

St. Leo's Church

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LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01453
Incorporated 1872

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday evening 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 and 12:00 noon.
Spanish Mass 6:30 p.m. on Saturdays
2:00 p.m. on Sundays
at Holy Trinity Chapel
Brazilian & Portuguese Mass on Sundays
7:30 p.m. at St. Anna Church
Spanish Mass 11:00 a.m. on Sundays
at St. Francis, Fitchburg

WEEKDAY MASS

7:00 a.m.
8:30 a.m. Convent

FRIDAYS

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

HOLY DAY MASSES

5:30 p.m. - Vigil
7:00 a.m.
9:15 a.m. (school days only)
12:15 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. John E. Doran

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

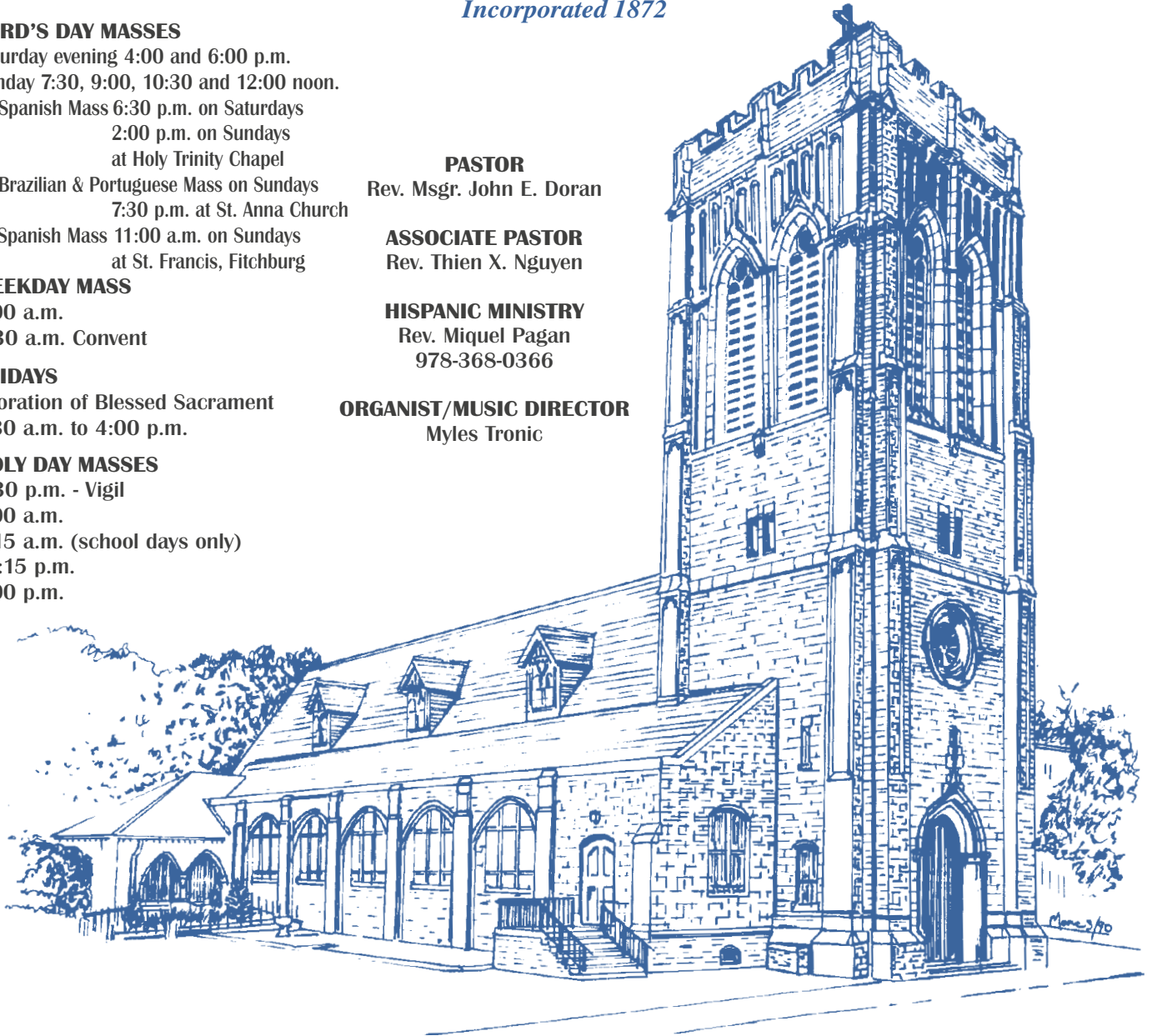
Rev. Thien X. Nguyen

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Rev. Miquel Pagan
978-368-0366

ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR

Myles Tronic



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Telephone: (978) 537-7257 • Fax: (978) 840-6182

Website: www.stleoparish.org • Email: stleoparish@verizon.net

Sacrament of Baptism: Please make arrangements in advance. Baptisms will be the Second Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturdays 3:00-3:45 p.m.

Eve of Holydays: 4:45 p.m. (weekdays only)

Sacrament of Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least six months prior to the wedding.

Saint Leo's School
Mrs. Carolyn Polselli (Principal)
120 Main Street
537-1007
www.St-Leoschool.org

St. Leo's Cemetery Office:
108 Main Street
537-7257
St. Leo's Cemetery Location:
360 Lancaster St.

St. Leo's Religious Education
Office (CCD)
118 Main St.
537-1194

Mass Intentions



LENT, 2012

- SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18**
 4:00 PM Ronald Sheldon by family
 6:00 PM Patrick O'Malley by wife and children
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19**
 7:30 AM Maria D'Ulisse by Michele & Erick Serating
 8:30 AM George Thomas by family
 9:00 AM Maria D'Ulisse Birthday Mass by family
 10:30 AM Rena Rogers 8th Anniv. by family
 12:00 NN John J. Andrews Family Deceased by family
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20**
 7:00 AM Dick & Charmayne Nutting by McCaffreys
 8:30 AM Conversion of Sinners
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21**
 7:00 AM Special Intention by Ellie Kittredge
 8:30 AM Donald Scales by Fournier family
- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22**
 7:00 AM Simon Nelson Jr. by a friend
 8:30 AM Maria & Pasquale Patuto
 12:15PM Charles & Margaret Broderick by Estate
 7:00PM Vin & Lee Bonner by McCaffreys
- THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23**
 7:00 AM
 8:30 AM Stanley McNiff 8th Anniv. by wife
- FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24**
 7:00 AM Binh Nguyen by Kim Lambert
 8:30 AM Mary Crane by family
- SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25**
 7:00 AM
 8:30 AM Helen, John & Robert Anderson by family
 4:00 PM James F. Buckley Sr. by family
 6:00 PM Paulette Diaz by Fournier family
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26**
 7:30 AM Jim Walsh by McCrafferys
 8:30 AM John J. Andrews Family by family
 9:00 AM Joseph David Dufresne by son
 10:30 AM Robert & Nancy Sicard
 12:00 NN Sharon Weaver by A. Fournier



Parish Support: Last weekend our parish community contributed \$7,230 in ordinary support, \$2,420 for the Capital Improvement Fund, \$30 for Phase 2 of winter fuel and \$51 for the Home Missions. The latter collection is now at \$567 and phase 2 of winter fuel is \$4,950. **THANKS!**



Beginning February 29th and continuing on the Wednesdays of Lent, Msgr. Doran will hold Bible classes from 10-11:30AM. The Lenten series will study the Gospel of Saint John.

APARTMENT NEEDED: DOES ANYONE HAVE A STUDIO APARTMENT OR EVEN A ROOM FOR RENT. THERE IS A YOUNG WOMAN WHO NEEDS HOUSING IMMEDIATELY. PLEASE CALL MSGR. DORAN (978-537-7257).

As we prepare to begin the 40 day Lenten season on Ash Wednesday (February 22), I reprint the Bishop's Lenten message for this year.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Christians throughout the world will celebrate Ash Wednesday this week and a new Lent will begin for Christians everywhere. This holy season should be a special time for us. Lent is a time to turn from sin and live as true disciples of Jesus Christ, giving evidence to the central role the Lord should play in our lives.

Deep down, most of us know the need for personal spiritual renewal. There is, perhaps, no better time than Lent to rethink old attitudes and practices. It is a time to walk with the Lord more faithfully and share in His life and mission in a more concerted way.

Living the Christian life is never easy and this is especially true in a self-indulgent society. It takes courage and conviction to "repent and believe the Good News". However, we find our deepest meaning as human persons when we turn toward God and discover the hope that He offers to us.

In Lent we find spiritual renewal in many ways. While particular attention should always be given to our traditional practices of fasting and abstinence, there is much more that we can do. Time-honored customs include frequent reception of the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation, reading Sacred Scripture, making the Stations of the Cross, participating in devotions like the Rosary or in parish missions, and living by the Corporal Works of Mercy.

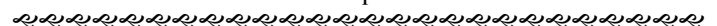
In a special way I ask you to offer prayers and sacrifices for peace in Afghanistan and in the Middle East. Please remember all who long for freedom and justice in China as well, especially our fellow Catholics. And, here at home, we should recommit ourselves to the importance of religious liberty and the inviolable dignity of all human life from natural conception to natural death.

Together, let us try to follow the Lord more closely this Lent. It is my hope that fervent prayer, sincere penance and care for others will characterize our spiritual lives. Having done these things, we can trust that the joy of Easter will be ours in abundance.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
 Bishop of Worcester



BUILDING FUND

St. Leo's Building Fund, which has made possible our new parish center, has now reached the total of \$1,716,171. This remarkable achievement is a credit to the loyal and generous parishioners and friends of St. Leo's. The debt on the \$4.5million project is \$402,745. Thanks for your continued support.

LITURGICAL ROLES

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25 & 26

Table with 4 columns: CELEBRANTS, LECTORS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, ALTAR SERVERS. Lists names and times for various liturgical roles.

THE PRESIDENT'S LECTURE SERIES

at Assumption College continues on Wednesday, February 22nd at 7PM in the Salon of La Maison Francais. The speaker is James Patout Burns, PhD, professor of Catholic Studies at Vanderbilt University. His topic is timely for Lent: "Repentance, Reconciliation and Forgiveness-Lessons from St. Augustine."



LENT, 2012

On Wednesday, February 22nd, we begin our 40 day Lenten journey with Masses and distribution of blessed ashes at 7AM (in Church), 8:30AM (in Convent) and 12:15PM and 7PM (in Church). Please join us on ASH WEDNESDAY. Abstinence from meat for all Catholics over 14 years of age in observed on Ash Wednesday. Good Friday and the Fridays of Lent, Catholics between 18 and 59 must fast (one big meal and two smaller meals) on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these penitential practices.



CATHOLIC FREE PRESS

February is the month for renewing or beginning a subscription to our award winning diocesan Newspaper the Catholic Free Press. Please consider receiving the weekly paper which reports local, state, national and international issues related to our faith and the Church universal. Subscriptions price is \$23 for 52 weeks.

Annual Priestly Vocation Retreat

On Palm Sunday weekend, the Diocese's Annual Vocations Retreat will be held at Immaculate Conception Retreat Center in Putnam, CT from Friday, March 30, 6PM to Saturday March 31, 6PM. This retreat center is only 30 minutes from Worcester. Men who are high school age, college age, and post college age are invited to attend. This retreat is directed by Bishop McManus, and the cost is free. Transportation is also provided to and from the retreat center. Contact Fr. Jim Mazzone, Director of Vocations, at 508-340-5788, by email at jmazzone@charter.net, or go to worcestervocations.com for more information or to sign-up for this retreat.



The Church's position on the matter of abortion is unambiguous. The child in his or her mother's womb is a human life which must be protected. Abortion, which is the destruction of an innocent unborn child, is contrary to God's will, for the value and dignity of human life must be protected from conception to natural death. The Church must be committed to offering help and support to women and couples tempted to seek an abortion, while remaining close to those who have had this tragic experience and helping them to grow in respect for life. She acknowledges the courage of governments that have legislated against the culture of death- of which abortion is a dramatic expression -in favor of the culture of life.

Pope Benedict XVI, Apostolic Exhortation Africae Munus (70), 11/19/11



LENTEN PRACTICES

In addition to personal Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and alms giving, we will have Stations of the Cross on the Fridays of Lent at 4pm beginning February 24th. Each Lenten Sunday at 5pm we will have Evening Prayer and Benediction beginning February 26th. Msgr. Doran will conduct a Lenten Bible Study on the Gospel of John on Lenten Wednesdays from 10- 11:30 AM in the new school conference room beginning on February 29th. Confessions will be heard from 7-8PM Monday nights beginning February 27th.



A CATHOLIC OBSERVANCE OF LENT

The three pillars of Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. A traditional sign of repentance for both Jews and Christians (Is, 58, 5 and MT11, 21) is the imposition of ashes. Christians throughout history have found these practices to be the building blocks of Lenten spiritual growth. They work in two ways: they help cleanse our lives from what distracts us from God and that new space gives God's grace more room to take root and flourish. Our Lenten hope and prayers is that by imitating Jesus' sacrifice, we become more like Him in every way. Over the next three weeks we will examine each of these approaches more in depth.


Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19
2:00PM CUB SCOUT BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20
7:00PM NO CCD GRADES 7 -10
7:30PM MEN'S AA
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21
7:30PM WOMEN'S AA
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
7:00AM ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
12:15PM ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
4:00PM FOOD PANTRY
7:00PM ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23
7:00PM BIBLE STUDY
7:00PM CHOIR REHEARSAL
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24
7:30- 4:00PM ADORATION AND BENEDICTION
4:00PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS is now at 3:30
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25
9-10:30AM NO CCD: GRADES 1-6
11:00AM IRISH STEP DANCERS
11:00AM TOPS
4-7PM BAKE SALE


**12TH ANNUAL DIOCESAN CATHOLIC MEN'S
CONFERENCE**

All parish men, as well as their sons, brothers, fathers and friends are invited to this important annual conference, scheduled for Worcester's DCU Center, on Saturday March 24th. Hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: author **George Weigel**, **Father Larry Richard**, convert **Father Dwight Longnecker**, New Orleans Saints **QB Joe Lombardi** (Vince Lombardi's grandson) and lay evangelist **Mark Nehrbas**. Bishop McManus will offer the conference Mass. Diocesan priests and bishops will hear confessions. Tickets are \$40 for adults before March 10th and \$50 afterwards. Tickets are \$30 for students. Our parish will pay half toward all tickets (\$20). **Please register before March 5th.**

Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. Many unique challenges face the Church in that region. A lack of priest and trained lay ministers, high emigration rates, and the alarming pace at which parishioners are leaving the faith make it difficult for the region's Church to provide for the faithful. It is more important than ever that we keep faith with the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean. Please give generously in next week's collection.



The readings today talk about the healing power of God. God heals the same today as he did in Old and New Testaments times. Allow God to work and move in your marriage relationship: attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and let God strengthen, renew and rekindle your relationship .The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in New England are April 27-29 for more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wwme.org.



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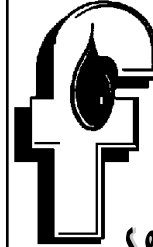
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