



St. Leonard Faith Community

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Centerville, OH 45458
937-435-3626

<http://www.stleonardfaithcommunity.com>
<http://stleonardfaithcommunity.blogspot.com/>

March 27, 2011

3rd Sunday of Lent

Presiding Today:

Fr. Loren Connell

In Today's Mass We Pray For:

Jim Bengé &
Thomas Jannett

Proclaimers of the Word:

Mike & Teresa Bickett

This Week's Readings:

March 27

Exodus 17:1-7
Romans 5:1-2,5-8
John 4:5-42

Next Week's Readings:

April 3

1 Samuel 16:1,4-7,10-13
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

Upcoming Events:

Tonight March 27

Reconciliation 6:00 PM

April 9

SLWG Presentation:
Understanding Islam
Pott Hall 9:30 AM

Loren T. Connell, OFM

chaplain/moderator

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Jewish people have been celebrating Passover every spring for at least two and a half millennia. The ritual consists of the ceremonial eating of the paschal lamb along with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. We hear the rubrics for the Passover meal proclaimed in the first reading every Holy Thursday. The Passover celebration commemorates God's deliverance of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt to freedom in their own land. The third reading for the Easter Vigil (Exodus 14:15-31) is a dramatic and highly exaggerated account of that deliverance or exodus. What does that passage have to do with Easter, and why is it proclaimed at the Vigil?

As a devout Jew, Jesus observed Passover. He died in Jerusalem at Passover time around the year 30. The early Church saw Jesus' resurrection as a new exodus from death to life, from sin to freedom. It came to see baptism as a ritual participation in that new exodus. The liturgical proclamation of the Exodus at the Easter Vigil invites us to consider our own deliverance at God's hand from entrapment in destructive and sinful habits to freedom as children of God. It invites us to accept that deliverance and to live each day with renewed purpose. It invites us to live in solidarity with people everywhere who seek deliverance from oppressive political, economic, and social structures.

This evening the faith community and the senior living community will celebrate God's deliverance in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The faith community's participation in that liturgy has been somewhat sparse in recent years. Why is that? Do some of our older folks have memories of degrading experiences 30, 40, 50 years ago? Are some of our younger folks unsure of the ritual and its meaning? It's pretty simple. We listen to God's Word and reflect on it, we acknowledge our failure always to live that Word, and we hear God's forgiveness and encouragement addressed specifically to us. Afterwards we continue our celebration with fellowship and refreshments. I invite all of you to accept this opportunity to celebrate God's mercy.

Peace and every blessing,

Loren, OFM

Religious Education News:

CLOW Volunteers/Teen Assistants:

April 3 – VOLUNTEER NEEDED / Natalie Ehret

April 10 – VOLUNTEER NEEDED / Allie Bickett

Children's Worship Aids:

Children's Worship Bulletins and additional children's worship resources are now available in the Mass Bags hanging on the rack in the back of the Chapel. Bags are marked according to age, and resources are provided to enable children to enjoy a meaningful worship experience. Bags should be returned to the rack. Many thanks to Mark and Jenita Sullenger for creating and maintaining this resource.

Stations Of The Cross:

During Gathering Time (9:00-9:15 AM) students will be praying the Stations of the Cross in the Auditorium (or outside, weather permitting). Each class will prepare to lead us in 3 Stations per week. All are welcome!

Youth Group Fundraising:

Junior High and High School students are raising funds for our Summer Mission Trip and our Fall Convention (NCYC) in Indianapolis.

- Knights of Columbus Cash Bonanza Raffle – Tickets will be available from YG students after Mass. Tickets are \$5. Large cash prizes will be determined in May.
- Spring Flower Sale – Students will be available after Mass through March to take your orders. Students will also be available for planting as needed.
- Next Parents' Night Out – April 15, 6:00-10:00 PM in the Youth Room. Games, snacks, videos and more in a safe and friendly environment will be available for children under 12 yrs. so parents can enjoy a night out! Preregistration is requested.

Social Justice Corner

As the **Season for Peace and Nonviolence** draws to a close on April 4, you are invited to join us to share your experiences of this program on Friday, April 8, at 7:00 PM in Sister O's room behind the Chapel. Come through the Chaminade entrance and proceed to the second floor.

Tree Planting in Memory of Sr. Dorothy Stang, SND

Help plant trees at Eastwood and Sugarcreek Metroparks on Saturday, April 16, 9:00- 11:30 AM. Families are welcome. Planting of larger trees will occur at Eastwood and the planting of seedlings will occur at Sugarcreek. Children will be better able to participate at Sugarcreek. Call Colleen Kammer, 859-5854 or email: colleenk@fuse.net to **RSVP by Tuesday, April 5th. (Those who register in March receive a free T-shirt)**. Participants will receive lunch served at Eastwood Metropark, 11:30-1:30. The tree planting is promoted by Weavers of Justice, a collaborative of 24 parishes and seven Catholic organizations in the Greater Dayton area.

Planting the Seeds of Creation Care is a morning workshop designed for teachers and youth ministers who want to integrate Caring for God's Creation into youth faith formation. The Rev. Mitch Hescox, who has worked in partnership with the Catholic Climate Covenant, will be a featured speaker at the Archbishop Pilarczyk Center, 1436 Needmore Road, Dayton, Saturday, April 9, 8:30 AM to noon. Cost is \$10 per person. Scholarships and group rates may be available upon request. For more information call the Catholic Social Action Office, 937-224-3026. More information on both of these events is posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule.

The Wisdom of Saint Francis:

How happy and blessed are those men and women who love the Lord with their whole heart!

(cf Francis of Assisi: Earlier Exhortation)



Next weekend, April 2-3, will be Catholic Ministries Appeal Commitment Weekend here at St. Leonard Faith Community. We ask every Catholic household to participate. Every registered parish household should receive a letter by the end of this week from Archbishop Schnurr. Please bring your completed pledge card and pledge envelope to Mass next weekend or mail them to the Archdiocese in the envelope provided. Thank you!

If you do not receive a letter in the mail by this Friday, we invite you to pick up a pledge packet from a poster display in church next weekend.



Faith Community Lenten Opportunity

Plans are progressing for us to cooperate with several Churches and businesses to provide food packages for needy children in Centerville. During the school year, a number of churches have supported the Food 2 Go program that works with the Centerville schools to provide snacks for specifically identified needy children. The Food 4 Summer program bridges the gap that occurs during the summer months. It includes the same children as are in the Food2Go program but is also extended to include toddlers. The decision has been made that the monies collected from the Simple Supper groups will be used for this purpose. However, any member of the Community is also invited to participate whether or not they are attending Simple Suppers. The anticipated cost of the summer program is \$12,000 so monetary donations are welcome. However, we are hoping to be able to participate in some of the other aspects of the program such as purchasing food, assisting in assembling food packs and volunteering at distribution sites. After our meeting with other participants on March 24, we will be able to share specific opportunities in which you may participate.

SLWG Meeting: Understanding Islam

Islam is the fastest growing religion in the U.S. today. Yet it is the least understood of the three Abrahamic faiths. Dr. Judith Martin, SSJ of the University of Dayton's Department of Religion Studies will examine common mis/perceptions of Islam and discuss what non-Muslims should know about the faith of their Muslim neighbors. This meeting is open to the public and will take place in Pott Hall on Saturday, April 9 at 9:30 AM.

10th Anniversary Ladies Retreat

The retreat committee, along with Kathy Henry are already at work preparing for the Anniversary Retreat at Maria Stein on September 9, 10 & 11. If you haven't marked you calendar for this event, please take a minute to do so. Your private rooms have been reserved for you. Since this is our tenth anniversary retreat, we are planning special events for everyone. Please plan on joining us in September for this spirit filled weekend. If you have any questions please call Kathy Hoefler at your convenience.

NAIM Group

NAIM (the Catholic widow/widowers club) will have their monthly meeting on Monday, April 4 at 6 PM. Prior to the meeting there will be a soup/sandwich/dessert dinner for \$5.00. Their Anniversary Dinner will be held on Friday, April 15 at the Kohler Center (next to the Presidential Banquet Center). For information about membership, call Cathy Murphy at 434-1607.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tonight

March 27, 6:00 PM

There will be a reception following the service in Sr. O's Room.

News from the Pews:

Thank you for all your contributions for News from the Pews! This process is a way for our Community to stay in touch with each other on a more personal level.

The Sudanese Community has presented St. Leonard Faith Community with a framed certificate of appreciation. This certificate will be on display in the lobby of the Chapel before being moved to a permanent location. Please take a moment to check out the display.

We collected 1,150 food items and 11 bags of clothes and toiletries for 2010 for St. Vincent de Paul! Thank you, generous folks!



Dayton Dragons Baseball Game

The Faith Community has reserved 45 tickets (grand stand seats) for Wednesday, June 29, at 7 PM. The cost of a single seat is \$11. Please con-

tact Phil Taylor if you are interested in attending. He can be reached at 885-5301 or phil.taylor@udri.udayton.edu. More information will follow, including poster displays in the office and the church vestibule.

Fish Fry

St. Francis of Assisi Parish will have their Fish Fry on April 1. Family dining is from 5:00– 7:30 PM. Adults only from 7:30– 1:00 PM. Donations are \$15 per adults and \$8 per child, 6-12 years of age. Children under 6 are free. For more information call the St. Francis Parish Office at 433-1013.

Find us on Facebook!

Search for St. Leonard Faith Community, Centerville, OH



Season for Nonviolence

January 30-April 4, 2011



WEEK 9 (57-63)

Nonviolence challenges us to stand for Truth by taking action that honors the dignity and worth of every human being.

Day 57 – SERVICE (March 27)

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You only need a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love." Sign up to volunteer a minimum of two hours this month with an organization of your choice.

Day 58 – CITIZENSHIP (March 28)

Robert Muller, former assistant secretary general to the UN, urges, "use every letter you write, every conversation you have, every meeting you attend, to express your most important beliefs and dreams." Today call or write one of your legislators and register your views.

Day 59 – INTERVENTION (March 29)

Alcohol and drug abuse is both a consequence and a cause of violence. Today have the courage to intervene in a caring way. Through your honest and straightforward communication, encourage yourself and others to get educated, get help, and get sober and free from drugs.

Day 60 – WITNESSING (March 30)

"We are each other's bond," writes poet Gwendolyn Brooks. Those who practice nonviolence cannot close their eyes to injustice or cruelty. We are here to be a witness for justice and compassion. Today, be willing to stand up for Truth by your presence, your words and actions.

Day 61 – PEACE (March 31)

Thich Nhat Hanh wrote, "Practice watering seeds of joy and peace and not just seeds of anger and violence, and the elements of war in all of us will be transformed." Today, make a choice to meet each experience with an intention for peace.

Day 62 – COMMITMENT (April 1)

Spend five minutes reflecting on your commitment to non-violence. Write down what it means to you and what you are willing to do as a consequence of your commitment to it. Make your commitment public by sharing it with at least 2 people.

Day 63 – RELEASE (April 2)

A Sufi proverb says, "When the heart weeps for what it has lost, the spirit laughs for what it has found." Today look at how far you have come during this 64 day journey. Release the weight of your past, judgments of yourself and others, and the idea that world peace is not possible by acknowledging that you do make a difference.

Welcome!

St. Leonard Faith Community is a freely formed Catholic community sharing in the Franciscan heritage. We are committed to creating a spiritual environment where the Holy Spirit comes alive through active worship and the offering of our individual and collective gifts. Through a variety of ministries, we reach out to respond to the needs of others, with love. Our mission will be to live our Christian Faith, to grow spiritually, and to be actively involved in the community and in the St. Leonard Senior Living Community.

Mass Schedule:

St. Leonard Faith Community: Sunday: Mass at 10:30 AM
Senior Living Community: Daily Mass at 9:00 AM,
Saturday: 4:00 PM, Sunday: 9:00 AM.

Holy Days of Obligation: As announced in the bulletin.

Worshipping with us for the first time? During the preparation of the gifts we follow the gift bearers to gather around the altar to receive Our Lord as a Community. If you would like to learn more about our Community with the possibility of becoming a member, information packets are available at the back pew.

Fellowship: Refreshments are served after the liturgy. Fellowship helps to promote a sense of community. We invite everyone to join us as we continue our celebration in friendship and love.

Pastoral Care Services, Sacraments and Funerals:

Requests for pastoral care services, Sacraments or any other needs should be made to the Community Office. If the office is closed and you have a pastoral care need, please call Aurelia Palcher at 885-7158.

Scheduling Mass Intentions: Requests for Mass intentions may be made by contacting the Community Office.

Office Hours: Monday–Friday: 9:00 AM -1:00 PM

Bulletin announcements:

St. Leonard Faith Community Office
8100 Cloy Road, Centerville, Ohio 45458
Call or fax to 937-435-3626 or e-mail at
faithcomm4@sbcglobal.net
www.stleonardfaithcommunity.com

Bulletin information must reach our office no later than 11:00 AM on Wednesday.

Pictures of community members at community sponsored events may be posted on the web.

Special prayers are requested for the following:

Names on the prayer list will no longer be published on the internet because of confidentiality concerns.

A prayer list is published in the bulletin to inform the community of those with special needs. Persons may be placed on the prayer list by calling the office. They will remain on the list for four weeks unless the office is notified otherwise. Hospitals do not notify the office when a parishioner is admitted. Therefore, please call the office if you would like to make it known that a family member is in the hospital.

St. Leonard Faith Community Staff

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Ministry	Chair	Council Liaison
Membership	Mary Ellen Graham	Renee Clement
Worship	Barb Gobrail	Bill Moroney
Justice & Service	Bob Niehoff	Therese Mileti
Faith Formation	CeAnn Chalker	Phil Taylor
Community Life	Lucette Fogel	Amanda Jennings
Pastoral Care	Judy Lamers	Pat Welsh
