

8100 Cloy Road
Centerville, OH 45458
937.435.3626

Fr. Larry Mick

Chaplain/Moderator
lmick46@gmail.com
937.434.4689



Office Hours:

Monday – Thurs. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
PA: Monday-Thurs. 9:00AM-4:00PM
DRE: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
2:00PM-6:00PM
OFC. MGR: Tuesday 9:00AM-3:00PM,
Wed. & Thurs. 9:00AM-
1:00PM

<http://www.stleonardfaithcommunity.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/stleonardfaithcommunity>

*Second Sunday of
Advent*

Presiding Today:

Fr. Larry Mick

December

Council Announcements:
Fred Konen

In Today's Mass We Pray For:

Mary Wiggernhorn
by: Bob Schmid

Proclaimers of the Word:

Peggy Barnes
Judy Lamers

Today's Collection Counters:

Tom Graham
Jim McGee

Mass Schedule:

St. Leonard Faith Community
Religious Education Classes,
9:00AM (September - May)
Sunday Mass, 10:30AM

Senior Living Community
Mass: Monday - Friday,
9:00AM, Saturday 4:00PM
and Sunday 9:00AM

Welcome!

December 6, 2015



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 St. 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.

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."

Weekly Collection - 11.29.2015: \$3,387.00

YTD Collections: \$60,229.10

Weekly Budget: \$3,615.00

YTD Budget: \$72,229.00

Kroger Rewards: \$54.15

Readings for the Week of December 6, 2015

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Monday: Is 35:1-10/ Ps 85:9-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1, 9-13/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18-19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-6/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

December Religious Education Classes (Prep):

6 - PREP Classes In session
 13 - NO CLASS-Students should attend the Guadalupe Day Intergenerational Faith Formation session after Mass
 20 - NO CLASS - Christmas Break
 27 - NO CLASS - Christmas Break

December Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW):

6 - CLOW in session
 13 - No CLOW, Family Sunday
 20 - No CLOW-Christmas Break
 27 - No CLOW-Christmas Break

PARENTS - Please encourage your children aged 3-9 to attend Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW). It is a wonderful opportunity for them to hear and respond to God's Word in a way they can understand. If you are curious about what happens, attend with your child 1 or 2 times and discuss it with them. They may feel more comfortable going after that.

Parents' Corner December 2015

Happy New Year! Last Sunday after Mass we made 7 Advent wreaths and during Mass celebrated the 1st Sunday of Advent. We are now in the Liturgical year of cycle C. We will be hearing from the Gospel of Luke this year. Have you made any New Year resolutions? One idea is to "*Break Open the Word*" before or after each Sunday. Some websites to use:

<http://www.loyolapress.com/sunday-connection.html>

<http://www.sadlierreigion.com/webelieve/weeksliturgy.cfm?sp=family§ion=resource>

Another great resource is an interactive Advent Calendar. Just click on the day and you can find a lot of information and other links to add to the meaning of this liturgical season.

<http://www.instituteforchristianformation.org/AdventCalendarYOG2016/AdventCalendarYOG2016.html>

Whatever you do, do something to make this Advent a special one. Celebrate our faith - it is so rich in tradition and beauty. Have a blessed Advent.

ONE FAITH, ONE HOPE, ONE LOVE

One Faith, One Hope, One Love is an historic endeavor that will help secure the future of the church for many generations. In an effort to strengthen the life of faith among us, this campaign is designed to help meet current and long-term needs concerning "Strengthening our Community, Catholic Education, Fostering Vocations, Caring for Retired Diocesan Priests, Catholic Charities and Social Services."

St. Leonard Faith Community is one of 213 parishes actively participating in this campaign whose overall goal is \$130,000,000. Our Community goal is \$190,000 of which 20% will be returned to the Community. Sixty percent of money collected over our goal will be returned to us. The St. Leonard Living Center, who also participate in the collection, will receive a pro-rated portion of the donations received from the residents. Donations to date include \$28,000 from the St. Leonard Living Center residents.

Thank you for giving so generously!

One Faith, One Hope One Love

\$130,000,000 Breakdown

- Catholic Education - \$65,000,000
- Local Parish Priorities - \$26,000,000
- Fostering Vocations - \$16,000,000
- Priest Retirement - \$13,000,000
- Catholic Charities - \$10,000,000

St. Leonard Faith Community

Community Goal: \$190,000

Total Raised: \$298,345

Percentage Raised: 157%

Number of Gifts: 82

Return to SLFC: \$103,007 (includes \$9943 for St. Leonard Living Center)

Numbers are current as of 12/1/2015



Prayer of Pope Francis Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.



Collection Today - Support elderly religious. A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful." Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. There will be two (2) collections, the regular weekly collection and the collection for Retirement Fund for Religious.

December Schedule

Faith Community :

8-The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 7pm
24-Christmas Eve - Carols 6:30pm/Mass-7pm

St. Leonard Living Center:

8-The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 4pm
24-Christmas Eve, Carols 3:30pm/Mass - 4pm
25-Christmas Day, Mass - 9am
31-New Year's Eve Vigil, Mass of Mary, Mother of God - 4pm
1-New Year's Day, (Holy Day) Mass - 9AM



Second Sunday of Advent

The Advent Wreath - Light the same candle from the first week and a second purple candle.

Pray - God of mercy, justice and peace, help us to get ready. As we light these candles, we ask that you clear a straight path to our hearts and help us see how we can live with more love. Help us move beyond everything that gets in between us and Jesus. Help us to stay watchful for His coming. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Reflect - We are called to climb a mountain this Advent season. The Second Sunday of Advent invites us to go deeper into the place where we come to know that only God can give us joy beyond all understanding. To climb to those heights, we have to pay attention to where we are going—as well as to where we do not want to go.

Practice - This week, try to make at least one generous act of love each day. (Do it in secret.)

Thoughts on Today's Readings...

In today's scriptures, hope is proclaimed to the exiled people longing to return to Jerusalem, to the Philippians from the imprisoned Paul, and to those caught in political turmoil during Jesus' lifetime. We hear voices all around us yearning for hope. Pope Francis has called for this Year of Mercy to be a time for hope. Our hearts are open to new possibilities.



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.



Here we are one week into Advent. Our calendars are full. Our lists of to-dos are getting longer every day. However, I'm asking you to prayerfully consider two things.

First is a chance to lighten the hearts of the people of New Hope Church, whose hard lives, whether from poor choices or difficult circumstances, call for a little show of *lighthearted concern*. I want to take 40 graham cracker gingerbread houses as a Christmas gift from Faith Community and **I need your HELP making them**. They are very easy to make and you could easily make one in about 20 minutes. I will have the foam board cut, the frosting made and the graham crackers bought. I need you to bring a bag of candy like sweet tarts, red, green and white hard candies, all size gum drops, red or black licorice sticks, pretzel sticks, candy canes, assorted hard candy and M&M's etc. If you also want to make one to take with you, I'm asking for a \$2 donation to cover my costs. (See flyer)

Climate Change and Its Impact on Us

November 30 through December 11, world leaders will gather in Paris for crucial talks on climate change. Their goal is to the community of nations to work together for the well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Pope Francis wrote his encyclical *Laudato Si'* with the express hope of influencing the Paris Climate Conference. He sees climate change not as an isolated issue, but as a crucial link among many interconnected issues: poverty, migration, trafficking, food and water shortages, species extinction, and others. In the Holy Father's words: "Relations between states must be respectful of each other's sovereignty, but must also lay down mutually agreed means of averting regional disasters which would eventually affect everyone." (#173) Let us pray that all nations can work together for the good of Our Common Home.

An Advent Series on Our Common Home-Part 1, from Catholic Climate Covenant.



Secondly, I know it is the Saturday before Christmas, but I am asking you to prayerfully consider signing up for the "Nativity Praying with Creativity" event we have planned for

December 19th starting at 10am and finishing by 1pm. We will gather in Chaminade Auditorium and prayerfully enter into Luke's Nativity Story. (There are only two nativity stories among the 4 gospels and although we often combine the two, there are no Three Kings in Luke's - shepherds.) It seems like a crazy time to plan for it, but it is a perfect preparation for the celebration of the Christ-child's birth that we are anticipating. The session will conclude with the opening of the Nativity Sets Display from the UD collection. I need at least 6 people to sign up to make this a go, so please consider signing up. Thanks.

Blessing for the week: May the God of SILENCE bless you, drawing you away from the clamor and chaos of a diverted world. In the hush of God's wordless presence, may you know the unutterable sacredness of the gift of divine love. May your "inner self grow strong" in that love. May the God of SILENCE, the God of solitude be with you. Sr. Maxine Shonk, OP

CHRISTMAS GIFT PROJECT



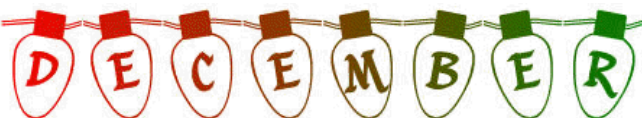
Again this year the Outreach Committee will be asking the Faith Community to provide gifts for two local agencies and for some at St. Leonard's Senior Living Center. We will be distributing cards with gift suggestions after Mass on December 6 and 13. Gifts should be brought to church no later than December 20.

Please stop and take a card or two. We will be in the vestibule before and after Mass.

THANK YOU!



Again this year our Faith Community has responded overwhelmingly by providing food for our annual Thanksgiving food drive. Not only did we fill 15 huge boxes of food that will feed 15 families, we were able to fill two additional boxes with the leftovers. All the food has already been transported to those who might not have had a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, and the two leftover boxes were donated to the First Dawn Food Pantry in Centerville. Thank you for your generosity!



Gingerbread House

Anyone interested in making about 40 graham cracker gingerbread houses for the people at New Hope Church?

Saturday, December 12, 2015 (Drop in)

1:00 to 5:00 pm

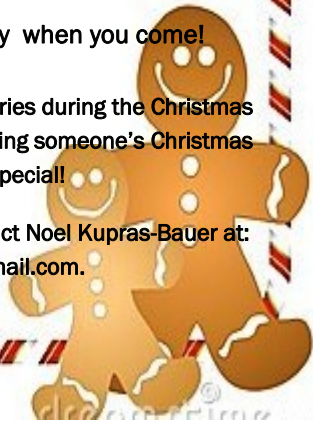
7795 Raintree Rd
(across from the north entrance to the Center)

Sign-up today!

Bring a bag of candy when you come!

A Great way to make memories during the Christmas season and be part of making someone's Christmas season special!

For more information contact Noel Kupras-Bauer at:
noelkb@gmail.com.



OUR LADY OF
GUADALUPE



Our Lady Of Guadalupe Potluck Brunch

Sunday, December 13, 2015
Immediately following Mass
Chaminade Hall Auditorium

Catholic Saints of Advent

St. Nicholas - This fourth-century Greek bishop is known for his faithfulness to Christ, his devotion to justice and to charity. Santa Claus is a character that started with Nicholas and took on a life of its own. We would do well to remember the real Nicholas. Ask for his intercession as you pray for a charitable heart.

Mary - Most of us readily think of Mary, Mother of God, during Advent. After all, Mary is the one closest to Jesus. Two Marian feasts fall during Advent: the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, December 8 and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 13. From Mary we learn the greatest traits of the Christian: love, humility, justice, openness to God's grace and willingness to act.

St. Lucy - This fourth-century martyr chose to be a Christian when being Christian was illegal. She wanted to give up all her wealth and devote her life to the poor, but she herself became a victim of oppression. After resisting the advances of a Roman soldier, she was denounced as a Christian and executed. She teaches us that life in Christ's light is worth devoting your life to even dying for.

St. John of the Cross - He is the great mystic of Advent, who says that we are "face-to-face with Love's own grace." What wonderful words to ponder! Yet in contrast to John's lofty poetry, he took for himself the most menial jobs wherever he was. Before he entered religious life he worked in a hospital for people with disgusting diseases. Besides bathing them, he sang songs to cheer them up. Even when he held high administrative posts he took the lowliest tasks. His life reminds us that no matter how soaring our spirituality, it must be grounded in humble day-to-day duties or we miss the whole meaning of the Incarnation



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 until December 20th to be used for your \$10.00 donation. Print the name of your loved one on the envelope. 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.

TIME TO GROW OUR COMMUNITY

We discussed at our recent Town Hall meeting that we plan to increase our membership through evangelization. On December 6th you will receive a copy of Catholic Update titled: "Inviting Loved Ones To Rediscover Their Catholic Faith," which provides some helpful insights.

We will also again be distributing an invitation to join us at Christmas Mass. Advent is a unique opportunity, and we ask that you start praying and thinking now about individuals to whom you would extend the invitation. The invitation card can be mailed or hand-delivered to your friends, neighbors and family. We have been called to be disciples; let us do that by sharing the gift which is St. Leonard's Faith Community.

Ministry Schedules

New ministry schedules for December, January and February are now on the church website. Please check the schedules and print so you can refer to them in the coming months. If you are unable to access a computer there are printed copies on the back pew.

Mass Readings

The USCCB website provides the daily Mass readings for the entire liturgical year. Go to: www.usccb.org/bible/readings.



2015 St. Charles Borromeo Parish Live Nativity

Bring the family and friends to St. Charles on Sunday, December 6, 2015, 5-7:00PM for our 8th Annual Live Nativity.

Christmas carols will be sung throughout the evening and children will be allowed to pet the animals that are indigenous to the Middle East. Free hot chocolate and cookies will be served indoors. There will also be meatball sub suppers at \$7.00 per person. There is plenty of parking (Alter parking lot) and it is easily accessible for all.



GIVE YOURSELF AN EARLY Christmas Present

REDISCOVER GOD'S MERCY

Join Matthew Kelly and six other influential Catholic voices of our time on a life-changing journey through Best Advent Ever™ *Rediscover Mercy*. Each day you will receive an inspirational email with a short video, words of encouragement, or spiritual coaching that will help you rediscover God's great mercy and show that mercy to others.

This program is simple and free! Let mercy transform your relationships, work, and ability to embrace and experience all of life.

TO LEARN MORE OR SIGN UP, VISIT

BestAdventEver.com



Address Change

Please notify the Church office of a change of address or if moving out of the area.





FAITH FORMATION

Nativity - Praying with Creativity

WHERE CHRISTMAS BEGINS

December 19, 2015

10am - 1pm

Chaminade Hall

Sign up after Mass: Today, December 6th and 13th

(Must have 6 people to sign up.)

**The session will conclude with the opening of the Nativity display from
the University of Dayton collection.**

**A WONDERFUL WAY TO CELEBRATE THE
CHRISTMAS SEASON!**



Special prayers are requested:

Donna Ames, Mike Bennett, Joe Bensman, Amy Buxton, Shirley Chee, Karrie Coggeshall, Conor Crippen, Terrie Dawson, Beth Ennis, Norm Fogel, Ruth Hopkins, Joanne Jannetta, Tom Kirchmer, Kelly King, Nicholas Ladd, Brandon Le, Michael Morrison, Anita & Doug Nelson, Linda Niehoff, Eleanor Niemer, Ken Rueth, Rosalie Schoenfeld, Hugh & Jasmine Skees, Betty Ann Streit, Hannah Taylor, Jim Tieman, Linda Versic, Marlene Vorherr, Kent Wingate, Baby Luke

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 for 4 weeks unless otherwise notified. 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

Chaplain/Moderator 937.434.4689	Fr. Larry Mick lmick46@gmail.com
Pastoral Administrator 937.435.3626 937.750.3438 (cell)	David Weickert slfc.pa01@gmail.com
Director of Religious Ed. 937.435.3626	Donna Leddy slfc.dre@gmail.com
Youth Minister 937.435.3626 937.750.3438 (cell)	David Weickert slfc.pa01@gmail.com
Music Director 937.672.0522	Sherri Masline sline@gmail.com
Office Manager 937.435.3626	Linda Parks slfc.office@gmail.com

Ministries Of The Church

Ministry	Chair	Council Liaison
Membership	Mary Ellen Graham & Bill Moroney	Maureen Josenhans
Worship	Mary Cozart	Mary Beth Firestone
Justice & Service	Bob Niehoff	Tom Anacker
Faith Formation	Noel Bauer	John Nelson
Community Life		Fred Konen
Pastoral Care	Mary Ann McGuire	Shirley Venetos

Calendar of Events

December

3-Thursday, Advent Reconciliation Service, 7pm

6-Sunday, Rohr Chats, Boardroom, 9:45 am/Mass 10:30am/
Retirement Fund for Religious Collection (2 collections)/
Gingerbread House for New Hope Church sign up after
Mass/Praying with Creativity, sign up after Mass/
Live Nativity, St. Charles Borromeo, 5pm-7pm/Christmas
Box Angel Memorial Vigil, Chapel, 7pm

8-Tuesday, Year of Mercy begins

9-Wednesday, Council Meeting, Boardroom, 7pm

12-Saturday, Gingerbread Houses at Noel Bauer's Home

13-Family Sunday, Rohr Chats, Boardroom, 9:45am/
Mass 10:30am/Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration after
Mass, auditorium/Praying with Creativity, sign up after
Mass

19-Saturday, Praying with Creativity, Chaminade Auditorium,
10am-1pm

20-Sunday, Rohr Chats, Boardroom, 9:45am/Mass 10:30am

24-Christmas Eve/ Carols 6:30pm/Mass 7pm

27-Sunday, Rohr Chats, Boardroom, 9:45am/Mass 10:30am

*See Religious Education page for PREP and CLOW schedule

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 contact David Weickert at 937.750.3438.

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

Bulletin announcements:
St. Leonard Faith Community Office
937.435.3626 or email: slfc.office@gmail.com
Bulletin information must reach our office no later than **11:00 AM on TUESDAY** (articles may be edited for content and space.)