

The kingdom of heaven is like
a **treasure** buried in a field.

Matthew 13:44



July 26, 2026
The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Summer Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM; Friday 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

PARISH STAFF 717-394-1742 (Press 2)

Rev. Msgr. Peter I. Hahn ~ Pastor ~ pastor@stleos.org
Rev. Thomas Meinert ~ Parochial Vicar ~ frmeinert@stleos.org
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(Mon—Fri 9:00 AM—3:10 PM)

Sr. Dorothy Wilkinson, SSC ~ DRE dre@stleos.org
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SAINT LEO THE GREAT SCHOOL: 717-394-1742 (Press 3)

(Mon—Fri 8:25 AM—3:10 PM)

Mary Jo Diffendall ~ Interim Administrator ~ mdiffendall@stleos.org
Sharon Hoover ~ Secretary ~ shoover@stleoschool.org
Elizabeth Duvall ~ Secretary ~ eduvall@stleoschool.org
Christine Pisano ~ Enrollment Management ~ 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 under "Downloads." New parishioners may also register by emailing or calling the Parish Office.

PARISH COUNCIL

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

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Charles Gales
Dave Horn Hank Christ
Chris Gibbons

PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Ryan Green (Chair)	Michael Hoover
Matthew Dusablon	Daniel Valore
John Kauffman	Christina Hoover
	Michelle Bertini

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.

Mass Schedule

07/26-17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 3:5,7-12; Ps 119:57,72,76-77,127-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

7:30 AM-Sharon Fantazier-(Richard Fantazier)

9:15 AM-Saint Leo Parishioners

11:00 AM-Jim Seton-(Charlie & Dorothy Uhland)

07/27-Monday

Jer 13:1-11; (Ps) Dt 32:18-21; Mt 13:31-35

9:00 AM-Jude Schlager-(Jean Polansky)

07/28-Tuesday

Jer 14:17-22; Ps 79:8-9,11,13; Mt 13:36-43

6:30 AM-Walter Dusablon-(Vernon Bottoms)

9:00 AM-Ints. Erik, Kayoko, Ryo Goserud-(Fritz Family)

07/29-Wednesday-Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

Jer 15:10,16-21; Ps 59:2-4,10-11,17-18; Jn 11:19-27

6:30 AM-Ints. Jeremiah Cunningham-(Jean Polansky)

7:00 AM-6:30 PM-Adoration

7:00 PM-Cindy Sue Paris-Kisner-(Daisy Detwiler)

07/30-Thursday-Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Jer 18:1-6; Ps 146:1-6; Mt 13:47-53

9:00 AM-Ray Bear-(Bernie & Henry Haefner)

07/31-Friday-Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Jer 26:1-9; Ps 69:5,8-10,14; Mt 13:54-58

9:00 AM-Steve Miknis-(Father)

08/01-Saturday-Saint Alphonsus Ligouri, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Jer 26:11-16,24; Ps 69:15-16,30-31,33-34; Mt 14:1-12

9:00 AM-John Organiscak-(Charlie & Dorothy Uhland)

4:30 PM-Jennifer Arter-(Arter Family)

08/02-18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:1-3; Ps 145:8-9,15-18; Rom 8:35,37-39; Mt 14:13-21

7:30 AM-William Rhoads-(Tom & Marion Metzger)

9:15 AM-Cindy Sahd-(Ken & Teresa Olson)

11:00 AM-Saint Leo Parishioners



Gospel Message

August 2, 2026

Jesus has pity on the crowd and miraculously feeds them. In his compassion, the Lord answers all our needs, thus renewing his covenant of love with us. Nothing can ever separate us from the love of Christ.

Weekly Collections

7/19/2026

Fair Share \$16,745.23

Thank you for your continued 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)



*Hymn to the Blessed Virgin Mary:
Ave Maris Stella*

*Hail, O Star of the ocean, God's
own Mother blest, ever sinless
Virgin, gate of heavenly rest.*

*Taking that sweet Ave, which from
Gabriel came, peace confirm within us, changing
Eve's name.*

*Break the sinners' fetters, make our blindness day,
chase all evils from us, for all blessings pray.*

*Show thyself a Mother, may the Word divine born
for us thine Infant, hear our prayers through thine.*

*Virgin all excelling, mildest of the mild, free from
guilt preserve us, meek and undefiled.*

Altar Flowers



The flowers adorning the altar this weekend are in loving memory of Joseph Sahd from Bob and Thomasine Donovan.

**MESSAGE FROM HIS HOLINESS LEO XIV
FOR THE SIXTH WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY**

Feast of St Joachim and Anne, 26 July 2026

I will never forget you (Is 49:15)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord promises that he will never forget any of us. He assures us that he has engraved our faces on the palms of his hands (cf. *Is 49:16*) and that his love is greater than a mother's love for her child (cf. *Is 49:15*). The prophet gives us a glimpse of an intimate and intense dialogue in which God addresses, in familiar terms, each person individually and the people as a whole. Even today, we can read these words as referring to each of us, and everyone can hear that "I will never forget you" spoken directly to them.

These are words that fill us with comfort and hope. They are the answer to an agonizing feeling that troubles the heart: "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me" (*Is 49:14*). How often in Sacred Scripture, especially in the Psalms, does prayer spring from the despair of those who feel that their lives are of no interest to anyone and are being neglected! The painful feeling of being forgotten is, unfortunately, shared by many people, and among them are quite a few elderly people.

God's love, which forgets no one, offers itself as an act of justice and a response to the anonymity in which human life all too often ends up lost. The lives of many elderly people, in particular, seem to be covered by a veil that blurs the features of their faces and shrouds them in oblivion. This is what happens in homes where loneliness reigns and also in those care facilities where each person's uniqueness risks being reduced to a bed number or an illness.

The celebration of the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to rediscover that the Church is called to be a mother to all and that at any age it is always possible to recognize ourselves as sons and daughters of God. May this day, therefore, be an inspiration for everyone, especially the young, to revive the beautiful custom of visiting their grandparents, the elderly members of the family and even those who have no one to visit them. Bring them, through this message and your presence, the closeness and affection of the Pope. Ensure that the words of the prophet, "But I will never forget you," take the form of a tender and affectionate encounter. "In an era that favors speed and fragmentation, the human person still yearns to receive care and recognition from attentive minds, kind words and hands capable of tenderness. The digital culture multiplies connections and offers new opportunities for interaction; yet, the human heart retains an irrevocable need for genuine closeness" (Encyclical Letter, [*Magnifica Humanitas*](#), 239).

The Church understands the suffering of her elderly members; she knows full well that they are all too often viewed through the lens of stereotypes and considered a burden; she is aware that a profit-driven economy weakens family ties; she knows that many elderly people are left behind by children who are forced to migrate or, in some cases, to fight in wars. For each of these reasons, she joyfully proclaims the Lord's promise: "But I will never forget you!"

It is a joy, at any age, but especially when we are no longer young, to discover, as [*John Paul I*](#) said, that we are the recipients "of undying love on the part of God. We know: he has always his eyes open on us, even when it seems to be dark. He is our father; even more he is our mother" ([*Angelus*](#), 10 September 1978). Even if it does not come naturally to think this way, the truth is that even in old age we do not cease to be sons and daughters; therefore, the invitation to return to the arms of God — whose love is both paternal and maternal — remains worthwhile at any age.

For many, the discovery of God's tenderness takes place over the course of their lives, sometimes even in its final stages. Indeed, unlike in the past, it is increasingly common to reach old age without having had a genuine experience of faith. In such cases, old age — beginning with the questions that arise with greater urgency during this season of life — can become the right time to begin or resume a spiritual life. On this new journey, one can recognize that God, as Saint Augustine says, "is a mother because he cherishes, because he nourishes, because he nurses, because he protects" (*Commentary on Psalm 27*, II, 18). It is an awareness that helps us not to feel ashamed of the fragility that emerges and also to understand that we are always in need of one another and in need of attention and care. To God, who draws near to us and whom we learn to recognize in his tenderness, we can now turn with filial trust in prayer. It is never too late to begin turning to him. It can be a great gift for everyone.

Dear elderly men and women, [Pope Francis](#) spoke of you as a “new people” ([Catechesis](#), 23 February 2022), since the number of older adults has never been so large in human history. It is, therefore, more important than ever to reflect with you, this “new people,” on what our vocation might be when fragility — the human person’s companion from birth — seems to take over. I would like to say to you: do not be afraid of fragility! It is precisely this weakness that holds within itself a new potential that also illuminates the other stages of life. Indeed, when “we acknowledge our fragility, our hearts become open to supporting one another and to invoking the One who can grant what no human power can ensure: the profound reconciliation of hearts and, with it, true peace” ([Meeting with the Algerian community](#), Basilica of Our Lady of Africa, Algiers, 13 April 2026).

This is how we can live out our old age as Christians: “fragile” yet at the same time “called.” A man and a woman can, in fact, be born anew in old age (cf. *Jn* 3:4-6) and exclaim, with the prophet: “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength” (*Is* 30:15). This strength can become an invitation not to resort to the ways of arrogance and power to ensure human coexistence, but to the ways of reconciliation and true peace. In this time, so harshly marked by the violence of war and social unrest, many wonder what the world in which their grandchildren will grow up will be like. I urge you, dear friends, to join me in praying earnestly that peace may soon come to the whole world.

Dear elderly brothers and sisters, I thank you for supporting me every day with your prayers, especially when you recite the Holy Rosary. I return this gratitude from the bottom of my heart and leave you with this prayer: may the Lord always renew us in faith, hope and love — He who never forgets us!

From the Vatican, 15 June 2026

LEO PP. XIV

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The HOLY SEE

STIR INTO FLAME Fact Sheet

Why This Letter?

Stir Into Flame is Bishop Senior's call to renew the life of the Church in the Diocese of Harrisburg. Inspired by 2 Timothy 1:6, he calls every Catholic to rekindle the gifts received through Baptism and embrace the mission of Christ with renewed faith, hope, and purpose.

Why Now?

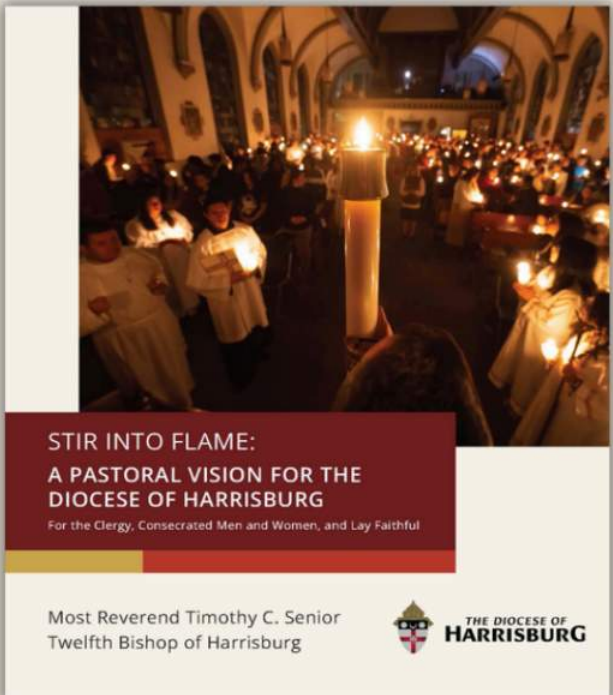
The Church is living through a time of both challenge and opportunity. While many have drifted from the faith, Bishop Senior also sees signs of hope and renewal. This letter is a call to move forward together, trusting the Holy Spirit to guide the Church's mission.

How *Stir Into Flame* Was Informed by You

The pastoral letter is rooted in prayer, listening, and discernment. Feedback from parishes across the Diocese—including insights gathered through the Disciple Maker Index (DMI)—helped shape its priorities and ensure it responds to the real needs of our local Church.

What's Next for Our Diocese?

Bishop Senior envisions a Diocese where every Catholic is formed as a joyful missionary disciple. By strengthening divine worship, vocations, Catholic education, evangelization, and charity, he hopes to renew parish life and inspire a Church that boldly shares the Gospel with the world.



“And so, at this moment in our history, we are called to stir into flame God’s gifts that we have been given to experience the fullness of Catholic faith and to claim our place in the lives of our brothers and sisters in our part of Pennsylvania as we renew our response to do the work of the Gospel here and now.”

The Six Priorities for the Church in Harrisburg

Divine Worship

More than an obligation, the Sunday Eucharist fashions the parish community as the local expression of the Church, infused with divine grace to undertake the work of the Gospel.

Take Action: Before Sunday Mass, read the day's Scripture readings, make a good examination of conscience, and prayerfully prepare to participate fully in the Sacred Liturgy.

Priestly Life & Vocations

There is something more that needs to be done with great care and intentionality: we need to choose to form a culture within the diocese, within our parishes, within our Catholic homes, that supports both the hearing of God's call and the courage to respond to it.

Take Action: Foster a culture of vocations in your home by praying together, encouraging your children to discern God's call, and speaking positively about priesthood, consecrated life, and the vocation to marriage.

Catholic Education

When Catholic education is strong, families are strengthened, parishes are renewed, and society itself is enriched.

Take Action: Help unite your parish and school community by participating in parish life, supporting religious education, and encouraging families to grow together in faith.

Evangelization

Draw upon the grace of Baptism and Confirmation so as to become true missionary disciples in our homes, our neighborhoods, our workplaces, and our parishes.

Take Action: Be a joyful witness to Christ wherever you go. Let your words and actions reflect your faith, and be ready to share the hope you have found in Jesus.

Charity

As a Eucharistic people, we are called to be the hands and feet of Christ in a world longing for hope and healing.

Take Action: Go forth from Mass ready to serve. Let every celebration of the Eucharist strengthen your commitment to love your neighbor through concrete acts of charity and mercy.

Parish Renewal & Mission

This is the work of Christ and His Church. And only we can do it as we stir into flame the gift of God bestowed upon all of us.

Take Action: Prayerfully consider how God is calling you and your parish to take up the work of the Gospel, and use your gifts to help build up the Church and society.

News from the Parish School of Religion

Religious Education Registration

Re-Registration forms for the 2026-27 PSR School Year have been mailed to all families whose children have attended the past year. If you are new to the parish and would like to register your child, please contact Sister Dorothy at dre@stleos.org or 717-394-1742x222.

Sacramental Policy for the Reception of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist:

Preparation for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist is a two-year program as prescribed by the Diocese of Harrisburg. To be eligible to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, your child must have completed the 7th and 8th grade years of instruction and to receive the sacrament of Holy Eucharist your child must have completed the 1st and 2nd grade years of instruction at either our Parish Elementary School or our Parish School of Religion. Questions! Contact Sister Dorothy.

Hispanic Catholic Conference

On **Saturday, August 29th**, from 9:00am – 5:00pm, we are holding our 3rd Annual Hispanic Catholic Conference, "Walking In Our Faith," at the Diocesan Center, 4800 Union Deposit Rd., Harrisburg. The Theme is "The Creed" presented by Deacon Asterio Velasco from the Diocese of Newark. He is the author of *Sus Testigos en la Historia* (His Witnesses in History). We will have praise, presentations, reflections & Mass. The registration fee is \$20.00 and includes lunch. For registration, visit the Diocesan website. This Conference is held in Spanish. For more information, contact Deacon Armando Torres at the Diocese, 717-657-4804 ext. 221.



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER

Volunteers Needed



**Calling All
Volunteers!
We Need
Your Help!**



Saint Leo the Great School is looking for adult volunteers to oversee our students in the lunchroom. Hours are 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Monday through Friday. We are flexible with scheduling. Comes with a free lunch from our cafeteria!

INTERESTED IN JOINING US?

Contact Mary Jo Diffendall
mdiffendall@stleos.org



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Summer Pilgrimage



Sat, August 8th

10am-2:30pm

Grotto of Our
Lady of Lourdes,
St. Elizabeth Ann
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Meet at the Grotto

Please bring a
picnic lunch for
your family



Grotto Address
16330 Grotto Rd
Emmitsburg, MD



RSVP by August 3rd to CFCL at
catholic.families.lanc@gmail.com

Choir "OPEN HOUSE"

Interested in trying out singing in the choir?
Come give it a try this summer! We will hold
two open house Masses.



- 9:15 Mass – July 26
- 11:00 Mass – August 16
- Both days, meet in chapel 30 minutes before Mass for rehearsal
- No commitment necessary, just come and enjoy! All are welcome.
- Contact Kyle Postlethwait, Director of Sacred Music, with questions
kpostlethwait@stleos.org

Needlework Guild Update



The women of the Saint Leo the Great Women's Charitable Needlework Guild met for the first time on Tuesday, May 16th and enjoyed a good turnout and a pleasant opportunity to meet other parish women. The Guild will meet regularly on the 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 1 P.M. The Guild's purpose is the prayerful cultivation of needlework arts through companionship and charitable endeavors. If you knit, crochet or enjoy any hand needlework, please join us on **Tuesday July 21, 2026 at 1:00 P.M. in Rooms 3-4**. Beginners and those interested in learning are most welcome.

Train Ride with Holy Family Radio



Ready for a fun, in-person adventure? Hop aboard the Middletown and Hummelstown Railroad train and enjoy a scenic ride while hanging out with the crew from WHYF, Holy Family Radio. Join us on **August 29 at 11:00 AM** for this special train ride. Order your tickets at 720WHYF.com. Call 717-525-8110 for more information.



Hempfield Food Pantry

The holiday weekend celebrating America's 250th birthday brought out such wonderful generosity! Our donation to the Hempfield Area Food Pantry totaled 1,068 pounds and they were thrilled with the amount of cereal. Thank you for continuing to think of our neighbors in need. In June 1,853 people were served including 539 children, 922 adults and 392 seniors. An additional 13 families were registered and 54 volunteers gave 682 hours of service.

Our next collection will take place **August 1st and 2nd at all Masses**. Food items requested: Cereal, Canned potatoes, Canned corn, Canned cream of mushroom soup, Canned chicken and rice soup, Instant variety pack oatmeal, Dried 1 lb. dried beans, Granola bars, Crackers, Canned tuna, Canned chicken, Canned Spam, and Condiments. Thank you and may God bless you abundantly!

Get Connected - Young Adult Mass & Cookout

Calling all young adults ages 18-39 throughout the diocese! You are invited to join us on **September 13** for our annual Get Connected Mass and Cookout! Come meet other faithful young adults from all across south central PA. Are you part of a young adult group? Come share what your group has been up to (and maybe gain some new members). Not part of a young adult group yet? Come see what event options and awesome communities are out there (there are more than you think). Mass will begin at 11:30 AM at St Margaret Mary Church in Harrisburg. Cookout to follow in the pavilion area right next door. There is no payment required (though we encourage you to bring a potluck dish to share). Hope to see you there!

Parish Events

SUNDAY-07-26-26

NO EVENTS

MONDAY-07-27-26

7:00 PM-LANC. YOUNG ADULTS TOT - WEBER CTR.

TUESDAY-07-28-26

NO EVENTS

WEDNESDAY-07-29-26

7:00 AM-6:45 PM-ADORATION

THURSDAY-07-30-26

9:45 AM-CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP-WEBER CTR

FRIDAY-07-31-26

NO EVENTS

SATURDAY-08-01-26

HEMPFIELD FOOD PANTRY WEEKEND
COLLECTION OF TOILETRIES FOR HOMELESS WKND
7:00 AM-THAT MAN IS YOU (TMIY)-RMS 3-4

SUNDAY-08-02-26

NO EVENTS

Quote from Saint Peter Chrysologus
Doctor of the Church
Memorial, July 30

“...Let us put on the complete image of our Creator so as to be wholly like Him, not in the glory that He alone possesses but in innocence, simplicity, gentleness, patience, humility, mercy, harmony, those qualities in which He chose to become and to be, one with us.”

News from Lancaster Catholic HS

Lancaster Catholic High School is seeking substitute teachers for this academic year. If you or someone you know would be a great fit to help support our school community in this way, please contact Sean Van Eman at svaneman@lchsyes.org for more information.

10th Annual Crusader Legacy Golf Classic

Be part of the Crusader story at our 10th Annual Crusader Legacy Golf Classic on **September 21st!** Whether you join us on the course or support the event as a sponsor, your investment makes a lasting impact on our students. Your generosity helps provide exceptional opportunities in academics, athletics, fine and performing arts, campus ministry, student life and tuition assistance, empowering every Crusader to learn, lead, serve and succeed.

For more information and to register, please visit <https://www.lchsyes.org/apps/pages/legacygolfclassic> or contact Mande Sahd-Havrilla 717.509.0313/ msahd-havrilla@lchsyes.org



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