

PASTOR’S NOTES

With Sue’ decision to leave parish ministry so as to spend more time with family and grandchildren, St. Leo’s is looking to hire someone to cover Sue’s duties with music, liturgy and Religious Education. In terms of Religious Education –

Religious Education Coordinator/Director: St Leo’s parish in Casselton is looking for a part-time coordinator of Religious Education for grades K-12. A suitable candidate would be a practicing Catholic who has a deep love and passion for passing on the gift of the Catholic faith to young men and women. For more information and to apply, please contact Fr. James Ermer at (701) 347-4609.

Eucharist — radicalized Passover

This is the second of 5 weeks that our Sunday Gospel reading comes from the 6th chapter of John’s Gospel rather than from this year’s usual reading of Mark’s Gospel. The 6th chapter of John’s Gospel [Jn 6] is often referred to as the Bread of Life Discourse because Jesus refers to himself as the Bread of Life – *that this bread is his body and blood – that whoever eats of his flesh and drinks of his blood will have eternal life – that whoever does not eat of his body and drink his blood has no life in them.*

John 6 is a deep spiritual reflection and interpretation of what Jesus declares at the Last Supper accounts in Mt. 26:26-30, Mk. 14:22-26, and Lk. 22:14-20 when he speaks of the bread as His Body and the wine as His Blood.

Jesus’ Last Supper occurred in the context of the most highly celebrated feast of the Jewish people even to today – **the Passover**. The original Passover occurred 1200 years before Christ when the Israelites were slaves in Egypt. Passover celebrates God freeing the Israelites from slavery, leading them through a 40-year Exodus in the desert and finally bestowing upon them the Promised Land of Israel. During each annual celebration of Passover Jewish people, even to today, recall how the ‘angel of death’ passed over every Jewish home that had the blood the lamb smeared upon their doorposts. This convinced Pharaoh to free the Israelites. At each annual celebration of Passover Jewish people, even to today, recall how their ancestors in faith fled Egypt only with unleavened bread, called *matzah*, because they could not wait for the bread dough to raise. Besides that, throughout their 40-year sojourn in the desert God fed them daily with manna (*bread from heaven*).

At Christ’s Last Supper, which was celebrated during that year’s Passover festivities, Jesus takes these two Passover images - the lamb’s blood and the bread (matzah) – and declares the wine to be His Blood and the bread to be His Body. **Christ radicalizes the Passover!!**

After leaving the Last Supper Christ goes to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane where he is arrested and later judged to be a criminal in the late hours of that night and early hours of the next morning. Later that day he is crucified. When his disciples saw his broken body and blood pouring from his pierced side, they remembered what he had said the night before on the Passover – this is my body as he gave them the bread (matzah) of Passover to eat; this is my blood as he passed the cup representing the oppression of slavery and the freedom that came from the blood of the Passover lamb.

With Christ’s resurrection disciples began to see God’s revelation that the ‘angel of death’ of the original Passover has been taken up into Christ’s life-giving Death and Resurrection in a new Passover from earth to heaven, not from the slave land of Egypt to the freedom land of Israel. This ‘new’ Passover is open to the human race who put themselves in communion with Jesus who radicalized the Jewish Passover.

From the earliest days of the Church believers gathered on the first day of week (Sunday) for the ‘breaking of bread’ as Christ did at the Last Supper. Over the centuries this has become known as the Eucharist and what began 3200 years ago in the first Passover and radicalized by Jesus lives on in His Body and Blood on our altars, ‘who lived and died for us’. **Such is the meaning of ‘going to Mass’!!**



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



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
August 1, 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 Aug 1:

Mon - Aug 2 - 9:00 am - **NO MASS**
Tues - Aug 3 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - **NO MASS**
St. Leo’s - NO MASS
Wed - Aug 4 - 9:00 am - **+John ‘Jack’ Ermer** by Dennis & Dora Elbert
Thurs - Aug 5 - 9:00 am - **+Donald Mergner** by Marian Watson
Fri - Aug 6 - 9:00 am - **+Souls in purgatory**
Sat - Aug 7 - 5:00 pm - +Bennie Muscha by Richard & Janice Muscha
Sun - Aug 8 - St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - Andrew Garman by Casey & Anna Garman
St. Thomas - 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
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Liturgy/RE: Sue Knoll
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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., Aug 1 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Sun., Aug 8 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Tues., Aug 10 - 7:00 pm - Education Committee meeting at the rectory  
 Thurs., Aug 12 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting  
 Thurs., Aug 12 - 5:30– 7:30 pm - KC Corn and Brat feed  
 Sun./Holy Day- Aug 15- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 8:30 am Mass at St. Thomas in Buffalo  
 10:30 am Mass at St. Leo's in Casselton  
 Sun., Aug 15 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Sun., Aug 22 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Sun., Aug 29 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass




### God's Gift Appeal 2021 as of 7/23/2021

|            | <u>Goal</u>     | <u>Pledged</u> | <u>% to Goal</u> | <u># of HH</u> | <u># of HH</u> | <u>% of HH</u> |
|------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|            |                 |                |                  |                | Participating  | Participating  |
| St. Leo's  | <b>\$46,373</b> | \$34,702       | 75%              | 251            | 89             | 35%            |
| St. Thomas | <b>\$11,103</b> | \$9,480        | 85%              | 47             | 17             | 36%            |

#### HH = Parish Households

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.

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | <b>Saturday Aug 7</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><i>St. Leo's</i><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sat of the Month | <b>Sunday Aug 8</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><i>St. Leo's</i><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun of the Month | <b>Sunday Aug 8</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><i>St. Thomas</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                      | Tricia Geggman<br>Lois Titus                                                                    | Shari Kensok                                                                                  | Larry Zaun                                                  |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                       | Lucy Wagner                                                                                     | Jerry Volk                                                                                    |                                                             |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                               | Nikita Howard<br>Ethan Richard                                                                  | Sarah Kempel<br>Melody Kempel                                                                 | Jami Vavra<br>Ali Killoran                                  |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                      | Dennis & Cristie Killoran                                   |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                                | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                      | Betty Lou Stallman<br>JoEllen Killoran                      |

## NEWS AND NOTES

**YOUTH EVENT: Wed., Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>** -The Diocese of Fargo will be hosting an end of the summer event titled XLT (exalt) for all students in grade 7-12. XLT will begin with Ultimate Frisbee at 4:00 pm at soccer fields behind Shanley High School (5600 25th St. S, Fargo). After frisbee (5:00 pm) youth will be dismissed so they can shower and return to the Pastoral Center (5201 Bishops Blvd. S, Fargo) for dinner at 6:00 pm. At 7:00 pm, we will transition into the chapel for praise and worship, a keynote presentation by Mark Hollcraft, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Mark, the keynote speaker, is the Director of Real Presence Radio and will be unpacking our event theme titled Behold. Feel free to join us for any or all aspects of the event. If you have any questions, please contact Brady Borslien at the Diocese of Fargo. 701-356-7910.

**Bishop's Folda's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday:** All are invited to join St. Mary's Cathedral Parish in celebrating Bishop Folda's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday on **Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>**. A pulled pork and hot dog lunch will be served by the KCs after the 10:00 am Mass. The celebration will be held in the Sacred Heart Circle in front of St. Mary's Cathedral, 619 7th St N, Fargo.

**Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages:** Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program that has helped hundreds of thousands of hurting married couples turn the tide, find new hope, and rediscover the love that initially brought them together. Surveys have shown that 3 out of 4 couples who complete the entire program are still married five years later with stronger, healthier marriages. Retrouvaille will be held locally in Fargo the weekends of October 22-24, 2021, March 11-13, 2022 and October 7-9, 2022. For more information visit: [HelpOurMarriage.com](http://HelpOurMarriage.com) or contact them at (701)356-7962 or via email at: [RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org](mailto:RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org)

#### This week's Stewardship moment:

*"Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not." ~ Exodus 16:4*

When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, the surplus became wormy and rotten. In the same way today, self-reliance, pride and ego leads to hoarding and excessive surplus of goods and money. Living a stewardship lifestyle helps us discern our "wants" from our "needs". Living a grateful and generous lifestyle reminds us that God will provide all that we need and that we have plenty to share.



Council 9477

**St. Leo's  
Knights of Columbus  
Corn & Brat Feed  
Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 - 7:30 pm  
Free will offering**

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Cardell Biggers and family on the death of her mother, Sandi Olund.

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



#### 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 purchase. Cost of cards is 50¢, please place money in envelope provided and return to parish office. All proceeds go to the mission.

**Job Opportunities:** There are many job openings within the Fargo Diocese area. Check out the list on the bulletin board in the church entry.