



History of the Church of Saint Leo the Great

A stone edifice of imposing courage and strength...a building named and dedicated in honor of Saint Leo the Great whose feast day is celebrated November 10th.

The parish was founded in June 1911 when Bishop Eugene A Garvey appointed Father Michael J Canole to the task of forming a new parish, consisting of all families living within the confines of the Fifth Ward section West of 18th Street, North of the P.R.R. line. Father Canole, who was a native of the area, began his pastoral duties at once. An old garage building at 10th Avenue and 18th Street was remodeled

and Father celebrated the first Mass there on July 20, 1911.

Shortly after, a plot of land at 12th Avenue and 20th Street was purchased. Here the present church was built. The church building committee awarded the task of construction to P.W. Finn of Hollidaysburg. The Altoona architect was D. George Puderbaugh. Finn was the lowest bidder and his price was \$33,360. The construction of the church took about eighteen months during which time Mass was held in the garage building.

Our church of St. Leo is a very handsome structure of brown Hummel stone. Its exterior is of gothic style with the interior having no pillars and an unobstructed view of altar and sanctuary.

The beautiful stained glass windows are of rare, imported beauty. The church was completed and the first Mass was offered by Father Canole on Christmas, 1912. It was not dedicated, however, until the following year when the new marble altar was installed. The altar was a personal gift of Father Canole.

For three years, the parish rectory was at 1910 12th Avenue. In December 1915, a new brick rectory was completed by J.C. Ivory. Shortly afterward, a recreation hall was constructed on the ground adjacent to the rectory where many social and athletic events took place. During these years, the children of the parish attended school at St. John's school, present day Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. In 1924, the parish erected a three-story, eight room brick school. The social and recreation hall was on the first floor. The contractor for this building was M.T. Seymore.

The school, under the supervision of the Sisters of Charity, Greensburg, was opened in September 1925 with Sister Mary Charlotte as Principal.



The author of this History is life long parishioner, Jim Riley.

Mon. 07/23 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Cancer**
 Feast Saint Bridget, Religious
 8:00 AM Mass **NO MASS SCHEDULED**

Tues. 07/24 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Heart Diseases**
 Feast Saint Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest
 8:00 AM Mass Spec. Intention for Andrew Wong & Fam., *Catarina Wong*

Wed. 07/25 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Arthritis**
 Feast Saint James, Apostle
 8:00 AM Mass Bill Conrad, Ann., *Charles & Betty Dobbins*

Thur. 07/26 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Nervous Disorders**
 Feast SS. Joachim & Anne, *Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
 8:00 AM Mass Louis Miller, B/day Ann., *The Miller Family*

Fri. 07/27 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Emotional Disorders**
 Feast Weekday
 8:00 AM Mass Poor Souls in Purgatory, *Carol Smith*

Sat. 07/28 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Diabetes**
 Feast Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:30 PM Mass Al Sienkiewicz, *M/M Chuck Hennigan*

Sun. 07/29 **A Day of Prayer for Victims of Addictions**
 Feast Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 9:00 AM Mass Stanley Wilinski, Jr., *Clara Tromm and Family*
 11:00 AM Mass *Livi/Dec. Members of Our Lady of Fatima Parish*

*Lord
 Jesus
 Christ
 Son
 Of
 God
 Have
 Mercy
 On
 Me
 A
 Sinner*

Happy Birthday:

07/25 Judy Burr
 07/27 Linda Ronan
 07/28 Joe Hallinan, Jr.
 07/30 Kelly Benton



ACA 2012

*Pledge
 received from
 Eleanor Noye,
 Brought
 Total # of
 pledges to 85*

**Last Chance
 To Order
 O.L.F.
 Famous
 Hoagies**

**Call the Rectory
 942-0371**

MONEY MATTERS
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, (July 15, 2012)
 224 people Celebrated Liturgy at O.L.F. contributing \$ 2,408.75 of which \$ 219.75 accounted for non-env. contributions.

# Envelopes In Circulation	204	# Used	89	# Unused	115
-----------------------------------	------------	---------------	-----------	-----------------	------------

[CHURCH HISTORY continued from page one] The convent was purchased from the George Waltz Estate at 1929 13th Avenue. The convent was sold about 1969 after St. Leo's school consolidated with the Cathedral and SS Peter & Paul schools to form the McNelis school system. The school building was demolished in due to large structural damage caused by accumulation of rain-water on the roof.

In July of 1995 a consolidation of St. Leo's Parish with the Parish of SS. Peter and Paul assuming the new name of Our Lady of Fatima Parish whose primary worship space would be the Saint Leo the Great church building. The building itself retains the name and patronage of Saint Leo.

Father Canole was called by God on February 13th, 1932 and was succeeded March 1, 1932 by Father John E. O'Connor who came from St. Edward's, Barnesboro. Father O'Connor's work with the young people of the parish is long remembered. His death occurred February 18, 1943. On May 27, 1943, Father John P. Manning was placed in charge of the parish. It was under his administration that the long standing debt of the parish had been liquidated. After Father Manning's untimely death in July 1964, Father Robert J. McCoy was appointed as fourth pastor in 1964 until his transfer to the Holy Rosary parish, Juniata in 1967. Father Jeremiah P. Flynn became St. Leo's fifth pastor on January 6, 1967. Father Flynn was responsible for the sanctuary renovation following the guidelines for post Vatican II liturgy. Father Flynn saw God face to face on February 17, 1979 following an extended illness. Father Charles F. Bodziak, appointed pastor May 19, 1979 served until his transfer, Fr. Anthony J. Pollack then served until 2003. Fr. Leo Lynch served for one year. Fr. J.D. Zatalava is now the pastor.

Blessings in abundance have come to our parish these many years. Fifteen sons of the parish have become priests and 28 daughters of the parish have become sisters. May the future of this parish of Our Lady of Fatima using the worship space dedicated to St. Leo the Great hold for the parishioners as many blessings as they have enjoyed in the past.

We are four weeks away from Bishop Mark's first visitation to the parish. It will be on the occasion of our celebration of the 100th Anniversary of our worship space, St. Leo the Great Church. The celebration occurs on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mother into heaven, on August 15, 2012. If you have not yet indicated your intention to attend the celebration please call the rectory to do so. Also, we are in need of more and diverse donations of *covered dish* type foods to complete our ethnic menu. Again, notify the Rectory of your intentions or to get some suggestions. Remember, we are hoping to express who we are by how we pray at Mass and how we eat at table. We are hoping not to be pretentious but to be authentic.

August 15, 2012 is a Holy Day of Obligation. Every Catholic who is physically able is to treat Holy Days exactly as they do Sundays. They go to Mass and avoid all *unnecessary* work.

*Our Lady of Fatima Pleaded That we pray the Holy Rosary Daily
At O. L. F. before each Mass and privately from 8:30am to 7:00pm*