

January 2, 2011 • Epiphany of the Lord

# St. Leo

Catholic Church

## Pastor

Fr. Harold Buse

## Associate Pastor

Fr. Andy Phan

## St. Pius X/St. Leo School

6905 Blondo Street 551-6667

Principal: Joyce Gubbels

## St. Leo Parish

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday:  
8:30am - 5:00pm

### Bulletin Deadline

Monday 12:00noon for the  
following Sunday

## Sacramental Life

### Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:30pm  
Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am,  
11:00am, 12:45pm, 5:30pm  
Monday-Friday: 6:40am, 8:00am

### Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00-5:00pm, and by  
appointment

### Weddings

Contact church at least 6 months  
in advance

### Baptism

#### NEXT BAPTISM CLASSES

Pre-register for 2 Sessions, call the  
office or visit [www.stleo.net](http://www.stleo.net) and look  
for the link **Sacraments**.

Sundays 10am-Noon

1) January 9                      2) January 16

#### NEXT BAPTISM MASS

5:30pm, Saturday, January 22

1920 N. 102nd St. Omaha NE 68114-1116

402.397.0407 • [www.stleo.net](http://www.stleo.net)



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Magi from the east arrived in  
Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the  
newborn king of the Jews?"

We saw his star at its rising and  
have come to do him homage."

~Mt 2:1b-2

Excerpts  
from the  
Lectionary  
for Mass  
©2001, 1998,  
1970 CCD.

## Parish Financial Update

Fiscal Year July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011

**Donations Received Dec. 19, 2010**

**Total Sunday Contributions**  
**\$43,293.41**

**Donations Received Dec. 26, 2010**

**Total Sunday Contributions**  
**\$34,622.03**

**Our per Sunday goal is \$29,803.92**

**Fiscal Year to Date Deficit: (\$-33,389.38)**

**Building Fund: \$70.00**

**New Pew Fund to Date: \$43,527.00**

**St. Vincent de Paul: \$125.00**

**Christmas Collection to Date:**  
**\$95,855.44**

**Religious Pension to Date: \$8,661.50**

Thank you for your continued generosity!

## Deacons

Jerry Steenson

George Knockenhauer

Ira Miller

Rennie terKuile

Jim Shipman

## Parish Staff

Kelly Barth, Director of Liturgy & Music

Betsy Bridgeford, Business Manager

Sue Doty, Director of Religious Education

John Gencarelli, Director of Youth &

Young Adult Ministries

Sr. Ann Marie Petrylka, Pastoral Minister

Mike Short, Custodian/Maintenance

Dina Turco, Parish Secretary

## Parish Council

Rita Berthelsen, President

Jack Couch, Vice President

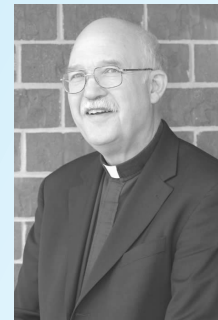
Jeff Miller, Treasurer

Mary Bayne, Secretary

Cathy Ehlinger, APC Delegate

## Father Harry's "Buseness"

Seminarian Rheo Ofalsa was ordained a deacon in October at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Recently, I received a Christmas greeting with a picture of Deacon Rheo's entire family taken on the day of his ordination. Along with this picture and Christmas greeting, Rheo's parents expressed gratitude for the support given to Rheo by the people of St. Leo parish while Rheo spent time here last summer. Rheo will be ordained a priest at St. Cecilia Cathedral on June 4, 2010. Deacon Kevin Vogel, who spent the previous summer at St. Leo will also be ordained on that day.



A few days before Christmas, I attended the Seminarian Christmas Party hosted by Archbishop Lucas and sponsored by the Serra Club. My ongoing contact with our current seminarians makes me optimistic about the future of the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Omaha. I learned at that time that two of the seminarians have prayerfully discerned to leave the seminary at this time.



The vocational choice that seminarians and potential seminarians make is a deep, personal decision and at times, a very difficult one. It is the job of the rest of us in the Church to support these seminarians through prayer, encouragement and when possible, financial support.

Next weekend, we will take the annual collection in support of the education and formation of the seminarians studying for our archdiocese. Many of these thirty two young men are in the serious discerning process about their future lives. If they have confidently made their decision, they are preparing giving themselves to serve our parishes as well-educated, and holy priests in the future.

There are three main things you can do to support our seminarians:

1. Pray for God to guide them as they discern and prepare.
2. Offer your personal interest and support if possible.
3. Contribute to the seminary collection to support their education and formation.

You will find an envelope in your envelope pack for the seminary collection. You may use this envelope for the special collection to be taken next weekend. St. Leo Parish has a great tradition of supporting seminarians in a wide variety of ways. Thank you for your ongoing generous support.

*In Harry Bone*

## Generations of Faith

A process of whole parish catechesis where everyone in the parish learns and celebrates together.

**Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.**

Romans 15:7



**Welcoming in the Omaha Community.**

## Epiphany

The arrival of the Magi to honor Jesus is a tradition celebrated this day. It is also a day to bless our homes by marking the entrance to our houses with chalk. Gather everyone outside the front door, and offer this prayer: "Let us bless our home and pray that all will be welcome here. Let this door be an entry for the blessings of God. Let this door be a gateway of God's blessings to the world." Members of the household take turns inscribing "20 + C + M + B 11" over the top of the door. C, M, and B are the initials of the name for the Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Then finish the prayer with "Christ taught us to call upon the Father, and so we pray: Our Father...."

## Thank You

Dear Parishioners of St. Leo's,

Thank you so very much for your kindness this Christmas to our Catholic Burmese refugee families. Because of your kindness, we will be able to supply diapers and wipes to our mothers for months, have paid passage debts, and will provide other needed resources to our families. Thank you for all you have done for us.

May God bless you with the same blessings that you have given our children.

God's blessings on your New Year.

Sr. Joan Mueller

Project Welcome Catholic Refugee Community

## You Are Invited! Sunday January 9, 2011 9:00 mass

The RCIA Rite of Acceptance and Welcome will be on Sunday, January 9th at the 9:00am Mass. At this mass, baptized and un-baptized inquirers publicly declare to the church their intentions to continue their faith journey. The church welcomes the inquirers. Come and celebrate with our St. Leo RCIA group. See page 8 for more info regarding the Rite of Acceptance.

## Question of the Week

### This week's focus:

The mystery of the incarnation - Jesus is a gift to all humanity.

**Question for Children:** In your life, who helps you to see Jesus in other people such as a classmate or a friend?

**Question for Youth:** Life can sometimes be rough: losing your home, moving, feeling fear or danger. How do you experience God being and staying with you in such times?

**Question for Adults:** How this past week did you demonstrate God's love at home and at work?

## In Loving Memory

Please remember in your prayers those who have been born into eternal life, especially **Jerry Schumacher**, husband of Libby Schumacher and father of Jim Schumacher and Ann Freestone; **Michael Johnson**, brother of Carolyn Sampson, Kathleen Johnson and Marie Johnson; and for **Patricia Healey**.

*May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

## St. Leo Prayer Line

Call the following with prayer requests:

Jane M. (9am-5pm) 391-8826

Kathy L. (5pm-9pm) 391-4249

The Parish Office (9am-5pm)

397-0407

OR

You can enter your petitions in the book located in the Commons.

## St. Leo News

### Faith Discoveries Book

**Group** The St. Leo book group will meet on January 8 instead of January 1 in W-1(notice the change of date and location). The members will discuss Guardian Angels by Joan Wester Anderson. Newcomers are always welcome! Questions: call Sarita, 496-3660 or Linda, 493-0261.

### The Prayer Shawl Ministry

has made, and given out, hundreds of Prayer Shawls for those needing to be reminded of the prayers of our parish for them. We have heard back from many who have received a shawl. They tell us how this "God Hug" has helped them get through a rough time, strengthened them in a time of need, warmed them as they recovered from surgery or illness.

If you want to give to a worthy cause, this ministry could use funds to purchase fleece and yarn. Donations can be sent to the parish office –please mark it clearly "For Prayer Shawl Ministry." We ask that those taking prayer shawls give a donation of \$10 to \$20 to help us cover costs. Please help us continue this precious ministry of care and prayer.

### Readings for the Week of January 2, 2011

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12  
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22---4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44  
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52  
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19---5:4/Lk 4:14-22  
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16  
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30  
Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

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## Religious Formation

### Sunday School Program

Sunday School Classes resume January 9th! See you then!

### Religious Education Program Open House Info

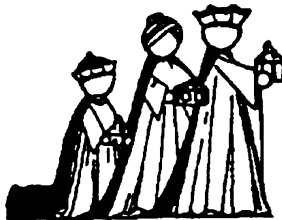
The Wednesday Religious Education program will resume January 5, 2011. That is a regular gathering for Grades 1-8 with Open House for parents and families the last twenty minutes of class time. This is a chance for parents to talk briefly, one-on-one, with the catechist of their child and to pick up the "Good News Report." This report is a wonderful way for the parent to see how their child is doing. We encourage all parents to come on January 5th to the Open House.

### Keenagers

**Mark your Calendars!** On Tuesday, Jan. 11th, join us at St. Leo's for an afternoon of board games and cards from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Please bring a snack to share. RSVP 397-0407 or sam@stleo.net.

### The Epiphany of the Lord

The wonder and fascination implicit in the appearance of a star and of Magi with their exotic retinue and precious gifts usually overshadows the prophetic words that are found in today's Gospel. Matthew's mash up of Micah 5:1 and 2 Samuel 5:2 represents a method on his part to portray Jesus as the true Messiah and king who is born in accordance with the Scriptures. In alluding to the prophet Micah's oracle about Bethlehem, Matthew has the chief priests and scribes of the



people respond to Herod's question with:

"from you shall come a ruler,  
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

It is the last part of this quote that comes from 2 Samuel at the time David was anointed king of Israel.

We tend to think of kings as omnipotent rulers who are in charge of everything. But the biblical dimensions of kingship involve a different set of realities. The king is shepherd and protector of the people. His power—that is, the loyalty of his forces to him—is to be used to ward off enemies and to care for the tribes that the LORD has entrusted to him. When the king fails in this duty, especially when it comes to protecting the poor, it is then that the LORD pronounces judgment against the king. This newborn King of the Jews in Matthew's Gospel comes to shepherd and care for his people. He will save us from the enemy: sin and death.

Now comes the big leap! This day, the Epiphany, is one of the great baptismal feasts of the church (after Easter and Pentecost). The early church saw in this celebration its own call to put on Christ, who is priest, prophet, and king. When we were anointed at our baptism we were given that very charge: to be a king like Christ. So how will you care for the poor today? How will you shepherd God's people?

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## “Connections” High School Youth

**Make a Connection!** “Connections” is a weekly gathering for all 9-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students. It is an opportunity to meet people, learn about our faith, discuss relevant issues, and have fun! The atmosphere is casual and all are welcome! For more information, please contact John Gencarelli at [john@stleo.net](mailto:john@stleo.net) or 397-0407.

**January 7-8:** Overnight Youth Leadership Team Retreat at the Archdiocesan Youth Camp. Our Winter Spiritual Retreat get-away. Please RSVP to John if you can NOT go. Forms are available at the office.

**January 14-17:** Theology of the Body for Teens Retreat. All high school students are invited to attend. Using a great mix of stories, real-life examples, activities, prayers, and references to the culture that teens understand, Theology of the Body for Teens answers the questions teens have about their own bodies, issues ...on sexual morality, and how they were uniquely created for greatness. Registration forms are available through the office.

**January 16:** “Connections” meet from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Join us for a night of food, fun, and friends.

**January 15-17:** Teens Encounter Christ Weekend - If you are a junior, senior or college student, you are invited to a dynamic three-day retreat called TEC. TEC is a high energy, youth-focused, spirit-directed faith experience at the Archdiocesan Retreat and Conference Center. The cost is \$60, but scholarships are available. Call John Gencarelli for registration forms.

**January 23:** Youth Leadership Team Meeting in room W-2 from 1:30 to 4:00 pm

**January 23:** “Connections” meet from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.



## Y.A.C.H.T. Club 2.0 - (20's and 30's)

**Ministry to Young Adults** at St. Leo's is woven throughout the life of the parish. The YACHT Club is a group for people in their 20's and 30's who meet for social, spiritual and service experiences. We welcome all young adults whether single, married, or married with children. For more information on the YACHT Club, contact John at 397-0407 or visit [www.stleo.net](http://www.stleo.net).

**January 8: Go to the Ronald McDonald House**, 620 South 38th Avenue, to serve dinner to the residents. Emily Howe will be coordinating this event. Please e-mail Emily at [howee1212@cox.net](mailto:howee1212@cox.net) or call her at 402-557-6701 if you can help bring food and serve a meal. Afterwards, we'll go out to a place to be determined that night. All are welcome to help!

**January 14: Work Release Program** – Meet at 5:30 pm for dinner and drinks. Meet at the Phoenix Bar and Grill on 121<sup>st</sup> and Blondo.

**January 25: How to Avoid Marrying a Jerk (or Jerkette) - Part One** - 7:00 to 8:30 pm - Presented by Laura and Roger Buddenberg. There are five areas a person should know about another person before marrying. Getting to know people is the first bonding dynamic. There are five bonding forces that create the feeling of closeness in every romantic relationship. They are: Getting to know about the person you are dating; family background; what a person's conscience is like; compatibility potential; relationship skills; previous relationship patterns. Join us for two informative evenings and learn how to find “Mr. or Mrs. Right.”

**February 4: Work Release Program** – Meet at 5:30 pm for dinner and drinks. Meet at Senor Matias on 90<sup>th</sup> and Center Street.

**February 12: Go to the Ronald McDonald House**, 620 South 38th Avenue, to serve dinner to the residents. Details in next weeks bulletin.

## “Count On” Prayer

We try to teach young people to pray daily, but sometimes we try to give them what I like to call “youth ministry style” prayers. Here's one you can count on.

**5-Finger Prayer:** Your thumb is nearest you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a “sweet duty.”

The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.

The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.

The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

And lastly comes our little finger – the smallest finger of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, “The least shall be the greatest among you.” Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

You may not always have a Bible, Prayer Card, or Rosary with you, but you always have your hand. Use it to pray, because after all, aren't we the hands of Jesus today.

More Prayers you can “count on” next week.... Praying with a deck of cards. Bet you never thought about that one did you. Have a prayerful New Year!

## Good News from St. Pius X/St. Leo School

### Do you want a Catholic Education for your child?

If so, St. Pius X / St. Leo School is the place for you. St. Pius X / St. Leo School is located at 6905 Blondo Street and is your parish school.

We offer pre-school for 3 year olds, pre-kindergarten for 4 year olds, and also a full-day kindergarten program for your very young ones. We have new state-of-the-art classrooms for our kindergarten students as well as a new, awesome science lab for the 6th, 7th and 8th graders. We offer an exceptional religious and academic program for students. We are hosting some gatherings in several parents' homes this month for the purpose of gathering information about our school in an informal setting. Please feel free to attend one of the following gatherings that are all being held at 7:00pm each evening. The principal, one or two school board members and a couple of parents will be present to discuss St. Pius X / St. Leo School with you. The sites are:

**Monday, January 10** – Mertz Family at 1335 North 129th Circle

**Thursday, January 13** – Rieschl Family at 15118 Boyd Street

**Wednesday, January 19** – Burns Family at 1923 North 101st Street

**Tuesday, January 25** – Gautschi/Hoarty Family at 5440 Parker Street

**Tuesday, January 27** – Hohman Family at 317 North 92nd Street

If you know of any neighbors or friends that might be interested in our school, please invite them to attend one of these home gatherings.

### Kindergarten, Pre-Kindergarten and Pre-School Open House

For all families who have young children and have not had the chance to see our fantastic kindergarten, pre-kindergarten and pre-school classrooms. Please come to an Open House on Sunday, February 6th, 2011 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM to see the rooms and meet our wonderful kindergarten, pre-kindergarten and pre-school teachers.

**Joyce Gubbels, Principal**

### Lunch Menu

**W:** Pizza **T:** Harvest Soup **F:** Mini Corn Dogs

## St. Pius X / St. Leo Soccer Club Spring 2011 Registration

Sign up your SPSL soccer players for the Spring 2011 season. Submit player registration forms and payment in full before January 15, 2011 to guarantee a place on a team and avoid the late fee. All new players are welcome. Micro soccer registration deadline is March 15th. Questions? Call John Schultz at 498-8052. On-line registration form and more information can be found at [www.spslsoccer.com](http://www.spslsoccer.com).

## A From Kelly Unavailability Deadline

Attention all Liturgical Ministers, please get your dates of "unavailability" for the months of **February** and **March** to Kelly by **Wednesday, January 12th**.

## Christmas Carol History Away in a Manger

1887—Although it is often dubbed, "Luther's Cradle Hymn," Martin Luther did not write the text to this hymn. It was written by two unknown authors, one of which is known to have been a German Lutheran from Pennsylvania. Although the authors are unknown, the text to this piece of music is so well loved that it has been set to over forty-one different tunes, including this most famous one, "MUELLER."

## The First Noel

1823—One of the most lovely pieces composed for the Christmas season has no known author! It first appeared anonymously in 1823 in a hymnal titled, "Some Ancient Christmas Carols." Noel is a French word with Latin roots (Natalis) meaning, "birthday." The text of this piece is actually biblically very inaccurate and has no real climax. It speaks of the shepherds seeing the Magi's star, but the story of the Magi happens only in the gospel of Matthew while the story of the Shepherds happens in only Luke (without a Star, but with Angels). Even with its inaccuracies, though, this beloved hymn has warmed the hearts of Christians for nearly 200 years.

Kelly ~ 397-0407 ~ [kelly@stleo.net](mailto:kelly@stleo.net)

# Liturgical Ministry Schedule

## **Saturday, 5:30pm 1/8/2011 Fr. Harry**

EMHC: L. Schroeder, J. Hefner, M. Hohman, D. Guier, D. Shavlik, J. Moore, J. Huettner, M. Zach, T. Pogge, T. Holman, Linda Leary, M. Shanley, P. Shanley, P. Lunbeck  
Lectors: C. Hohman, K. Himmelein  
Servers: N. Rieschl, A. Rieschl, J. Gall, E. Shavlik  
Sacristan: J. & R. Hefner

## **Sunday, 7:30am, 1/9/2011 Fr. Harry**

EMHC: H. Kuehn, L. Erikson, J. Alfors, K. Salvatori, N. Haske, R. Nelson, E. Rasnick  
Lectors: M. Dickerson  
Servers: E. Langdon, M. Franklin  
Sacristan: L. Erikson

## **Sunday, 9:00am 1/9/2011 Fr. Gillick**

EMHC: D. Waggoner, C. Groebli, B. Lindsay, J. Rodriguez-Sierra, W. Mark, J. Miller, M.J. Sutton, M. Billings, P. Williamson, M. Mayberger, A. Mayberger, A. Van-Winkle, C. Ramold, M. C. Wilson  
Lectors: S. Ishi-Jordan, F. Filipi  
Servers: N. Billings, D. Williamson, S. Waggoner, J. Waggoner  
Sacristan: E. Rodriguez-Sierra

## **Sunday, 11:00am 1/9/2011 Fr. Andy**

EMHC: T. Abbott, C. Soby, M. Burns, K. Burns, B. Trumbauer, S. Goaley, P. Reynolds, L. Warnemunde, P. Walsh, B. Walsh, D. Reynolds, L. Iwen, M. Hession, K. Mettling  
Lectors: Isela Padilla, J. Gibbs  
Servers: M. Judkins, M. Yakus, A. Walsh, A. Reynolds  
Sacristan: W. Ullom

## **Sunday, 12:45pm 1/9/2011 Fr. Fenton**

EMHC: J. Morris, D. Ulveling, J. Benson, T. Gensichen, C. Kelley, M. Ulveling, M. McDermott  
Lector: M. Ulveling  
Servers: J. Novotny, A. Novotny  
Sacristan: D. & D. Drvol

## **Sunday, 5:30pm 1/9/2011 Fr. Andy**

EMHC: J. Rudloff, S. Chamberlain, A. Hobson, M. Hobson, J. Wilson, A. Sitti, M. McLochlin  
Lector: J. O'Brien  
Servers: S. Hobson, W. Novacek  
Sacristan: M. DeWitt

## Heavenly Helpers

### **Saturday, January 8 at 8:00am**

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. C. Fierro   | 6. F. Herrera |
| 2. G. Gartner  | 7. J. Herrera |
| 3. C. Goodland | 8. L. Iwen    |
| 4. K. Hayes    | 9. K. Jardee  |
| 5. D. Herink   |               |

### **St. Leo the Great Mission Statement**

St. Leo the Great Parish is a faith-filled community dedicated to...

Offering inspiring and prayerful worship,  
Developing and maintaining quality, life-long  
religious education for everyone,

Providing loving service to those in need,  
Celebrating the great events in our parish family.

## This Week at St. Leo

### **Tuesday, January 4**

2:00pm Bible Study, W4  
6:00pm Bell Choir, Church  
7:00pm Bible Study, W1

### **Wednesday, January 5**

4:10, 5:35 & 7:00pm Rel Ed Classes  
7:00pm Bible Study, fireplace room

### **Thursday, January 6**

2:00pm & 7:00pm Bible Study

### **Saturday, January 8**

10:00am Faith Discoveries, W1

### **Sunday, January 9**

Sunday School  
10:00am Baptism Class, W3

## Mass Intentions

### **Monday, January 3**

6:40am + Bill Wilson  
8:00am + Ronnie Aherns

### **Tuesday, January 4**

6:40am St. Leo Parish Family  
8:00am + Mike and Margaret Traxinger

### **Wednesday, January 5**

6:40am + Herbert Wetherall  
8:00am St. Leo Parish Family

### **Thursday, January 6**

6:40am St. Leo Parish Family  
8:00am St. Leo Parish Family

### **Friday, January 7**

6:40am St. Leo Parish Family  
8:00am St. Leo Parish Family

### **Saturday, January 8**

5:30pm + Gar Agosta

### **Sunday, January 9**

7:30am + Mary & Gene Reece  
9:00am + Tom Lowndes  
11:00am + Amy McPhee  
12:45pm St. Leo Parish Family  
5:30pm + Loretta Miller

## Visitation Ministry

**Jan. 3 • Methodist** Cafferty/Kanger

**Jan. 7 • Immanuel** Berthelsen/Drvol/Huettner/Mlnarik

**Jan. 7 • Methodist** Goaley/Murphy/Sexton

**Jan. 9 • Brighton Gardens** R. Berthelsen

**Jan. 9 • Waterford** Hohmans

**Jan. 9 • Camelot** G. Knockenhauer

**Jan. 9 • Bickford Cottage** Burns

## Rite of Acceptance

Have you ever been intrigued by a travel brochure or the travel section of the Sunday newspaper? They lay before us all the marvels and wonders of distant and different lands. They may show us places and things that we've never seen; they hint at adventures that can't fully be described. Usually we spend a minute or an hour imagining what the journey might be like and then we turn the page or set the brochure down.

Those who come to us to find out about the Catholic church begin with a period of inquiry. The period of inquiry might be compared to reading a travel brochure. What kind of journey might this be? What might we encounter on the way? Where might we end up? These are important questions, but asking them is not the same thing as taking the journey.

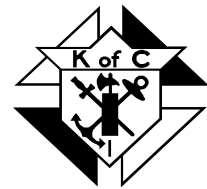
The Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens—celebrated at the end of the period of inquiry—is something like sign-up day. At this liturgy, the inquirers who have asked the questions and now are ready to embark on the journey arrive at our door. We greet them and ask them what they want. They want what we told them that we could help them discover: faith, baptism, eternal life. We mark them with the cross, for this is the sign of all who are on this journey. We give them the holy scriptures: It is the guidebook that we use on the way. We promise to be with them on this trip, for we are still on it ourselves. And we give them wise guides—sponsors, catechists, pastors and many others—to surround them and support them as they learn the ways of the road.

Any good travel agent will tell you that she or he cannot guarantee how a journey will end, or what exactly will happen along the way. We can't say, either, what will happen along this way. But in faith we can say that if we and those we invite on this journey are faithful to the one who has called us to make it, then the end of the journey will be more marvelous than we imagined at the onset.

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## St. Leo Knights of Columbus

**Soda Bread! Soda Bread!** Soda Bread will be available beginning the weekend of January 22. All proceeds benefit the Tuition Assistance program at St. Pius/St. Leo School.



**Go to [stleo.net/KoC/index.htm](http://stleo.net/KoC/index.htm) to learn more about the Knights at St. Leo parish.**

### Upcoming Activities

January 11	General Meeting (7pm in parish house)
January 16	Youth Free Throw Contest (6:30pm at St. Pius gym)
January 25	Officer Meeting (7pm in parish house)

**To learn more about the benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus, contact Larry Michaud (496-2114) or Fred Otterberg (392-1255).**

## Singles 40's, 50's, 60+ Group at St. Leo

The Singles Group at St. Leo is a group of single people in their 40's, 50's & 60+, unmarried for any reason. We welcome everyone over 40 and single, regardless of their church affiliation. For more details, please see our monthly calendar on our website: [www.stleo.net/singles\\_group.php](http://www.stleo.net/singles_group.php). If you don't have internet access, call the parish at 397-0407.

### January 2011

**Jan 7 (Fri): TGIF** will be at Mc Kenna's BBQ, 7425 Pacific. Please plan to meet anytime after 5:30 p.m. Lee is our host. Contact him with any questions at 968-8249. Ask for the St. Leo's table. Reservations are not necessary.



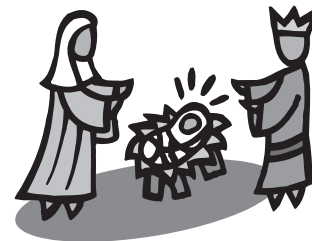
**Jan 12 (Wed): Second Wednesday**—Bonefish Grill Lounge tonight--meet in the lounge anytime after 5pm. Look for our group and save seats if you can. Contact Patti with questions beforehand at 393-0571.

### Prayer: "The Work of Christmas"

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,

The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among others,  
To make music in the heart.



Howard Thurman

## Community News & Events

### ~Widowed, Separated and Divorced

**COPING SESSIONS** for adults designed to help adult individuals work through the trauma of divorce, separation or the loss of a spouse through death will be held Thursday evenings, January 6, 13, 20, 27, February 3, 10, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. These sessions are opened to individuals of all faiths. This peer ministry of people caring for people is sponsored by The Beginning Experience of Omaha and will be held at St. Robert Bellarmine, 11802 Pacific Street. Cost is \$20.00. Scholarships are available; please ask if needed, we do not want anyone to stay away because of money. Pre-registration is not required. For more information, contact the Family Life Office at 402-551-9003 or Chuck at 402-895-9349 or visit our website at [www.beginningexperienceofomaha.org](http://www.beginningexperienceofomaha.org).

### ~Come to a Guatemala Mission Information Session-Ixim: Spirit of Solidarity!

Have you ever considered participating in a short term Mission trip? Here is an opportunity for you!

Since 2004 nine trips to Guatemala have taken place with people from both urban and rural Omaha Archdiocesan parishes. The next trip is being planned for next summer and will take place in late June/early July 2011 led by Fr. Damian Zuerlein, pastor of St. Columbkille Parish in Papillion, Nebraska.

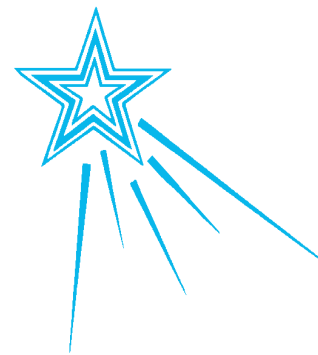
If you would like to learn more about the mission project and possibly participate in our summer 2011 mission trip, please plan to attend the following Information Session: Sunday January 16, 2011 – 2:00pm at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish (11900 Pacific Street) in Meeting Room 2.

Questions or unable to attend the meeting, E-Mail Maggie Berigan, Communications Coordinator for Ixim: Spirit of Solidarity at: [iximero@gmail.com](mailto:iximero@gmail.com) or visit [www.ixim.org](http://www.ixim.org).

**~ALL ABOUT ANGELS** A basic, introductory course about the Catholic understanding of the nature of angels. What is an angel? How many angels can dance on the head of a pin? Can the devil be saved? Do I really have a guardian angel? Is there any proof that angels actually exist or is it based on faith alone? RCIA groups encouraged to attend. Instructor: Peter Kennedy, ACD, MA. Location: Christ the King, Omaha. Tuesday, January 18, 6:30-9pm. Cost: \$5. <http://reg131.imperisoft.com/ArchdioceseOfOmaha/Search/Registration.aspx> or call 402-553-5524 ext 1.

**A** star burned in the sky more brightly than all the others; its light was indescribable, its newness marvelous, and all the other stars, along with the sun and the moon, formed a chorus around this star, the light of which reached farther than that of any other....Then all magic was destroyed, and every bond wrought by wickedness was broken, and the ancient kingdom was razed. When God appeared in human form to bring the newness of eternal life, his counsel began to be fulfilled.

*Ignatius of Antioch  
Second Century*



## CARE Certificates

Available after Masses and at the Parish office during the week.

**\$5** KFC, Marcus Theaters

**\$20** Dennis Uniform, Sephora

**\$10**  
Arbys  
Barnes & Noble  
Bath & Body Works  
Bene Pizza  
Blockbuster  
Borders  
Burger King  
Chipotle  
Crane Coffee  
Culver's  
Eileen's Cookies  
Panera Bread  
Pizza Hut  
Runza  
Scooters  
Smashburger  
Starbucks  
Subway  
Wendys

**\$25**  
AMC Theaters, Aeropostle, Applebees, Bag N Save, Bakers, Banana Republic, Barnes & Noble, Bass Pro Shop, Bath & Body Works, Best Buy, Bonefish Grill, Carrabas, Charlestons, Cheesecake Factory, Chilis, CVS Pharmacy, Dick's Sporting Goods, Dillards, Fazoli's, Flemings, Gap, Granite City, Kohls, Home Depot, Lowes, Menards, No Frills, Office Max, Old Chicago, Old Navy, Olive Garden, Outback, Penneys, Red Lobster, Romeos, Shell Gas Card, Sinclair Gas, Starbucks, Valentinos, Whole Foods, Walgreens, Walmart, Younkers

**\$15** Itunes

**\$50** Bag N Save, BP Gas, Whole Foods, Wohlners