



The Name Leo

There is a common thread that ties together the legacy of all the popes who have taken the name Leo—a thread that weaves through the centuries and culminates now in Pope Leo XIV. From Leo the Great to

Leo XIII, the name "Leo" has consistently signified a pontificate marked by courageous clarity, doctrinal integrity, and a deep pastoral concern for both the Church and the broader world. Leo the Great defended the truths of Christ's divinity and humanity with theological brilliance while protecting the city of Rome from physical devastation. Leo II emphasized sound doctrine and liturgical reform. Leo III crowned Charlemagne, signaling the intertwining of Church and culture. Leo X, though controversial, presided over the Church at a time of immense artistic and intellectual flourishing. Leo XIII, in turn, confronted the upheavals of modernity with calm resolve, grounding the Church's engagement with the world in both reason and Revelation. Together, these popes named Leo represent a legacy of steadfast leadership in times of crisis, vision in times of change, and a consistent call for the Church to be both guardian of the truth and servant of humanity. In choosing this name, Pope Leo XIV enters a lineage defined not by political power or personal ambition, but by a courageous fidelity to the faith and an enduring hope in the renewal of the Church for every age.

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Why is the pope's ring called the "Fisherman's Ring" and what is its secret?

The "Ring of the Fisherman" is an essential attribute of papal vestments, no less important than the tiara. It is not passed from one pontiff to another, but is made for each pope individually. What secrets does this symbol of the papacy hide, and why is it called the "Ring of the Fisherman" and not otherwise?



The head of the Catholic Church is considered the heir of the Apostle Peter, one of the most faithful disciples of Christ. Before baptism, he was a simple fisherman, and the name of this profession began to be applied to him later as a metaphor. In Christianity, the apostle is considered the "catcher of human souls", who gathers sinners and instructs them on the true path.

As a follower of Peter, the Pope of Rome also catches human souls, preventing them from wallowing in the abomination of sins. That is why the papal ring was called the "Ring of the Fisherman". It is decorated with the image of the cross and the Apostle Peter casting a net into the sea. But at the same time, the ring of each pope is unique. It is made for the new pontiff and decorated with initials.

Until 1842, the papal ring with his name served as a seal to certify letters and important documents. The "Ring of the Fisherman" was made of pure gold, and the dean of the College of Cardinals presents it to the elected pope during the coronation ceremony. At the same time, the head of the Catholic Church should reverently fall with his lips to the relic, as a sign of humility and respect for the great mission of the successor to the work of the Apostle Peter.

After the death or abdication of the pope, his ring is destroyed. Previously, this was done to prevent cardinals from forging seals on documents. Nowadays, when papers are no longer sealed with a ring, this is just an important tradition. The custom of destroying the ring, and then making it again, served as a reason to call it the "phoenix ring". www.pictolic.com

St. Bernadette Catholic Church Bayou Vista May 18, 2025



Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday
8:30 am to 3:30 pm
(Closed for Lunch)

Physical Address:

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(Bayou Vista)
Morgan City, LA 70380

Contact Us:

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Website: www.stbern-bv.org
Facebook: [@StBernBayouVista](https://www.facebook.com/StBernBayouVista)

Pastor

Rev. Thainese Alphonse
Email: talphonse@diolaf.org

Parish Staff

Bookkeeper: Lois Bosworth
Mon. 8:30am - 3:30pm, Tues. & Thurs. 8:30am - 12pm
Secretary/DRE: Becky W. Meranta
Wed./Thurs. 8:30am - 3:30pm
Church & Rectory House Keeper: Melinda Frederick
Tues., Wed., Thurs., & Fri. 8:30am - 12pm

Sacraments

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday 3:15 - 3:50pm;
Sundays and weekdays 20 minutes before Mass.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Contact the office to schedule a meeting with the pastor, at the parents' convenience, one month prior to the desired Baptism date. Baptisms are celebrated on Sunday after 10:30am Mass.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Couples wishing to get married should call the office at least six months prior to the anticipated date of the wedding to begin the marriage preparation.

Marriage annulment:

Contact the pastor for easy guidance.

Anointing the Sick:

Call during office hours to schedule an appointment.

Youth Faith Formation:

2025 - 2026 classes will begin in September.

All grades (Kindergarten - 8th) will be meeting from 5:45 - 7:00 pm on Wednesdays.

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY
(Registration forms are located in the vestibule.)



Holy Mass

Weekends:

Saturday - Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am & 10:30 am

Weekdays: Tuesday - Friday 12:10 pm

Dear Parishioners,

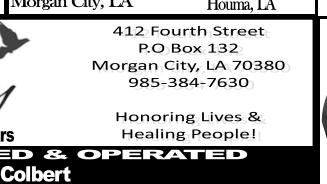
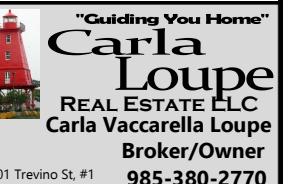
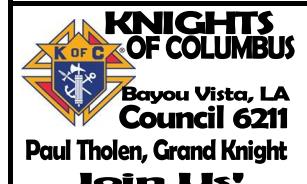
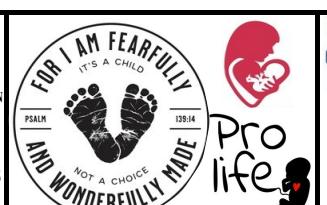
I am going on a pilgrimage to Mexico this week. I leave on Monday, May 19th (my 67th birthday) and return on Saturday, May 24th. The following are the holy places that I will be visiting and offering Mass and praying for you all.



Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Shrine Indios, Church of St. Francis of Assisi, Holy Family Church, Metropolitan Cathedral, Plaza of Santo Domingo, Tulpetlac Church, and many other places. This trip is organized by Catholic Journeys based in New Orleans.

May I request you to keep me in your prayers for this successful pilgrimage tour to Mexico.

Fr. Thainese Alphonse



12:00 pm Mass this week will be celebrated on Tuesday, May 20th & Friday, May 23rd.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, May 20th

12:10 pm

†Albert Solet †John Ourso
†Danny Peterson
†Clarence & Ella Walker
†Father Thainese Alphonse
†Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Wednesday, May 21st

12:10pm

No Mass

Thursday, May 22nd

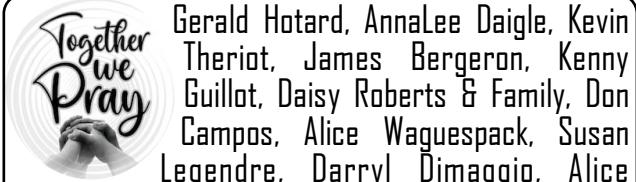
12:10 pm

No Mass

Friday, May 23rd

12:10 pm

†John Ourso †Danny Peterson
†Lester Waguespack, Sr.
†Souls in Purgatory.



Gerald Hotard, AnnaLee Daigle, Kevin Theriot, James Bergeron, Kenny Guillot, Daisy Roberts & Family, Don Campos, Alice Waguespack, Susan Legendre, Darryl Dimaggio, Alice Boudreaux, Michael Silva, Ryan Arcement, Karen Duhon, Maddi Duhon, Mynette Zimmer, Jane Mayo, Dalton Dupree, Lisa Morel, Mary Ann Lambert Adams, Elma Braus, Cherie Schlatte, Matt Braus, Nelwyn LaHoste, Jamie Huffman, Maria McGinnis, Sonya Meranta, Wilson Acosta, Sr., Christie Mayea, Steve Meranta, Kenny Meranta, JY & Elaine Mula, Benny Castalano, Audie Pete, Blaine St. Romain, Robert David, Jr., Robert Paul David, Gert Simoneaux, Kristi Wisdom, Juanita Prestenbach, Barbara Rivet, Bill Vincent, Judy Cornwell, Ella Ryker, Brenda Dawson, Mike Reed, Rhodes Family, Jaret Matte, Carl Written, Mary Liles, Jean Derise, Barry Clark, Ross Mire, Ina Miller, Greg Verret, Father Wilber Todd, Doug Pillsbury, Aubry "Poochie" Sutton, Paul Wooten, Merian Rock, Horace Pete, Jr., Carolina Rodrigue, Dwayne Meranta, Ernie Meranta, Darlene Aucoin, David Rossen, Wybra Duay, Stuart Aucoin, Andy Robichaux, Robin Bailey Jeanssone, Crue Hotard, Vanessa Solet, Dawn Spinella, Laila Claire Gardemal, Cynthia Athinson, Logan Gros, Ella Ryker, Special Intentions, Belinda Fabre Lee, Rosa Rosado, Armando Rosado, Glen Cormier, SJ Sampey, Ruby Breaux, Barbara D. Aucoin, Sarah Ford, Calo



Saturday, May 24th

Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

†NJ Hebert †Trey Smith †Thomas Rivet, Jr
†Thomas Rivet III †Thomas Rivet IV †Jim Aloisio
†Clarence & Ella Walker †Ray LaHoste, Jr
†Raymond LaHoste, Sr. †Peggy & Albert Hebert
†Red & Yvonne Anne Adams †Claire Torres Ingalls
†Patricia & Donald Torres, Sr. †Holy Souls in Purgatory †Mary Bernard Blanchard
†Tracey Peterson & John Ourso Families.

Sunday, May 25th

7:30 am

†Albert Solet †Luke Gulliot
†Maria & Ruben Trevino †Ruby & Roland Crappell.

10:30 am

†Rose Lipari †Ruth Wiggins †Terry Wiggins
†Carlo Streva, Sr. †Alice & Lester Waguespack
†Leonce Quebedeaux †Don Lasseigne Family
†Scholler & McGinnis Families - Living & Deceased
†Landry & Justilian Families - Living & Deceased
†Garris Family - Living & Deceased
†Souls in Purgatory.

St. Bernadette Church Offerings
May 10 - 11, 2025
Offering.....\$ 2,792.00
Thank you for your generosity!



Pope Benedict XVI spoke about the meaning behind the pallium in 2011. He said, "The lamb's wool used to create the pallium is meant to represent the lost, sick, or weak sheep which the shepherd places on his shoulders and carries to the waters of life." It serves as a reminder of the pope's

Liturgical Ministries

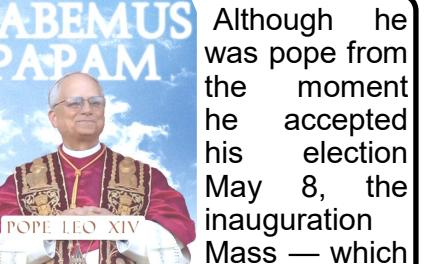
Date	Mass	Sacristan	Lector	Min. of Comm.	Altar Servers
Saturday May 24	4:00 pm	Julia Hepler	Catherine Cali	Julia Hepler	
Sunday May 25	7:30 am	Kim Meranta	Becky Meranta	—	Ethan
	10:30 am	Carlo Streva Jr.	Christian Pham	Katherine Sharp	Parker D. Logan Rickey

A CHRISTIAN IS NOT WEARING PLASTIC SIGN

There is a story told of a traveler by bus throughout Israel one summer. On one part of the journey, the bus driver placed a big white sign by the passenger side windshield. Since it was in Arabic, he asked their guide to translate. The sign said, "This is an Arab bus, owned and operated by Arabs. Please do not throw stones." When they got close to Tel Aviv, the driver pulled another sign from behind his seat, and replaced the first sign in the windshield. Since it was in Hebrew, he asked their guide to translate again. The new sign said, "This is a Jewish bus, owned and operated by Israelis. Please do not throw stones."

The driver used to do this because Arabs and Jews long history of enmity and fight with each other. To exhibit their anger an Arab bus was stoned in the Jewish area and a Jewish bus was stoned in an Arab area. It happens even now occasionally. How do you tell the difference between an Arab bus and a Jewish bus? A big plastic sign in the windshield. When you apply this story to a Christian, how do you identify a Christian? I guess we cannot wear plastic signs – "I am a Christian." That trick may not help; because that does not reflect what Jesus told us. Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you; all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (Jn 13: 35).

HABEMUS PAPAM
By This Everyone Will Know That You Are My Disciples, If You Love One Another
John 13:35



Although he was pope from the moment he accepted his election May 8, the inauguration Mass — which replaced the papal coronation after the pontificate of St. Paul VI — formally marks the beginning of his ministry with his reception of the fisherman's ring and his pallium, a wool band worn around his shoulders. The inaugural Mass for the Beginning of Pontificate will be held at 10 am in St. Peter's Square on Sunday, May 18th. This Mass will be the formal installation ceremony where Pope Leo XIV will receive the fisherman's ring and the pallium as symbols of his papal office.

"GRANDMA PLEASE"

I heard about a unique telephone service called "Grandma, Please" that is geared to *latch-key kids* (a child who returns to an empty home after school or other activities or a child who is often left at home with no supervision). "Grandma, Please" provides a free number kids can call if they are home alone and need someone to talk to. Senior citizens volunteer their time to answer telephones and talk to kids who are lonely or scared and need a little adult company.

The "Grandma, Please" switchboard gets about 800 calls per month in a big city like Chicago. A source reveals that over 43% of the children's parents are single parents. When the child returns home after school the parent is not yet back home. As those children who live in that kind of family condition feel lonely and want to share the news of their school day with someone. Some will call because they heard a noise outside and got scared. Most call simply for the chance to connect with another human being. They are so lonely. One volunteer reports that her phone calls often end with the child saying, "I love you, Grandma. What is your name?"

Jesus' love commandment demands us to give a thought to this story.



2:00 am

New! Mass for the Initiation of the Petrine Ministry of the Bishop of Rome, Leo XIV

From St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, the Holy Mass for the historic inauguration of the pontificate of Pope Leo XIV. (240 minutes)

Encore Sunday, May 18 at 11:00 am & 5:00 pm

The Inauguration Mass

The theological significance of the inauguration Mass lies in its public witness to the pope's role as Vicar of Christ. The rite is not a sacrament—since the pope is already a bishop—but a liturgical celebration that includes the conferral of the pallium and the profession of faith. The pallium, a woolen band placed on the shoulders of the pope (and later archbishops), symbolizes the yoke of Christ and the pastoral care of the flock entrusted to him. Its use dates to the fourth century and was gradually incorporated into papal ceremonies by the early Middle Ages. Unlike a coronation—which emphasized temporal kingship and was last used by Pope Paul VI in 1963—the modern inauguration emphasizes service, mission, and the pastoral office. Paul VI's renunciation of the papal tiara during the Second Vatican Council marked a definitive theological shift, reemphasizing the pope's role as the "Servant of the Servants of God."

Read more: www.catholic365.com