased loved ones by making a donation for the flowers for our Chapel Christmas decorations.

Envelopes are available on the counter behind the last pew to be used for your \$10.00 donation and to indicate the name of your loved one. Please place the envelopes in the collection basket or return to the church office. This year we will be placing the name of each loved one in a plant and you will be invited to take this plant home at the end of the season, if you so choose.

CHURCH CALENDARS

The Westbrook Funeral Home has provided calendars for our Faith Community Members. Please feel free to take one from the back ledges.

Thoughts on Today's Readings

The disciples once asked Jesus who among them was the greatest.

Today, we may wonder which of all the saints is the "greatest." It is impossible to know even how many saints there are; one study came up with over 8,000, but that includes those who are still Blessed or Venerable. In 2,000 years of Christianity, there have surely been many unrecorded saints known only to God. In fact, all of us can hope and strive for sainthood.

In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "Among those born of women, there has been none greater than John the Baptist."

And then Jesus adds, "The least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than He."



Social Justice

When doing your Christmas shopping (or shopping at anytime during the year), look to internet sites that provide quality products, which when purchased also gives back to the artisans and farmers who produce the goods (FAIR TRADE).

www.serrv.org The fair trade arm of the Catholic Relief Services, to help their work in developing countries where you can buy fair trade crafts, coffee and chocolates.

www.womensbeanproject.com An enterprise in Colorado that employs chronically impoverished women, giving them social and business skills and helping towards self-sufficiency. They sell dry soup mixes, cookie and brownie mixes, dip mixes, and jewelry.

www.novica.com Beautiful art, jewelry, clothing, and house decorations made by artists from around the world.

www.globalgoodspartners.org A nonprofit organization that sells handmade, fair trade products to improve the economic status of women in marginalized communities around the world. They sell jewelry, bags, scarves, products for the home and stationary.

www.cardsfromafrica.com This organization provides employment for orphaned youth in Rwanda. They sell beautiful handmade cards for all occasions.

www.africabags.org 100% of the profits go to the villagers of Malawi. They sell reusable grocery bags, beach bags, and African bags.

www.prosperitycandles.com This organization provides a means of support for women in and from conflict areas. They sell handmade candles and body lotions.

www.ssekodesigns.com An enterprise for talented young Ugandan women to earn money to go to college. They sell stylish high-end leather bags and sandals.

www.toms.com/marketplace For every pair of shoes or sunglasses purchased, Toms gives a pair of shoes to a child in need. At the marketplace, different brands work within developing communities to provide a sustainable income for artisans or directly help the community. They sell jewelry, apparel, bags, and accessories.

www.lindyandcompany.com Lindy and Company at 823 Wayne Ave., Dayton is a source for delicious handmade dog and cat treats while providing a work-readiness program for homeless youth in Dayton.

www.madecasse.com Purchase chocolate bars made in Madagascar from cocoa and vanilla grown in the same area to provide a means of income for the poor people of northeastern Madagascar.

www.kazuriamerica.com Beautiful beaded jewelry made by women in Kenya.

www.fabindia.com Fair trade clothes and home decor made in India to provide support for the local people.

www.shopmayu.com Beautiful alpaca scarves and accessories made by women in the Peruvian Andes.

Thank you, Pat Cartwright, for these suggestions.

Social Justice

Publications for Sale . Two publications are available after Mass TODAY: a booklet "10 Things Pope Francis Wants You to Know," \$5; and a 2014 calendar featuring the art of New Hope Church members for \$12.

NEWS OUTSIDE THE PEWS:

Station House Family

Christmas Brunch, Sunday December 22

Omelets Station

Carved Ham with Pineapple Sauce

Bacon and Sausage

Belgian Waffles with Strawberry Sauce

Sausage Gravy with Biscuits

Home Fries

Eggs Benedict

Fresh Fruit Salad, Broccoli Raisin Nut Salad

Assorted Danish and Scones

Decadent Dessert Table

Coffee, Tea And Juice

\$14.95 Adults \$6.95 Children

Reservations taken for parties of 5 or more.

All others welcome to walk-in between 10:00AM and 1:00PM

Please call 937-439-7154

St. Leonard Living Community Employment Opportunities

Currently, there are employment opportunities in Nursing, Dietary and Security. Please visit stleonard.net/employment or contact Human Resources at 937.439.7125 for more information.

There is a variety of volunteer opportunities at St. Leonard. You can contact the Volunteer office at 937.437.7147.



Special prayers are requested :

Mary Andrew, Mike Aschenbrenner, Cay Barton, Gunner Beery, Jane Beverley, Pam & Tim Botkins, Paul Brunk, Ann Louise Burr, Herb Ceder, Pichi (Monsita Corbett's mother), Conor Crippen, Terrie Dawson, Anastasia Debernardi, Debbie Glass, Barbara & Ed Gravel, Mary Ellen Hagan, Charlotte Hey, Kamman Family, Kelly King, Jo Krymow, Wanda Kuba, Brandon Le and family, Kathleen Lewis, Virgil Link, Jeremy McGrath, Greg Murill, Anita Nelson, Louise Nelson, Bob O'Donnell, Fred Pottschmidt, Christine Sabick, Maureen Samuelson, Kenneth Shelton, Veronica Shedan, Hugh Skees, Tracy Steffen, Richard Sterban, James Stritch, Sherrel Wendeln, Sandy Werner, Fr. Sam Zebron and Hannah.

A prayer list is published in the bulletin to inform the Community of those with special needs. Persons may be placed on the prayer list by calling the office and will remain on the list until the office is notified to remove them. Hospitals do not notify our office when a parishioner is admitted. Please contact the church office if you would like to make it known that a family member is in the hospital.

St. Leonard Faith Community Staff

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| Chaplain/Moderator 937.434.4689 | Fr. Larry Mick lmick46@gmail.com |
| Pastoral Administrator 937.435.3626 | Aurelia Palcher slfc.pa01@gmail.com |
| Director of Religious Ed. 937.435.3626 | Meghan Neumeier slfc.dre@gmail.com |
| Music Director 513.897.0024 | Cynthia Gray abcgray@embarqmail.com |
| Office Manager 937.435.3626 | Linda Parks slfc.office@gmail.com |
| Webmaster 937.435.3626 | Pat Cruise slfcwebmaster@gmail.com |

Ministries Of The Church

| Ministry | Chair | Council Liaison |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Membership | Mary Beth Firestone | Renee Clement |
| Worship | Anne Romer | Pat Schug |
| Justice & Service | Bob Niehoff | Alphonse Karangwa |
| Faith Formation | CeAnn Chalker | Jim McGee |
| Community Life | Open | Bonnie Bengé |
| Pastoral Care | Judy Lamers | Darryl McGill |

DECEMBER

- 15-Sunday, Kettering Children's Choir, 2PM & 4PM
- 24-Tuesday, Christmas Eve Mass, 7PM
- 24 & 25-Church office closed
- 25-Wednesday, Sr. Living Center, Christmas Day Mass, 9AM
- 31-Tuesday, New Year's Eve Mass, 4PM
- 31-Church office closed

JANUARY 2014:

- 1-Church office closed
- 1-Wednesday, Sr. Living Center, New Year's Day Mass, 9AM
- 10-12, Men's Retreat, Bergamo Center, Beaver Creek
- 12-Sunday, FAMILY SUNDAY
- 15-Wednesday, Prayer and Worship Meeting

"Christmas means giving. The Father gave His Son, and the Son gave His life. Without giving there is no true Christmas, and without sacrifice there is no true worship."

Pastoral Care Services, Sacraments and Funerals:

Requests for pastoral care services, Sacraments or any other needs should be made to the Community Office. If the office is closed and you have a pastoral care need, please call Aurelia Palcher at 937.885.7158.

Scheduling Mass Intentions: Requests for Mass intentions may be made by contacting the Community Office @937.435.3626.

Bulletin announcements:

St. Leonard Faith Community Office
8100 Cloy Road, Centerville, Ohio 45458
937.435.3626 or email:
slfc.office@gmail.com

Bulletin information must reach our office no later than 11:00 AM on TUESDAY.