

The Baptism of the Lord
January 11, 2026

The Roman
Catholic Community of
SAINT LEO THE GREAT



Worship with us!

*“This is my beloved Son,
with whom
I am well pleased.”*

MT 3:17

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 a.m.

DAILY MASSES:

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.
Saturday, 8:00 a.m.

HOLY DAY MASSES: See Bulletin

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



50 HURLEY'S LANE
LINCROFT, NEW JERSEY
07738-1406

**PARISH CENTER
OFFICE HOURS**

MONDAY through **THURSDAY**
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

FRIDAY

Office is Closed

SATURDAY

Office is Closed

SUNDAY

Office is Closed

Follow us on **Facebook** - facebook.com/ChurchofStLeotheGreat and **Instagram** - [@churchofsaintleothegreat](https://instagram.com/@churchofsaintleothegreat)

BULLETIN DEADLINE - THURSDAY AM (*one week prior*)

Parish Statement of Vision & Purpose
*With charity, joy and missionary enthusiasm the
 Roman Catholic Family of Saint Leo the Great, Lincroft,
 commits to giving ourselves unconditionally in service to the People of God
 in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior*

Directory

Pastoral Center

Parish Center 732-747-5466 - Option 1

Email parish@stleothegreat.com

Website www.stleothegreat.com

Saint Leo the Great Early Learning Center

732-333-7362

Email nursery@stleothegreat.com

Director Ms. Junell Wells, BA

Pastoral Staff

Pastor	Reverend John T. Folchetti, D.Min.
Weekend Assistant	Monsignor Cajetan Salemi
Weekend Assistant	Reverend Joseph Tizio, C.Ss.R.
Weekend Assistant	Reverend Anthony Michalik, C.Ss.R.
Deacon	Mr. Edward H. Wilson
Deacon	Mr. Richard Tucker
Deacon	Mr. John Senkewicz
Parish Trustee	Mr. Lawrence Durso
Parish Trustee	Mr. Thomas Gioia
Executive Asst./Office Mgr	Mrs. Julie C. Olski
Receptionist	Mrs. Carol Blaney
Friday Receptionist	Mrs. Joan Gittens

Parish Administration

Director	Mr. Robert A. Pellicone
Bookkeeper	Mrs. Sharon Kreft
Bursar	Mrs. Colleen Esposito
Human Resources/Payroll	Mrs. Siobhan Smith

Pastoral Ministries

Saint Leo the Great School

School 732-741-3133

Website www.saintleothegreatschool.com

Principal	Ms. Caroline Fitzgerald, MA, MA Ed
Vice Principal	Mrs. Julia Chrobocinski, MA Ed
Vice Principal	Mrs. Maria Waldman, MA
PTA President	Mrs. Stephanie Dotzler

Office of Parish Faith Formation

Office 732-747-5466 - Option 2

Email FaithFormation@stleothegreat.com

Coordinator, K-5	Ms. Paula DeStefano
Coordinator, 6-8	Mr. Gary Arkin
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Karen Ann Lenahan

Worship & Liturgical Ministries

Acolytes, Extraordinary Ministers, Lectors	
Moderator	Deacon Edward Wilson
Sacred Music	Mrs. Diane Testa, Director
Sacristan	Mr. Robert A. Pellicone

Catholic Youth Ministry

Director	Mrs. Joan M. Kret
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Buildings & Grounds



Religious Store

908-770-1989

Email store@stleothegreat.com

Evangelization & Spiritual Formation

Coordinator of R.C.I.A. Ms. Paula DeStefano

CLOW Mr. Gary Arkin

Reflection for Women Mrs. Elizabeth Grimaldi

Mrs. Patricia Hicks

Christian Service Ministries

Social Concerns

Deacon John Senkewicz, Coordinator

Lunch Break/Feed A Friend Mrs. Eileen Scoles

Parish Organizations

Carnival General Manager

Knights of Columbus

Parish Council

Grand Knight Anthony DiSpirito

Mr. Timothy Andree, Chairperson

Community Outreach

AA - 8:30 a.m. Saturday

Bereavement Ministry

Ms. Paula DeStefano

Parish Athletic Activities

Director & Coordinator

SLG Athletic Association

Mr. Anthony Biancaniello

Mr. Patrick Bruno

FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Parents and Godparents are required to attend a

Baptismal Preparation Class prior to the Baptism.

Baptisms are celebrated on scheduled Sundays at 1:00 p.m.

Please see our website for information.

FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGES

Please call the Parish Center one year in advance

PRIOR to making any other arrangements.

FOR HOSPITAL & HOME COMMUNION CALLS:

Call the Parish Center

FOR SPONSOR CERTIFICATES / LETTERS OF ELIGIBILITY:

Please note the following requirements

Must be: a registered Parishioner, a faithfully practicing Roman Catholic, over the age of 16, if married, must be in a valid Catholic marriage, and have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, & Confirmation. (cf. Canon Law)

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, January 10

5:30 p.m. --Antoinette Tommolino, r/b Roseann Scarpato
+Elvira Pinton, r/b Sileo Family

Sunday, January 11

7:00 a.m. --Souls in Purgatory, r/b Mary Soyka
+Marybeth Kwapniewski, r/b John, Jo & Seton Smith
8:30 a.m. --Regina Banaszak, r/b Jinx & Hank Kochran
+Angie R. Spino Eccleston, r/b Jinx & Hank Kochran
10:00 a.m. --Betty Gallo, r/b Donna & Chris Volpetti
+Alexander Mignone, r/b Joseph DeMaio
11:30 a.m. - The People of the Parish
+Robert D'Onofrio, r/b Natalie D'Onofrio

Monday, January 12

9:00 a.m. --Ann Brown, r/b Lescavage Family

Tuesday, January 13

9:00 a.m. --Ron Jacobs, r/b Ann Reilly

Wednesday, January 14

9:00 a.m. --Ann Brown, r/b John & Jo Smith
L&D Members of Bandilla Family r/b Aurea Bandilla



Thursday, January 15

9:00 a.m. --Ann Brown, r/b Michael & Samantha D'Averso

Friday, January 16

9:00 a.m. --Reverend Leonard P. Lang

Saturday, January 17

8:00 a.m. --I/O Judy DeStefano, r/b Tony DeStefano
5:30 p.m. --People of the Parish
+Eugene Sparano, Nash Family

Sunday, January 18

7:00 a.m. --Francisco Camara, r/b Alice Payne
+Ann Brown, r/b Larkins Family
8:30 a.m. --Patricia O'Brien, r/b Cavino Family
+Ruth & Michael Waverczak, r/b Maryanne McCall
10:00 a.m. --Lorraine Connolly, r/b Margaret Lang
+Patrick Garrity, r/b Doehner Family
11:30 a.m. --Antoinette Tommolino, r/b Terry Sparber
+Carmine & Christine Pietrofesa, r/b M/M James Pietrofesa



The Vigil Light, which is located beside the tabernacle, informs us that the Blessed Sacrament is present and is also a devotional candle. Each week we will post a notice in the bulletin for whom the candle burns; a deceased loved one, someone that is ill, an anniversary or other occasion.

The offering for reserving the candle for the week is \$25.



Please stop by the Parish Center Office to reserve a candle - either Church or Chapel.

Also available on a weekly basis is Altar Bread.

Liturgical Assignments—January 17/18

Please arrive 15 minutes early.

If you are unable to serve at the time scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a substitute. Thank you!

Mass	5:30 p.m.	7:00 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Lectors	E. DeMaio	P. Grillo	S. Suky	S. Tan	E. Prefer
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	M. Potenziani M. McGee	M. Centrone	C. Lore S. Portera	A. Fernandez J. Bornemann	T. Waters J. Waters
Altar Servers	E. Crowther C. Crowther C. Sams	N. Monteleone A. Gardner	M. Condron C. Kouvel M. Nolan	F. DePalma C. Mannarino K. Mannarino	S. Perry C. Perry S. Morales
CLOW			A. Burns W. Rahner	P. DeStefano R. Gana D. Perillo	

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

MONDAY, January 12

8:00 a.m. Exposition / **Chapel**
9:00 a.m. Mass / **Chapel**
10:30 a.m. Centering Prayer / Chapel
7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Mtg / MR



TUESDAY, January 13

8:00 a.m. Exposition / **Chapel**
9:00 a.m. Mass / **Chapel**
4:30 p.m. Rel Ed Grades 1-6 / School
5:45 p.m. Rel Ed Grades 7-8 / School
7:30 p.m. Baptism Prep Class / MR

WEDNESDAY, January 14

8:00 a.m. Exposition / **Chapel**
9:00 a.m. Mass / **Chapel**
6:00 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal / Church
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal / Church



THURSDAY, January 15

8:00 a.m. Exposition / **Chapel**
9:00 a.m. Mass / **Chapel**
9:45 a.m. WMOR / PC



FRIDAY, January 16

8:00 a.m. Exposition / **Chapel**
9:00 a.m. Mass / **Chapel**
6:00 p.m. IGNITE Mtg / PC
6:30 p.m. Rel Ed Bible Story PJ Party / Cafe

**2nd Collection this weekend for
Loaves & Fish**

SATURDAY, January 17

8:00 a.m. Mass / **Chapel**
8:15 a.m. Feed A Friend / Café
4:30 p.m. Confessions / Church
5:30 p.m. Mass / **Church**



SUNDAY, January 18

Masses: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 a.m. / **Church**
* 8:30 a.m. & *10:00 a.m. CLOW / Church
*10:00 a.m. Family Mass

MONDAY, January 19

Martin Luther King Day

Parish Center Closed

8:00 a.m. Exposition / **Chapel**
9:00 a.m. Mass / **Chapel**



Please Support Our Advertisers ~ Each week the businesses on the back pages of our bulletin sponsor the printing and production of the bulletin. Please become familiar with these businesses/people and in time of need consider patronizing them. Let them know that you appreciate their support of Saint Leo's and that you saw their ad in our bulletin. Thank you.



Offertory

Thank you for your continued support! You may also donate electronically via our website (click on E-Giving) or using your financial institution's electronic bill pay.



Your Prayers Are Requested

Remember Our Men & Women who are serving in the Military here and overseas. **PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY** safety and for their families.

Remember Our Sick, Home Bound, Hospitalized, especially Residents of Luftman Towers, The Pavilion, Sunrise Assisted Living

Remember Our Deceased, especially Brother Stephen Olert, John Deus, John McCabe, Geraldine Monahan (mother of Maureen Mazzaccaro)

Remember Our Newly Baptized, Dean Robin Petruzzelli III

Remember Our New Parishioners and Their Families

Welcome!

Join Us For
**ADORATION OF
THE MOST
BLESSED SACRAMENT**
Daily in the **CHAPEL**
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.
Followed by Daily Mass at 9:00 a.m.



ADDITIONAL FLOWER MEMORIAL (received after date)

GIFT OF:
Robert Kukulsky

REMEMBERING:
Mary Kukulsky





THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is observed annually. It falls on the Sunday after January 6th. This year, the date is January 11th. It commemorates the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist.

It is also known as “Theophany”. The event is a distinct feast day observed in the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican, or Episcopalian Church, as well as the Eastern Orthodox Church. Believers are invited to not only think about the Baptism of the Lord Jesus but also of their own Baptism. On this day, we are asked to renew our Baptismal Promises.

This feast closes out the Christmas cycle in the Roman Catholic calendar. We now begin Ordinary Time.

“Baptism is birth into the new life in Christ. In accordance with the Lord’s will, it is necessary for salvation, as is the Church herself, which we enter by Baptism.”

— CCC, no. 1277

NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE ~ JANUARY 23, 2026 THEME: *LIFE IS A GIFT*

The theme for the 2026 March for Life offers a fresh vision, inviting all people to rediscover the beauty, goodness, and joy of life itself. Every January at the National March for Life, countless marchers from across the country and around the world unite in celebration of the gift of human life—radiating hope, unity, and a spirit that transcends politics. This is why the 2026 March for Life theme is **Life is a Gift**, emphasizing what lies at the heart of the pro-life movement—an unshakeable conviction that life is very good and worthy of protection, no matter the circumstances. **Life is a Gift** invites everyone to embrace life as something to be cherished and celebrated from the very beginning.

You are invited to be swept up into this movement of joy and celebration. Watch the video and join us on **Friday, January 23, 2026**, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. as we march together in Washington, D.C. for the National March for Life Rally & Concert joyfully declaring to the nation: **Life is a Gift**.

<https://marchforlife.org/national-march-for-life/>

The Annual **National Prayer Vigil for Life** will take place **Thursday evening, January 22 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.** at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC. For a schedule of events, go to: www.usccb.org/prolife/national-prayer-vigil-life-schedule

Chartered Bus Transportation from Star of the Sea Church, Long Branch. All are Welcome; First Come, First Served for Reserved Seats on the Bus. Departing at 6:15 a.m. from the Star of the Sea parking lot (111 Chelsea Ave, Long Branch). Returning at approximately 10:15 p.m. on Friday night the 23rd. You may park your car for the day in the Star of the Sea parking lot. To sign-up for the bus (reservations in advance are required) and for additional information, please contact Kathryn Perez via phone at 732-581-9735 or via email at prolifekp@aol.com. Fee: \$10.00 per passenger. Cash or check payable to St. Michael’s Church may be mailed to the St. Michael’s parish office or dropped-off at the St. Michael’s parish office (800 Ocean Avenue, Long Branch, NJ 07740) or paid as you board the bus. Please write on the memo line of your check “Bus to 2026 March for Life”. Fee: \$10.00 per passenger.

The deadline to register is Tuesday, January 20.



Around the Diocese

CATHOLIC COUNSELING AND COACHING:

Looking for a mental health practice that supports your beliefs? Integrated Hearts Counseling and Consultation offers a full range of therapeutic offerings through the lens of the Catholic vision of the person. Unique coaching offerings also include young adults, pre-engagement, engagement & marriage. Visit www.ihccnj.com to flourish in the way that God intends for you.

EXPERIENCED SEWERS: Would you like a meaningful volunteer opportunity to use your skills? VNAHG's Bear Hugs Program offers families of our hospice patients a special memory bear crafted from garments of a loved one. This could be your opportunity to use your sewing skills to make a difference in the life of a grieving family. We invite you to start by sewing practice bears, utilizing our pattern and detailed instructions, with feedback from experienced sewers. Would you like to join our volunteer team and help preserve precious memories? *"It is a labor of love, and so worth it to hear about the enjoyment and comfort the bears bring to the families. Truly my favorite volunteer activity."* Bear Hugs Volunteer. For more information please call Pauline De Palma, Director Volunteer Services 732-224-6933.

NFP: Have you ever heard of NFP? It stands for **Natural Family Planning** and is one of the best kept secrets in the Catholic Church. If you are a newly engaged couple, newlywed couple or a married couple who have not learned about NFP, we are excited to share with you a new video-based program that introduces couples to Natural Family Planning. It is called "Natural Plan." It's a little over an hour and it will change how you think about faith and fertility. Natural Plan is a video series featuring doctors, scientists, clergy, fertility coaches, NFP teachers, couples who practice NFP and newlyweds, who came together to share their experiences and insights about fertility awareness, from a Catholic perspective. The videos are lively and interesting. You can sign up for an in-person session or watch it together as a couple in your own home. To find out more visit www.naturalplan.org

RETRouvaille: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE: Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of **February 6-8, 2026** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, call 215-766-3944 or visit

www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT: **February 13 - 15, 2026.** Come join other young adults (ages 22-35) married or single, to take a step back from our busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members and yourself. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun! **Cost:** \$150 per person. **MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER:** A seaside sanctuary. Cape May Point, NJ 08212. Register at www.capemaymarianists.org or call 609-884-3829.

VIRTUAL GROUP FOR CATHOLIC PARENTS:

The Diocese of Metuchen, Office of Family Life is sponsoring a virtual group for parents led by Director, Cristina D'Averso-Collins. The group will meet via Zoom on 2 Friday evenings a month at 6:30 p.m. Meetings will include watching a brief video on a topic particular to Catholic parenting and discussing as a group. Topics will include desiring holiness for your child, child temperaments, family culture, strong marriage, and being an effective witness, among others. The group is intended for those with children in the home and new parents are particularly welcome! If interested, please contact Cristina at cdaverso@diometuchen.org



Mass for Life & Life Expo

Celebrated by Bishop David M. O'Connell, M.

STANDING TOGETHER FOR Life

FRIDAY January 23, 2026
11:00 AM | Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold

■ Pray in solidarity with those travelling to Washington, DC for the national March for Life

■ Engage with local life-affirming organizations that promote human dignity from womb to tomb

■ Foster friendships, network and strengthen bonds to build a culture of life in our community

■ Complimentary coffee & homemade hot soup will be available to enjoy in the café seating area

■ No Limits Café food truck will be onsite offering assorted specialty grilled cheese sandwiches & soft drinks for purchase

dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life





Start the New Year Off on the Right Foot

All Women of the Parish are invited to join us.

Thursday, January 15th
9:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

LOWER LEVEL IN THE PARISH CENTER

Give yourself 90 minutes to explore how you can **PREPARE** for the New Year

Sign up at

www.stleothegreat.com/wmor-sign-up

I have called you for the victory of justice



START THE YEAR OFF WITH PRAYER JOIN US!

Promptness is required!
CENTERING PRAYER
Mondays

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Parish Center Chapel

Facilitator ~ Barbara Woodzell

Be Still and KNOW that I am God!

Come and spend time with GOD in solitude - leaving outside your plans for tomorrow, your memories of yesterday as you live fully and completely in the wonder of His present moment!

Please let us know you will be joining us -

stleothegreat.com/centering-prayer



MOMMY & ME

All Moms & Dads are invited to join us with their child - **infant to five year old child.**

It is a great place to meet other parents and children who are your child's age.

It's also a place for Moms & Dads to encourage and learn from one another.

We meet the first & third Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the lower level of the Parish Center.

Let us know you are coming in case of a change in location.

Sign up at www.stleothegreat.com/mommy-me



Joan Kret,
Youth
Minister

IGNITE



We will be meeting on Friday, January 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the lower

level of the Parish Center. All teens are welcome to come, hang out, play games, enjoy snacks and plan for an active Winter with Ignite!

Let's give this New Year a GIANT KICK start!

THANK YOU! The Social Concerns Ministry would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who participated in this year's Advent Giving Tree! Over 300 gift cards were donated by you, and distributed among various charities: Mother of Mercy Parish, Asbury Park (MM), the Visiting Nurse Association: Season of Hope (VNA), Emmanuel Cancer (EC), & Community Outreach Group (COG), Middletown. Gift cards were also distributed to local residents to help offset rising food costs (LT). In addition, 50 gifts of clothing for residents were delivered to a local Nursing Home (AW), along with many toys gathered for distribution to Madonna House, Neptune and the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation. It is through your overwhelming generosity, that we were able to provide assistance and smiles to many families in need this Christmas Season. May God bless you for your continued support and generosity. May your year be filled with peace, prosperity & love. May God's blessings shower upon you & bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year. Hebrews 13-1: *"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."*

ENVELOPES & CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS:

It is that time of year! As you know, you can claim your Church Sacrificial Offertory contributions as a tax deductible donation (as long as we have a record of your contributions - i.e. use of envelopes or online giving).

(For those who contribute through electronic Giving - your contribution total will include those donations.)

Contribution statements are available **after January 31st** by calling the Parish Center Office at 732-747-5466 option 1 or emailing Sarah@stleothegreat.com.

IF YOU MADE A CONTRIBUTION OF \$250 or more at one time and did not receive a

confirmation tax letter, please call to speak with Sarah or email her at Sarah@stleothegreat.com.

PLEASE NOTE: that dollar amount will be included in your total contributions on your contribution statement.

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

The Baptism of the Lord
January 11, 2026

"I the Lord have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand, I formed you and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring prisoners out of confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness... 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'"



The description from Isaiah, the words of Peter, describing Jesus 'going about doing good', help us appreciate the scene of Jesus' meeting John the Baptist at the Jordan. They help us appreciate Jesus as He initiates His public ministry. He would quote Isaiah later in Nazareth describing more clearly His

pending mission. We who live as children of the covenant, whose eyes were opened through our baptism, who have been freed from original sin and are pleasing to the Father, are now sent on our mission, the singular task the Lord has reserved and entrusted personally to me.

PRO-LIFE CORNER +

LIFE IS A GIFT TO BE CHERISHED

January is a special time in the Church to reflect on the sacredness of every human life, from conception to natural death. Although Roe v. Wade was overturned in 2022, many states' laws remain hostile to preborn children, and federal protections are still lacking. We are called to uphold the dignity of every human life through prayer, support for mothers and families, and compassionate outreach to those affected by abortion.

~USCCB

Daily Readings for the Week

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20

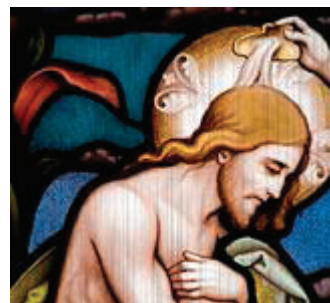
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Mk 2:13-17



A VOCATION VIEW . . .

Baptism is the starting point; union with God is our goal. How we serve others in between is our Vocation.



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
January 18, 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

This reading is a short passage from the second song of the Servant of the Lord. The Lord will show his glory through His servant whose mission is to restore Israel and bring salvation "to the ends of the earth."

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Paul sends greetings to the people of Corinth, who have been called to be holy and consecrated in Christ.

Gospel: John 1:29-34

When Jesus visits John, John recognizes Jesus as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." John further indicates that Jesus is truly the Messiah and "God's chosen One."

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DIOCESE OF TRENTON
701 LAWRENCEVILLE ROAD
POST OFFICE BOX 5147
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08638-0147

MINISTRARE NON MINISTRARI

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DECREE OF CONCLUSION OF THE HOLY YEAR 2025 IN THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON

On May 9, 2024, Pope Francis formally announced the opening of the Holy Year 2025 with his apostolic letter "*Spes non confudit* (Hope does not disappoint), Romans 5:5." With its theme "Pilgrims of Hope," the Holy Year 2025 officially began for the universal Church on December 24, 2024, when Pope Francis customarily opened the bronze Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica.

In the Diocese of Trenton, I formally opened the Holy Year 2025 on the weekend of December 28-29, 2024 during Masses at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption in Trenton, New Jersey (December 28, 2024) and at St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral in Freehold, New Jersey (December 29, 2024).

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV will officially conclude the Holy Year 2025 for the universal Church on January 6, 2026, the Solemnity of the Epiphany, customarily closing the bronze Holy Door before Mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

As Bishop, I decree that the Diocese of Trenton will simultaneously conclude its observance of the Holy Year 2025 on that same date and Solemnity, thanking God for all the graces and blessings He has bestowed on the universal and local Church throughout the Holy Year 2025.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Trenton on January 2 in the Year of Our Lord 2026.

Respectfully yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D.
Bishop of Trenton





**WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACCESS WHAT
YOUR CHURCH DONATIONS ARE
AND KEEP YOUR INFORMATION
UP TO DATE?**

**ParishSoft – My Own Church
Saint Leo's Church Database**

Advantages for Members

PLEASE NOTE:

*Prior to signing up on ParishSoft,
you must be a registered member of the Parish.*

- ♦ Download your electronic contribution statement for the **2025** tax year **after January 31st**
- ♦ Check your envelope and online giving history, any time
- ♦ Submit updates to your family and contact information (which helps us to keep your records more accurate)

If you would like to be able to update your families information, such as address, phone number, email address, view your donations to the Church, print out a yearly donation statement, please sign up!!!

***All information is confidential and only you
will see the information.***

1. To sign up, go to
<https://trenton.parishsoftfamilysuite.com>
1. Choose **New User**
2. Organization is **Church of Saint Leo the Great**
3. Choose a **username**
4. Fill out **your information and email address** and **hit submit.**

***After our office receives your request and it's been
approved, you will be sent a temporary password.***

SAINT LEO THE GREAT
Automated Giving & TEXT to GIVE
An easier way to support our Parish

**CONSIDER SIGNING UP FOR
PARISH GIVING!** To enroll, go to
stleohegreat.com, click on our e-Giving link or scan
the QR Code to the right.

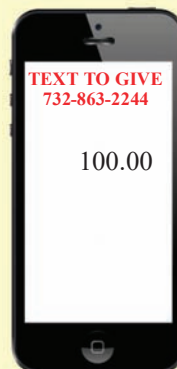


NEW - TEXT TO GIVE

Church of Saint Leo the Great
dedicated Phone Number
732-863-2244

**Text to Give Instructions for
NEW USERS**

Text the amount you would like to give to Saint Leo's dedicated number. You will be prompted to visit a secure Parish Giving link. Using the secure link, create an account and enter your billing information. *Account Information (Enter: name, address, email address, phone number, user name, password, then hit next.) Billing Information (Enter your billing information – hit save)* Once saved, you can reprocess your text message. Your donation will process. You will receive a confirmation text showing your donation. Now that the credit or debit card is linked to the cell number, all you need to do is text a donation amount to Saint Leo's dedicated number and the donation is processed instantly.



**Text to Give Instructions for
EXISTING Parish Giving Users**

Text the amount you would like to give to Saint Leo's dedicated number (**732-863-2244**), if your Cell Number is associated with your Parish Giving account.

If your Cell Number is **not** associated with your account, please log in to your Parish Giving account and update your information. Once saved, please reprocess the amount on your text message.

A Parishioner is . . . one who belongs to the Parish Family. As such, she/he is formally registered with us and is committed to the Parish through participation in the life of the Parish Community - spiritually, socially and financially. If you have not formally registered as a Parishioner, please do so at the Parish Center Office.

Please note - we will not be able to issue Sponsor Certificates or Letters of Eligibility for Baptisms or Confirmation if you are not a registered participating member of the Parish for at least six months.

NOTE: FEDERAL PRIVACY REGULATION - HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability & Accountability) prohibits all hospitals from informing churches of a patient's presence unless the patient gives permission for the hospital to do so. **If you're admitted to a hospital and would like a visit from us, please notify the hospital or call the Parish Office**

Remember Your Parish in Your Estate Planning

Bequests are ideal for remembering those who will come to Saint Leo the Great Church after us - in our Catholic Christian Mission. Or, you may wish to name Saint Leo's as a beneficiary of an insurance policy or other financial instrument. The designation would be: Church of Saint Leo the Great, 50 Hurley's Lane, Lincroft, NJ 07738. If in doubt, please call us and we will be happy to work with your attorney or financial advisor. ***Thank you for your consideration.***



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