

PASTOR’S NOTES

Understanding Confirmation/Eucharist

On Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. Bishop John Folda will be here at St. Leo’s to celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist for the first time for young parishioners from St. Leo’s, St. Benedict in Wild Rice and St. Maurice in Kindred. Please pray that day may be rich in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the lives of these young one, their families and parishes.

As you know Confirmation is one the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. In the Acts of the Apostles we read that even though people were baptized there was this other ritual of ‘laying on of hands’ and calling forth the Holy Spirit [AA 8:12-17; 19:1-7]. These biblical references give rise to the eventual liturgical celebrations of Baptism and Confirmation.

Baptism celebrates one’s entry into the death and resurrection of Christ, which stands at the very heart of Easter faith. Baptism makes us ‘new creatures’ because we have been ‘born again’. As we know, Christ did not just rise from the dead, but after his Ascension to heaven, he sends the Holy Spirit upon his believers (the Church) on Pentecost. From that day forward the Church saw itself as a people with the mission of continuing the ministry of Christ to the ends of the world unto the end of time.

**The sacrament of Confirmation is deeply tied to the Pentecost story.** Like the believers on Pentecost it is not enough to be baptized. The gift of Christ’s life-giving death was freely given and must, in turn, be freely given to others. We must leave the waters of Baptism and become missionaries for Christ in the world. Just as Pentecost completes Easter, analogously Confirmation completes Baptism.

God assists this missionary impulse by deepening within us the **7-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit** who first came to us in the waters of Baptism [*Knowledge, Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Piety, Fortitude and Fear of the Lord*].

As these gifts take root in our lives we should begin to see the **12 fruits of the Spirit** in our thoughts, words and deeds [*charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control and chastity*].

In turn the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) teaches that some effects of Confirmation should be a more deeply rooted life of faith that cries out *Abba, Father*, a deeper bond with the Church, and strength to both spread and defend the faith by boldly proclaiming Christ and never being ashamed of the Cross {CCC 1301}.

It seems obvious that the life of our ‘new missionaries’ 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 them – ‘*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 he told us. With the sacrament of the Eucharist as ‘food for the journey’ the **sacraments of initiation** {*Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist*} have come to completion.

With this understanding in mind let us join our confirmands in rightful joy as they celebrate this milestone in their lives of faith. Please keep these young men and women in your prayers this week as they will soon be confirmed and fed with the life of Christ for the first time:

*Benz Ausk; Ann Burchill; Grant Burchill; Owen Faleide; Adam Garman;  
Jack Glennon; Will Kieffer; Easton Lipp and Tateym Olstad*



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 18, 2021

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 Apr 18:

Mon - Apr 19 - 10:30 am - **Funeral Mass for Frances Larson at St. Leo’s**

Tues - Apr 20 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - **Larry Zaun** by Jim & LuElla Grieve

*St. Leo’s - NO MASS*

Wed - Apr 21 - 9:00 am - **+Gladys Weber** by Hank Weber

Thurs - Apr 22 - 9:00 am - **+Duane Mergner** by Marian Watson

Fri - Apr 23 - 9:00 am - **+Janice Miller** by Sue Knoll

Sat - Apr 24 - 5:00 pm - **+Joe Franck by Bill & Mona Franck**

Sun - Apr 25 - St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - **For the people of our parishes**

St. Thomas - 10:30 am - **+Claudia Von Bank by Keith & Joni Biggers**

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer

E-mail: james.ermer@fargodiocese.org

Secretary: Delores Grommesh

Phone: 701-347-4609

E-mail: stleo@casselton.net

Liturgy/RE: Sue Knoll

Phone: 701-347-4609

Cell: 701-261-2047

E-mail: dre@stleosnd.org

Website: www.stleosnd.org

Prayer Chain:

Bea Bachmeier: 347-5555

Kelsey Lako: 793-7088

Maintenance: Paul & Sherry Radermacher

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

St. Leo’s Directors: Mark Rehovsky & Dave Glennon

St. Thomas Directors: Larry Zaun & Gary Milbrandt

*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., Apr 18 - 9:00 am - KC Breakfast in Spirit of Life Center  
 Tues., Apr 20 - 7:00 pm - Finance committee meeting in the Spirit of Life center  
 Wed., Apr 21 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas - Group B  
                     6:30 pm - Re classes at St. Leo's - Group B, Simple Supper at 6:00 pm  
                     6:15 pm - Junior class meets  
 Fri., Apr 23 - 6:30 pm - Confirmation/Eucharist rehearsal  
 Sun., Apr 25 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
**Sun., Apr 25 - 5:00 pm - Confirmation/1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist with Bishop Folda**  
 Mon., Apr 26 - 7:00 pm - St. Thomas Pastoral Council meeting  
 Tues., Apr 27 - 7:00 pm - St. Leo's Pastoral Council meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Wed., Apr 28 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Sun., May 2 - 4:00 pm - RE 10<sup>th</sup> grade class meets in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Tues., May 4 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy committee meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Tues., May 11 - 7:00 pm - Education committee meeting in the Spirit of Life Center

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

***Prayers and Sympathy:*** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Katharine Haglund and her family on the death of her grandson, Matthew Lohman.

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

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | <b>Saturday Apr 24<br/>5:00 pm<br/>St. Leo's</b> | <b>Sunday Apr 25<br/>8:30 am<br/>St. Leo's</b> | <b>Sunday Apr 25<br/>10:30 am<br/>St. Thomas</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b><i>Lector</i></b>                                                               | Tony Roth                                        | Fred Eldridge                                  | Jackie Vavra                                     |
| <b><i>Eucharistic Ministers</i></b>                                                | Paulette Schmitt                                 | Denise Bartholomay                             |                                                  |
| <b><i>Altar Servers</i></b>                                                        | Lillian Roth<br>Olivea Roth<br>Evelyn Roth       | Sarah Monilaws<br>Lauren Glennon               | Carly Hovelson                                   |
| <b><i>Offertory Collectors</i></b>                                                 | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                         | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                       | Joe & Lora Killoran                              |
| <b><i>Gift Bearers</i></b>                                                         | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                         | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                       | Mark & Carmen Gubrud                             |

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Catholic Home Missions:** Special Diocesan collection **Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**. This collection helps strengthen the Catholic Church in the United States and its territories by providing pastoral services including, evangelization, religious education, and the maintenance of mission parishes, the training of seminarians and lay ministers, and ministry with ethnic groups. The envelope for this collection can be found with your regular collection envelopes. Please consider giving generously.

**Sacred Relics Of The Saints: Treasures Of The Church** - The Cathedral of St. Mary (604 Broadway, Fargo) presents a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Fr. Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross will be here with an extraordinary Vatican collection of over 150 relics, some as old as 2000 years. Throughout history, many healings have been worked in the presence of relics; and many have been come about through this ministry. You are encouraged to bring your articles of devotion (such as rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and pictures of ill friends/family members, which you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

### JPII Catholic Schools is looking to hire the following positions for the Fall of 2021:

- English Teacher – Shanley High School (1.0 FTE – 2 positions)
  - Elementary Music Teacher – Nativity Elementary (1.0 FTE)
  - Spanish Teacher – Shanley High School/Sullivan Middle School (1.0 FTE)
  - Science Teacher – Shanley High School (1.0 FTE)
- For more information on these positions or how to apply visit <https://www.jp2schools.org/central-office/careers/> or call 701-893-3231.

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*"Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' But they were startled and frightened..." - Luke 24:36-37*

Throughout the day we have many opportunities to "see the face of Jesus" in others and to "be the face of Jesus" to others. Do we take that opportunity to provide "peace" to those we encounter or are we afraid of what others will think of us and do nothing? Pray for the strength to live a "God-centered" life and not a "self-centered" life.



**Knights of Columbus Breakfast:** Serving French toast and sausage today, Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Spirit of Life Center. Take out available. Free will offering,



### God's Gift Appeal 2021

**Goal**      **4/9/2021**

St. Leo's      \$46,373      \$ 21,374  
 St. Thomas      \$11,103      \$ 7,850

Thank you to all parishioners who have made their gift to the 2021 God's Gift Appeal. Pledge cards and donations may be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office and we will see they get to the Diocese.



### Help Support our Cameroon Card Mission:

Cards are available for purchase in the magazine rack in church entry. There is a wonderful selection for all occasions available for a reasonable purchase. Cost of cards is 50¢, please place money in envelope provided and return to parish office. All proceeds go to the mission.