

ST LEONARD PARISH

320 Hanover Street, Boston, MA 02113. P: 617-523-2110 | F: 617-367-0456

WEEKLY BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 25 , 2022



TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

*“Though our Lord Jesus Christ
was rich, he became poor,
so that by his poverty you
might become rich.”*

LK 16:19-31



SAINT LEONARD OF PORT MAURICE PARISH

admin@saintleonardchurchboston.org

P: 617-523-2110

Mass Schedule

Saturday	5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM
	10:30 AM (Italian)
	12:00 Noon
Mon-Fri	12:05 PM

Confessions

Saturdays 4:15 - 4:45 PM
and upon request

SAINT STEPHEN CHURCH

401 Hanover St, Boston, MA 02109

P: 617-523-2110 | F: 617-367-0456

Mass Schedule

Saturday	4:00 PM
Sunday	11:00 AM
Thurs-Fri	7:30 AM

Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Rev. Michael Della Penna, OFM
Deacon: Brother Charles Gingerich, OFM
Italian Ministry: Rev. Federico Cinocca
Rev. Robert Caprio, OFM
Sacristan: Charles Falla, OFS
St Stephen Rector: Rev. David Costello

Parish Office

Mon - Thu 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Friday Closed

Saint John School

Tel: 617-227-3143

Mon - Fri 8AM - 3PM

<https://sjsne.com/>

Saint Francis Gift and Book Store

Mon - Thurs 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Fri - Sat 1:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Sunday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

SAINT LEONARD CHURCH SCHEDULE OF DEVOTIONS

8:15 AM mass will be resumed on Monday October 3rd

Mon - Fri 11:30 AM Rosary
12:05 Mass
Monday 12:30 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet
Tuesday 12:30 PM St Anthony Novena
Wednesday 12:30 PM Litany of St Joseph
1st Wed of every month
Queen of Peace Prayer Group
6:30 PM Rosary, 7PM Mass

Thursday Pure in Heart Young Adults
6:30 PM Rosary, 7PM Mass
Friday 12:30-3:30 PM Adoration
3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet



SAINT LEONARD CHURCH

Mass Intentions September 25 - October 1

September 25 - Sunday

9:00am - Deceased members of the
DePasquale Family and Varano Family; Sandra
Ricci

For: In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10:30am - Domenico & Sestilia Federico, Gina &
Giuseppe DiCenso, Luigi & Ersilia Torra, Rocco &
Filomena Pezzano

Sant'Angelo All'Esca Provence of Avaleno St.
Michael Society

12:00pm - Richard Muse, Alice Fucci, Adelina &
Adolph Cillo

Donald Trump & Family

September 26 - Monday

12:05pm - Gladys Markefka

September 27 - Tuesday

12:05pm - Walter Michael Vincent

September 28 - Wednesday

12:05pm - Deceased members of the Picardo
family

September 29 - Thursday

12:05pm - Emilia Cataldo

September 30 - Friday

12:05pm - Nancy Whitten Martignetti

October 1 - Saturday

5:00pm - for Maria Destefano; Richard Gifun;
In Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn the
week of September 25 - October 1 at
Saint Leonard Church for Joseph Elias
Baker

The Bread and Wine will be offered the
week of September 25 - October 1 at
Saint Leonard Church for Giuseppe D'Alelio



REFLECTION

Homily from pluscarden abbey

When the Relics of St. Thérèse were brought to the abbey, Sr. Anna Christi from Greyfriars Elgin gave a talk about her to the children present. She began, very memorably, by saying that in Christianity everything is upside down. To be great you need to be little. To be at the top you need to go to the bottom. To be massively influential you need to hide yourself away.

Well: today's Gospel parable invites us to extend this list. The really happy man, we must say - the one with the brightest future, the one most to be envied, the one who is most loved and honored by God: he may be the very one who has nothing; the one who is most looked down on, despised, pitied, even friendless in this world. Whereas the man whom everyone talks about, the big celebrity, the one who always draws admiring crowds: he may be the most wretched of all creatures.

Blessed are you who are poor, said Jesus in the Sermon on the Plain, according to St. Luke: yours is the Kingdom of God. And then: Woe to you who are rich; you are having your consolation now (cf. Luke 6:20ff).

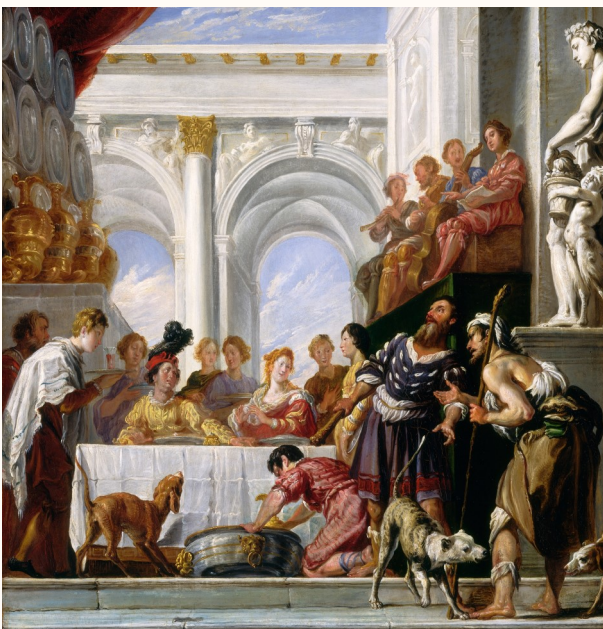
In Christianity things are upside down, and things also tend to opposite extremes. We could say that today's parable is not only all

about reversal, but also all about contrast. We start with two extremes. At the end these are not only reversed, but also very much amplified. The rich man is very rich; he lives in opulent luxury; he is at the top of the social scale. Lazarus by contrast is not only very poor but also sick. Not only can he not house or feed himself: he's in constant pain. He is not only hungry and cold, but also constantly humiliated. Not only is he uncared for, but he's also scorned. Then comes the reversal. The rich man is in hell, the poor man in heaven. For the one, torment, punishment, isolation; for the other, bliss, reward, communion. Opposite extremes, but now fixed in eternity.

There are so many things to be said about all this. Let me just pick out one or two for now.

Perhaps I might begin by highlighting the great consolation that is given here to all who bear the name of Christian. We look around our world and see so much injustice, unfairness, things that should not be; things that cry out for redress. We see vice apparently rewarded, and virtue unrewarded or even apparently punished. We see bad people at their ease and crowned with success; while sometimes good people find themselves plunged into troubles, sufferings, failures and humiliations of every kind. Well: God sees all this. He is not indifferent. At the end of time, all will be set right, and superabundantly.

Then for us: it's good to be reminded, even very frequently, that time is short, and eternity long. The one is hurtling ever more rapidly towards the other. So to live as if for this life only; to try to find all one's joy in what this world has to offer, rather than looking always to our eternal destiny: this is the height of folly. What, says Jesus, does it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and loses his own soul? (cf. Luke 9:25 etc.) It should be obvious to everyone that everything in this world will pass away. And universal human experience also shows that riches and pleasures never satisfy. They don't make you happy. But goodness, kindness, a pure heart, a clean conscience, a life spent in the friendship of God: these make us rich indeed, and also they prepare us for an eternity of joy.





Let me draw out another point from today's parable that's so obvious it scarcely needs saying: but I'll say it anyway. This parable teaches us not to be heedless of the poor. We knew that already, but it does no harm to be reminded of it every now and then. In so far as we can, we should help those less well off than ourselves. If we have spare money, we should give it generously. Last week we had the parable of the unjust Steward. Jesus there recommended we make use of "the mammon of unrighteousness", that is money, in order to win ourselves friends (Lk 16:9). If the rich man of the parable had done that, Lazarus would have been ready to intercede for him at the Last Judgement. But the silly fool missed his heaven-sent opportunity. So he died with many drinking companions, but with no real friends at all. Then, apart from money: often we can do good just by recognizing the human dignity of some person in distressing circumstances: by some kind word, or perhaps even just by a smile.

Nowadays in our globalized world we could say there are millions lying at our gate. The problem is so huge we feel overwhelmed by it. And there is never any simple solution. Often, for example, one is advised not to give money to beggars in the streets. That could fuel their drug or alcohol addiction; or perhaps line the pockets of the evil men who control them. But still: rather than do nothing, we do something. We help where we can. We support good charitable organizations. We contribute to things like food banks or soup kitchens. We at least are aware of the problems of homelessness and loneliness in our society, and bothered by these things, and we pray for all affected by them.

Today's Gospel parable ends with very somber remarks about the brothers of the rich man. They will not repent, says Jesus, even if one should rise from the dead. And so it proved, when he himself rose from the dead. And so it still is with our irreligious society. We might think of the urgent warnings of Our Lady in many apparitions in the modern era, especially of course at Fatima. If people hear these warnings, they pay no attention. Their minds are fixed only on this present life, and on being at the top. We can only pray for their conversion, and determine not to be among their number.

I want to end with the great gulf of which Jesus speaks.

You may know the long poem by William Blake called *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*. I once had to study all that in great detail. Blake was a genius, and also what we'd call a free thinker and gnostic. His idea has been a running theme in such circles from the earliest days. It still has plenty of currency today. Somehow, Blake thought, in the end all will be one, all reconciled, all harmonized. But the message of the Gospel is the opposite of that. There is a real difference between good and evil, right and wrong, Angels and demons. In this world such things are distinguished, but all mixed up together. At the end of time they will be eternally separated. Heaven and Hell will never marry. They are opposites, and our destiny is to land up forever in either the one or the other.

We pray then with fervor that all our sins may be forgiven, through the unique mediation of our Blessed Savior Jesus Christ, and through his most holy and precious blood. Then may both we, and all whom we love, come at last to eternal life with him in heaven.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

**8:15 AM mass will be resumed on
Monday October 3rd**

**Sunday Masses at Casa Maria will
be resumed October 2nd at 1:30**

**Weekly adoration on Fridays will
be postponed except during first
Fridays until 2pm**

All masses are
transmitted on our
Facebook page
“St Leonard's Parish,
North End, Boston”



St Leonard's Catholic Catechism

St Leonard's Church Catholic Catechism Instruction (Kindergarten through high school) will begin in person on October 16 and conclude in May, culminating in our first communion and confirmation celebrations. Classes will take place on Sunday morning at 10:30am.

If you would like your kid to participate this year please fill out the registration form on our website or contact Melissa or Cindy ASAP at CCD@stleonard.org

The deadline is October 10 for registration

**St Leonard Church will be closed for
cleaning on Mondays 9:00 AM - 11:00AM
& Thursdays 9:00 AM - 11:00AM
Schedule subject to change**

ST LEONARD PARISH SEPTEMBER OFFERTORY

Week 1: \$ 2,567

Week 2: \$ 2,880

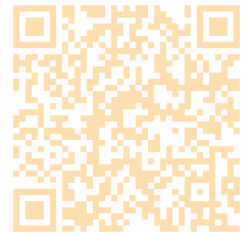
Week 3: \$ 1,997

September Monthly Budget: \$6,239

ONLINE DONATIONS

For the convenience of our parishioners
online donations are encouraged.

Use the following
QR code for our
website donations



venmo

**Also Venmo is
available for online
donations**

Need a meal, or a place to donate clothes?

St. Leonard will be partnering with **Haley House**, a soup kitchen and donation center in South Boston. Currently, they are most in need of men's clothing. Please check the link haleyhouse.org/goods for list of accepted items.

Donations can be brought to our parish office.



HALEY HOUSE



EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

PURE IN HEART



Each Thursday, the pure in heart young adult group meets at Saint Leonard Church beginning with the rosary at 6:30pm followed by Mass at 7:00pm. All young adults 20s & 30s are welcomed.



Transitus of St. Francis (October 4th)

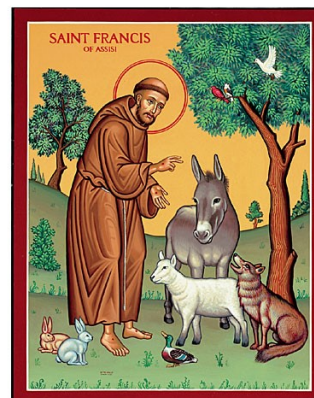


October 4th marks the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. To mark this solemn celebration of our seraphic father, Saint Leonard's Parish will celebrate his feast at the **12:05 pm Mass on Tuesday, October 4th.**

In anticipation of this great feast day, the parish will continue a long standing Franciscan tradition of celebrating the Transitus of Saint Francis. This is a commemoration of his death and transition to new life. It will consist of a short prayer service that will take place the evening before at **7 pm on Monday, October 3rd.**

We look forward to you joining us to celebrate this solemn feast with you!

Blessing of the animals



Keeping in the Franciscan tradition, on October 2, 2022 after the 9:00am mass and the 12:00pm mass, Fr. Michael Della Penna will bless the animals in the Peace Garden

All pets are welcome!

NOVEMBER 11-13

PURE IN HEART AMERICA

BeLoved

"I am my beloved's and his desire is for me"
Song of Songs 7:10

STAY TUNED FOR REGISTRATION DETAILS!

YOUNG ADULT WOMEN'S RETREAT

BETANIA II SPIRITUAL RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER
154 SUMMER ST
MEDWAY, MA

PRAYER TIME • COMMUNITY SURPRISES



150th Anniversary News

A Special 150th Gift for Christmas: a Christmas Creche



Next year marks the 800th Anniversary of the tradition of the Christmas creche started by St. Francis, who staged the very first Nativity scene on Christmas Eve in 1223 in Greccio Italy. To honor this Franciscan tradition, at the onset of St. Leonard's Sesquicentennial, we want to create a magnificent creche in our Church. Thanks to Michael Bonetti's inspiration, we have found beautiful statues that can arrive in time for Christmas. Each piece will be coming directly from Italy, and will include: the Holy Family, the three Kings, an Angel, a Shepherd and sheep, an ox, a donkey and a camel. We would like to offer the Parish a special opportunity to sponsor these statues. Sponsorships will range from \$200 to \$2,500 and be available beginning on St. Francis' feast day-- October 4. Next week's bulletin will have more information, and any questions can be directed to celebrating150years@sleonard.org.

Collecting Stories and Taking Photographs

Dominic Costa has generously offered to photograph parishioners and record their reminiscences of St. Leonard's Church for our 150th celebration. After Masses on Sunday, October 2nd and again on Sunday, October 16th, Dominic will be taking photographs and asking you to share your experiences and thoughts on St. Leonard's.

Please remember to share with the 150th Anniversary Committee and photos you have from the past, we are particularly looking for historical photos of our Church and families: weddings, baptisms, communion, school class photos, etc.

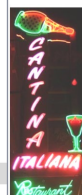
We need your help with the 150th Celebration.
We are looking for your ideas and assistance. Contact us at Celebrating150years@sleonard.org

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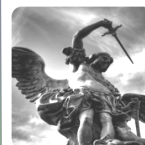
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Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

prayer

Thérèse of Lisieux, you said that you would spend your time in heaven doing good on earth. Pray for me that I, like you, may have great and innocent confidence in the loving promises of our God. Pray that I may live my life in union with God's plan for me, and one day see the Face of God whom you loved so deeply

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux
October 1