

St. Leo The Great  
Catholic Church  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina



New Member Guide

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Peace and Blessings!

Welcome to Saint Leo the Great Catholic Church. We welcome you and offer the assurance of our prayers and support as you take your place in this great Parish.

This booklet will provide you with information you need to find your place in ministry and worship. Please know that you have a special place in the prayers of this community of faith at Saint Leo. We look forward to getting to know you in the days ahead.

God be with you always,

Rev. Brian J. Cook

Reverend Brian J. Cook  
Pastor

# CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Brian J. Cook

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Felix Nkafu

Weekend Clergy: Rev. A.J. Gallant

Permanent Deacons: Rev. C. Robert Desautels  
**Rev. Ralph D'Agostino**

Alexandra Banasik, Hispanic Family Minister	(336) 428-6909
Marilyn Bertelsen, CPA, Director of Finance	(336) 724-0561 mbertelsen@stleocatholic.org
Donna Birkel, Parish Financial Assistant	(336) 724-0561 dbirkel@stleocatholic.org
Pat Blair, Receptionist	(336)-724-0561 pblair@stleocatholic.org
Gary Callus, St. Leo School Principal	(336) 748-8252 gcallus@stleocatholic.com
Cathy Dudley, Music Assistant	(336) 724-0561 cdudley@stleocatholic.org
Bethany Fischer, Youth Minister	(336) 724-0561 stleoyouth@gmail.com
Lauren Garner, Director of Faith Formation	(336) 724-0561
Kim Nichols, Assistant Director	faithformation@stleocatholic.org
Terry Hicks, Director of Music Ministry	(336) 724-0561 trhicks@gmail.com
Susan King, Receptionist	(336) 724-0561 sking@stleocatholic.org
Sr. Larretta Rivera-Williams, Pastoral Outreach	(336) 724-0561 LRivera-Williams@stleocatholic.org
Steve Salvitti, Maintenance Director	(336) 724-0561
Mary Beth Young, Pastoral Assistant	(336) 724-0561 mbyoung@stleocatholic.org
Nicole Witten, Director of Communications	(336) 724-0561 nwitten@stleocatholic.org

# PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office	(336) 724-0561
School Office	(336) 748-8252
Church Website	<a href="http://www.stleocatholic.org">www.stleocatholic.org</a>
School Website	<a href="http://www.stleocatholic.com">www.stleocatholic.com</a>
Facebook page	<i>St. Leo the Great Catholic Church and School</i>
Twitter	<i>@StLeoWS</i>
OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Monday - Friday)

## MASS SCHEDULE

We welcome you to attend Mass daily and our Sunday services.  
*Please note: The schedule below does not reflect Mass times on Holy Days and other special holiday times. Please look for Holy Day and Holiday Mass times in the bulletin or on our website.*

On Sundays at our 10:30AM Mass time, we hold duplicate Masses in both the Church and the Parish Center. The Parish Center 10:30AM Mass offers a family-friendly atmosphere with **Children's Liturgy**.

### *Weekend:*

Saturday—5:30PM (Anticipation Mass of Sunday)  
Sunday—7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM (CHURCH AND PARISH CENTER) 12:00 Noon; 5:00PM Life Teen Mass during the School Year (September—May)

### *Daily Mass:*

Monday & Wednesday - 6:45AM  
Tuesday & Thursday - 5:15PM  
Friday - 8:15AM  
Saturday - 8:00AM

(If you need to register with the Parish, please visit our parish website at [www.stleocatholic.org](http://www.stleocatholic.org) and complete an online New Parishioner Registration Form.)

## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 4:00-5:00PM  
and by appointment

### Baptisms

Congratulations and blessings to your new arrival! Baptisms are a very important and special time in the lives of your children. We are happy to talk with you and get you registered for our Baptismal Preparation class and schedule a date for your Baptism. The Baptismal Preparation class is held once a month at 7:00PM. The schedule can be found on our website. This class is required for both parents. Prior registration is requested by Monday before the class. Once you have signed up for the class, we can schedule your Baptism. The Sacrament of Baptism is held twice a month, at 11:00AM, but is by appointment only. The schedule can be found on our website. Please call the Church Office to schedule both attendance at the Class (if needed) and/or the Baptism. *\*Please note: if you have previously taken the Baptismal Preparation Class, you do not need to take it again for each child\*.*)

### First Eucharist and First Reconciliation Preparation

Both Sacraments are also very special in the lives of our Catholic children and either in our Faith Formation classes or religion classes at St. Leo Catholic School, we prepare the children to participate in these sacred rituals. A pre-requisite for these Sacraments is Baptism and completion of first grade in either the Faith Formation program or in Catholic school. If new to the Parish, a letter from your previous Parish is requested to enroll the children in our program. These two Sacraments are generally received in second grade.

### Confirmation Preparation

Confirmation continues the Sacraments of Initiation and is usually received in eighth grade. The preparation for this Sacrament is two years in either the Faith Formation program or in Catholic school.

### Marriages

Congratulations on your engagement! The Sacrament of Marriage is a covenant, which is more than a contract and is celebrated between two persons. Catholics are urged to celebrate their marriage within the Eucharistic Liturgy. Couples must contact the Parish Priest at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date. Weddings are scheduled at 11:00AM or 2:00PM on Saturdays only. We receive over 100 requests for marriage at St. Leo each year. In order to best serve our parishioners, we have carefully and thoughtfully created the St. Leo

Wedding Guidelines. It contains all the details for setting a date, marriage preparation and weddings. You may print a copy of the Wedding Guidelines from the St. Leo website. Contact Mary Beth Young in the Church Office to schedule an initial appointment for marriage preparation and for any additional questions.

### Sick, Shut-in and Elderly

If you or a loved one would like to schedule Holy Communion, home visits, Anointing of the Sick and/or the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please call the Church Office: 336-724-0561.

### Family Worship Room (Cry Room)

St. Leo provides a Family Worship room for each Mass. Also referred to as the St. Cecelia room, it is located upstairs in the Bishop Begley Parish Center. It provides seating and a flat screen television to view the Mass services. A locked offertory box is located on the wall near the stairs and an Eucharistic Minister will distribute Holy Communion inside the room. Hymnals, missalettes and liturgy aids are also provided. The Family Worship room offers an environment to begin teaching young children respectful behavior in a church setting. *Please do not leave children unattended in the room.*



### Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration takes place each Wednesday with Exposition starting after the 6:45AM Mass and ending with Benediction at 5:00PM. We also hold Eucharistic Adoration on the First Friday of each month. Exposition beginning after the 8:15AM Mass with Benediction at 5:00PM.

### COLUMBARIUM

At present the only Catholic cemetery in the Winston-Salem area is at Holy Family Catholic Church in Clemmons. In response to increasing **questions about the propriety and significance of cremation**, St. Leo's has built a Columbarium and Memorial Garden within the church grounds for the disposition of the cremated remains of our loved ones.

The church has traditionally been the natural repository and final resting place of the deceased members of the Christian community. Burial inside the church was once reserved to honor noteworthy clerics, nobles and citizens. The church grounds often contained a cemetery for parish members if land was available.

**In May of 1963, the Vatican's Holy Office lifted the prohibition** forbidding Catholics to choose cremation. This permission was incorporated into the revised Code of Canon Law in 1983 (Canon #1176) as well as

into the Order of Christian Funerals. For more information, call the Church Office.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### Faith Formation

**St. Leo's Faith Formation program is held on Sunday mornings during the school year from 9:00—10:15AM for Pre-Kindergarten (4 years old) through 8th grade.** Visit the St. Leo website or contact Lauren Garner at (336) 724-0561/ [faithformation@stleocatholic.org](mailto:faithformation@stleocatholic.org) for complete information.

### Youth Ministry

**St. Leo's Youth Ministry offers EDGE (Middle School) and Life Teen (High School) on Sunday evenings following the Life Teen Mass during the school year.** Contact Bethany Fischer at (336) 724-9596 or [stleoyouth@gmail.com](mailto:stleoyouth@gmail.com).

### RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

**St. Leo's offers a program designed to educate interested adults on the teachings of the Catholic Church.** Throughout the year, you will learn about the Roman Catholic faith and practices of the Church. Classes begin in September and end on the celebration of the Easter Vigil Mass. Contact the Church Office for more information.

## ADULT EDUCATION

### Christian Book Club

Join fellow parishioners to discuss assigned books throughout the year. We meet every other Sunday at 7:00PM in the Msgr. Showfety Room of the Bishop Begley Parish Center. Contact Mary Riser at [meriser@aol.com](mailto:meriser@aol.com) for more information.

### **Men's Gospel Group**

The men of St. Leo are invited to attend a Gospel Group on Thursday mornings from 6:45—7:30AM or Fridays at 12:00PM in the St. Cecelia Room of the Bishop Begley Parish Center. The Gospel for the upcoming Sunday is the focus, with commentary and the opportunity to learn from your fellow parishioners. Contact Paul Hoeing at [phoeing@triad.rr.com](mailto:phoeing@triad.rr.com).

### Morning Ministries

Educational, practical and social programs from 9:00 – 11:00AM for *SENIORS*. Check the bulletin or website for upcoming programs.

### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Adult Education Room

Please stop by the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Room any time to enjoy a quiet, comfortable and relaxing way to either read or take advantage of

our numerous DVD catechetical programs on your own time. Please contact the church office at 336.724.0561 for more information, a current list of available programs or to schedule a time to view a program. And bring your friends!

### Wednesday Evening Adult Education

St. Leo is home to a growing adult education program offering a wide variety of opportunities throughout the year. Programs include one-night speakers to six-week DVD/small group discussion series. Topics are chosen to meet the unique population that makes up our parish community. Look for event announcements in the bulletin or on the website. Contact Mary Beth Young in the Church Office for more information.

### **Women's Bible Study**

You are welcome to join this vibrant group of women each Wednesday morning at 9:30AM in the lower level of the Bishop Begley Parish Center. A new Bible Study begins each September and continues through May. The format includes small group discussion and speakers. *Men are also permitted to join this group.* Contact Mary Martha Douglas at [mmdouglas244@gmail.com](mailto:mmdouglas244@gmail.com).

## COMMISSIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMISSION

#### Caring Friends

This ministry provides care and support for members of our St. Leo parish community who have special needs. Members provide meals for those in crisis situations, visits to the sick and shut-ins and sending cards and letters to the elderly and homebound. Contact Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams at [LRivera-Williams@stleocatholic.org](mailto:LRivera-Williams@stleocatholic.org).

#### Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities Diocese of Charlotte serves the poor, vulnerable and those in need of services, regardless of race, creed or socioeconomic status. Each year CC serves more than 18,000 people across 46 counties in the western half of NC. Please visit their website at [CCDOC.ORG](http://CCDOC.ORG) for more information and contact the Winston-Salem office to volunteer or donate: 1612 E. 14th Street; 336.727.0705.

#### Creation Care Team

Calling all parishioners who have an affinity for nature and the environment! Goals and current projects of our CCT: Advise and suggest on areas where St. Leo's community can reduce waste (such as food and



packaging) and conserve energy; support tree planting projects and community gardens; and educate on the importance of preserving God's gift of the earth and its natural resources for health and well-being of all, including generations to come. This group meets each second Tuesday, alternating between lunch meetings at 12:30PM, and evening meetings at 6:00PM. Contact Marlena Westcott at [mwestcot@me.com](mailto:mwestcot@me.com).

### Culture of Life

A committed group of parishioners dedicated to preserving life from conception to natural death through prayer, community programs and education. Keep an eye on the bulletin and website for upcoming events.

### Holiday Outreach

Holiday Outreach provides meals and/or gifts to families in need during the Christmas and Easter seasons, as well as backpacks for needy children before the start of school. Contact Dan and Pam McVicker at [stleosoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:stleosoutreach@gmail.com) to volunteer.

### Prison Ministry

Provides Mass for the inmates of the Winston-Salem Correctional Facility on Monday afternoons. Contact Deacon Bob Desautels at (336) 969-2796 for further information.

### Samaritan Ministries

Men of the parish spend one evening each month at Samaritan Ministries; serving dinner and breakfast. An overnight stay may be necessary. Contact Dick Egloff at [egloff@aol.com](mailto:egloff@aol.com) for more information.

## LITURGY AND WORSHIP COMMISSION

### Altar Servers

Assist the Priests at liturgies (must be grade 4 or higher.) Contact Michelle Hanson at 336-624-1932 or [jh6826@aol.com](mailto:jh6826@aol.com).

### Art and Environment

Assist in the planning for decoration of the church throughout the liturgical year. Contact Marianne DeCristo at [mdecristo@triad.rr.com](mailto:mdecristo@triad.rr.com).

### Cantors

Lead the congregation in song, sing the responsorial psalm and other sung portions of the liturgy. Contact Terry Hicks (336) 724-0561 or [sltgmusic@gmail.com](mailto:sltgmusic@gmail.com).

### Choir

A dedicated group of singers which leads and enhances the music of our liturgies. Choir practice is weekly on Wednesday evenings. No experi-

ence necessary but a love of music is appreciated! Contact Terry Hicks (336) 724-0561 or sltgmusic@ gmail.com.

### Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Assist in the distribution of Holy Communion. Some ministers also take the Eucharist to the sick or homebound. Contact Caryn Sears (see info below on Lectors).

### Lectors

Proclaim the first and second scripture readings during the Liturgy of the Word. Contact Caryn Sears (336) 760-1416; carynsears@triad.rr.com.

### Linen Launderers

Launder and iron altar linens on a rotating basis. Contact the Church Office at (336) 724-0561.

### Mass Coordinators

Ensure that all ministries are present and all preparations have been made for a particular liturgy. This includes Saturday evening service, Sunday services and the 5PM Life Teen Mass on Sunday evenings. Contact Sandra Camastra at (336) 408-5454 or sccamastra@gmail.com.

### Sacristy Cleaners

Clean the Sacristy and the church area on a rotating basis. Contact Sandra Camastra at the information above (Mass Coordinators).

### Ushers

Extend hospitality to all those coming to Mass, collect our monetary offerings, pass out bulletins and help to keep our worship spaces in good order. Contact Jim DeCristo at (336) 774-1781.

## PARISH LIFE COMMISSIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

### Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts

A group committed to helping boys grow into good citizens who are strong in character and personally fit. Boys earn merit badges based upon the knowledge and skills they have acquired through fun activities. See the St. Leo website for current contact information.

### Catholic Cancer Support Ministry

If you, or your loved one, is living with a cancer diagnosis, hearing from others who've been through one already can be a great source of comfort and support. Find inspiration and hope in the wisdom of fellow parishioners living with cancer, cancer survivors, caregivers and a variety of speakers. Join us the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 PM in the Saint Cecilia Room, as we accompany one another on this

journey. Contact Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams in the Church Office.

### Family Life Commission Annual Events

We host several parish-wide events throughout the year including the Parish Picnic and St. Leo Feast Day Dinner. Planning and hosting these events are wonderful opportunities for fellowship and fun! Contact Dan Levstek at (336) 692-1851 or [dflevstek@yahoo.com](mailto:dflevstek@yahoo.com).

### Frassati Young Adult Ministry

We are a group of young men and women who encourage one another to grow in holiness and live a Christian life in the midst of the modern world. We meet regularly for prayer and study, inspiring speakers, conferences, social events and service projects. By living true Christian friendship, we support one another in learning about and living our faith. **Age range: 20's & 30's. Contact: [wsfrassati@gmail.com](mailto:wsfrassati@gmail.com).**

### Knights of Columbus

An international fraternal organization founded in 1882 to help Catholic men remain steadfast in their faith through mutual encouragement. The Knights programs and services include fundraising, social activities, sports events and parish projects. See the St. Leo website for the current **Grand Knight's contact information. If you are interested in joining the Knights of Columbus, Santa Maria Council #2829, please visit their website at: <http://www.kofc2829.org/>.**

### Newcomers

**We host Newcomers' breakfasts throughout the year for all our newly registered parishioners.** This is a great opportunity to learn more about St. Leo and ways to get involved as well as an opportunity to meet fellow parishioners and ask any questions you may have as you learn about our parish. Look for your invite to our next breakfast in the mail! Additionally, we are always in need of new volunteers and ideas on how to reach **new parishioners and impact their experience here at St. Leo's.** Contact Nicole Witten at [nwitten@stleocatholic.org](mailto:nwitten@stleocatholic.org).

### Saint Monica Holy Hour

Entrusting the written intentions of parishioners to Saint Monica as part of a Novena and Litany each Thursday morning from 9:00 – 10:00 AM in the church. Please join us in the church and/or add your intentions to the **box in the Blessed Mother's alcove at the front of the church.**

### St. Theresa Guild

**A women's organization focused on furthering the spiritual, social and financial welfare of St. Leo's Parish, along with various needs of the Winston-Salem community.** This group is involved in community service, fundraising activities and social and educational events. See the

St. Leo website for the current President's contact information.

## WorldWide Marriage Encounter and Share Circle

For over four decades, Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been a leading movement in offering married couples the gift of a Weekend experience to enrich their relationship. This is an opportunity for you to explore your relationship together and find ways to make it more fulfilling and stronger for a lifetime.

National website: [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org)

North Carolina website: <http://ncmarriediscovery.org/>

*WWME Share Group*: St. Leo's is proud to host a WWME Share Group for all couples who have completed a World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The share group meets the first Saturday of each month at 7:00PM in the Msgr. Showfety room at St. Leo's Church. All Encountered couples are welcome to join us for a casual evening to give your relationship some time and energy. It does not matter if you were encountered a month ago or 20+ years ago, all are welcome! You do not have to be a St. Leo's Parish member.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR PARISH

Pope St. Leo I (the Great)

Reigned 440-461

Feast Day: November 10

The Catholic Church in Winston-Salem began as a mission of the Benedictine Fathers from Belmont Abbey, near Charlotte, North Carolina. In 1885 there were only three Catholic families in the city. In 1886, Mass was offered in these homes by Fr. Gross. In 1891, property was purchased and a church built on Fourth Street and Brookstown Avenue. A rectory was added in 1903 and Mass was offered twice a month. In 1905, Fr. Thomas Stapleton came as the first resident Pastor and remained until 1907. He was succeeded by Fr. George Lester, who remained until 1913.

The next resident pastor was Fr. Willibald Baumgartner, O.S.B. It was during his pastorate in 1916 that the building fund for St. Leo's Church was started. The site of the present church was donated by Mr. Zaffaroni Angelo. Designed in a beautiful English Gothic style, the church and rectory were erected on a site formerly occupied by a large tobacco barn. The church cost about \$80,000.

During the pastorate of Fr. Jerome Finn, O.S.B. , the church was built, the cornerstone laid (January 15, 1928), and Mass was offered in the new structure completed in 1929.

A bronze bell, weighing 1000 pounds, was purchased from St. Paul's Episcopal Church and hung in the tower of St. Leo's in 1930. It was inscribed with the words, "Glory to God in the highest," and with a Latin phrase which says, "I Hasten the tardy."

The Benedictine Fathers placed the church in Winston-Salem under the protection of St. Leo the Great, famous for his confrontation with Attila the Hun and patron Saint of their beloved deceased Abbott-Bishop Leo Haid.

The two splendid stained glass windows on either side of the main altar depict St. Benedict and St. Scholastica, the founders of the Benedictine Orders. Above the altar and repository hangs the magnificent wooden crucifix carved by Anton Lang, who took the part of Christ in the world-famous Oberammergau Passion Play.

ST. LEO THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH  
335 SPRINGDALE AVENUE ♦ WINSTON-SALEM NC 27104  
(336) 724-0561  
WEBSITE: [WWW.STLEOCATHOLIC.ORG](http://WWW.STLEOCATHOLIC.ORG)