

PASTOR'S NOTES

“Cat” Sunday

Each Fall a Sunday is designated as *Catechetical Sunday* in the life of the Catholic Church in the United States of America. This day recognizes the invaluable service, which the Church receives from the ministry of our **catechists** (*teachers within Religious Education (RE) programs*).

Our parishes have truly been blessed by those who have volunteered to do their best in passing on the heritage of the Catholic faith to your sons and daughters. Without question parents are the first teachers of faith, but the glory of the Gospel and the mystery of the Church is an enterprise much larger than simply family life. Probing that glory and understanding that mystery involves the collaborative efforts of all parish members.

For those who ‘*step to the plate*’ and enter the classrooms of instruction as catechists, we give both formal recognition and grateful thanks on *Catechetical Sunday*. This weekly gift of instruction and preparation that goes into that instruction is no small gift. In that sense catechists represent the heart of the spiritual life – *dying to self and living for others*. Catechists are more than teachers. The best of catechists embody the truths they teach, and by their lives witness to the joy of knowing Christ and the beauty of the Catholic faith (*by possessing*) faith in Christ and the goodness of humanity, hope of eternal life, and love for all that good, right and holy. As the saying goes – ‘*faith is caught before it is taught*’. **May our catechists be so enlivened!**

The theme of this year’s Catechetical Sunday comes from Matthew’s Gospel “*Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest*” [Mt.11:28]. RE programs fulfill this mandate by inviting parishioners to ‘**Come**’. In turn RE programs share the Gospel and the light and life of faith to ‘**all who are burdened**’. In doing thus, participants come to know ‘the rest’ found in God alone. Such is the vision and hope of our RE programs at both St. Leo’s and St. Thomas.

The prayer cards in the pews contain the names of our catechists and a prayer for them. Please take a prayer card home and in the course of this school year offer a prayer in gratitude for our catechists and their essential work in the life of the Church. Again our deepest thanks!

Church microphone & speaker system

Off and on over time people have noted some difficulties with St. Leo’s church microphone and speaker system. Recently an audio specialist from Tricorne Audio in Fargo evaluated our system. He noted two things: **Firstly**, a couple of our microphones have been in a ‘compressed mode’ and is probably not serving us well. One of those microphones is the one the priest uses at the altar and the resider’s bench and when preaching out front. That ‘compression mode’ has been turned off. **Secondly**, our speaker box that hangs from the ceiling is a very good speaker system and is comprised of three separate units. The ‘tweeter speakers’ in that upper third part of that speaker box system ‘are blown’ and need to be replaced. We are looking at completing that work in the early part of October. Hopefully these two things will greatly improve St. Leo’s church’s audio system.

By way of note: the audio specialist was able to analyze that 27-foot high speaker box system because of the hard work of Micah Bartholomay and his helpers - Jim Flynn and Jared Nelson. Micah rounded up the supplies and he and his helpers constructed a stand upon which the Central Cass scissor lift could be placed so as to access the speaker box.

Our deepest thanks to Micah and helpers as well as Central Cass High school!!



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



TWENTY– FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME September 17, 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 Sept 17:

Mon - Sept 18 – 10:30 am – **St. Thomas– Funeral Mass for Bob Killoran**

NO 9 am MASS at St. Leo's

Tues - Sept 19 – St. Thomas– 9:00 am – **+Souls in purgatory**

NO MASS at St. Leo's

Wed – Sept 20 – 6:30 pm – **+Fr. Scott Sautner**

Thurs – Sept 21 – 9:00 am – **+Souls in purgatory**

Fri – Sept 22 – 9:00 am – **+Shirley Marek** by Monica Qvale

Sat - Sept 23 – 5:00 pm - +Russel Muscha by Richard Muscha

Sun - Sept 24 – St. Leo's - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes

St. Thomas - 10:30 am - +Dan Johnson by Keith & Joni Biggers

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer

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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

Mon. Sept 18 - 7:00 pm - Finance Committee meeting at the rectory  
 Tues. Sept 19 - 7:00 pm - Pastoral Council meeting at the rectory  
 Wed. Sept 27 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting at the rectory  
 Thurs., Sept 28 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting

### Religious Education Class Times — Wed., Sept. 20<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, 4 — (5:15 pm session); (6:30 pm session)

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

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

**This week's Eucharistic Reflection Question:** *Once consecrated, how long does the Real Presence of Christ live on in the Eucharist, including being placed in the tabernacle? ~ CCC 1377*

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|                                                                                   | Saturday Sept 23<br>5:00 pm<br>St. Leo's          | Sunday Sept 24<br>8:30 am<br>St. Leo's                                              | Sunday Sept 24<br>10:30 am<br>St. Thomas |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|  |                                                   |                                                                                     |                                          |
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                     | Tony Roth                                         | Fred Eldridge                                                                       | Alecia Killoran                          |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                      | Mona Franck<br>Paulette Schmitt                   | Virjean Cramer<br>Dave Glennon<br>Patty Glennon<br>Terri Monilaws<br>Richard Muscha | Penny Zaun<br>Joni Biggers               |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                              | Evelyn Roth<br>Beau Parisien<br>Joe/Jenson Kappes | Glennon Family<br>Nolan Ziegelmann                                                  | Abigail Killoran<br>Damien Norrie        |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                       | Volunteers needed                                 | Volunteers needed                                                                   | Betty Lou Stallman<br>Mike & Lisa Zahnw  |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                               | Volunteers needed                                 | Volunteers needed                                                                   | Dave Killoran Family                     |
| <b>Lead Rosary</b>                                                                | Michelle Kappes                                   | Sandra Keller                                                                       |                                          |

## NEWS AND NOTES

Congratulations to  
**Jordyn Romsdal and Michael Geier**  
 who entered into the sacrament of marriage at St. Leo's on Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. We pray to God to bless their love for each other and that they may support each other throughout the joys and sorrows of life.

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Dennis & Joe Killoran and their families on death of their brother, Bob, to Arlene Kieffer and her family on the death of her husband, Jim and to Leo Kieffer and Lillian Eberhardt and their families on death of their brother-in-law, Harvey Fiala. *Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. — Matthew 5:4*

**Women's Eucharistic Retreat with Bishop Folda:** The theme of this women's retreat is *"My flesh for the life of the world"* (John 6:51), and it will focus on helping women encounter God in a deeper way through the gift of the Eucharist. The retreat will be held at the Maryvale Retreat Center in Valley City on October 6-8, 2023. Registration includes: accommodations, all supplies, meals on Saturday and Sunday. Cost of the retreat is \$250. Contact Jennie Korsmo at [jennie.korsmo@fargodiocese.org](mailto:jennie.korsmo@fargodiocese.org) or (701)356-7901 for more information or register at: <https://www.fargodiocese.org/bishop-retreat>



**Fall Dinners** - Please see the flyers on bulletin board for more details on all the area churches Fall Dinners.

**Theology on Tap:** The Diocese of Fargo Young Adult Ministry is hosting Theology on Tap. These events will take place on Monday nights starting at 7:00 pm at the Crooked Pint Alehouse (3340 13th Ave S, Fargo). Theology on Tap is a free event and open to anyone ages 21-39. During the night we will hear from a keynote speaker, spend time socializing, and grow in community. Below are the fall dates:

- September 18<sup>th</sup>
- October 16<sup>th</sup>
- November 20<sup>th</sup>
- December 18<sup>th</sup>

For more information, visit [fargodiocese.org/youngadults](http://fargodiocese.org/youngadults) or email Drew Luhning at [CorChristi@fargodiocese.org](mailto:CorChristi@fargodiocese.org)

**Senior Citizen Day:** The Casselton Business Association Senior Day is **Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 10:00 am** at St. Leo's Catholic Church. Older adults from throughout rural Cass are invited to attend. The day includes displays from organizations serving older adults, a presentation by Susan Johnson-Drenth, the only certified elder attorney in North Dakota, flu shots, drug take back program, lunch and door prizes. There is no cost to attend, but people need to RSVP by Monday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> to Davis Chiropractic at (701)347-4006.

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*"For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." ~ Romans 14:8*

This is the essence of stewardship — everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He is calling you to live the life that He intended for you.