

PASTOR’S NOTES

St. Valentine’s Day – *what’s the scoop??*

At this past Wednesday night’s RE classes I asked students what ‘big day’ was coming up and a couple responded – *Valentine’s Day*. When I asked what day was St. Valentine’s feast day? – a number said February 14th. Seems logical, but when you look at the Church calendar of saints that has been handed out, February 14th lists Saints Cyril and Methodius as the saints of that day. **So, what’s the scoop???**

The Church does record the death of a martyred Roman priest name Valentine on February 14th in the mid 200s. He was buried in a Roman cemetery. After these facts the story becomes quite murky and a legend emerged that before his martyrdom and while imprisoned Valentine healed his jailer’s daughter of blindness. Just prior to his execution he supposedly wrote that girl a note signing it ‘*Your Valentine*’. Thus, over the centuries has come the practice of sending Valentine cards. Beyond Valentine’s martyrdom nothing of this legend story is historically verifiable.

Since Vatican II [1962-65] and the revision of the Roman calendar of saints, the Church has much more strictly adhered to the principle of being historically accurate about the lives of saints whom are put forth for our veneration.

In the case of St. Valentine there is no verifiable evidence of his connection to the modern notion of romantic love that has become culturally associated with what we know as Valentine’s Day. This notion of romantic love and its connection to this time of year is probably more connected to pagan customs which noted this is the time of year that birds begin to mate and soon festivities about human romantic love began to emerge.

In today’s Church calendar we celebrate the saints - Cyril and Methodius on February 14th!!

Faithful Service & called to Faithful Service

Membership on any of our five (5) parish committees at St. Leo’s begins in January each year. Presently committee members are asked to serve for a 3-year term renewable once — *meaning a committee member can serve a maximum of six (6) years*.

This year a number of committee members have ended six years of faithful service to St. Leo’s parish and another group of parishioners have ‘stepped to the plate’ to give of their time and talent in service to parish life at St. Leo’s.

With deepest gratitude and thanks I would like to recognize those who have faithfully served St. Leo’s for the past six years:

- On the Finance Committee: **Dan Metzger** and **Allison Flynn**
- On the Liturgy Committee: **Rose Mary Eldridge** and **Tony Roth**
- On the Cemetery Committee: **Alexia Kieffer** and **Kyle Scherweit**
- On the Education Committee: **Virjean Cramer**, **Mona Franck**, **Kelsey Lako** and **Karren Bartholomay**
- On the Social Concerns Committee: **Amanda Gunkel**, **Kristin Faleide** and **Mary Ellen Nilles**

New members starting this January: Adam Diemert & Sandra Keller [Finance]; Sheyenne Bierscheid & Anna Garman [Liturgy]; Andy Levos & Stu Romsdal [Cemetery]; Sacha Hauschulz, Natalie Keller, Sharyn Melting & Shannon White [Social Concerns]; Nicole Hushka, Michelle Kappes, & Mallory Poulson [Education].



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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 13, 2022

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 13:

Mon - Feb 14 – 11:00 am - **+Marie Hong Tran** by Lisa Tran
Tues - Feb 15 – 9:00 am St. Thomas - **+Souls in purgatory**
St. Leo’s — NO MASS
Wed - Feb 16 – 9:00 am - **+Ann Gietzen** by Sandie Nystrom
Thurs - Feb 17 – 9:00 am - **+Jerry Volk** by Carol Nilles
Fri., Feb 18 – 9:00 am - **+Souls in purgatory**
Sat - Feb 19 - 5:00 pm - Special intention by Kathy Quinn
Sun - Feb 20 – St. Thomas - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes
St. Leo’s - 10:30 am - +Leona Volk by Adam Keller

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer
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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.

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

PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS


Sun., Feb 13 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
 Tues., Feb 15 - 7:00 pm - Confirmation Parent meeting
 Wed., Feb 16 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas
 6:30 pm - St. Leo's RE classes; Simple Supper at 6 pm
 K/1st grade - Group B meets
 6:15 pm - Junior class meets
 Sun., Feb 20 - 9:00 am - KC Breakfast in the Spirit of Life center
 Wed., Feb 23 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting at the rectory
 Sun., Feb 27 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
 Tues., Mar 1 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy Committee meeting at the rectory
Wed., Mar 2 - Ash Wednesday- 5:30 pm - Mass at St. Thomas in Buffalo
7:00 pm - Mass at St. Leo's in Casselton



Help Support our Cameroon Card Mission: Valentine's Day Cards along with an assortment of cards for all occasions are available for purchase in church entry. Cost of cards is 50¢, please place money in envelope provided and return to parish office. All proceeds go to the mission.

Palms: If you have old palms at home, please bring them to church. We will use them for ashes on Ash Wednesday.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	Saturday Feb 19 5:00 pm <i>St. Leo's</i>	Sunday Feb 20 8:30 am <i>St. Thomas</i>	Sunday Feb 20 10:30 am <i>St. Leo's</i>
Lector	Renee Anderson	Keith Biggers	Steve Carvell
Eucharistic Ministers	Delores Grommesh		Deb Werner
Altar Servers	Hayden Faleide Burchill Family	Clay Hovelson Emercyn Killoran	Cassie/Elise Bartholomay Mikaela Prochnow
Offertory Collectors	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Larry & Penny Zaun	<i>Volunteers needed</i>
Gift Bearers	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Mike & Lisa Zahnow	<i>Volunteers needed</i>

NEWS AND NOTES

Special prayers and blessings to the faithful couples that help us see the presence and faithfulness of God in our lives:

Jim & Paulette Schmitt - 54 years on February 17

Prayers and Sympathy: Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Arlene Kieffer and her family on death of her brother, Richard Mills.

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

SEARCH Retreat for Youth and Young Adults... Do you want to grow closer to God in this New Year? Experience God in a personal and real way. **SEARCH** for Christian Maturity has a retreat coming up March 4-6, 2022 at Maryvale Convent in Valley City, ND. Youth and young adults, 16 and older are invited to attend. Details and application can be found at:

<https://www.fargodiocese.org/search4cm> or call Dori at (952)210-2219. **Applications are due no later than Monday, February 14th.**

REDEEMED Trusted Sister Women's Conference 2022: This Monday, February 14th is the last day to get the early registration discount of \$50 for the Redeemed "*Trusted Sister*" Women's Conference scheduled for March 4th and 5th. (Cost after Feb. 14 is \$75). You can attend the conference in-person at the Delta Hotel, by Marriot, 1635 42nd St S, Fargo or at one of the four satellite locations around the diocese. Friday night will include a keynote and adoration with music by The Vigil Project and opportunities for confession. Saturday will begin with Mass with Bishop John Folda, along with keynotes from renowned Catholic speakers. Free CEU's are available for nurses, counselors, and social workers. Visit [fargodiocese.org/redeemedwomen](https://www.fargodiocese.org/redeemedwomen) for all the details. Please see the poster on the bulletin board for more info.

This week's Stewardship moment:

"Blessed are you when people hate you,...exclude and insult you, and denounce your name...on account of the Son of Man." ~ Luke 6:22

All of us have been in situations when someone has made a negative comment or joke about God or our Catholic faith. How did you respond? Did you stay silent or pretend to go along with the crowd because you didn't want to cause waves and then, later, you felt bad? Know that God is with you all the time; the Holy Spirit will put the right words in your mouth. Pray for the strength and courage to proclaim our faith to others, especially during uncomfortable situations.



Knights of Columbus Breakfast: Serving French toast and sausage Sunday, Feb 20th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Spirit of Life Center. Free will offering, Proceeds to benefit Special Olympics.

You are invited to join the Catholic Daughters of the Americas! Court Holy Cross #2718 is meeting on February 24 at 7:00pm at Holy Cross Catholic Church in the multipurpose room. All Catholic women ages 18+ are invited to join. Catholic Daughters of the Americas strive to embrace the principles of faith working through love in the promotion of justice, equality and the advancement of human rights and human dignity for all mankind. *Why should you join?*
 ~ To deepen your spiritual life and share your faith.
 ~ To promote love of God, church and country.
 ~ To share your talents, gain leadership skills and develop new friendships.
 For more information, please contact Lisa at 701-799-2397.

Mardi Gras Sunday: St. Maurice Catholic Church in Kindred, 5313 165th Ave SE, is hosting Mardi Gras Sunday on Feb. 27th from 11 am to 1:30 pm. The day's events will include a potluck lunch, Silent Auction and raffle, with drawing at 1:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.