

# St. Leo Magnus

## Roman Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

A parish part of the Thirteen Counties of the Diocese of Erie

*Being Witnesses of Christ's Gospel since 1874*

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

### PARISH ADMINISTRATION

The Very Reverend Justin P. Pino, VF,  
*Pastor*  
[frjustin@comcast.net](mailto:frjustin@comcast.net) + 814-772-3135  
ext. 2

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[secretary@stleomagnus.org](mailto:secretary@stleomagnus.org) + 814-772-3135  
ext. 1

Stephen Vallone, *Business Manager*  
814-772-3135 ext. 4

Andy Kopp *Director of Physical Plant*

Denise Larnder, *Director of Liturgical Music*

### ST. LEO SCHOOL

Lynne Kucenski, *Principal*  
[kucenskil@eccss.org](mailto:kucenskil@eccss.org) (814-772-9775)

Theodore Hanes, *President of ECCSS*  
[hanest@eccss.org](mailto:hanest@eccss.org) (814-834-7800)

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### **Weekend Masses**

*Sat. Vigil:* 5:15 pm  
*Sunday:* 8:00 am & 10:00 am

#### **Daily Mass**

Tuesday: 6 pm  
Wednesdays - Saturdays: 8:30 am  
Saturdays: Rosary is recited at 8:00 am

#### **Holy Day Masses**

*Evening before:* 6:00 pm  
*On the day:* 8:30 am & 12:05 pm

#### **Sacrament of Penance (Confessions)**

Wednesdays: 4-6 pm & Saturdays: 9 am

#### **Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

Tuesdays + Thursdays 9 am - 6 pm



**“Then the devil left Him and, behold, angels came and ministered to Him.”**

*Matthew 4: 11*

## Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 21, 2026 + Saturday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 am **ROSARY**  
 8:30 am **The People of Saint Leo Parish**  
 9:00 am **CONFESION**

Saturday, February 21, 2026 + Vigil for the First Sunday of Lent

5:15 pm **Robert "Bob" Porter** (RHS Class of 1980)

Sunday, February 22, 2026 + First Sunday of Lent

8:00 am **Jennie Morelli** (Dave Giovanini)  
 10:00 am **Charlotte Weiser** (Family)

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 + Lenten Weekday

9:00 am - 6:00 pm **ADORATION**  
**5:45 PM ROSARY**  
 6:00 pm **Jean Urmann** (Family)

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 + Lenten Weekday

8:30 am **The People of Saint Leo Parish**  
**1:00 pm SOUP + STATIONS + SCRIPTURAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE MASS**  
 6:00 pm **Barb Metelski** (Steve & Barb Vallone)  
**4:00-6:00 pm CONFESION**

Thursday, February 26, 2026 + Lenten Weekday

8:30 am **Mr. & Mrs. Joseph R. Tettis** (Ralph & Margaret Tettis)  
 6:00 pm **Frank Butera** (Estate)  
**9:00 am - 6:00 pm ADORATION**

Friday, February 27, 2026 + Lenten Weekday

8:30 am **Lois Shoemaker** (Jeannie Allenbaugh)  
 6:00 pm **The People of Saint Leo Parish**

Saturday, February 28, 2026 + Lenten Weekday

8:00 am **ROSARY**  
 8:30 am **Sr. Ann Loretta, S.S.J.** (Family)  
 9:00 am **CONFESION**

Saturday, February 28, 2026 + Vigil for the Second Sunday of Lent

5:15 pm **Mary Margaret Facetti** (Family)

Sunday, March 1, 2026 + Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 am **Linda Giovanini** (Carol & Julie Bomba)  
 10:00 am **The People of Saint Leo Parish**

**First Sunday of Lent - A 808**

*The Sanctuary Candle before the  
 Blessed Sacrament will burn this week  
 in memory of  
**Jennie Morelli**  
 by the Kilhoffer Family*



## Prayer for a New Bishop

*O Almighty God,  
 Pour forth the Holy Spirit upon the Holy Father  
 and those who assist him  
 in the discernment of our new bishop.  
 May the one chosen have the strength  
 to be a compassionate leader,  
 who models humility and joy.  
 Grant him the wisdom of Solomon,  
 the courage of the apostles,  
 and the tenderness of your Son, the Good Shepherd.*

*We also pray for the Diocese of Erie  
 that he is called to serve.  
 May we welcome him with open hearts  
 and work with him in a spirit of synodality,  
 called to listen, collaborate, and build unity.*

*Through the intercession of the  
 Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church,  
 St. Joseph, the protector of the Church,  
 and St. Patrick, the patron of our diocese,  
 may we journey the path of life  
 with an unwavering focus  
 on the hope we have in Christ.*

*For he lives and reigns forever and ever.  
 Amen.*

Imprimatur, October 28, 2025  
 The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L.  
 Bishop of Erie



### Pope Leo XIV Prayer Intention for February

#### FOR CHILDREN WITH INCURABLE DISEASES

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

*The wine and hosts for February have been  
 donated  
 in loving memory of  
**Kathy Pino***

### Liturgical Ministries February 28 & March 1

	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Minister	Lector
<b>Sat, 2/28 5:15 pm</b>	P & N Washburn	F or K Griech	M Buck
<b>Sun, 3/1 8:00 am</b>	See Schedule	D Richards	WJ Fernan
<b>Sun, 3/1 10:00 am</b>	See Schedule	S Fink L Fink L Caggeso	L Caggeso
<b>Money Counters</b>	Team #1	<b>Altar Guild (2/27)</b>	Group 6 Pew 6

### SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Please let the Parish Office know if a member of your family is sick and in need of anointing or would like to be placed on our Communion List.

**IN NEED OF PRAYERS? CALL JAN @ 814-776-1352  
 SHE WILL ADD YOUR INTENTION TO OUR PRAYER LIST**



## Parish Stewardship

February 15, 2026

Offering \$7,931  
Goal \$9,168

CSA, 2026  
Pledges \$10,370  
Goal \$61,135  
#Contributors: 34

Thank You

### Online Giving

Visit our parish website, [www.stleomagnus.org](http://www.stleomagnus.org), to make a one-time donation or to set up automated, recurring giving throughout the year. It's quick, easy, and convenient when you visit our online giving page. Thank you for your generosity and support. Your contributions are a true blessing, and we are deeply grateful for your kindness.

### Ways to Remember

There are many ways to memorialize both living and deceased family and friends:

Mass - \$10/request

ADDITIONAL MASS INTENTIONS MAY NOW BE REQUESTED

Candles: Sanctuary, Saint Leo, Saint John of God - \$20/week

Hosts and Wine - \$100/month

### Have an IRA? Would you like to gift to a qualified charity, tax free?

If you make donations, and are subject to required minimum distributions (RMD) rules for your IRA, gifting some of your RMD income using the qualified charitable distribution will count toward satisfying your RMD, and neither you or the charity will have to pay income taxes. Call the parish office for more details.

### Baptism Preparation Class Schedule

Feb 24, 2026	6:30 pm	St. Mark, Emporium	814-486-0569
Mar 21, 2026	10:00 am	Sacred Heart, St. Marys	814-781-1019
Apr 29, 2026	6:00 pm	St. Leo, Ridgway	814-772-3135
May 21, 2026	6:30 pm	St. Mary's, St. Marys	814-781-1019

\*\*Be Sure to call ahead to reserve your spot

**Bulletin Deadline** - Submit by Feb. 24 for March 1<sup>st</sup> bulletin

We have a few extra copies of the new hard bound hymnals. If you would like to purchase one contact the parish office. Cost \$20



### St. Leo Magnus Church

#### Parish Office Hours

9 am - noon & 1-4 pm  
Ph:814-772-3135

Monday - Thursday  
secretary@stleomagnus.org

**CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR YOUR  
CEMETERY NEEDS**

## Weekly Wisdom from our Holy Father

*"Do not resign yourselves to the culture of abuse and injustice. On the contrary, spread respect and harmony, beginning by disarming languages and then investing energy and resources in education, especially for children and young people. Yes, that in the parish they can learn honesty, acceptance, love that transcends borders; learn to help not only those who reciprocate and greet not only those who greet, but to go out to everyone in a free and free way; learn the coherence between faith and life, as Jesus teaches us when he says: 'If you present your offering at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, go first to be reconciled to your brother, and then return to offer your gift' (Mt 5:23-24)."*

**Pope Leo XIV  
Homily  
15 February 2026**



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### Marriage Preparation Schedule

#### Saturday, Feb 28

Queen of the World, St. Marys  
9:30am-6:15pm  
Mass included  
RSVP 814-834-4701

#### Sunday, April 19

St. James, Erie  
9am-5pm, Mass included  
RSVP 814-899-6178

#### Fri & Sat, April 24 & 25

Our Lady of Peace, Erie  
Fri, 5p-9p & Sat, 9a-1p  
No Mass included  
RSVP 814-833-7701

#### Mentor Cohort

Wednesdays  
Feb 21 & 28, Mar 4 & 11  
8 p-9:30p  
RSVP 814-8241261

## St. Leo Fish Fry

Fridays during Lent

4:30 - 6:30 St. Leo

Social Hall

Eat In or Take Out

Cost: \$14.75

Call 814-772-4705

to order take-out



## Saint Leo Lent Devotions

STATIONS, SOUP AND A  
SCRIPTURAL JOURNEY THROUGH MASS  
Every Wednesday at 1 pm

Every Wednesday Fr. Justin will pray a different version of *The Way of the Cross* in Church. Then to the social hall for homemade soup from Fr. Justin's kitchen and reflection on the Biblical Foundations of the Mass.



### ST. JOSEPH, FORCE FISH DINNERS

Ash Wednesday and Fridays during Lent from noon - 6:30 pm. We offer Fantail Shrimp, Haddock Fish (baked/fried), and Pastor's Platter (Fish, Shrimp and Clam Strips) Eat in or Take out. Call 814-787-4151.

### ST. BONIFACE LENTEN FISH FRY

Sponsored by Kersey K of C. Ash Wednesday & Every Friday during Lent. 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm in the St. Boniface Social Hall. Dinner Choices: Fried, Baked or Beer Battered Fish, Breaded or Sautéed Shrimp, Choice of 2 sides. Adults: \$16, Kids under 10: \$8.



Fr. Justin burns palms to get ready for Ash Wednesday as SLS students look on.

Shown: Fr. Justin, Mr. Hanes, ECCSS President and Patrick Messineo, St. Leo School student

### FLOCKNOTE

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US VIA EMAIL & TEXT!

TO SIGN UP STLEO TO 84576 OR STLEO.FLOCKNOTE.COM



Welcome to our newly baptized  
**Lucy Rae Steudler**,  
daughter of Daniel and Alexa Steudler.

**Camden Richard Ehrensberger**,  
son of Troy and Crystal Ehrensberger.

**Maverick Anthony and Ryder Lee Crum**,  
sons of Hunter and Samantha Crum.

We pray God will bless them and their families as they grow in faith.

**ST. BONIFACE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** breakfast buffet is March 1st from 8 am until 11:30 (sold out). Price is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids 16 and under. All are invited to come and enjoy this breakfast buffet.

### Cancel the Cold

**†We Remember in our prayers**

**February 22**

Luigi & Caroline LaValle



### DOMTAR RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM CINCH TOURNAMENT

to benefit American Cancer Society

**Sunday, April 12, 2026**

Sacred Heart Parish Center  
337 Center Street  
St. Marys, PA

Dinner is served at 12:15 PM  
Play to begin promptly at 1:00 PM

**\$10/person**

Pre-register by calling Sharon Streich 814-594-5594



St. Leo School  
a Catholic,  
Classical Academy

814.772.9775

KUCENSKIL  
@ECCSS.ORG



### SPOTLIGHT ON ST. LEO SCHOOL

#### READING GOALS GALORE

OUR STUDENTS HAVE BEEN READING LIKE CRAZY AND CONTINUALLY MEETING THEIR ACCELERATED READING GOALS!

MRS. LEUSCHEL'S SECOND GRADE CLASS HAD 2 MORE QUADRUPLES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER! THESE GIRLS BOTH QUADRUPLED THEIR AR GOALS LAST QUARTER, EARNING THEMSELVES A CAKE MADE ESPECIALLY FOR THEM BY THEIR TEACHER!

OVERALL, MRS. LEUSCHEL'S CLASS HAS TESTED ON 532 BOOKS AS OF THE END OF LAST QUARTER.

IN 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, EVERY STUDENT IN MRS. WENDEL'S CLASS REACHED THEIR AR GOAL! WOOHOO!



## From the Pastor's Desk

### THE PHANTOMS OF THE PASSION – THE SEQUEL

2026 Lenten Meditation Series + Part I – MALCHUS: *Healed by God*

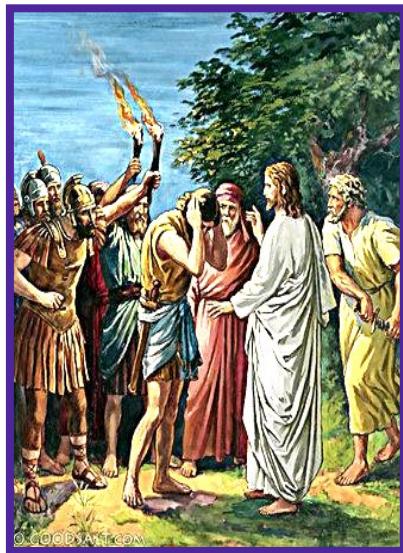
My dear parish family:

Two years ago, I offered a weekly Lenten mediation on five so-called “phantoms of the Passion” – persons in the Gospel’s narrative around the Lord’s Passion, Death, and Resurrection, who appear quickly in the biblical text, and then disappear just as fast. This Lent we meet five new “phantoms.” Each week I will reflect on them here in the bulletin and then offer an additional reflection from the pulpit during the weekend masses in the homily. Without any further ado, let’s begin with the man with the temporarily severed ear – Malchus.

All four Gospels tell of how the High Priest’s servant got his ear cut off when Jesus was arrested. Matthew, Mark, and Luke don’t mention his name, and this makes sense because Peter would have been in significantly more trouble if they had openly named the wounded servant. The Evangelist John (who always narrates quite differently) however names both Peter and the servant, Malchus. Many scholars believe that John was a distant relative of Caiaphas and Annas, so he was probably in the know as to the names, but there is something about the deliberate way John says, “*The servant’s name was Malchus.*” John understood the Jewish view of the power of names. Malchus means “counselor or king.” That’s very ironic when we think about it. While John is the only one of the writers to call Malchus by name (and name Peter as the one who wields the sword), Luke, who is commonly known as what we would call a physician today, is the only evangelist to record that Jesus *healed* the wounded ear.

Outside of the Gospels we never hear of Malchus again! There doesn’t appear to be a “Saint Malchus” and yet he seems like someone who would have become Christian later – maybe encountering the Risen Jesus. Malchus has heard both sides of the story. On the one side is the High Priest and the Temple who having waited all this time for a Messiah, don’t want Jesus. On the other side, if the Gospel message Jesus brings is true, Malchus is given the opportunity to choose the *true* High Priest – Jesus, not Caiaphas.

When the soldiers arrive with Judas prepared to make an arrest, Jesus asks them who they are looking for. “*Jesus the Nazarene,*” they say and He says, “*I AM.*” At this point John tells us they stepped back and fell to the ground, because Jesus uttered the divine name, “*I AM.*” Therefore, Malchus ends up on the ground because of the Name of God. After this Malchus gets his ear cut off and Jesus heals it back. None of this makes any difference in the end, and Jesus is still arrested and then hauled off to the High Priest to stand idly by in a “kangaroo court.” Jesus is then crucified and there is the Sabbath when all falls silent. The Apostles went back to the Upper room to cower in fear. Not one of them went off with the women on Sunday morning to see if Jesus – their friend, teacher, and Lord had risen. They didn’t *seem* to believe He would.



So, what happens to Malchus? Who does he listen to once that ear is healed? We are not told. There are no legends from long ago that tell us Malchus was baptized. Was he at the foot of the Cross making sure the deed was done? Did he see the darkened sky, and feel the earthquake? Surely, he saw the curtain in the sanctuary torn ripping it from top to bottom being a close servant to the High Priest. But none of this appears in the scriptural accounts. It seems that despite hearing what Jesus had to say, despite seeing up close and personal, the spite and fear (I would say bullying) of Caiaphas; despite the miracles he witnessed and even received, Malchus never believed. Is this all there is about the man healed by Jesus? The homily this weekend will hopefully help us reflect more on the enigmatic person from the Garden of Gethsemane – and simultaneously help us as we begin our Lenten journey.

*May our desert journey this Lent prepare us for the countless joys of Easter!*

*Father Justin*