



# Saint Leo News

A Publication of The Saint Leo Preservation Society

November 2008

## Beautiful Events at Saint Leo Church

**Mass At Saint Leo's !!!**

*All Are Welcome !!*

**Thursday, November 20, 2008**

**6:00 PM**

Father Stash Dailey, newly ordained this last May, will be celebrating a Mass in honor of the dead of Saint Leo's and all of our families. He is celebrating this Mass in Thanksgiving for the gift of his Chalice. Please come and share this moment of grace with your friends and family.

## Free Christmas Concert with The Magpie Consort

**Noel Noel !**

**Friday, December 5, 2008**

**8:00 PM**

**Saint Leo Church**

A concert of traditional Advent and winter songs from all over Europe, and music that tells the Christmas story. The program includes a charming nativity for female voices and organ by baroque composer Marc-Antoine Charpentier, rollicking medieval English carols, French Noels, and a stunning contemporary piece by English composer Will Todd. A freewill offering will be taken.

### About The Magpie Consort

The Magpie Consort is a group of 17 singers who perform a wide range of interesting and delightful choral music, spanning many centuries and drawn from many different parts of the world. They perform mainly in the Columbus area, and are now in their 8<sup>th</sup> year under the direction of Sheena Phillips, a composer and choral director who moved here from the UK in 2000. The Magpies are broadcast regularly on WOSU, and have brought out two CD's which will be on sale at the concert. This will be their first performance in St. Leo, and they would love to meet you there. For more information, please visit the Magpie Consort website [www.magpieconsort.org](http://www.magpieconsort.org)

### Organist – Timothy Smith

Tim is Organist-Choirmaster at St. James Episcopal Church in Clintonville, and organist for St. Leo's Church. A graduate of Wheaton College, Northwestern University and The Boston Conservatory, he performed dozens of recitals nationally, several of which have been broadcast on National Public Radio. He appeared twice as organist with Seiji Ozawa and The Boston Symphony Orchestra. Currently he is directing a comprehensive reconstruction of the pipe organ at St. Leo's Church.

## ***Talking about the Organ!***

**Yes!** The Saint Leo organ is being totally renovated! There is no end of Mike Wolf's God-given energy and love of St. Leo Church. Mike, under the direction of Tim Smith, has taken on the task of disassembling and rebuilding our historic German-Romantic organ. Tim has asked to be the official organist of Saint Leo Church.

The first phase involves the installation of additional pipes to the echo organ that were generously donated to Saint Leo from the estate of former parishioner, John Hoffman. John had done a renovation on the organ in the year 1983. At that time, his desire was to someday add to the echo organ. So, after John, a loving parishioner of St. Leo, passed away, his family asked Mike to come and take an organ that John had built in his own home to use and add to our echo organ. The echo organ is located above the Sanctuary in the attic.

Before this could be hooked up, Mike spent many days in the heat of the summer up in the attic reworking and making room for these additional pipes. Before all this started, our organ contained 3000 pipes. With the addition of several ranks to the echo organ and to the main organ, we will have over 3500 pipes.

Due to the generosity of many people, pipes and parts have been donated to facilitate our organ becoming a stunning instrument. These generous givers include priests of our diocese. The organist and choir director of Saint Joseph's Cathedral were the wind beneath Mike's wings as they encouraged him to undertake this task as they felt this is a very worthy instrument. Then along came Tim Smith who has taken over the direction of the renovation.

The tremendous task of rewiring all the electric became crucial to the renovation. Mike is working with Gary Greic and Roberts Electric making the electrical structure very safe for the preservation of the Church. He is literally separating lighting fixtures in the church from wiring for the organ. This is a complete and comprehensive undertaking.

It is all quite complicated and I can only touch on some of the details. Mike is first cleaning the over 3500 pipes. Many pipes are being sent out to be restructured – many are being shortened or having the mouth of the pipe made smaller to enhance the sound that comes out. All of the wind chests are being rewired and the leather replaced. Some new chests are being built by a company in Connecticut. Mike is very grateful to the numerous helpers who have helped to build catwalks in the attic and haul pipes from donors up and down steps, in and out of storage, onto trucks for shipment and then unloaded them again.

The entire renovation will be completed in January.

## ***We do need YOUR help!***

Mike has undertaken this project using his own retirement money which is "on loan" to the Preservation Society to be repaid as we can. The cost of the project is bordering on \$65,000.00. However, while he has constantly given generously of his own finances, he cannot shoulder this whole expense and we would not expect him to. As The Preservation Society, we have managed to raise about \$30,000.00 to cover some of the bills for the organ, but we need to raise another \$35,000.00.

**But do you know what? Because of all of you, we've done it before and we can do it again!** Since the spring of 2004, The Saint Leo Preservation Society has raised the funds and paid for the following:

Cleaning and Tuck-pointing of the Brick outside and Step Repair: \$136,800.00

New Cement Walks in front of church, Drive Apron and small section on Frebis Ave: \$19,660.00

Organ Renovation **SO** far: \$30,000.00

One of our prayers on the Steps of Saint Leo every Sunday is: 3<sup>rd</sup> Joyful Mystery - **The Birth of Jesus**

Oh Wonderful Day when Christ was born! Oh wonderful day when the Parish of St. Leo was born and given to God for His greater Honor and Glory! **Just as the angels sang of the birth of Jesus, let the Parish of St. Leo be reborn so that the voices of St. Leo may take flight once again to sing the praises of Christ Our Lord.**

Dear Friends of Saint Leo Church and of Jesus Christ! Even in this worst of economical times, we can still be generous. We know where our hearts lie. We think of the Widow in Luke's Gospel 20: 1-4. As Jesus sat near the

Temple treasury, he watched the people as they dropped in their money. Many rich men dropped in a lot of money; then a poor widow came along and dropped in two little copper coins, worth about a penny. He called his disciples together and said to them, "I tell you that this poor widow put more in the offering than all the others. For the others put in what they had to spare of their riches; but she, poor as she is, put in all she had – she gave all she had to live on."

We don't begin to ask for her gracious gift, but I can tell you that all those \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500 donations **DO** add up! We have had several very, very generous gifts over the last few years and we are so grateful for those and we know God rewards them. But we are also very grateful **for all gifts from everyone!** We know that **each person** gives what they can and that they give **from their hearts and that God rewards all gifts!**

As the season of generosity and kindness come upon us, please remember you beloved Saint Leo Church. You give honor and glory to God for preserving such a worthy home for his Son and you honor our precious ancestors with your gifts. **MAY GOD BLESS YOU!**

***Hibernian Craft Sale*** – At Saint Mary's School on Nov. 15 between 9 and 2 – The Saint Leo Preservation Society will have our fine gift baskets for sale at a very reasonable price. We will have wreaths and decorations, as well, donated by our own Marty Kasson, a former member of Saint Leo.

***Coming Event !!!!*** Once the organ is completely finished, we will arrange for another concert – perhaps in the Spring. We'll keep you informed!

***Mike Wolf Honored by The Columbus Landmarks Foundation*** – Last winter, Mike Wolf received "Outstanding Person Award - 2007" from The Columbus Landmarks Foundation. This was awarded to him because of his outstanding work, personal contribution and perseverance at Saint Leo Church. There was a lovely evening with a reception and awards ceremony at Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center. Unfortunately, Mike could not be in attendance and members of the Preservation Society were on hand to receive the award for him. ***Congratulations, Mike !!***

***Many Celebrations at Saint Leo*** – Over the past 9 ½ years, we have had many celebrations: 32 weddings, 53 funerals, 10 baptisms, 9 anniversaries, 5 class reunions, 3 family reunions, 1 Latin Mass, 1 birthday, 2 priest ordination celebrations, 2 Homecoming/St. Leo Masses, 13 Stations of the Cross, Serra Club Mass. **Don't forget to schedule YOUR special Mass !!!**

***Black Top Resurfacing*** - The black top was resurfaced through a wonderful donation of time, talent and labor. A man being married at Saint Leo is in the black top resurfacing business and volunteered to do this. **Do you not see how God is continually working at Saint Leo Church with so many little miracles? He, indeed has a Plan !!**

### ***Saint Leo Seminarian Endowment Fund –***

The seminarian endowment fund, established just prior to our closing, has continued to maintain itself and was worth over \$48,000.00 at the end of June, 2008. The fund paid out a distribution of \$2000.00. This money will go to Adam Pasternack to help with educational expenses that will be incurred this coming year. The distribution of money is being distributed and used in keeping with the intent and obligations of the establishment of the fund.

***It can still be said: It Has Always Belonged to God and to His Time and for His Plan –*** October 15, 2008 was the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the announcement of our closing. This was the feast day of Saint Theresa of Avila, the great Carmelite reformer. However, God has certainly been in charge and He still retains the

plan and the timing to reveal that plan. He's still waiting for us to be finished with all He inspires to be done. He is still gathering all your prayers unto Himself. We await Jesus' return to the tabernacle of Saint Leo Church!

**May God, the Father, Jesus, His Son and The Holy Spirit Be With All of YOU!**

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, Help Us!      St. Leo the Great, Pray for Us!**

**Saint Theresa of Avila, Pray for Us!      All the Holy People of Saint Leo Gone Before us, Pray for us!**

**Don't forget!**

**Mass at 6:00 PM on November 20**

**Magpie Consort Christmas Concert at 8:00 PM on December 5**

**GOD BLESS TO ALL !!!!!**

***Visit our website at [www.savesaintleo.org](http://www.savesaintleo.org)***