

## PASTOR'S NOTES

### Confirmation/Eucharist – *an understanding*

Yesterday [April 22<sup>nd</sup>] at a 10 a.m. Mass twenty-one (21) of our young parishioners from St. Thomas and St. Leo's parishes marked their full initiation into life with Christ and His Church. They celebrated both the sacraments of Confirmation and received Holy Communion (Eucharist) for their first time.

At that first Pentecost the risen and ascended Christ returned in the power and person of the Holy Spirit and forever changed not only the lives of his apostles (*e.g. - the fisherman Peter did not die as a fisherman at the sea of Galilee, but as Christ's missionary in Rome being crucified upside down on a cross and buried in a place called the Vatican gardens*), but also the lives of all who believe in Christ Jesus. The Church teaches that in **Confirmation** the Holy Spirit of Pentecost deepens the gifts which were bestowed in the waters of our baptisms. It was at Baptism that God took up residence in our lives. Now these seven (7) gifts of the Holy Spirit [*knowledge, wisdom, understanding, counsel, piety, fortitude and fear of the Lord*] are deepened within us to fashion us, like Peter of old, to become ambassadors for Christ in our world.

By the **gift of knowledge** we begin to see life as God sees it. The **gift of wisdom** assists us applying this knowledge in living holy lives. The **gift of understanding** helps us grasp the deep mysteries of faith and navigate the paradoxes/conundrums of daily life. The **gift of counsel** informs our consciences in making right judgements and choosing correct actions. The **gift of piety** inspires us to pray, to seek the graces of the sacraments and to learn from the lives of the saints. The **gift of fortitude** gives us courage to remain faithful to God in the face of temptation and the lure of evil. The **gift of the fear of the Lord** fills us with awe as we glory in nothing but friendship with God and his gift of salvation. Isaiah prophesied these very gifts of the Holy Spirit upon that descendent of King David who would usher in the time of salvation [Is. 11:1-9]. Christians have always understood this descendent to be Jesus Christ.

Like all life this new life in Christ needs to be constantly nourished by the risen life of Christ. Such is the gift of **Eucharist** - the Body and Blood of Christ. At his last supper on earth Christ took the bread and wine of the Jewish Passover meal and declared it to be his body and blood and then invited his apostles and us – '*Do this in memory of me*'! At that same last supper Christ promises to send the Holy Spirit who would be with us always and instruct us in everything and remind us of all Christ told us.

With the reception of these two sacraments our young students have become fully initiated into the life of the Church. To be fully initiated into the life of the Church means to be more deeply rooted in the life of faith that cries out *Abba, Father*, to live a deeper bond with the Church, and to possess the strength to both spread and defend the faith by boldly proclaiming Christ and to never being ashamed of the Cross [CCC 1301].

With this understanding in mind let us join our confirmands in rightful joy and congratulations as new and fully initiated members of the Catholic Church:

**[From St. Leo's parish]** – *Finlee Albrecht, Baya Boeder, James Diemert, Jax Erbes, Riley Gunkel, Jensen Kappes, Lila Keller, Nolan Keller, Ignatius Lako, Kollyns Lorenz, Keaton Lynnes, Ellie Marshall, Finley Monilaws, Kayleigh Prochnow, Emma Rupp, Lucy Schneider, Logan Tangen, Emma Wald, Nolan Ziegelmann*].

**[From St. Thomas parish]** – *Camrie Halland, Tucker Killoran*;].



St. Leo's Catholic Church  
211 Langer Ave North  
PO Box 340  
Casselton ND  
347-4609

St. Thomas Catholic Church  
401 Third St. North  
PO Box 22  
Buffalo ND  
633-5150



## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER April 23, 2023

### Weekend Mass Schedule for St. Leo's and St. Thomas

1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays: 8:30 am St. Thomas, 10:30 am St. Leo's

2nd & 4th Sundays: 8:30 am St. Leo's, 10:30 am St. Thomas

Every Saturday: 5:00 pm at St. Leo's

### Mass Intentions for the week of April 23:

Mon - Apr 24 – 9:00 am – **Special intention**

Tues - Apr 25 - 9:00 am - **+Souls in purgatory**

*St. Leo's — NO MASS*

Wed – Apr 26 – 9:00 am - **+Dan Grabanski** by Stan & Angeline Mathias

Thurs – Apr 27 – 9:00 pm - **+Souls in purgatory**

Fri – Apr 28 – 9:00 am – **Olivia Garman** by Casey & Anna Garman

**Sat - Apr 29 – 5:00 pm - +Henry Sherman by His family**

**Sun - Apr 30 – St. Thomas - 8:30 am - Special intention by Keith & Joni Biggers**

**St. Leo's - 10:30 am - For the people of our parishes**

### Parish Staff:

**Pastor:** Fr. James Ermer

**E-mail:** james.ermer@fargodiocese.org

**Secretary:** Delores Grommesh

Phone: 701-347-4609

E-mail: stleo@casselton.net

**RE Coordinator:** Patty Roth

Phone: 701-347-4609

E-mail: dre@stleosnd.org

**Website:** www.stleosnd.org

### Prayer Chain:

Kelsey Lako: 701-793-7088

**Maintenance:** Paul & Sherry Radermacher

Phone: 701-793-7740; 701-793-7798

**St. Leo's Directors:** Dave Glennon & Micah Bartholomay

**St. Thomas Directors:** Gary Milbrandt & Flint Kasowski

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

at St. Leo's

4:00 - 4:45 pm Saturday

-----  
at St. Thomas

8:00 - 8:15 am

before all 8:30 am Masses

~ Anytime by appointment  
~ Communal Services during

Advent and Lent

**New Members:** If you are new to the area, we would love to have you as a registered member. To register as a new member of the parish, please visit with Fr. Ermer after Mass.

Please join in praying the Rosary  
25 minutes before the Saturday evening  
and Sunday morning Mass times.

## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun. Apr 23 - 11:30 am - St. Thomas Pastoral Council meeting at the church  
 Mon. Apr 24 - 7:00 pm - St. Leo's Pastoral Council meeting at the rectory - **NOTE: Date Change**  
 Wed. Apr 26 - RE Classes — see below  
 Wed. Apr 26 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting at the rectory  
 Thurs. Apr 27 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Tues. May 2 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy Committee meeting at the rectory  
 Sun. May 21 - 11:30 am - Graduation Breakfast after 10:30 am Mass honoring St. Leo's 2023 graduates

**REMINDER:** Please remember to return your Lenten canisters.

### Religious Education Class Times — Wed., April 26<sup>th</sup>

St. Thomas RE classes — 3:45 pm


St. Leo's RE classes: Simple Supper - 6:00 pm

Grades K, 1, 2, 3 — (5:15 pm session); (6:30 pm session)

Grades 4-8 & 10 — 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Grade 9 - Class B and 12<sup>th</sup> grade — 6:15 - 7:45 pm

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	Saturday Apr 29 5:00 pm St. Leo's	Sunday Apr 30 8:30 am St. Thomas	Sunday Apr 30 10:30 am St. Leo's
<b>Lector</b>	Megan Bolda	Gary Milbrandt	Darcee Rehovsky
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Mona Franck Delores Grommesh	Linda Milbrandt Jurgen Suhr	Virjean Cramer Susan Kempel Mark Rehovsky Deb Werner Jake Werner
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Ben Metzger	Hallie Besette Claire Halland	Paris Mack Parker Mack
<b>Offertory Collectors</b>	Volunteers needed	Joe & Lora Killoran	Volunteers needed
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	Volunteers needed	Dave Killoran Family	Volunteers needed
<b>Lead Rosary</b>	Richard Muscha		Alexia Kieffer

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Sherry Radermacher and her family on the death of her sister-in-law, Marilyn Kaiser and to Keith & Kent Marschke and their families on the death of their sister-in-law Madeline Marschke.

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. — Matthew 5:4*

**Join us to sing from the choir loft!** "Choir Sunday" will be May 21<sup>st</sup> at the 10:30 am Mass. Anyone (adult/middle school/high school) is welcome to join us. We will meet in the choir loft from 9-10am to run through these songs for that day's Mass: #732, #383, #693, #583, #582. (Youtube is a great way to practice at home beforehand).

**Teams of Our Lady for Your Marriage:** Are you interested in enriching your couple/marriage spirituality on a journey with other Catholic like-minded couples? The F-M Sector of Teams of Our Lady now has 13 TEAMS comprised of 72 area couples, 11 chaplains, and has been going strong for 18 years! Join us to learn more at our Spring Information Sessions!

- Info Session #1 – Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at St. Anthony of Padua Church (upstairs)
- Info Session #2 – Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM at St. Anthony of Padua (upstairs).

All couples (BOTH husband and wife) wishing to join TEAMS are required to attend one of these two sessions. Mark your calendar as these will be the only Information Sessions this year! For more information, call Lorine Bernhardt at 701-781-2249 or e-mail [fargosectorinformation@gmail.com](mailto:fargosectorinformation@gmail.com). More information can also be found on the TEAMS website at [www.teamsofourlady.org](http://www.teamsofourlady.org).

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*"Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the scriptures?"*

~ Luke 24:32

How often do you take the time to discern what Jesus is calling you to do with your life? Are your prayers always petitions, asking Jesus to do things for you? If so, that is a one-sided relationship. Living our faith means developing a personal relationship with Jesus. Just like any friendship, there is give and take, each side listening to each other and helping each other out. Take time, in silence, to listen to what Jesus is asking of you today.

**St. Mary's Cathedral Spring Celebration weekend** – Join us for another weekend of fun, great food and prizes at the Cathedral's Spring Celebration, themed "Country Fair" on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 8 pm. KC Burger baskets (\$12). Live entertainment and a live auction where you can bid on a supper for 8 with Bishop Folda at the Bishop's residence and a dinner for 8 hosted by Monsignor Goering at the rectory. Also featuring a silent auction and bake sale all weekend. On Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 11 am - 1:30 pm Swedish Meatball dinner; Adults \$12, Children ages 6-12 \$10, \$50 per family, kids 5 & under are free, a kids' carnival, dollar auction, raffle drawing with many great cash prizes to win, including a \$1500 top prize! We hope to see you there! 604 Broadway N, Fargo. Please call Jayme at 701-235-4289 with questions. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board.

**Real Presence Radio's** annual Spring Live Drive is coming your way **May 10-12<sup>th</sup>**. Phone lines will be open daily from **7:00 am – 7:00 pm**. Donate and you will be entered into a drawing for one of the many great prizes awarded throughout the drive. Call in with your support to **877-795-0122** or donate online at [RealPresenceRadio.com/donate](http://RealPresenceRadio.com/donate).