

PASTOR’S NOTES

Preplanning . . . . . 10 days out —

Lent is just 10 days away!

Usually Lent sneaks up on us and all of a sudden we find ourselves in the midst of deciding of how to fruitfully engage the spirit of Lent. Lent challenges us to an intensification of the three legs of the spiritual life — **prayer, almsgiving and fasting**. These three legs of the spiritual life are directly related to the three basic relationships that comprise our lives:

- 1) our relationship with God [prayer];
- 2) our relationship with others [almsgiving];
- 3) our relationship with ourselves [fasting].

Here are some preliminary Lenten thoughts for your consideration:

- > in what ways could Lent 2023 be more rich in prayer?
  - \* celebrate daily Mass when able;
  - \* begin every meal time with a prayer of thanks to the Lord;
  - \* read a little something about each of the 12 saints whose feast days fall during this 40-day Lenten season {consult the church calendar for the 12 saints days};
  - \* pray Stations of the Cross on Lenten Friday evenings;
  - \* participate in the Sunday evening Lenten Ecumenical Services;
  - \* plan to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation {go to Confession} at one of the many area Lenten Reconciliation Services;
  - \* make a special effort to attend all the Holy Week liturgies [Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening].
- > in what ways could Lent 2023 be more attentive to the needs of others {almsgiving}?
  - \* phone calls; Easter greeting cards; visits to persons in nursing homes, prison, hospitals or home-bound; more intentional family time;
  - \* being generous to our Lenten canister collections and the special collections on Ash Wednesday and Holy Thursday;
  - \* strive towards tithing and/or sacrificial church offertory giving;
  - \* support the God’s Gift Appeal of the Diocese of Fargo.
- > in what ways could Lent 2023 be more self-disciplined {fasting}?
  - \* choose a spiritual or corporal work of mercy as a particular goal for this Lent;
    - [corporal: feed the hungry; give drink to the thirsty; shelter the homeless; clothe the naked; visit the sick; visit the imprisoned; bury the dead]
    - [spiritual: instruct the ignorant; admonish the sinner; counsel the doubtful; comfort the sorrowful; bear wrongs patiently; forgive injuries; pray for the living and the dead]
  - \* honor both Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as days of **fast** [only 1 full meal with the other two being much smaller] and **abstinence** [no meat]
  - \* honor Lenten Fridays as days of **abstinence** [no meat];
  - \* make a concerted effort to break the rule of a disordered passion in one’s life {alcohol, porn, drugs, tobacco, unnecessary screen time, etc.}.



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



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
February 12, 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 Feb 12:

Mon - Feb 13 – 9:00 am – **Eva Garman** by Casey & Anna Garman  
Tues - Feb 14 - 9:00 am - **+Souls in purgatory**  
St. Leo’s — NO 9 am Daily Mass  
Wed – Feb 15 - 9:00 am - **+Janice Muscha** by Verna Alverson  
Thurs – Feb 16 – 9:00 am - **+Frances Farrell** by Paul Nelson  
Fri – Feb 17 – 9:00 am - **+Souls in purgatory**  
Sat - Feb 18 - 5:00 pm - **+Joe Franck** by **Bill & Mona Franck**  
Sun - Feb 19 – **St. Thomas - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes**  
St. Leo’s - 10:30 am - Special intention by Sandie Nystrom

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:  
Bea Bachmeier: 347-5555  
Kelsey Lako: 793-7088  
Maintenance: Paul & Sherry Radermacher  
Phone: 701-793-7740; 701-793-7798

St. Leo’s Directors: Dave Glennon & Micah Bartholomay  
St. Thomas Directors: Larry Zaun & Gary Milbrandt

Sacrament of Reconciliation  
at St. Leo’s  
4:00 - 4:45 pm Saturday  
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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

Wed., Feb 15 - RE classes - see below  
Thurs., Feb 16 - 7:00 pm - Inquiry class on the Catholic Faith  
Tues., Feb 21 - 7:00 pm - Education Committee meeting at the rectory  
**Wed., Feb 22 - Ash Wednesday - 5:30 pm - Mass at St. Thomas in Buffalo**  
**7:00 pm - Mass at St. Leo's**  
**NO RE Classes**  
Thurs., Feb 23 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Area Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
Mon., Feb 27 - 6:30 pm - Eucharist Parent Meeting

Religious Education Class Times — Wed., Feb 15<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



**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.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	Saturday Feb 18 5:00 pm St. Leo's	Sunday Feb 19 8:30 am St. Thomas	Sunday Feb 19 10:30 am St. Leo's
Lector	Volunteer needed	Keith Biggers	Steve Carvell
Eucharistic Ministers	Gary Grommesh Delores Grommesh	Kristi Hovelson Linda Milbrandt	Micah Bartholomay Joan Carvell Jake Lako Deb Werner Jake Werner
Altar Servers	Burchill Family Hayden Faleide	Carly Hovelson Damien Norrie	Bartholomay Family Lucas Miller
Offertory Collectors	Volunteers needed	Gary & Linda Milbrandt	Volunteers needed
Gift Bearers	Adam Gunkel Family	Frank Biggers Family	Dustin Rupp Family
Lead Rosary	Mona Franck		Alexia Kieffer

NEWS AND NOTES

Ash Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Mass Schedule:

5:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas  
7:00 pm Mass at St. Leo's

We are looking for Mass servers, Mass Coordinator and EMHC volunteers for the Ash Wednesday Mass. A sign up sheet is located in the church entry.

**Lenten Canisters, Palms and Nails:**  
**If you have any old Lenten Canisters at home, we ask that you please return them as soon as possible. This helps us to defray the cost of purchasing new canisters for this year's Lenten Season. *Each canister costs around \$1.***

Also, if you have any **nails** and old **palms** you can return them to the church. There is a basket available in the church entry for palms. *Thank you.*

**New Life Center Women's Auxiliary:** Since 1953 the New Life Center Auxiliary has been supporting the important work of New Life Center to help people move from homeless and hurting to whole and healthy. The Auxiliary is currently looking for new members to join their organization. For more information about the Auxiliary please see the flyer on the bulletin board or contact them at: [NLCAuxiliary@gmail.com](mailto:NLCAuxiliary@gmail.com)

**Want to hear how a Catholic School Education can make a difference in a young person's life?** On the bulletin board in the church entry is a testimony to having a Catholic Education by Giovanni Nasello, a senior and the student body president at Shanley High School in Fargo. Please take a few moments to read his thoughts.

This week's Stewardship moment:

*"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." ~ Matthew 5:20*

The Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear — it's the love that you have in your heart, for God and others, that will et you to heaven. Simply following church rules to the letter and not out of love, does not necessarily put you on the path to heaven. Attending Sunday Mass and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of being a modern day Pharisee.



Council 9477

**KC Baked Potato Bar:** St. Leo's Knights of Columbus will be serving a Baked Potato Brunch on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Spirit of Life Center. Everyone is welcome.

**The Knights of Columbus** will go ice fishing on February 26<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup> weather permitting. The fish caught will be used for the KC fish fry to be held on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. All members are encouraged to help. For more information please contact the Grand Knight, Micah Bartholomay at (701)404-0527.

**Catholic Daughters to Meet:** Court St. Ann #261 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Anthony's Church in Fargo, (710 10<sup>th</sup> St. N) beginning Mass at 5:15 pm; meal to follow and meeting at 6:30 pm. Members are invited to bring non-perishable donations. If interested in CDA, please join us at our meeting. Any questions, please send an email to [regentctstann@gmail.com](mailto:regentctstann@gmail.com).

**Catholic Man Night:** Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at St. Anthony's Catholic Church (710 10th St S, Fargo). 6:00 pm—7:00 pm Adoration & Confession. 7:00 pm—8:00 pm Meal with talk and short discussion by with Jim McKinstra, Social Justice Coordinator. Free will offering. All men are invited, bring a friend!