

**April 12, 2026**  
**Divine Mercy Sunday**



**SAINT LEO THE GREAT**

CATHOLIC CHURCH ✠ 2427 MARIETTA AVE.  
LANCASTER, PA 17601  
717-394-1742 • [www.stleos.org](http://www.stleos.org)

# SAINT LEO THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH

2427 Marietta Avenue • Lancaster, PA 17601

Phone: 717-394-1742 - (Press 2) • Fax: 717-394-1779 • Website: [www.stleos.org](http://www.stleos.org)

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

## PARISH STAFF 717-394-1742 (Press 2)

Rev. Msgr. Peter I. Hahn ~ Pastor ~ [pastor@stleos.org](mailto:pastor@stleos.org)  
Rev. Thomas Kappes ~ Parochial Vicar ~ [FrKappes@stleos.org](mailto:FrKappes@stleos.org)  
Deacon Frank A. Kuchinski, Ph.D.~ Parish Mgr. ~ [parishmgr@stleos.org](mailto:parishmgr@stleos.org)  
Maggie Griesser ~ Secretary & Accounts Payable ~ [secretary@stleos.org](mailto:secretary@stleos.org)  
Melissa Kardas ~ Parish Finance Manager ~ [mkardas@stleos.org](mailto:mkardas@stleos.org)  
Mary Jo Diffendall ~ Development ~ [mdiffendall@stleos.org](mailto:mdiffendall@stleos.org)  
Kim Evans-Werner ~ Dir. of Information Technology ~ [stleit@stleos.org](mailto:stleit@stleos.org)  
Kyle Postlethwait ~ Dir. of Sacred Music ~ [kpostlethwait@stleos.org](mailto:kpostlethwait@stleos.org)  
Tina Johnson ~ Dir. of Communications & Youth Ministry ~ [tjohnson@stleos.org](mailto:tjohnson@stleos.org)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 717-394-1742 (Press 4)

(Mon—Fri 9:00 AM—3:10 PM)

Sr. Dorothy Wilkinson, SSC ~ DRE [dre@stleos.org](mailto:dre@stleos.org)  
Deborah Johnson ~ Secretary [psr@stleos.org](mailto:psr@stleos.org)

## SAINT LEO THE GREAT SCHOOL: 717-394-1742 (Press 3)

(Mon—Fri 8:25 AM—3:10 PM)

Jennifer Miller ~ Principal ~ [jmiller@stleoschool.org](mailto:jmiller@stleoschool.org)  
Sharon Hoover ~ Secretary ~ [shoover@stleoschool.org](mailto:shoover@stleoschool.org)  
Christine Pisano ~ Enrollment Management ~ [cpisano@stleos.org](mailto:cpisano@stleos.org)

## MASS AND RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

**SATURDAY VIGIL** 4:30 pm-Church

**SUNDAY** 7:30 am, 9:15 am, 11:00 am-Church

**HOLY DAYS** Variable (see inside bulletin)-Church

**DAILY MASS** Mon/Sat 9:00 am, Tues/Thurs 6:30 am & 9:00 am, Wed 6:30 am & 7:00 pm and Friday 6:30 am & 9:00 am

**ADORATION** Wednesdays from 7:00 am - 6:30 pm with recitation of the holy rosary at 6:20 in the Chapel followed by Benediction.

**CONFESSIONS** are Saturdays from 7:30—8:45 am and 3:00-4:15 pm in the Chapel. Also by appointment. Call Parish Office.

**REGISTRATION/PARISH MEMBERSHIP:** Printable forms are available at [www.stleos.org](http://www.stleos.org) under "Downloads." New parishioners may also register by emailing or calling the Parish Office.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parishioners who would like to have their child baptized at St. Leo's are requested to call Monsignor Hahn at the Parish Office to personally schedule an appointment to meet with him to discuss this great Sacrament. Normally Baptisms are held on the first Sunday of each month, after our 11:00 am Mass, or approximately at 12:00 Noon. At least one sponsor must be a practicing Catholic, age 16 or older, Confirmed, and must present a sponsor certificate if from another parish. Parents must be registered members of St. Leo's parish.

## SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Couples contemplating marriage must contact Monsignor Hahn at the Parish Office at least one year before the date of the intended marriage. Church date and arrangements should precede all other wedding plans.

## SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING

Call any parish priest as soon as there is any serious illness.

## HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK

When a parishioner is confined to home because of illness, advanced age or infirmity, please call the Parish Office and arrangements will be made to bring Holy Communion to the person.

## ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

Adults interested in learning more about their faith or in becoming Catholic may join the program of formation and instruction which begins in September. Call the Religious Education Office.

## SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Letters of recommendation for sponsors of the Sacraments can be issued only to active registered members of the parish and who are receiving the Sacraments on a regular basis.

## PARISH COUNCIL

Mark Ryan (Chair)    Tad Sumoski    Brian Johnson  
Tim Drevna        Jim McCoy       Kathy Labosh  
Enrico Martini    Flavel Rogers

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Charles Gales  
Dave Horn    Hank Christ  
Chris Gibbons

## PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Ryan Green (Chair)    Michael Hoover  
Mary Whalen        Keith Verner  
Matthew Dusablon    Daniel Valore  
Mary Kate Walsh     Christina Hoover  
John Kauffman       Michelle Bertini

## Mass Schedule

### 04/12-Sunday of Divine Mercy

*Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4,13-15,22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9;  
Jn 20:19-31*

7:30 AM-Tom Day-(Mary Anne Fanale)  
9:15 AM-John Feyock Jr.-(Pat DeStefano)  
11:00 AM-Saint Leo the Great Parishioners  
12:00-2:00 PM-Adoration & Confessions  
1:45 PM-Chaplet of Divine Mercy

### 04/13-Monday-Saint Martin I, Pope, Martyr

*Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8*

9:00 AM-Ints. Howard & Ginny Pryor-(Mary Wippel)

### 04/14-Tuesday

*Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2,5; Jn 3:7-15*

6:30 AM-Ints. Rita Schmidt-(Mary Wippel)  
9:00 AM-Deceased Members of the Tomlinson Family-  
(Clark & Beth Tomlinson)

### 04/15-Wednesday

*Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21*

6:30 AM-Daniel Gallucci-(Joseph Sweeney Family)  
7:00 AM-Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
7:00 PM-Ints. Kathie Wippel-(Mary Wippel)

### 04/16-Thursday

*Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36*

6:30 AM-Joseph Kearney-(Acker Family)  
9:00 AM-Ruth Ann Stampka-(Charlie & Dorothy Uhland)

### 04/17-Friday

*Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15*

6:30 AM- Richard C. Gerz Jr.-(Alexia Kielb)  
9:00 AM-Ints. John & Laura Fix-(Tom and Carla Carson)

### 04/18-Saturday

*Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2,4-5,18-19; Jn 6:16-21*

9:00 AM-Ints. Sue & Rich Juliano  
4:30 PM-Steve Ulmer-(Maggie Griesser)

### 04/19-Third Sunday of Easter

*Acts 2:14,22-33; Ps 16:1-2,5,7-11; 1 Pt 1:17-21;  
Lk 24:13-35*

7:30 AM-Edwin Manuel Rodriguez Guzman-(Mike & Julie Abel)  
9:15 AM-Saint Leo Parishioners  
11:00 AM-Carol Sohn-(Allan & Marti Pawlikowski)  
12:00 PM-Adoration for Vocations

## Gospel Message

April 19, 2026

Through the blood of Jesus we have been delivered from the power of sin. We recognize him in the breaking of the bread, the one whom God raised from the dead and who now sits at his right hand forever.

## Weekly Collections

3/29/26

Fair Share \$18,982.23  
Lenten Offering \$4,067.00

4/5/26

Fair Share \$24,068.83  
Catholic Relief \$1,659.00  
Good Friday \$3,387.00  
Easter \$15,288.00  
Lenten Offering \$981.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## Recitation of the Holy Rosary

Sunday at 10:30 AM (Church)  
Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri at 9:30 AM (Chapel)  
Wednesday at 6:20 PM (Chapel)  
Saturday at 4:00 PM (Church)  
(First Saturdays: 8:00 AM in the Church)

## Altar Server Training

Fr. Kappes is hosting an altar server training session for all parish students in grades 4th through 8th on **Saturday, April 18th from 9:30-10:30 AM** in the Church.

Please RSVP to [tjohnson@stleos.org](mailto:tjohnson@stleos.org).

## That Man Is You

Week 25: Mission 12.0

**Saturday, April 18th at 7:00 AM in**

- The Saddest Story in the Gospel
- The Seven Steps of TMIY! And Their Impact
- Superabundant Happiness
- The Profound Impact of the Family
- The TMIY Mission 12.0 Challenge
- The Vision of a New Springtime
- The "Program for the Future"

**Jesus said, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them and whose sins you retain are retained.”**  
(John 20: 19-23)

Happy Easter!

The Church celebrates with the greatest joy and happiness this incomparable event that Our Lord, who suffered the horrific death of crucifixion to save us from our sins, has burst forth from the Tomb on that first Easter Sunday. We mark this event not just for one day, but for 50 days which will conclude on Pentecost Sunday, on May 24<sup>th</sup>. And within those 50 days, these first 8 days, or “Octave” is seen as a continuous “day”, concluding today on “Divine Mercy Sunday”.

This newly named feast is derived from visions received by the Polish nun, Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, when Jesus revealed to her that truth that “God is Mercy”. And so, each year, we reflect upon this as we hear this Gospel, where Jesus appears to the disciples on the day of the Resurrection, saying, “Peace be with you” and then “breathes upon them”, giving them the Holy Spirit and the power to forgive others in His Name.

The message for us is a clear one. God’s first and greatest gift He wishes to give to us is His gift of peace. We are meant, despite all the trials and difficulties in our live and in the world around us, to experience that peace and joy and hope that He alone can gives and which is based upon the event of Easter and the eternal life in Him that is offers to us. And then, the connection that we cannot forget is that it is in the “forgiveness of sins” offered to us in the Cross of Christ, that we are meant to always know that peace.

We will gather today with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the conclusion of our 11:00 a.m. Mass until 1:45 p.m., when we will pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and then celebrate Benediction. Father Kappes and I will also be hearing Confessions for this day offers us that extraordinary gift of the Plenary Indulgence so that, if we have received the Sacrament of Confession within a reasonable time, receive Holy Communion and possess no “attachment to sin”, it removes from us “all temporal punishment due to sin”

This term, “temporal punishment due to sin” refers to that “debt” that is incurred in sin and which remains even after our sins are forgiven, so that, after death, one must “spend that time” in purgatory to be purged and cleansed. The Plenary Indulgence is a remarkable gift of God that we can either accept for ourselves or offer it to a soul in purgatory, which would immediately release that person unto heaven.

And so today, as we continue in the glory of Easter, we are meant to open ourselves to that greatest gift of God’s peace and His mercy, which then offers us eternal happiness and life in Him. What else could we say then, other than “Happy Easter”. God bless you.

*Monsignor Hahn*





DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

4800 Union Deposit Road | Harrisburg, PA 17111-3710  
bishopsoffice@hbgdiocese.org | (717) 657-4804 ext. 354 | www.hbgdiocese.org

March 31, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Easter morning, we stand with the first disciples before the empty tomb and encounter a truth so astonishing that it forever changed the course of history: Christ is risen. The Resurrection of Jesus lies at the very heart of our faith. It is the foundation of our hope and the source of meaning in our lives today. Because Christ has triumphed over sin and death, we know with certainty that darkness, suffering, and despair will never have the final word.

Yet even as we rejoice in this most sacred feast, we remain keenly aware of the suffering that continues to afflict our world. In many places, families live with daily uncertainty and fear. The ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and in the Middle East weigh heavily upon the hearts of people everywhere, as countless innocent lives are scarred by violence, displacement, and loss. Closer to home, many among us carry personal crosses—family struggles, illness, loneliness, grief, or anxiety about the future.

It is precisely into a world marked by such pain that the message of Easter speaks most powerfully. The Resurrection proclaims that God is at work even when the night seems darkest. The stone that sealed the tomb could not contain the life that God had promised. In the same way, the forces of hatred, division, and war cannot overcome the power of God’s love revealed in the risen Christ.

On that first Easter night, when Jesus appeared to His disciples, His first words were simple yet profound: “Peace be with you.” These words were not merely a greeting or a reassurance; they were a mission. The risen Lord entrusted His followers with the task of carrying His peace into a wounded world. That same mission is entrusted to us today.

As Pope Leo reminds us: “To recognize the Resurrection means to change one’s outlook on the world: to return to the light to recognize the Truth that has saved us, and that saves us. Sisters and brothers, let us remain watchful every day in the wonder of the Pasch of the risen Jesus. He alone makes the impossible possible!” (Pope Leo XIV, General Audience, 22 October 2025)

This Easter, I invite each of you to continue to renew your commitment to being instruments of Christ’s peace. Peace begins within our own hearts—through prayer, repentance, forgiveness, and a deeper trust in God. It takes root in our families when we choose patience, compassion, and understanding. It grows within our parishes and communities when we reach out to those who are suffering, isolated, or in need.

At the beginning of Lent, I encouraged you to meditate upon and embrace the Corporal Works of Mercy, particularly in remembering and, when possible, advocating on behalf of migrants and refugees who face so many challenges today. I ask you to continue this commitment in the joy and hope of the Easter season. Christ’s peace becomes a powerful witness when people of faith pray and work together for reconciliation, justice, and respect for the dignity of every human life.

Our prayers truly matter. Prayer may seem like a quiet response in a world filled with the noise of conflict and division, yet it remains one of the most powerful acts of hope we possess. Let us pray especially for those living in regions torn by war, for the leaders of nations—that they may choose dialogue over violence—and for all who labor daily to bring about peace, healing, and reconciliation in our world.

The Resurrection assures us that God’s plan is always greater than the tragedies we see before us. Just as the disciples moved from fear to faith when they encountered the risen Lord, so too are we called to live as people of hope—confident that Christ walks with us and continues to renew the world through His grace.

May this Easter season renew our faith and strengthen our resolve to be witnesses of Christ’s peace. May our homes, parishes, and communities become places where the light of the Resurrection shines brightly for all to see.

Be assured of my prayers for you and your families during this joyful season. May our Blessed Mother, who shared in Her Son’s Passion and rejoiced in His Easter victory over death, intercede for us. May the peace of the risen Christ fill your hearts, guide our world toward reconciliation, and lead us ever more deeply into the hope that does not disappoint.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy C. Senior".

Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior  
Bishop of Harrisburg

## Knights of Columbus Membership Invitation

The Knights of Columbus invites the men of St. Leo the Great Parish to join the organization dedicated in service to the Church and our community. Through the Knights of Columbus, members have the opportunity to deepen their Catholic faith, support our parish, assist those in need, and build lasting friendships with fellow Catholic men committed to living out the Gospel.

What the Knights of Columbus do:

- Support the needs of the Parish throughout the year as requested
- Host an award-winning Free Throw Challenge for children age 9 – 14 at the council and district levels that has produced state wide recognized athletes
- Host BINGO events throughout the year to raise funds to support the council's charitable efforts such as a Woman Concern and other Local Organizations.
- Our "Coats for Kids" program directly impacts SLTG and other local students with a warm coat each winter.
- Financially support four Catholic seminarians annually.

We invite all practicing Catholic men aged 18 and older to prayerfully consider becoming a Knight. By joining, you will help strengthen our parish, support charitable works, and grow spiritually alongside your brothers in Christ. Please stop by our information table the **weekend of April 18 and 19** after all Masses or speak with one of our members to learn more about how you can become part of this meaningful mission of faith and service.

**Financial Secretary**  
Tom Gorman  
717 723-5348

**Grand Knight**  
Peter Thambinayagam  
717-979-4685

***Be a part of something greater—serve God,  
support your parish, and make a difference.  
Join the Knights of Columbus today.***



**SAINT LEO THE GREAT**  
**GOLF OUTING**  
JUNE 1, 2026 AT 12:00 PM  
CONESTOGA COUNTRY CLUB

**NEW THIS YEAR...AN ANONYMOUS FAMILY HAS PLEDGED A \$100,000 MATCHING GIFT! THAT MEANS EVERY DOLLAR RAISED THROUGH SPONSORSHIP, GOLF PARTICIPANTS AND DONATIONS WILL BE MATCHED DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR. WHEN YOU GOLF WITH US, YOU HELP OFFSET TUITION COSTS FOR SCHOOL FAMILIES!**

  
SELECT THE QR TO REGISTER

For more information:  
Mary Jo Diffendall  
717-394-1742, ext.323  
mdiffendall@stleos.org

**SAINT LEO THE GREAT**  
CATHOLIC † SCHOOL

CATHOLIC ★ EXCELLENT ★ AFFORDABLE

### Spring Clean Up

Spring Clean-up of Parish Grounds will take place on Saturday, **April 18th from 9:00 AM till 12 Noon**. Please join us. We would like to get the grounds looking nice. We will be cleaning out and mulching the landscape beds in and around the Church and other buildings. Parishioners and school families of all ages are welcome and invited to pitch in and enjoy a morning of fun while helping to perform a valuable service for the parish. This event counts toward volunteer service hours. We will meet in front of the Convent at 9:00 AM. A light lunch will follow at about Noon. Please remember to bring gardening tools, gloves, rakes, shovels, and wheelbarrows, if possible. The parish will provide trash bags. For more information, please contact Peter Werner via email: [peter.werner@comcast.net](mailto:peter.werner@comcast.net) or phone the Parish Office at 717-394-1742. Hope to see you there!

### LAMBS Luncheon

Our next gathering will be **Tuesday April 21st** at noon at Randazzo's [1981 State Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601](https://www.randazzos.com/).

Please RSVP by *Sunday, April 19th* to Chris Williams at [lancasterin2007@yahoo.com](mailto:lancasterin2007@yahoo.com) or call/text 717-203-0759.



**Save the Date!**

**CHORAL RECITAL**  
**FEATURING THE ST. LEO'S CHOIR**

**Sunday, May 31, 7:00pm**  
**St. Leo the Great Catholic Church**

**MADE FOR MORE**  
VISIONS OF THE PROMISED LAND

with **CHRISTOPHER WEST** MUSIC BY **MIKE MANGIONE**

*Made for More* is an inspired blend of live music, art, and presentation that taps the deepest desires of the human heart revealing their ultimate purpose and goal. Join Christopher West and Mike Mangione as they offer a vision of the Gospel like you've never heard through the lens of Saint John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*.

THURSDAY  
APRIL

EARLY BIRD PRICE: \$25  
AFTONTICKETS.COM/M4MLANCASTER

**23**  
2 0 2 6

ST. LEO THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH  
2427 MARIETTA AVENUE  
LANCASTER, PA 17601-1942  
7:00 - 9:30PM

Tina Johnson  
(717) 394-1742 tjohnson@stleos.org

**Now Hiring!**  
**School Aide**  
Pre-K through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

**Full time / Part time available**  
**beginning with the**  
**2026/2027 school year**

**For more information, contact**  
**Jennifer Miller**  
**717-394-1742**  
**jmiller@stleoschool.org**

**Beginning Experience Weekend**

The Harrisburg Diocese Beginning Experience Team will host a Beginning Experience Weekend on **May 1-3, 2026**, at Camp Kirchenwald, Lebanon, Pa. Beginning Experience is an approved, ecumenical program offering healing, hope, and spiritual restoration for those grieving the loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation. For more information, visit <https://www.hbgdiocese.org/clev/laity-and-family/navigating-difficulties/>, or contact Julie at 717-379-0800.

**Seeking New Members for Parish Council**

St. Leo the Great is seeking candidates to join its parish council for the 2026-27 year. The council typically meets monthly beginning in September, and as an advisory body it assists the pastor in the advancement of the pastoral mission of the parish. The talents, energies and insights of a cross-section of the parish contribute to an effective council. Please prayerfully consider whether you are being called to serve. For more information, interested parishioners are encouraged to contact Mark Ryan at 717-917-6379.



### EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS-2026



Saint Leo the Great Parish would like to thank all those who contributed to the flowers that decorated the altar during this Easter season. With the help of our Sacristan, Ginny Pryor, and Parish Volunteers, our church looked beautiful!

#### In Loving Memory of;

Joe Kielb  
Bill and Helen Kline  
Charles and Helen Woskowiak  
Evelyn and Edward Sikora  
Joan Sikora  
Carol and Andy Cormiski  
Jennifer Arter  
Emil and Glenna Forgash  
John and Catherine Schreder  
Members of the Chisolm, Kiehn, and Veitch Families  
Cindy Rozell  
Matthew Drace and Asher Drace  
Andrew and Carol Chase  
Joseph and Rosemary Sahd  
Cyril and Elaine Donovan  
Wehmeyer and Skiles Families  
Walter and Helene Drevna and C.Pat Riley  
Ferguson Family, Dombach Family, William Stockbauer and Francine Moyer  
Members of the Anthony DeFranco Families  
Louise Blersch  
Carlo and Rose Musciano  
Charles and Leona Carson

#### From Loving Relatives/Friends:

Alexia Kielb  
The Kline Family  
Leona Frances Woskowiak  
Leona Frances Woskowiak  
Leona Frances Woskowiak  
Leona Frances Woskowiak  
The Arter Family  
The Arter Family  
Family  
Mary Veitch  
Mary Veitch  
Steve Rozell  
Linda and Craig Birunas  
Deborah and John McLaughlin  
Bob and Thomasine Donovan  
Bob and Thomasine Donovan  
Russ and Gerry Skiles  
Timothy and Sharon Drevna  
Rosemarie and John Ferguson  
Rosemarie and John Ferguson  
Paul and Sandy DeFranco  
Paul and Sandy DeFranco  
Tom and Carla Carson  
Tom and Carla Carson



## DADS' COMMUNITY EVENT!

April 18, 2026  
In the Parish Hall  
following the 4:30 PM Mass

PIZZA & BEVERAGES  
PROVIDED!



FOOD • FUN • FELLOWSHIP



### Hands of Christ – Creating Hope Benefit Dinner

Join Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Harrisburg for an inspiring evening of fellowship, reflection, and impact at our annual charity dinner. Enjoy a cocktail hour, silent auction, plated dinner, and a meaningful program featuring Dr. Anne DeSantis, with Dennis Owens as Master of Ceremonies. **Thursday, April 30, 2026, from 5:00 – 8:00 PM** at the Diocese Center, 4800 Union Deposit Rd, Harrisburg, PA. Individual Tickets: \$125. Reserve your seat today: <https://bit.ly/44Vulr0>. Together, we are creating hope.



DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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bishopsoffice@hbgiocese.org | (717) 657-4804 ext. 354 | www.hbgiocese.org

March 25, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*“See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.” Matthew 18:10*

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus, through his words and example, consistently reminds us that children are among the most precious gifts God entrusts to our care. Sadly, we know that some children suffer shamefully because of the actions of others. As we observe National Child Abuse Prevention Month each April, we are reminded of our solemn responsibility to protect those who are the most vulnerable by remaining vigilant. We are called to continually raise awareness and to renew our unwavering commitment to safeguarding every child entrusted to our parishes, schools, and ministries. At the same time, we reaffirm our enduring commitment to walk with survivors of abuse — especially those harmed by members of the clergy. We offer them our prayers, our support, and our resources as they seek healing, justice, and lasting peace.

Sadly, our own Diocese knows the painful reality that trusted individuals committed these grave sins against children. This truth humbles us deeply and strengthens our resolve. We remain steadfast in our vigilance to ensure that every child and vulnerable adult entrusted to our care is protected to the fullest extent possible. Creating and maintaining safe environments in our parishes, schools, and ministries is not simply a policy or a program — it is a moral obligation and a sacred trust.

Over the past twenty years, much has been done within the Church and here in our Diocese to strengthen child protection efforts. Each year, dioceses throughout the United States undergo an independent audit of their youth protection policies and training. The most recent national review, completed by Stonebridge Business Partners, reported that more than 2.2 million background checks were conducted on clergy, employees, and volunteers in 2024. During that same year, over 2.2 million adults and 2.8 million children received training to recognize the warning signs of abuse. Here in our Diocese, these efforts continue with great seriousness and care. During the same reporting year, over 13,000 children participated in our VIRTUS Safe Environment training, while over 11,400 employees, teachers, volunteers, and members of the clergy completed required training and background checks. These measures reflect our ongoing commitment to prevention, accountability, and transparency.

In his message to the National Safeguarding Conference held in Clark-Angeles, Philippines, in 2025, Pope Leo reminded us that the Church “is our spiritual home, as such every parish and pastoral activity is meant to be a space in which we glorify God and care for others, especially children and the vulnerable.” He continued that “there can be no tolerance for any form of abuse in the Church.”<sup>1</sup> These words continue to guide and challenge us in our mission.

I pray that this month will strengthen our shared resolve to break the cycle of abuse through increased awareness, meaningful education, and steadfast support for those who have suffered.

May the Lord bless our continued efforts to protect every child and to prevent abuse in all its forms, especially among those entrusted to our care. Let us also pray for all who have endured abuse, and for all whose lives have been touched by its painful consequences, that they may experience healing, justice, and peace. Through the intercession of Mary, Mother of God and our Blessed Mother, may our work bear fruit, so that every child is kept safe and every survivor is accompanied with hope, compassion, and healing.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior  
Bishop of Harrisburg

*The Diocese of Harrisburg encourages anyone aware of misconduct or abuse by any person affiliated with the Diocese to report it to Child Line at 1-800-932-0313, to contact local law enforcement, and to contact the Diocese by calling 1-800-626-1608.*

<sup>1</sup> Deborah Catellano Lubov, “Pope Leo XIV: ‘No tolerance for any form of abuse in the Church,’” *Vatican News*, <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2025-10/pope-leo-xiv-philippines-church-national-safeguarding-conference.html> (accessed February 24, 2026).

## Parish Events

### **SUNDAY-04-12-26**

12:00-2:00 PM-ADORATION & CONFESSION  
2:00 PM-YOUNG ADULTS MTG.-WEBER CENTER

### **MONDAY-04-13-26**

6:00 PM-PARISH COUNCIL-RM 2  
7:00 PM-SCHOOL BOARD-RM 2  
7:00 PM-LANC. YOUNG ADULTS TOT-WEBER CENTER

### **TUESDAY-04-14-26**

6:00 PM-PTO-RM 2  
7:00 PM-KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-RM 1

### **WEDNESDAY-04-15-26**

7:00 AM-6:45 PM-ADORATION-CHAPEL

### **THURSDAY-04-16-26**

10:00 AM-CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP-RM 2  
3:30 PM-SCHOOL CHOIR REHEARSAL-LOFT  
7:00 PM-CHOIR REHEARSAL-CHAPEL

### **FRIDAY-04-17-26**

9:45 AM-CFCL-WEBER CENTER

### **SATURDAY-04-18-26**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE WKD  
7:00 AM-TMIY-RMS 3-4  
9:30 AM-ALTAR SERVER TRAINING-CHURCH  
5:30 PM-DAD'S NIGHT OUT-PARISH HALL

### **SUNDAY-04-19-26**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE WKD  
12:00 PM-ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS



## MiniTHON at Lancaster Catholic



Lancaster Catholic High School will host its MiniTHON on **April 18 from 5:00 to 10:00 PM**. MiniTHON is a fundraiser that benefits the FourDiamonds Foundation, an organization that covers all costs for families facing childhood cancer diagnoses. We invite members of our community to join us for the celebration of Mass at 5:00 PM. Following Mass, enjoy food trucks, raffles, games, and more! If you are interested in supporting our goal, please scan the QR Code and **DONATE TODAY!**

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