

St. Leo Parish News

St. Leo Catholic Church, Murray, KY

Spring 2011 Edition



Building Program Update

By John Mitchell, Capital Campaign Chair

Have You Made Your Faith Promise?

Our church renovation and expansion is going very well. As you can see in the rendering below, our new church is going to be beautiful. We are on track for completion this summer. In fact, we've already invited Bishop Medley to dedicate our church on Sunday, July 31st. All we have left - the hardest part, of course - is to pay for it.



When our first capital campaign is completed at the end of March, we will have raised about \$980,000.00, including interest and fundraising. Isn't that incredible? Our consultant told us we'd be doing well to raise \$700,000. More important than the total is the fact that we have achieved this through the collective sacrifice of so many parishioners. It has been a remarkable effort by everyone.

Our final cost estimate for the entire project is \$2.0M. We have to add to that about \$80,000 in interest we will need to pay the Diocese of Owensboro. If you take off the \$980,000 we've raised already, you see we have \$1.1M to go. We are giving ourselves four years to raise that amount.

Recap

\$2,000,000 Project Cost Estimate

+ \$80,000 Interest

\$2,080,000 Total Project Cost

Now, if everyone were to give at the same rate for the next four years what they have given the last three years, we would achieve our goal. However, some have sacrificed at a level they simply cannot sustain. That means others need to step up and sacrifice more. Our overall goal is equal sacrifice, not equal gifts. Please give prayerful consideration to what sacrifice you can make.

If you have not already done so, please fill out a Faith Promise Card. You should have received one in the mail. Blank cards can also be found at the back of Church. It is very important we hear from everyone, so even if you are not in a position to provide financial support, show your support by sending in a card. We are asking for your prayers, as well.

Thank you for the tremendous support you've already shown. Together we can complete this important work done in His name.

Your Capital Campaign Committee: Julio Barrera, Stacy Clark, Cindy Clemson, Tina Coffelt, Joel Dobson, David Durr, John Mitchell & Judy Muehleman.

For weekly photo updates on the building project, go to our website at www.stleoky.org and click on the link at the top of the page.

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Did You Know???

By John and Joan Krieb



As we continue to see progress on our church renovation and expansion we thought it would be interesting to see how many items belonging to the “old” 1963 church or the original 1943 church (now Gleason Hall) are being re-used in our new building. Here is a partial listing:

Pews: All of the wood pews from the 1963 church are being refurbished and will be part of our new seating area.

Crucifix: The large Corpus and Cross that was most recently used in our church will be refurbished and installed on the new stone wall behind our altar.

Bell: The large bell that was part of our sign on the front lawn was originally used with our 1943 church; this bell will be refurbished and installed in the new bell tower.

Cross: The cross that was on the roof of our 1963 church has been refurbished and now is installed on the bell tower of the new church, mounted on a new “orb”.

Statues: Our 1943 church contained 4 major statues: The Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Leo were on either side of the altar and the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph were on the front walls, outside of the Sanctuary. When we moved into the 1963 church, these statues were brought over but most recently only three were used inside the church: The Sacred Heart was in the Devotion Area at the rear of the church and the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph were on the front walls on either side of the Sanctuary. St. Leo was damaged in several areas and was kept in storage. All four statues are being refurbished and will be located in the new gathering space. In addition we

discovered that plaster pedestals were used to hold each of these 4 statues in the 1943 church. Only 3 pedestals remain and they are being repaired for use with the statues in our gathering space; a new fourth pedestal is being fabricated to match the others.

Altar, Ambo and Presider Chair: These items have been used for many years in our 1963 church and in our parish hall worship space. They all will be located into the new multi-purpose room and used for Liturgy there. Some of the other existing furniture items will be used in various parts of the new church.

Piano: The piano used in our 1963 church and in our parish hall worship space will be installed in the new music area of the new church.

Storage Cabinets: A variety of storage cabinets were removed from the 1963 church as part of the demolition phase preceding the new construction work. Most of these will be re-used in the new storage areas of the new church to store items used in various Liturgical celebrations, including Art and Environment materials.

Bricks: More than 10,000 bricks were removed from the walls of the 1963 church when the openings for the new windows and doors were cut in; these bricks were then cleaned up for re-use. They have been used by the masons in the areas around the new windows and new north entrance area so the bricks will match those that were remaining on those walls. Uses for the remaining “old” bricks are being reviewed.

Other: There are still various other items used in our 1963 church for which final disposition is still to be determined.

Holy Week Schedule



Tuesday, April 19th, Chrism Mass in Owensboro @ 6:30 p.m.

Holy Thursday, April 21st, Mass @ 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, April 22nd @ 7:00 p.m.
(Way of the Cross @ 3:00 p.m.)

Holy Saturday, April 23rd Easter Vigil @ 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 24th Mass @ 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

High School PSR Class St Leo 2011

By Dr. Joyce Hughes

Our high school class has been busy. We had a wonderful fall semester studying the bible through the teen timeline series. This involved 8 sessions through the bible, starting with Genesis and ending with the Acts of the Apostles. The students got a look at God's covenant with man starting in Genesis and ending with Jesus' death on the cross. They got to see how God's plan was foretold in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New Testament. With this knowledge, they have the basis to read the bible or to listen to our Sunday readings with a deeper understanding. We have continued this study of the bible with a closer look at the Acts of the Apostles this semester. I think this will help continue to ignite their flames to learn and study the bible on their own.

Our time together has consisted of more than just study. We took a group of 6 students to the Western KY Diocesan Youth retreat in Bowling Green last fall. We have been to Murray Elementary School and read to kindergarten students during Dr. Suess week. We will work at the fish fry and make rosaries for 1st communion students and children at St. Jude hospital. We look forward to a picnic in the spring and graduation for our seniors.



High School Youth celebrating Dr. Suess's birthday by reading to children at Murray Elementary School.

Twenty Young Men and Women Preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation

By Dr. Joyce Hughes

The St. Leo confirmation class of 2011 consists of 20 students preparing to be confirmed on May 4th. The students have been working hard this year with their Wednesday night bible study class as well as their confirmation preparation classes on Sunday after the 11 o'clock Mass.

Confirmation preparation consists of an 8 week study program. It also requires a short paper about their confirmation saint and a letter to the Bishop stating why they feel they are ready for this important step in their faith formation.

During these preparatory months the students are also involved in service to their church and community. They will help with the Lenten fish fry and church activities, and with community service at the elementary schools. Another important aspect of our preparation for confirmation involves prayer. The students will participate in the Stations of the Cross and with making a rosary for the 2nd grade 1st communion class. They will study their prayers including the Hail Holy Queen, the Padre Nuestro, the rosary and prayer to the Holy Spirit. The students have been preparing themselves with their Lenten sacrifices of prayer, fasting and self-giving to others that will conclude with the sacrament of reconciliation prior to their confirmation.

During the 1st weekend in March our confirmation students and their sponsors got together for a retreat day at the lake. It was raining heavily that day, but all the students managed to enjoy the time they spent together despite the gloomy weather. During the day the students had a chance to explore what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus and how the Holy Spirit moves through us and strengthens us during the sacrament of confirmation.

All the students are very much looking forward to their confirmation in May. We hope everyone will be there.

2011 St Leo Confirmation Class

Beth Courtney, Charlie Courtney, Brianna Ohnemus, Nani Walter, Elizabeth Hernandez, Stephen Orr, Justin Parish, John Lollar, Lee Ann Orr, Tyler Conklin, Raegan Ellegood, Rachel Wooten, Cheyenne Miller, Chelsey Delaney, Bernedette Chadwick, Adam Clark, Osvaldo Rojas, Izel Leon, Andrew Fraher, & Alex Ward.



Confirmation 2011 Retreat Day

St. Leo Parish Lenten Fish Fry

Even though we are temporarily without the use of our parish hall during our time of renovation and construction, the annual Lenten fish fry has continued successfully with the help of the Knights of Columbus.

The fish fry has relocated to the K of C hall on Squire Rd. this year and has experienced little effect from the move. We continue to serve a delicious meal of fish, slaw, hushpuppies, fries or baked potato, beans, and desert. This year, we even have an option of either fried or baked fish, which has been very popular and has received many compliments.

Many thanks to the volunteers who have helped with our Lenten fish fry and a very special thanks to the Knights of Columbus, who do so much to support our parish.



St. Leo Parish Dedicated to Serving Others.

“Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25:40

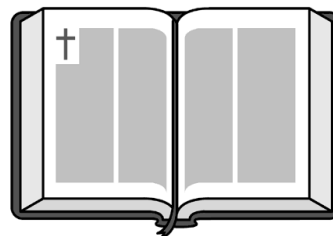
The mission statement for St. Leo Parish states that we are “a culturally diverse Catholic community, empowered by the Holy Spirit, committed to worshiping God and providing for the spiritual development of the parish and the larger community through liturgy, service and evangelization.” Our commitment to service is a response to the call from Christ to serve Him by serving one another. Our At the Door Ministry responds to those who find themselves in difficult situations and need of assistance.

During the past year from March 2010 until the present our At the Door Ministry has helped 267 people/families. We have paid out \$15,683.43, including \$760 purchased/donated to the need line backpack program and donations \$1100.00 for Christmas programs at the Schools and Family Resource Center to provide coats etc. needed at Christmas.

Many who have come for assistance this year are those who have lost jobs due to the economy. We are beginning to see people who have found jobs but are still in need until the pay checks begin in a few weeks. The top two items we help with are electric/Gas and rent. Our assistance program works very closely with Need Line to assess and evaluate those in need. Need Line does all the income and background clearance for the people we help and they do a great job. Many people express their gratitude for the assistance we give them and do not know what they would do without St. Leo Parish and other organizations committed to serving those who are in need.

At present we have 7 persons who rotate weeks to interview people requesting assistance. We thank them for the great job they do and the kindness they show people. St. Leo has been and will continue to be dedicated to serving Christ in the least of our brothers and sisters.

**Join us for Young Adult Bible Study
Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.**



For more information contact Allie:
270-753-3876 or
allie@stleoky.org

THE TRIDUUM

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. WHAT IS THE PROPER TIME FOR EASTER VIGIL?

A. On Saturday evening, April 23, 2011, the sun will set in our diocese at approximately 7:30 PM. The end of civil twilight (nightfall) will occur at approximately 8:00 PM. Ideally, the Easter Vigil celebration should not begin before 8:00 – 8:15 PM.

“The entire celebration of the Easter Vigil takes place at night. It should not begin before nightfall; it should end before daybreak on Sunday.” This rule is to be taken according to its strictest sense. Reprehensible are those abuses and practices that have crept into many places in violation of this ruling, whereby the Easter Vigil is celebrated at the same time of day that it is customary to celebrate anticipated Sunday Masses (*Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of the Easter Feasts*, no. 78. Congregation for Divine Worship, January 16, 1988, quoting the Roman Missal).

According to a most ancient tradition, this night is one of vigil for the Lord, and the Vigil celebrated during it, to commemorate that holy night when the Lord rose from the dead, is regarded as the mother of all holy vigils. For in that night, the Church keeps vigil, waiting for the resurrection of the Lord, and celebrates the sacraments of Christian initiation. – *Paschale Solemnitatis*, no. 77 (quoting Exodus 12:42; St. Augustine, Sermon 219; and the *Ceremonial of Bishops*)

Q. THE WORD “TRIDUUM” MEANS “THREE DAYS.” WHAT ARE THE THREE DAYS OF THE TRIDUUM?

A. The three days of the Sacred Triduum are Sunday, Saturday, and Friday. Good Friday has a vigil, which we celebrate liturgically as the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday evening.

This seventy-two hour period is the most important celebration of our entire liturgical calendar; it begins on Holy Thursday evening and concludes with Vespers (Evening Prayer) on Easter Sunday. The Sacred Triduum is actually ONE liturgy over three days. We may go home and come back again, but we do not actually “begin” and “end” our daily celebrations.

Q. WHAT IS THE PROPER PLACE FOR THE PASCHAL CANDLE?

A. The paschal candle is a symbol for Christ, “the light of glory... scattering the darkness of our hearts and minds” (RM,

Easter Vigil). It is to be a genuine candle, and its design and size should be in proportion to the sanctuary in which it will be placed.

During the Easter Vigil and throughout the Easter Season, the paschal candle is to be placed in the sanctuary, near the altar or the ambo. Placed at the ambo, it is as if Christ is teaching us and the neophytes (A. Nocent, *The Liturgical Year*).

After the Easter Season it is moved to a place of honor in the baptistry, for use in the celebration of baptism. (Often, in newer construction, receptacles for the candle are imbedded near the font.) In the celebration of a funeral, the paschal candle is placed near the coffin to indicate that the death of a Christian is one’s own passover. The paschal candle should not otherwise be lit nor placed inside the sanctuary outside the Easter season (*Paschale Solemnitatis*, 99).

Q. MAY WE USE MORE THAN ONE CROSS FOR THE VENERATION ON GOOD FRIDAY?

A. No. Only one cross should be used for the veneration, as this contributes to the full symbolism of the rite. It should be a cross, not a crucifix, and it should be of sufficient size and beauty.

One or other of the forms found in the Roman rite may be followed. The rite should be carried out with the splendor worthy of the mystery of our salvation. Both the invitation pronounced at the unveiling of the cross and the people’s response should be sung.

The cross is to be presented to each of the faithful for their adoration, since the personal veneration of the cross is a very important element of this celebration. Only when necessitated by excessively large numbers should the veneration be made simultaneously by all present. The priest celebrant holds the cross or stands near it (if it is otherwise supported). Candles are placed on either side of the cross (*Paschale Solemnitatis*, 68-69, Roman Missal, Good Friday, 14-17).



St. Leo Koinonia # 5

By Robert Lyons

Each year St. Leo sponsors a Koinonia, a weekend retreat for the Greek word for community. Koinonia #5, held February 24-27, was a spirit-filled weekend of fellowship and faith renewal enjoyed by approximately 30 participants and team members. The weekend is comprised of a wide variety of study, food and fellowship, including attendance at the 8 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Koinonia attendees agree to lead and participate in faith community activities throughout the year. Koinonia #5 team leaders were: Carrissa Johnson (Lay Director), Tonya Meurer (Spiritual Director), Darryl Rezac, Sherry Gargus, Robert Lyons, Mary Beth Lyons and Chris Clark. Koinonia #6 is set for the weekend of February 10-12, 2012. If you have any questions about Koinonia, please feel free to contact Carrissa Johnson, Robert Lyons or any other past Koinonia member.

Newman House would like to thank the St. Leo Parish community for your prayers and continued support of our Catholic Campus Ministry.



Front Row: Rachel Kortkamp Middle Row: Jeremy Wathen, Cindy Kramer, & Allie Loomis. Back Row: Stephanie Morgan, Jiwon Seo, Emily D'Angelo



Newman House Students Spend Spring Break Serving with the Franciscans for the Poor

By Allie Loomis, Campus Minister

Over Murray State's spring break six MSU students from Newman House decided to participate in an alternative spring break. We traveled to Cincinnati, Ohio for a week of service and living in community at the Franciscans for the Poor, Tau House. Through several different volunteer experiences the students were able to stretch themselves and experience a different perspective involving people who are homeless.

We were challenged with the reality that we may not make a big or noticeable impact on the organizations where we volunteered, but that we had the opportunity to impact lives. The relationships that were built with fellow volunteers, site employees, and clients being served may not be able to be measured, but truly changed us all.

Lent

Our observance of Lent began this year on March 9th, Ash Wednesday, a day of fast and abstinence for Catholics. At Mass on Ash Wednesday, the imposition of ashes replicates an ancient penitential practice and symbolizes our dependence upon God's mercy and forgiveness.

During Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics.

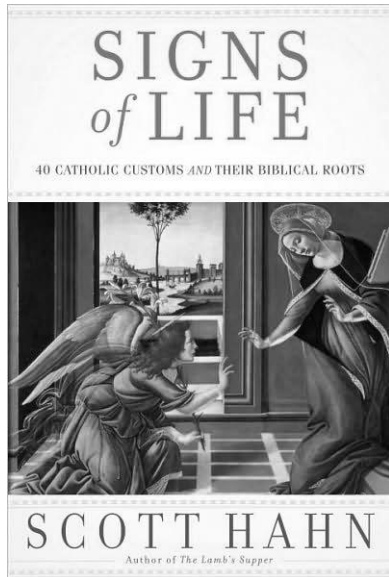
The three traditional pillars of Lenten observance are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The Church asks us to surrender ourselves to prayer and to the reading of Scripture, to fasting and to giving alms. The fasting that all do together on Fridays is but a sign of the daily Lenten discipline of individuals and households: fasting for certain periods of time, fasting from certain foods, but also fasting from other things and activities. Likewise, the giving of alms is some effort to share this world equally—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents.

The key to fruitful observance of these practices is to recognize their link to baptismal renewal. We are called not just to abstain from sin during Lent but to true conversion of our hearts and minds as followers of Christ. We recall those waters in which we were baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

-From the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Lenten Book Study

Signs of Life: 40 Catholic Customs and their Biblical Roots
by Dr. Scott Hahn



Several St. Leo parishioners have joined together during the Lenten season to study Dr. Scott Hahn's book, Signs of Life: 40 Catholic Customs and their Biblical Roots.

We meet every Wednesday following the 6:30 p.m. Mass and discuss the previous week's readings. Each day during Lent is assigned a brief chapter from Hahn's book, dedicated to offering a guide to the biblical doctrines and historical traditions that underlie Catholic beliefs and practices. Hahn takes the reader on a journey that illuminates the roots and significance of all things Catholic, including: The Sign of the Cross; the Mass; the Sacraments; praying with the saints; guardian angels; sacred images and relics; the celebration of Easter, Christmas, and other holidays; daily prayers; the Angelus; to name only a few. Dr. Hahn presents the basic tenets of Church teachings, clears up the common misconceptions about specific rituals and traditions, and responds thoughtfully to the objections raised about them. To supplement the wealth of information Dr. Hahn offers each topic, he concludes each chapter with loving, good-natured, inspiring advice on applying the Church's wisdom to everyday life.

This book is tremendous in so many ways, namely in its effort to encourage a study of both Scripture and the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church. What a great way to spend Lent in preparation for the Holiest Week of the Year and the Glorious Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ST. LEO
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Pandamania

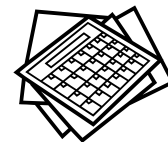
Where God is Wild about us!
June 6th – 10th



From music to snacks and everything in between, each part of PandaMania VBS is intentionally designed to focus on the things that matter—connecting kids to God—and eliminating the things that don't. It's about preparing each child's heart to receive the gospel message in an unforgettable way. It's about enabling kids to share God's love with others. It's about why you do VBS.

PandaMania VBS is intentionally designed to connect kids to God, create change in their hearts, and give them opportunities to share God's love with others.

Please make plans to join us this year as we enjoy learning about our God's great love for us.



Upcoming Events

Relay for Life:	Friday, April 29 th
First Communion:	Sunday, May 1 st @ 11:00 a.m.
Confirmation:	Wednesday, May 4 th @ 6:30 p.m.
High School Seniors Mass:	Sunday, May 22 nd @ 11:00 a.m.
Church Dedication:	Sunday, July 31 st @ 11:00 a.m.

**St. Leo Catholic Church
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Murray, Kentucky 42071**

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NEED TO CONTACT US?



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