

PASTOR'S NOTES

Fasting from envy — *some notes*

Fasting is a lenten discipline that is meant to be an antidote from harmful bodily desires and most importantly curtail the deleterious effects of vices. Certainly the seven (7) capital sins would be vices to be avoided at all costs. In that sense Lent could be a great season to begin a life-long fast from the capital sins. In this second lenten reflection – let us examine the capital sin of envy.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines envy as “*the sadness at the sight of another’s goods and the immoderate desire to acquire them for oneself, even unjustly.*” [CCC 2539]

Envy is often cloaked under the guise of trying to be the best version of oneself, of trying to better oneself by emulating the good traits found in other people. Bettering oneself is a good and **true self-love comes from knowing both one’s gifts and one’s limitations** all the while honoring a healthy respect and appreciation of other people’s talents and gifts.

Envy begins to emerge when we become focused on others and desiring that person’s goods, gifts and talents for oneself. Left unchecked envy begins to create a sense of dejection, anger, bitterness, resentment, critical, becoming cross and irritable at the good fortune of another person. As the downward spiral continues a person begins to rejoice at the other person’s misfortunes and sometimes cares less about getting someone’s gift(s) just so long as the other person is deprived of that gift. In all of this a person begins to think less of themselves and sees oneself as deficient and inferior (e.g. - getting passed over for a promotion). A blindness sets in and produces a wall between God and oneself, even coming to believe God has robbed us. Scripture has a number of high profile stories of envy (e.g. - **Cain’s envy of Abel’s gifts** to God in Genesis 4. Rather than focusing on how to make his gifts better, Cain kills his brother Abel; the story of **King David and his affair with Bathsheba** where David has Bathsheba’s husband killed because of his envious desire to have Bathsheba as his own wife [2 Samuel 11]. St. Augustine saw envy as “the diabolical sin” and St. Gregory the Great saw envy as giving birth to “*hatred, detraction, calumny, joy caused by the misfortune of a neighbor and displeasure caused by his prosperity*” [CCC 2539].

The opposite of envy is charity where we rejoice in the success of others, speak well of others, and sincerely compliment others. Truly fasting from envy would be a worthy practice to begin this Lent and continue for a life time.

Chimbote, Peru – coming to St. Leo’s

This coming Wednesday evening, February 28th, at 7 p.m. Todd Mikkelson will give an half hour presentation on the mission work being done in Chimbote, Peru. **This talk will be given in the Spirit of Life Center and is open to all parishioners.**

Almost 50 years ago Fr. Jack Davis, a Fargo diocesan priest from Devils Lake, began mission work in Chimbote, Peru. Since that time numerous parishes in the Diocese of Fargo have contributed to this missionary effort. Hundreds of people from the Diocese have made mission trips to Chimbote. The lives of hundreds of thousands of people have been touched by the generous care and concern of people who support what is now known as *Friends of Chimbote*. Each year the children’s Sunday Offertory collection is given to support the mission work of the *Friends of Chimbote*. We are especially inviting our 8th to 12th grade students to attend this presentation and see what their church support is doing in helping some of the world’s poorest people. It would be great to have the parents of our 8th to 12th grade students attend this short talk. If anyone might be interested in making a mission trip to Chimbote, this would be a great event to attend and get some valuable information on such an endeavor.



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



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT February 25, 2024

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 Feb 25:

Mon - Feb 26 – 9:00 am – +**Virginia Pedeliski** by Ted Pedeliski

Tues - Feb 27 – St. Thomas – 9:00 am – +**Souls in purgatory**

NO MASS at St. Leo’s

Wed – Feb 28 – 9:00 am – +**Janice Muscha** by Keith & Joni Biggers

Thurs – Feb 29 – 9:00 am – +**Souls in purgatory**

Fri – Mar 1 – 9:00 am – +**Jim Schmitt** by Richard Muscha

Sat - Mar 2 – 5:00 pm - +Dick Sinner by Don & Audrey Cramer

Sun - Mar 3 – St. Thomas - 8:30 am - +Bob Killoran by Janice Diemert

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

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RE Coordinator: Patty Roth

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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.

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

## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., Feb 25 - 6:30 pm– Ecumenical Prayer Service– Goshen Moravian Church– 6 pm– Soup/Sandwich  
 Wed., Feb 28 - 6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas  
 Wed., Feb 28 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting at the rectory  
 Fri., Mar 1 - 6:30 pm - Stations of the Cross at St. Leo's; 6 pm– Soup/Sandwich supper  
 Sun., Mar 3 - 6:30 pm– Ecumenical Prayer Service– United Methodist Church– 6 pm– Soup/Sandwich  
 Sun., Mar 3 - 9:00 am - KC Breakfast in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Mon., Mar 4 - 6:30 pm - Parent Eucharist meeting  
 Tues., Mar 5 - 7:00 pm - Education committee meeting at the rectory  
 Wed., Mar 6 - 6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas  
**Fri., Mar 8 - 5:30– 7:00 pm - KC Lenten Fish Fry**  
 Fri., Mar 8 - 7:00 pm - Living Stations at St. Leo's

### Religious Education Class Times — Wed., Feb 28<sup>th</sup>

St. Thomas RE classes — 3:45 pm

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

Grades 1, 2, 3, 4 — (5:15 pm session); (6:30 pm session)

Grades K & 5, 6, 8, 9 & 10 — 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Grade 7 - Class B and 11<sup>th</sup> grade — 6:15 - 7:45 pm



### Help Support our Cameroon Card Mission:

Cards are available for purchase in the church entry. A selection of different occasions is available. Cost of cards is 50¢, please place money in envelope provided and return to parish office.

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | <b>Saturday Mar 2<br/>5:00 pm<br/>St. Leo's</b> | <b>Sunday Mar 3<br/>8:30 am<br/>St. Thomas</b> | <b>Sunday Mar 3<br/>10:30 am<br/>St. Leo's</b>                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                     | Lois Titus<br>Megan Bolda                       | Gary Milbrandt                                 | Elise Wisnewski                                                                  |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                      | Lucy Wagner<br>Alex Richard                     | Penny Zaun<br>Joni Biggers                     | Kristi Dutchuk<br>Nicole Scherweit<br>Pam Spooner<br>Luke Steckler<br>Mark Weber |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                              | Ethan/Olivia Richard<br>Tristan/Ignatius Lako   | Rudi Wendel<br>Gavin Besette                   | James Diemert<br>Garman Family                                                   |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                       | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                        | Keith & Joni Biggers                           | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                         |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                               | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                        | JoEllen Killoran<br>Betty Lou Stallman         | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                         |
| <b>Lead Rosary</b>                                                                | Lucy Wagner                                     |                                                | <i>Volunteer needed</i>                                                          |

## NEWS AND NOTES



Council 9477

St. Leo's Knights of Columbus

### FISH FRY

Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>,  
5:30 to 7:00 pm  
Everyone welcome.



**Music for Holy Week and Easter:** We are hoping that you would consider being a part of the choir for the **Holy Triduum- Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday- March 28-29-30-31, 2024.** Here is a schedule of our practice times. **First practice will be Sunday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-10:30 am in the choir loft.**

### Practice schedule:

Sun., Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> – 9:30-10:30am

Sun., Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 9:00- 10:00am

Sun., Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> – 9:30-10:30am

Sun., Mar. 17<sup>th</sup> – **8:30-9:30am**

*(The choir for Mass practices at 9:30 am)*

Sun., Mar. 24<sup>th</sup> – **NO Rehearsal**

A music binder will be all ready for you when you get to rehearsal. We would love to have you join us for all (or some) of these great liturgies! Call if you have any questions!

**Join us to sing from the choir loft!** “Choir Sunday” will be **Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>** at the 10:30 am Mass. Anyone middle school and older is welcome is to sing. We will meet in the choir loft from 9:30-10 am that day to run through these songs: #504, #781, #453, #330, #478. YouTube is a great way to practice at home beforehand. Music with harmony parts available-ask Wanda Mangin.

**Lenten Canisters** – One recipient of our Lenten canisters is **Presentation Partners in Housing.** Presentation Partners in Housing is a local organization run by the Sisters of the Presentation and helps those that may need financial assistance with payment of rent, mortgages or utilities, or deposits. They provide case management to the most vulnerable and difficult to house in our community. *Please be generous in supporting our Lenten charities. We will collect these canister during Holy Week.*

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*“Here I am!” he answered.” ~ Genesis 22:11*

It is easy to say, “Here I am, Lord,” when we are kneeling in church. But how easy is it to say “Here I am, Lord,” when a neighbor needs our help, or when we are invited to join a parish ministry, or when we are asked to provide financial support? Often times we are called when it's not convenient for us. Discipleship is not easy, most of the time it will make us uncomfortable and vulnerable.

**Catholic Man Night:** Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at Holy Spirit Catholic Church (1420 7<sup>th</sup> St. N, Fargo). 6:00 pm—7:00 pm Adoration & Confession. 7:00 pm—8:00 pm Meal with talk by Fr. Kevin Lorsung and short discussion to follow. Free will offering. All men are invited, bring a friend!

**Women's Care Center** is looking for special people committed to our mission, who are personable with excellent communication skills. A part-time or full-time counselor position is available. Degreed and non-degreed candidates are encouraged to apply. Degreed in counseling, social work, nursing, teaching, or other service-related background is preferred, but not necessary. Please forward your resume to Ashley at [acapuyan.wccindy@gmail.com](mailto:acapuyan.wccindy@gmail.com). For further details or questions, call Angela at 701-237-6530.