

# ST. LEONARD PARISH

320 Hanover Street, Boston, MA 02113 | P: 617-523-2110

## Celebrating 150 Years

### WEEKLY BULLETIN FEBRUARY 11, 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

*"A great prophet has arisen in our midst,  
God has visited his people."*

LK 7:16



Jesus Healing the Leper by Jean Marie Melchior Doze

## SAINT LEONARD OF PORT MAURICE PARISH

### MASS SCHEDULE

<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 am
	10:30 am (Italian)
	12:00 pm
<b>Monday - Friday</b>	8:15 am
	12:05 pm

### CONFESSIONS

**Saturdays** 4:15 - 4:45 pm and upon request.

### SCHEDULE OF DEVOTIONS

<b>Monday - Friday</b>	8:15 am Mass
	11:30 am Rosary
	12:05 pm Mass
<b>Monday</b>	12:30 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
<b>Tuesday</b>	12:30 pm St. Anthony Novena
<b>Wednesday</b>	12:30 pm Litany of St. Joseph
	1st Wednesday of every month
	Queen of Peace Prayer Group
	6:30 pm Rosary, 7:00 pm Mass
<b>First Fridays</b>	12:30 pm - 3:00 pm Adoration
	3:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

All Masses are transmitted on  
our Facebook page

**"St Leonard's Parish,  
North End, Boston"**



Headphones for the hearing impaired are  
available upon request.

Gluten-free host are also available upon request.

### Celebrant Schedule *\*subject to change*

- **Fr. Michael:** 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday, 9:00 am & 12:00 pm
- **Fr. Alexander:** 2nd Sunday, 9:00 am & 12:00 pm
- **Fr. Francis:** 4th Sunday, 9:00 am & 12:00 pm
- **Fr. Robert:** Saturday Confessions at 4:15 pm & Mass at 5:00 pm
- **Fr. Federico:** Sunday 10:30 am (Italian)

**St. Leonard Church will be closed for cleaning  
on Mondays 9:00 am - 11:00 am &  
Thursdays 9:00 am - 11:00 am**

### Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Rev. Michael Della Penna, OFM

Student Priest in Residence: Rev. Federico Cinocca

Guest Priest: Rev. Alexander O'Kere  
Rev. Robert Caprio, OFM  
Rev. Francis Walter, OFM  
Rev. William Schmidt  
Rev. Angelo Nisengwe

St. Stephen Rector: Rev. David Costello

### Parish Office

Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Friday Closed

### Saint John School

Telephone: 617-227-3143

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Website: <https://sjsne.com/>

### Saint Francis Gift and Book Store

Monday - Thursday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Friday - Saturday 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am - 1:30 pm &  
2:30 pm - 6:00 pm

### SAINT STEPHEN CHURCH

401 Hanover St, Boston, MA 02109

P: 617-742-4715

#### Mass Schedule

Saturday	4:00 pm
Sunday	11:00 am

### **February 14th Ash Wednesday 7:30 AM Mass**

*We will NOT celebrate Thursday or Friday  
7:30am Masses here during the months of January  
and February. These Masses are now on hold until  
Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>.*

### Parcel 7 (Haymarket) Garage Parking

136 Blackstone Street, Boston  
(Enter on New Sudbury Street)

There is validated\* parking for visitors to the North End at the Parcel 7 parking garage, located on the corner of New Sudbury Street and Congress Street. Enter on New Sudbury Street next to the Haymarket "T" entrance.

Validated parking tickets are good for \$1 for up to 2 hours of parking, and \$3 for up to 3 hours of parking. If you park for longer than 3 hours, the validation is void and regular rates apply.

\* For the discount, parking ticket must be validated by a North End store, church, attraction, restaurant, business or organization.





# SAINT LEONARD CHURCH

Mass Intentions February 10 - February 16

## February 10 - SATURDAY

**5:00 pm** - Carmine De Tirro

## February 11 - SUNDAY

**9:00 am** - Deceased members of the DePasquale Family and Varano Family; Piazza Family; Salvatore Solimine; Donna Scire; Catherine Ramasci

**10:30 am** - Luigi & Ersilia Torra; Maria Baffo; Healing for Maria & Rico

**12:00 pm** - Joseph & Josephine Trodella; Ann & Jerry McCormick; Healing prayers for Gabriela DosRamos

## February 12 - MONDAY

**8:15 am** - David Posada

**12:05 pm** - Maria Felicita Torra & Gioia Filomina Firicano-LoBono

## February 13 - TUESDAY

**8:15 am** - Jerry & Ann McCormick

**12:05 pm** - Peter Wong

## February 14 - WEDNESDAY: ASH WEDNESDAY

**8:15 am (at Sacred Heart)** - Antonio Guarino

**12:05 pm (at Saint Leonard's)** - Mark Kutch

**7:00 pm (at Saint Leonard's)** - Mariano Taborda

## February 15 - THURSDAY

**8:15 am** - For the homeless people around the world

**12:05 pm** - Gregory Mendis

## February 16 - FRIDAY

**8:15 am** - For the healing and renewal of families

**12:05 pm** - Sacred Heart of Jesus



**All intentions, holy cards, and spirituals found near the Saints will be offered up once a month at the Sunday Mass.**

### Are you in need of Prayers?

Each day the friars of St. Christopher Friary pray for the intentions entrusted to them.

If you would like your intention included in our prayers, please call the friary prayer request line: 617-742-4190 ext. 100.



We are happy to keep you in our prayers.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn the week of February 11 - February 17 at Saint Leonard Church for the healing of Michele Vozzella

The St. Leonard Candle will burn the week of February 11 - February 17 at Saint Leonard Church in memory of Ann and Jerry McCormick



### CASA MARIA

Mass is celebrated every Saturday at 4:00 pm  
February 10 - Celebrated by Fr. Alexander

In observance of President Day, the parish office will be closed, Monday, February 19, 2024.



## THE HEART OF LENT



Some of us think Lent is nothing more than a forty day obligated marathon of church imposed sacrifice, an inconvenient time which we must survive by staying away from something we like such as sweets or coffee.

This superficial observance of Lent will not draw us any closer to Christ, nor help us experience the new life Easter offers or produce the inner spiritual renewal and transformation of heart we hope for through the resurrection.

The main focus of Lent is about being set free to love.

Lent is not about the externals but rather a time for us to change who we are on the inside by being transformed by grace. We are invited to imitate Christ through prayer and fasting.

We are being challenged to let go of our illusions, false gods, and the idols in our life. To be detached and truly free. How? By asking ourselves: What am I being tempted to: To seek personal ambition at the expense of the common good or to give in to cynicism or hopelessness? To chase pleasure and be unfaithful to myself, my responsibilities, my spouse or to God? To coast and not to grow, to go through the motions and self-protect? What will I choose this Lent?

Lent is not just about freeing our hearts from wrong or unhealthy attachments but turning toward the good. It is not just a liberation from any slavery to our ego and self but about exercising the freedom to love authentically. In this way lent is not just about the little sacrifices we make, but about discerning where our hearts are being directed. Who are we becoming? This is the core of Lent: asking what are our hearts being freed from and for whom? To whom do our hearts belong? Let us ask: Where is my life's navigation system taking me :towards God, towards another or towards myself? Do I live to please the Lord, or to be noticed, praised, put at the head of line...? Do I have a fickle and "wobbly" heart, which takes a step forwards

and then one backwards? Do I love the Lord a bit and the world a bit, or is my heart steadfast in God? Am I content with my hypocrisies, or do I work to free my heart from the duplicity and falsehood that tie it down?

Lent is a laser focused forty day spiritual preparation period for the new life offered through the resurrection of our Lord during which time we purify our hearts through penance, fasting, and prayer. It is a sacred and special time to free our hearts from the slavery of sin by listening more deeply to the Word of God, repenting and recommitting ourselves to living out more intentionally our Baptismal call. Lent is a time of grace that gives us an opportunity to decide for love by forgiving others and being forgiven, and therefore renewing our trust in the mercy of God. It is a time to intensify our prayer, fasting, penance, and almsgiving, as well as to share what we have with the less fortunate. During Lent we ought to set aside time for prayer in order to not only deepen our intimacy with God, but to generously respond to the blessings which we have received. How? By putting our faith into practice through concrete acts of charity, and observing a Lenten fast that enables our heart to grow in the capacity to love. Be sure to join us for our many reconciliation times, praying the way of the cross on Fridays and the fourth Sundays as well as for our Lenten mission "Rebuild My Church" from March 4-6.

*By Fr. Michael Della Penna*





## EVENTS

### February Events

- **February 13th: Meet Saint Therese**  
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Sacred Heart
- **February 14th: Ash Wednesday**  
8:15am Mass at Sacred Heart  
12:05pm Mass at Saint Leonard's  
3:00pm Prayer Service & Distribution of ashes  
6:00pm Confession  
7:00pm Mass at Saint Leonard's
- **February 21st & 28th: "Follow Me" Bible Study**  
7:00 pm at Sacred Heart
- **February 25th: Fourth Sunday Stations of the Cross**  
1:00pm Social  
2:00pm Adoration  
3:00pm Stations of the Cross

- The Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday at 6:30pm.
- Every First Friday Adoration is exposed from 12:30pm to 3:00pm.
- The Sacrament of Confession will be available during Lent every Wednesday at 6:30 pm & every Sunday from 4:00pm to 5:30 pm.
- Every Sunday at 4:00pm, Adoration with music by NER Praise happens at St Leonard's.
- Every Sunday at 5:30pm (after Adoration), young adult dinner takes place at Dodici (12 North Square).

WEDNESDAY - February 14th

## ASH WEDNESDAY

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8:15 AM - MASS

12:05 PM - MASS

3:00 PM - PRAYER SERVICE  
& DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

6:00 PM - CONFESSION

7:00 PM - MASS  
WITH PENITENTIAL PROCESSION



TUESDAY - February 13th

## Meet St. Therese

Coffee and  
Cookies



6 - 8 pm

Get To Know  
St. Therese of  
Lisieux

**FAT TUESDAY**

**Feb 13th**



**SACRED HEART CHURCH**

Conference Room

12 North Square, Boston, MA 02113

Featuring Special Guest Speaker: Br. Jonathan Maria

Sponsored by  
St. Theresa Society of Boston

For More Information: Contact  
[Sainttheresaboston@gmail.com](mailto:Sainttheresaboston@gmail.com)

Every Sunday

## LIVE WORSHIP MUSIC

Sundays @ 4 PM\*

St. Leonard's in Boston's North End



f St. Leonard's



@ nerpraise

\*Excluding Dec. 24th & 31st

FRIDAY - February 16th

# STATIONS OF THE CROSS



EVERY FRIDAY OF LENT  
AT 6:30PM

Every Sunday

## YOUNG ADULT SUNDAY DINNER

Sundays, Dodici Social Club (12 N Square)\*  
Following Praise & Adoration (4-5:30 pm,  
St. Leonard's Church)



St. Leonard's

\*Starting Jan. 14th, 2024



YA Listserv

WEDNESDAY - February 21st & 28th

JOIN US AS WE STUDY THE GOSPEL OF MARK



BIBLE STUDY

# "FOLLOW ME"

MARK 1:17

Wednesdays | 7-8:30PM  
Starting January 17, 2024

Sacred Heart Church  
12 North Square | Boston, MA 02113

CONTACT: CELEBRATING150YEARS@SLEONARD.ORG



### PLEASE NOTE:

We will be using the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible: The Gospel of Mark, which is available in the St. Leonard Gift Shop.

SUNDAY - February 25th

## Fourth Sunday Stations of the Cross

Please join us on Sunday, January 28th at **Saint Leonard's Church** following the **Noon Mass**.

1:00pm: Social

2:00pm: Adoration

3:00pm: Stations of the Cross





TUESDAY - March 19th

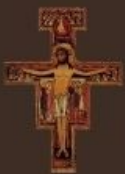


## THIRTEEN TUESDAY NOVENA TO *Saint Anthony of Padua*

CELEBRAZIONE DEL MARTEDI  
*Fredicina di Sant' Antonio*

**Tuesday, March 19th - Tuesday, June 11th**  
Following the 12:05 PM Mass & 7:00 PM

Join the parish family of Saint Leonard of Port Maurice as we begin the solemn commemoration of Blessed Anthony, confessor and doctor of the universal church, for 13 weeks until his feast on June 13th.



Saint Leonard of Port Maurice Church  
320 Hanover Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02113

FRIDAY - March 1st

## ADORATION



Adoration will be held during first Fridays  
from 12:30pm until 3:00pm ending with  
the benediction.

March 3rd to 9th

# Mission Trip

**MARCH 3-9  
DENVER, CO**

Join Encounter Boston on our mission trip to serve the homeless alongside Christ in the City!

Learn more and register at  
[tinyurl.com/EncounterDenver](http://tinyurl.com/EncounterDenver)

From March 3rd-9th we will lead a mission trip to Christ in the City's missionary house in Denver, CO. Again, young adults are welcome! "Mission troopers" (i.e., volunteers) will experience street ministry, the joy of community life, and workshops from the missionaries and formators at CIC. This is our most popular and beloved event each year!



# LENTEN AND EASTER CALENDAR

SUN, FEBRUARY 11 - SUN, APRIL 7, 2024



## Confessions

\*every Wednesday during Lent @6:30PM

\*every Sunday during Lent @4-5:30PM

SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SUN  
11

FEBRUARY

*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Mass @9:00AM, @10:30AM (Italian), and @12:00PM

Burning of the palms to create ashes @1:00PM (Peace Garden)

WED  
14

FEBRUARY

*Ash Wednesday*

Mass with Ash Distribution @8:15AM (Sacred Heart)

Mass with Ash Distribution @12:05PM and @7:00PM (St. Leonard)

Prayer Service with Ash Distribution @3:00PM

Confessions @6:00PM

FRI  
16

FEBRUARY

Stations of the Cross @6:30PM

SUN  
18

FEBRUARY

Mass @9:00AM, @10:30AM (Italian)

Conclusion of the Sesquicentennial Mass @12:00PM

Confessions @4:00-5:30PM

WED  
21

FEBRUARY

Confessions @6:30PM

FRI  
23

FEBRUARY

Stations of the Cross @6:30PM

SUN  
25

FEBRUARY

*150th Anniversary: Sesquicentennial Stations of the Cross*

Mass @9:00AM, @10:30AM (Italian), and @12:00PM

Social @1:00PM, Adoration @2:00PM, Stations of the Cross @3:00PM

Confessions @4:00-5:30PM

MON  
26

FEBRUARY

Babette's Feast Movie and Potluck @6:30PM (Parish Hall)

WED  
28

FEBRUARY

Confessions @6:30PM

FRI  
01

MARCH

Stations of the Cross @6:30PM

The Role of Christians in the Holy Land: a Franciscan Perspective @7:00PM (Sacred Heart)

SUN  
03

MARCH

Mass @9:00AM, @10:30AM (Italian), and @12:00PM

Confessions @4:00-5:30PM

MON  
04

MARCH

Confessions @6:30PM

"Rebuild my Church" Mission Talk with Fr. Bill Schmidt @7:00PM

TUE  
05

MARCH

Confessions @6:30PM

"Rebuild my Church" Mission Talk with Fr. Bill Schmidt @7:00PM

WED  
06

MARCH

Confessions @6:30PM

"Rebuild my Church" Mission Talk with Fr. Bill Schmidt @7:00PM

FRI  
08

MARCH

Lenten Soup @5:30PM (Parish Hall)

Stations of the Cross @6:30PM

4TH WEEK

SUN  
10

MARCH

Mass @9:00AM, @10:30AM (Italian), and @12:00PM

Confessions @4:00-5:30PM

WED  
13

MARCH

Confessions @6:30PM

FRI  
15

MARCH

Stations of the Cross @6:30PM

SUN  
17

MARCH

Mass @9:00AM, @10:30AM (Italian), and @12:00PM

Confessions @4:00-5:30PM

WED  
20

MARCH

Confessions @6:30PM

FRI  
22

MARCH

Stations of the Cross @6:30PM

SAT  
23

MARCH

*Palm Sunday (Vigil)*

Vigil Mass @5:00PM

SUN  
24

MARCH

*Palm Sunday*

Mass @9:00AM, @10:30AM (Italian), and @12:00PM

Confessions @4:00-5:30PM

Reed's School Concert @5:00PM (Sacred Heart)

WED  
27

MARCH

Confessions @6:30PM

THU  
28

MARCH

*Holy Thursday*

Mass @8:00PM, Procession to North End Churches @9:30PM

FRI  
29

MARCH

*Good Friday*

Stations of the Cross @12:00PM and 7:00PM

Passion of our Lord @3:00PM and Confession @4:30PM

SAT  
30

MARCH

*Easter Vigil*

Mass @8:00PM

SUN  
31

MARCH

*Easter Sunday*

Mass @9:00AM, @10:30AM (Italian), and @12:00PM

SAT  
06

APRIL

*Divine Mercy Vigil*

Mass @5:00PM

SUN  
07

APRIL

*Divine Mercy Sunday*

Mass @9:00AM, @10:30AM (Italian), and @12:00PM

Adoration and Confession @1:00PM

Chaplet of Divine Mercy @3:00PM

1ST WEEK

2ND WEEK

3RD WEEK OF LENT

5TH WEEK

HOLY WEEK

EASTER

DIVINE MERCY



*“During Lent, let us find concrete ways to overcome our indifference.”*  
—Pope Francis

## WHAT IS LENT?

Lent is a preparation for the new life offered to us in Easter. In these 40 days, we prepare our hearts, purifying them through penance, acts of sacrifice, almsgiving, and prayer so that we may fully share in the joys of Easter.

## DID YOU KNOW?

1. During Lent we are obligated to fast and abstain from meat:

- **ABSTINENCE:**

Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to complete abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.

- **FASTING:**

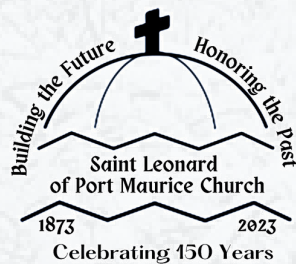
Catholics over 18, and up to the beginning of their sixtieth year, are bound to fast Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

2. This is a graced time to fulfill our yearly obligation to cleanse our heart through the sacrament of reconciliation and receive the Eucharist during the Easter season.

## SOME WAYS TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS

- Read the Bible
- Say the Rosary as a Family
- Go to Confession
- Spend time in silent prayer
- Go to Weekday Mass
- Fast from bad language
- Try not to gossip
- Say the Litany of Trust
- Attend Stations of the Cross
- Visit a new church
- Clean your room
- Start the Bible in a Year
- Give up coffee
- Learn about a saint
- Give up electronics
- Pray for vocations
- Give up a favorite snack
- Visit someone in a nursing home
- Do a Random Act of Kindness
- Donate to your favorite charity
- Pray for mother's going through unplanned pregnancies
- Offer up your struggles of the week
- Do one of the Corporal Works of Mercy
- Write a thank you note to someone
- Pray for discerning religious
- Pray for those who have passed
- Invite a friend to attend Mass with you
- Join Bible Study, Wednesdays @7pm at Sacred Heart Church
- Fast from social media for a day or longer
- Spend 30 minutes reading something spiritual
- Read Mass readings before going to Mass
- Forgive someone that is hard to forgive
- Meditate on one of the Stations

# 150TH ANNIVERSARY



## 150th Building the Future Fund

Thank you to all the Angels that have contributed to our 150th Building the Future Fund thus far.

We still need to raise \$100,000 to repair the facade of Sacred Heart, and \$100,000 to fix the Roof at the Rectory. Please consider donating to our Angelic Choir:

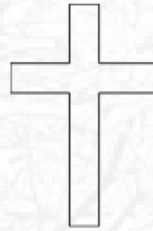
- \$150 Sesquicentennial Club
- \$500 Angels
- \$1,500 Archangels
- \$5,000 Principalities
- \$15,000 Powers
- \$30,000 Virtues
- \$50,000 Dominions
- \$75,000 Thrones
- \$100,000 Cherubim
- \$150,000+ Seraphim

Donations can be made with a check to St. Leonard's 150th and sent to the Parish office at 320 Hanover Street, Boston MA 02113;

or by donating online at [www.saintleonardchurchboston.org](http://www.saintleonardchurchboston.org).

Thank you so much!

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS



The Stations of the Cross are the centerpiece of our 150th celebration and we will be offering, as an insert each week in the bulletin, the Station of the month along with meditations for your prayer and reflection.



We encourage you to spend some time each day allowing Jesus to speak to you through His Passion. This week for the month of February we are focused on the Fourteen Station: **Jesus is laid in the tomb**



## CONCLUDING OUR SESQUICENTENNIAL



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

Please join us as we *conclude* the celebration of

*The 150th Anniversary of  
St. Leonard's Church*

Sunday, February 18, 2024  
Twelve o'clock Mass  
St. Leonard's Church

*refreshments to follow in St. Joseph's Hall*

*Building the Future by Honoring the Past*

## Sesquicentennial Prayer

Almighty and merciful God, who made Saint Leonard an outstanding herald of the mystery of the Cross, grant, by his intercession, that, acknowledging on earth the riches of the same cross, we may be worthy to attain the fruit of redemption in Heaven.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Let us pray that this 150th celebration be an opportunity for us to be transformed by the Cross and more intimately united with Christ.





## PRO-LIFE RESOURCES

### ABORTION PILL REVERSAL.COM



**877 - 558 - 0333**

### YOU HAVE OPTIONS! WE CAN HELP!



**888-550-1588**

**My Choice Network.org  
Love Line.com**



**GET THE  
FACTS**

**AVOID THE  
PAIN**

**THIS IS  
CHEMICAL  
ABORTION**



**YOU ARE  
NOT ALONE!**

**WE STAND WITH YOU!  
WE ARE HERE TO HELP!**

**Enter Your Zip Code  
Find Local Resources**

**TUESDAY - February 20th**

### *Franciscan Secular Order*



The next meeting of the Secular Franciscans at St Leonard's will be on Tuesday, February 20, at 7pm in the Church Hall. We will be discussing Chapter 2 of Richard Rohr's "Eager To Love: The Alternative Way of Francis of Assisi." Copies are available in the parish bookstore and via Amazon. (Please join us, whether or not you have read the book!)

The Secular Franciscan Order is one of three founded by St Francis of Assisi. It is an Order of men and women, young and old, married and unmarried, saints and sinners - all striving to live the Gospel way of life after the example of the Little Poor Man from Assisi.

If you have any questions, please email:  
[stleonardsecularfranciscans@gmail.com](mailto:stleonardsecularfranciscans@gmail.com).

## **VOLUNTEER OFFICE POSITION AVAILABLE**

**THIS POSITION IS MEANT FOR YOU WHO IS LOOKING FOR A  
VERY EASY, FUN AND PRODUCTIVE WAY TO VOLUNTEER  
YOUR TIME & TALENT TO THE PARISH**

- **CREATE YOUR OWN SCHEDULE (MINIMUM 3-5 HRS.)**
  - **WEEKDAY HOURS (M-TH BETWEEN 10AM-4PM)**
  - **DATA ENTRY AND DATA UPDATE**
- PLEASE CONTACT JANINE MARTIGNETTI AT 617-523-2110  
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**
- THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND CONSIDERATION TO THIS REQUEST**



## REFLECTING ON THE YEAR OF THE TRAVELING SAN DAMIANO CROSS

St. Francis' vocation began at the foot of the Cross at San Damiano where he prayed to God to "enlighten the darkness of his heart..." Later he heard Jesus say from the Cross, "Go, repair my Church" and as a result the Franciscan order was born. At first, Francis mistakenly thought it meant to build up the physical building of the Church with bricks and mortar, but the Lord had meant to build up the living Church. Since that time all Franciscans have witnessed to being united through the cross and building up Christ centered communities.



St. Leonard, coming out of this tradition, looked to the passion of Christ, and so popularizing the Stations of the Cross and preached that we can be transformed in and through the Cross.

Thus, as part of the 150th Anniversary, we invited our family of parishioners to take the San Damiano Cross into their homes and allow themselves to be transformed by the Cross.

We had an overwhelming response to this offer! Every week, since last January, parishioners welcomed the traveling San Damiano Cross into their homes. We heard repeatedly how enriched the family and friends of those with the Cross felt --they spent a little more time in prayer; shared a meal and prayers with family, friends and neighbor; they felt God's presence; they got an answer to a prayer.

Reflecting on the experiences and excitement of those who participated, as depicted in the collage, we see that we became an extension and living icon of the San Damiano cross which depicts a community who is formed around the cross and united through the suffering of Jesus.

As St. Leonard was famous for saying, "Blessed be God."





# Footsteps of St. Leonard Pilgrimage

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Leonard's Church

**Fr. Michael Della Penna, OFM**  
Your Chaplain

**Itinerary** (subject to change) **October 8 – 17, 2024**

## Day 1 | October 8th, 2024 | Departure

Our pilgrimage begins with an overnight flight from Boston to Milan. Meals and refreshments are served on the plane.

## Day 2 | October 9th, 2024 | Arrival in Milan

Upon arrival in Milan, we'll transfer to Porto Maurizio, the birthplace of St. Leonard. Hotel Check-in, and afternoon at leisure before we gather for mass and our welcome dinner. *Overnight in Porto Maurizio*

## Day 3 | October 10th, 2024 | Footsteps of St. Leonard

After breakfast we start the day by visiting St. Leonard's native home, now an oratory for private worship. We'll then walk the streets of Porto Maurizio where St. Leonard would preach. St. Leonard would preach in the streets to many thousands, the churches were too small to contain the multitudes who would flock to hear his sermons. After lunch, we'll visit the Cathedral of Imperia Porto Maurizio where we will celebrate Mass and pray over the body of St. Leonard. *Overnight in Porto Maurizio*

## Day 4 | October 11th, 2024 | Tuscany & Florence

After breakfast we'll depart for Assisi, in route we stop in Tuscany for lunch, a beautiful place to admire the countryside, relax and enjoy some local wine tasting. Next, we'll visit the Convento Dell'Incontro, a Franciscan Monastery atop the hills just outside of Florence. Convento Dell'Incontro was founded by St. Leonard in 1710 and where he would retire to from time to time after his missions. Here we will celebrate Mass and pray for the intercession of St. Leonard. Finally, we'll arrive in Assisi for Dinner. *Overnight in Assisi*

## Day 5 | October 12th, 2024 | Assisi

Following breakfast, we will proceed to the basilica of St. Francis where we will celebrate Mass, pray over his tomb. Next, we will visit Chiesa Nuova, built in 1615 on the site of the birthplace of St. Francis. Then onto the Church of St. Clare to see the Saint's body and pray for her intercession. St. Clare was the foundress of the Order of Poor Clare's. We'll visit St. Mary Major, the Shrine of the Renunciation, where Blessed Carlo's body is interred. Finally, we visit San Damiano the site of St. Francis's conversion, where he obeyed the orders given to him by the Crucifix, which told him "Go forth Francis, and rebuild my crumbling house". *Overnight in Assisi*

## Day 6 | October 13th, 2024 | Greccio

After breakfast we visit St. Mary of the Angels where St. Francis spent most of his life. Here we'll visit the Chapel Portiuncola and celebrate Mass near the rose bush and cave where St. Francis retired for prayer. Next, we'll depart Assisi and begin our journey to Rome, in route we will make a stop in Rivotorto where St. Francis of Assisi

started his life of austerity. We then continue onto the medieval town of Greccio. Greccio itself, set on a beautiful mountaintop, is famous for its cool summer climate and its mineral springs. However, it is even more renowned for its connections with St. Francis of Assisi and as the birthplace of the Christmas crèche. On Christmas Night 1223, St. Francis led shepherds to the top of a nearby hill where they gathered together in a stable sheltering an ox and a donkey. According to legend, the Baby Jesus miraculously appeared in the manger. On this spot the Franciscan convent of Greccio was built, and the Chapel of The Crib was erected in 1228, the year St. Francis was canonized. Finally, we board our bus and continue to Rome for dinner. *Overnight in Rome*

## Day 7 | October 14th, 2024 | Rome Basilicas

After breakfast, we will visit the church of San Bonaventura al Palatino, here we will have the opportunity to pray before the relics of St. Leonard and celebrate Mass. San Bonaventura al Palatino is where St. Leonard studied and later taught as a professor. Next, before our entrance at Colosseum, we will visit the Church of St. Peter in Chains and then we will embark on a historic tour of Ancient Rome starting with a visit to the Colosseum, a grand amphitheater of the ancient world. St. Leonard set up the Stations of the Cross in over 500 different places, including the Colosseum. Passing by the Roman Forum, we will witness the ruins of ancient government buildings. After the Roman Forum we'll visit Collegio Romano, a school established by St. Ignatius of Loyola in 1551, just 11 years after he founded the Society of Jesus, where St. Leonard studied with the Jesuits before receiving his habit. *Overnight in Rome*

## Day 8 | October 15th, 2024 | St. Leonard & Ancient Rome

Today, we will visit the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, the Basilica of St. Mary Major, as well as the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran. It is here (the Basilica of St. John Lateran) that St. Francis persuaded Pope Innocent III to give permission to begin the Franciscan Order. We will celebrate mass at one of the basilicas. At the end of the visit, transfer back to your hotel in Rome and rest of the day at leisure. *Overnight in Rome*

## Day 9 | October 16th, 2024 | Vatican City & Papal Audience

Following breakfast, we have an early departure for St. Peter's Square to participate in the Papal Audience (subject to the Pope's schedule). After lunch, we have a guided tour of the Vatican Museum, the Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica where we will celebrate mass in one of the Chapels. *Overnight in Rome*

## Day 10 | October 17th, 2024 | Return home

With a renewed sense of pilgrimage, and an invigorated love of our Catholic faith, we transfer to the Rome Fiumicino Airport and board our return flight home.



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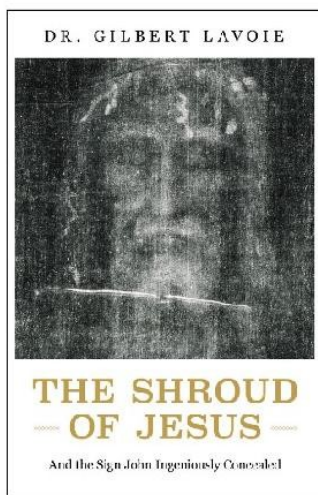
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## March 6

## 6:00-8:00 PM

### SCHEDULE

6:00 PM Mass

6:30 PM Dr. Gilbert Lavoie

7:30 PM Eucharist Healing Service



DR. GILBERT R. LAVOIE is a medical doctor, a specialist in internal medicine, occupational medicine, and public health. He has also pursued a forensic and scriptural study of the Shroud of Turin for more than 40 years. He has published books, a video, and articles related to scriptural and medical forensic studies of the blood marks and image of the man of the shroud. His most recent book, *The Shroud of Jesus and the Sign John Ingeniously Concealed* was published in June 2023 by Sophia Institute Press. Dr. Lavoie, along with his colleague, Tom D'Muhala, digitized and organized some of the finest photographs of the Shroud of Turin done by Vernon Miller, who was the official scientific photographer of the 1978 Shroud of Turin Research Project. The Vernon Miller photo collection is now available worldwide on the internet at [www.shroudphotos.com](http://www.shroudphotos.com).

In the past several years Dr. Lavoie worked with the internationally known sculptor, Pablo Eduardo. Eduardo recently completed a bronze sculpture which is a three-dimensional replica of the image of the man of the Shroud of Turin. This was done in exquisite detail, paying much attention to the anatomy of the figure. This sculpture named *The Sign*, reveals a whole new way of understanding the shroud image.



## FINANCIAL & GIVING

### ST. LEONARD PARISH MONTHLY BUDGET

#### February Offertory Results:

Week 1: \$ 7,588

February Budget : \$ 9,830

In the month of January we were short \$8,557.

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Thank you for your support!

This year we have on the cover of our missal the prayer of St. Michael the Archangel and a special note to our guest of St. Leonard of Port Maurice.

## Welcome to St Leonard's

For those of you who are not Catholic, or if you are Catholic and not prepared to receive Holy Communion today, we invite you to come forward to receive a blessing instead. Simply cross your arms over your chest instead.

### St. Michael the Archangel Prayer

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.  
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou,  
O Prince of the heavenly hosts, **by the power of God**, cast into  
hell satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.  
Amen

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# ASH WEDNESDAY

## Prayer

Gracious God, today begins a period of inner reflection and examination. The days stretch before me and invite me inward to that silent, holy space that holds your Spirit. This special time beckons me to see my life through Christ's eyes and the truth and reality of your love incarnate. Give me the grace to enter the space of these days with anticipation of our meeting. And, when I open my soul to your presence, let your loving kindness flow over me and seep into the pockets of my heart. I ask this for the sake of your love.

Amen

*Ash Wednesday*

*February 14*