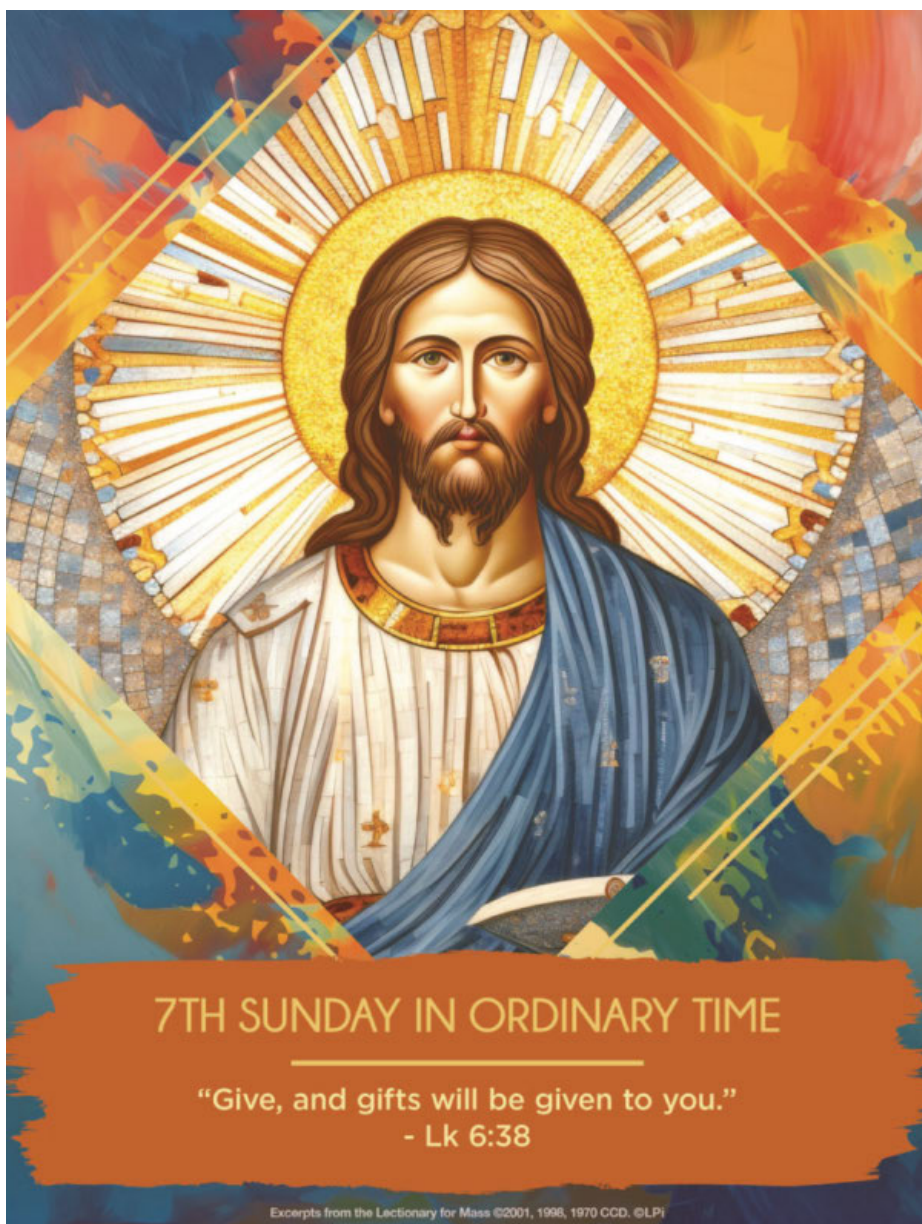




St. Leo Catholic Church

1920 N. 102nd St. Omaha NE 68114 || 402.397.0407 || www.stleo.net



7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Give, and gifts will be given to you."
- Lk 6:38

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

February
23
2025

Pastor

Fr. Craig Loecker

Associate Pastor

Fr. Michael Swanton

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am,
12:00noon, 5:30pm

Monday-Friday: 7:30am

Confessions

Saturdays 3:30-4:30pm

St. Pius X/St. Leo School

6905 Blondo Street

402.551.6667

Principal: Katie Chattin

St. Leo the Great Mission Statement

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

Offering inspiring & prayerful worship, Developing & maintaining quality, life-long religious education for everyone, Providing loving service to those in need, Celebrating the great events in our parish family.

Looking Ahead Lent 2025

March 5 Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule
7:30am, 12noon, 5:30pm & 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross Fridays at 5:30pm

Reconciliation Saturdays at 3:30pm

Men's Retreat April 5

Women's Retreat April 12



This year we will participate again in an Archdiocesan program for Lent called **Live Lent Together**.

The program consists of small groups who meet weekly. They pray together and read scripture and share if they choose. Small groups are made up of your friends, family or neighbors. It is a great way to form community and to pray together during Lent. You can meet at someone's home, a coffee house, or wherever the group would like to meet. There is an online video training if you would like to lead a group. Contact Randy: randy@stleo.net or 402-397-0407 if interested.

Parish Financial Update

Fiscal Year July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025

Donations Received February 16, 2025

Sunday/Holy Day Envelopes:
\$17,344.00

Monthly ACH Donations: \$22,132.00
Sunday Plate: \$2,095.70
Total Sunday: \$41,571.70

~Our per Sunday goal is \$31,500~

Fiscal Year to Date Deficit:
\$-19,688.09

Building Fund Envelopes: \$70.00
Human Needs Envelopes: \$65.00

Archbishop's Annual Appeal
2024 Goal: \$118,661.34
Received: \$112,671.37
(94.95%)
Deficit: \$5,989.97

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Mass Intentions

Monday, February 24

7:30am + Jim O'Neil

Tuesday, February 25

7:30am + Dave Keller

Wednesday, February 26

7:30am + Judy Svoboda

Thursday, February 27

7:30am + Bob Burkhard

Friday, February 28

7:30am + All Souls

Saturday, March 1

5:00pm + Robert & Grace
Osborn

Sunday, March 2

8:00am St. Leo Parish Family
10:00am Spec. Int. In Thanksgiv-
ing for Kerod Amegbeto
12:00pm + Joan O'Keefe
5:30pm + Ardyth Salerno

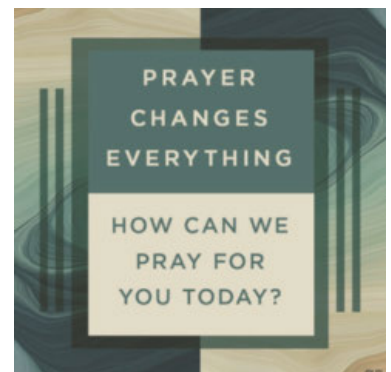
Presider Schedule

March 1 & 2

Unavailable at time of Printing.

St. Leo Prayer Line

Call or email the following with prayer requests:
Jeanne (5pm-9pm) 493-0145
Kathy kw1209@yahoo.com
Parish Office 402-397-0407
or dina@stleo.net



Celebrate Mardi Gras! March 1, 2025 6:00pm St. Leo Church

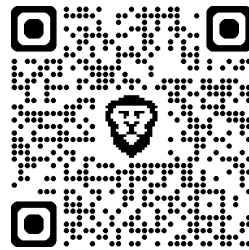
Enjoy a catered dinner and music by Billy Troy. Billy is a singer, songwriter and Grammy nominated producer. He has performed as a Nashville singer and on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry. His music is from the 50's, 60's, 70's and beyond. His voice along with his passion for the wonderful stories behind the music bring great enjoyment!

**Tickets are \$20 per person. Please RSVP to
St. Leo Parish office with payment by
February 24th.
This event is open to all adults!**

Sponsored by Young at Heart



The Knights of Columbus need your help! We are short of volunteers for the wrapping room in our Irish Soda Bread Fundraiser for St. Pius/St. Leo School. If you need volunteer service hours, or just want to help out; please check the QR code to sign up.



Faith Discoveries Book Group Join other readers to discuss the book *Make Room for God: Clearing Out the Clutter* by Susan K. Rowland. Come to W1 to share your reflections. ?'s: lindaleary576@gmail.com

In Sympathy

Please remember in your prayers those who have been born into eternal life, especially **Lucille Fox**; and for **Joyce Fuxa**, wife of Edward Fuxa.

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



**St. Leo Vacation
Bible School
June 2-5, 2025
9am-12noon**

**Registration
Opens
March 16**

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the LORD's anointed." (1 Sm 26:23)

Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

Second Reading:

Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one. (1 Cor 15:49)

Gospel:

"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Jn Lk 6:36)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus' message today is one of radical generosity and abundant mercy, and it scandalized the people of his time. It shook them to their core. It should do the same for us. Are we ready to live as Jesus lived? Are we ready to offer love in the face of hate?

Observances for the week of February 23, 2025

Sunday: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thursday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, *Explained!*

Fasting was practiced by righteous men and women of the Old Testament and later by Christ himself. It remains an important part of the Christian devotional life today, being most strongly associated with the penitential season of Lent.

Prayer of Christian Life

Dear Jesus,
Help me to pray for and bless everyone I encounter, whether that be easy or hard. Help me to act in the mercy I have known through you. Help me to demonstrate generosity, as you have given so much to me.
Amen.

Dear Parishioners,

Although it's just February, St. Pius X / St. Leo School is already looking ahead to the 2025-26 school year! For many years, SPSL has identified compensation for our valued teaching staff as an opportunity for improvement. SPSL current compensation for teachers is lower than many other Archdiocesan schools in the metro area. This year, the starting salary for a first year teacher at SPSL is 66% of the salary offered to a first year teacher working in Omaha Public Schools (OPS).

Continued need for strong partnership of parents through tuition payments and engagement as well as continued institutional support from St. Pius X and St. Leo the Great is critical to the success and sustainability of SPSL School.

However, we recognize that the generous support of our parish communities and parent paid tuition alone would not be able to support the needed increase for teacher compensation. Therefore, we have intensified fundraising efforts the past 24 months

with a focus on engaging with benefactors and friends of SPSL as the source of funding to increase teacher compensation. The goals of this initiative are to:

- Attract and retain talented faculty with an updated pay scale and an adjusted starting salary.
- Having great teachers, who are good colleagues, who feel appreciated and paid well for what they do fosters an environment where they create and deliver outstanding educational programs.
- With teachers who live out our Catholic school mission, SPSL attracts and retains our wonderful school families, making SPSL the first choice for Catholic elementary education in Omaha.
- Increased enrollment helps sustain the school operating budget for years to come.

I am thrilled to report that the fundraising efforts have been very fruitful! Significant philanthropic gifts have been secured which will allow SPSL School to move forward with the teacher compensation boost initiative for the 2025-26 school year. Bene-

factors supporting this initiative view this as a matter of justice for the teaching profession, and their gifts are intended to sustain the mission of SPSL School. As a result of the incredible generosity of donors, next year the starting salary for a first year teacher at SPSL will increase to 80% of what OPS offers at that level - a marked improvement but leaving plenty of room for continued growth.

The fundraising for this effort secured to date is projected to cover the increased compensation costs for at least the next 10 years. We are continuing efforts to fundraise to sustain this important initiative for our school.

St. Pius X / St. Leo School is grateful for the guidance, support, and generosity of SPSL benefactors, parents, alumni, and St. Pius X and St. Leo the Great parishioners. Thank you from SPSL School!

Michaela Smith,
SPSL Director of Operations

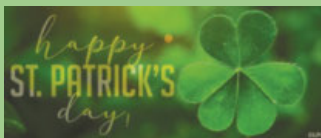


St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

March 18, 2025
11:30am St. Leo

Enjoy a catered traditional Irish lunch, followed by a dancing performance provided by the Dancing Grannies! Their troupe is in their 5th decade of performing. The dancers are from ages 50-89. The rat-a tat-tat of the tap shoes promises to entertain!

Tickets are \$15 per person.
RSVP at St. Leo Parish office with payment by March 11th.
This event is open to all!
Sponsored by Young at Heart



In Pursuit of Life, Love and Happiness

Deacon Jim Shipman

The teaching of Our Lord Jesus Christ often seems to contradict our human reactions and emotions to circumstances in our lives. For example, if someone cuts you off in traffic, your reaction is usually anger and frustration. If someone damages your property or hurts you or your family physically, your reaction is extreme anger and possibly revenge. However, as Christians we must conquer those human reactions, forgive and do good to those who harm us. Saint John Paul II gave us a prime example of this, when he met and forgave the man who attempted to kill him.

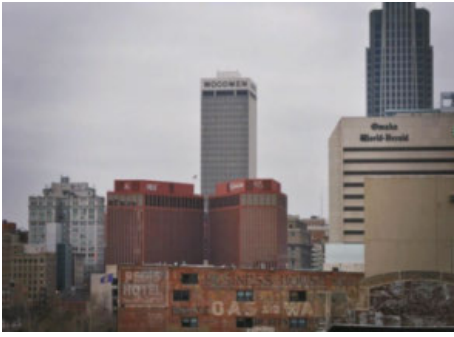
In the Gospel from Luke, Jesus gives us a series of teachings on how we should behave and give God's love to those who harm us and don't respect us. Jesus opens his teaching with, "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who

hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."
This sentence alone teaches us how much we need to change our reactions and emotions to learn to love as God loves.

This Gospel passage is full of Wisdom to live by, "Do to others as you would have them do to you," and "Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven."

If we allow Our Lord Jesus Christ into our heart and allow The Holy Spirit to guide our lives, we will begin to live as Our Lord has taught us. Is it easy? NO! However, the deeper our relationship with Our Lord Jesus grows, the more we will learn to Love, Forgive and show Mercy to everyone, even our enemies. Let us all bring God's Love to our life and to the world.

1 Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Corinthians 15: 45-49 and Luke 6: 27-38



Nicholas Andrews, Jerry Baggert, Mick Bayne, Ronnie Beasley, Todd Callahan, Bill Clark, T.J. Ewin, Matt Fadell, Tim Harding, Ken Kanger, Brandon Krajeski, B.J. Kreikemeier, D.J. Kreikemeier, Scott Kriener, Keith Lampert, Brendan O'Flynn, Michael O'Hanlon, Jonathan Rieschl, Adam Rokes, D.J. Roshone, Ken Rowe, Justin Rudloff, Scott Schendt, Brian Schmaderer, Todd Schmaderer, Dave Schneider, David Shavlik, Kenneth Shipman, Mike Smith, Joel Strominger, Aaron Tierney, T.J. Wurth

If you have a loved one (family or friend) who is currently serving our city and would like their name listed each week asking for prayers, email dina@stleo.net.

Prayer for Those Serving our City as Police, Fire & Rescue
 Blessed are you Lord, God of Mercy, Send down your blessings and your protection on these your servants, who so generously devote themselves to helping others. Protect them and grant them courage when they are afraid, wisdom when they must make quick decisions, strength when they are weary, and compassion in all their work. +Amen

Prayer for Those Serving our Country in the Military
 O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask Your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity, and devotion the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. +Amen

Scott, Ashby, John Banker, David Banker, Leigh Barry, Andy Bayne, Carl Benander, John Bergmann, Pete Bruening, Maury Champoux, Chandler Clark, Jake Dreessen, Drew Dunham, Anthony Fleming, Kris Fleming, Ed Fuchs, Amy Gerwitz, Amber Hagy, Jonathon Hale, Jordan Hammond, A.J. Hickey, Glen Hickey, Brice Hilfiker, Wesley Hulstein, Deborah Infante, Zach Juteau, TJ Kafka, Alex Kelly, Anton Deeths Kerrigan, Tristin Knoell, Brandon Kreikemeier, Daniel Kudlacz, Paul Lampert, Doug Langhorst, Andrew Leary, Matthew Leary, Madi Lorimer, Thomas Lorimer, Nick Lynch, Drew McChesney, Cameron McWilliams, Jessica Milbourn, Josh Navarro, Kaitlyn Hickey Oiler, Matt Oiler, Nathan Pence, Jacob Phillips, Eli Reichert, Joseph Reynolds, Karoline Rieks, Chris Rivers, Nathan Rokes, Ashley Sanchez, Jon Schroeder, Will Schroeder, Jake Schumacher, Ben Stokesbary, Spencer Swerczek, Brad Tomasek, Ryan Walker, Sean P. Walz, Andrea J. White, Nate Whisler, Matt Wolford, Maggie Yakus If you have a loved one (family or friend) who is currently serving our country and would like their name listed each week asking for prayers, email dina@stleo.net.



Deacon Community

Jim Shipman
 Trung & Hanh Nguyen
 Norm & Joyce Tierney
 Randy & Kami Landenberger

Parish Staff

Angelina Bottorff, Religious Formation Assistant
 Betsy Bridgeford, Business Manager
 Rachel Connelly, Director of Religious Formation
 Janet Drvol, Director of Youth Ministry
 Randy Landenberger, Pastoral Minister
 Jim Shipman, Director of Liturgy
 Mike Short, Facilities Manager
 Dina Turco, Parish Secretary

Parish Council

Margy Ford, Christy Ziskey, Dave Shavlik, John Schultz, Darla Sullivan, Dave Egan, Bill Lindsay

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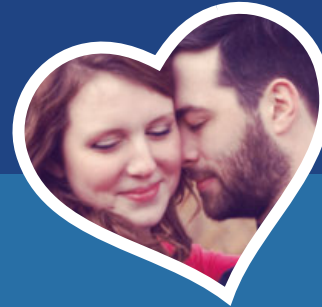
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