

St. Leo Catholic Church
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Annual Non-Event Event 2020

Dear St. Leo Parish members,

What a year! Several people have commented that the new way to curse someone is to tell them you hope they have a year like 2020 (and it isn't even done yet!). St. Leo Parish has been blessed with the financial ability to assist many families and individuals through the COVID-19 shut-down and all that has been part of the results of that shut-down. So, in asking for your financial donations please be assured that neither I nor the members of our Parish Council have unreasonable expectations for this year's fundraiser.

Everyone is simply asked to share with St. Leo's whatever you can to help us keep going. Ever since we did the multiple repairs and upgrades to heating/cooling systems and made our buildings more energy efficient, our monthly bills have been decreased dramatically. Winter can be brutal around here, so we may need a little extra to keep things warm for activities and events.

During October we will have weddings the first two weekends. We will then host the National Evangelization Team (NET) for our area and open our facilities to neighboring groups as part of that. Our religious education efforts and Martha's Kitchen will continue to form our young people in the Catholic Faith. Our online presence gets stronger every week as more people who are homebound tune to our online resources and live broadcasts of Mass. Our parish is doing adult faith formation and will have RCIA for those considering becoming Catholic. As we move out of this pandemic and back into a less stressful life, St. Leo's will also offer to the area the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit in December.

This will mean that our buildings will get more use than usual to end out this year. The normal wear and tear will need tending, and some improvements to better safeguard those using them is necessary. We are hoping to repave the north parking lot in concrete as a major objective of that vision. We will add some moveable wood railings near the altar in the main church to make the steps safer for the older members who assist at Mass, and for older clergy who may visit.

In the past fundraisers, we asked each family or household to consider a one-time gift of \$50. That is still our goal and our hope, but we all know these are tough financial times. Please ask God in prayer what you can afford to contribute. This year is truly one of sacrifice in so many ways.

Please consider what you can give to support these efforts. Thank you in advance for your generosity and kind gift.

Sincerely in Christ,



Father Joe Forcelle, pastor