

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 2022 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 13 saints whose feast days fall during this 40-day Lenten season {consult the church calendar for the 13 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.
- > in what ways could Lent 2022 be more attentive to the needs of others {almsgiving?}
 - * phone calls, Easter greeting cards, visits to persons in nursing homes, 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 2022 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.}.

Notice —

This coming Friday afternoon and Saturday morning and afternoon (February 25 and 26) you may notice some strangers in our facilities. The Knights of Columbus Council of St. Paul’s Newman Center of NDSU will be using St. Leo’s facilities for a time of retreat and spiritual reflection/renewal. We welcome them and pray they have a blessed and spiritually fruitful time.



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



SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 20, 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 20:

Mon - Feb 21 – 9:00 am - +**Marie Hong Tran** by Lisa Tran
Tues - Feb 22 – 9:00 am St. Thomas - +**Souls in purgatory**
St. Leo’s — NO MASS
Wed - Feb 23 – 9:00 am - +**Linus Kensok** by Bea Bachmeier
Thurs - Feb 24 – 9:00 am - +**Alice Wiest** by Keith & Barb Marschke
Fri., Feb 25 – 9:00 am - +**Souls in purgatory**
Sat - Feb 26 - 5:00 pm - +Mindy Duttonhefer by Hanna Schneider
Sun - Feb 27 – St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - +Gary Siverson by Donna Siverson
St. Thomas - 10:30 am - For the people of our parishes

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer
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Secretary: Delores Grommesh
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RE Coordinator: Patty Roth/Nicole Scherweit
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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


Wed., Feb 23 - 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 A meets
 6:15 pm - Senior class meets
 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
 Sun., Mar 6 - 9:00 am- 12:00 pm- KC Breakfast in the Spirit of Life Center
 Thurs., Mar 10 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center



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 26 5:00 pm <i>St. Leo's</i>	Sunday Feb 27 8:30 am <i>St. Leo's</i>	Sunday Feb 27 10:30 am <i>St. Thomas</i>
Lector	Tony Roth	Fred Eldridge	Alecia Killoran
Eucharistic Ministers	Paulette Schmitt	Dave Glennon	
Altar Servers	Lilly Roth Olivea Roth Evelyn Roth	Sarah Monilaws Glennon Family	Hallie Besette Claire Halland
Offertory Collectors	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Larry & Penny Zaun
Gift Bearers	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Travis Besette Family

NEWS AND NOTES

Ash Wednesday, March 2nd

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.

Prayers and Sympathy: Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Roberta Phipps and her family on the death of her husband, Grant and to Tricia Gegelman and her family on death of her brother-in-law, Ronn Schmidt.

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 pot-luck lunch, Silent Auction and raffle, with drawing at 1:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

REDEEMED Trusted Sister Women's Conference 2022: Friday, March 4th and Saturday, March 5th. Cost 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 for all the details. Please see the poster on the bulletin board for more info.



Knights of Columbus Breakfast: Serving French toast and sausage today, 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.

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 March 11-13, 2022 in Fargo. Registration deadline is March 7th. For more information or to register, visit: HelpOurMarriage.com or contact us at (701)356-7962 or via email at: RedRiver-Retrouvaille@fargodiocese.org

Looking for a great Lenten activity? How about a CURSILLO (pronounced ker-see-oh) Retreat? Retreats will be held at St. Francis Retreat Center in Hankinson, ND. The men's retreat will be held March 3-6 and the women's March 10-13. For more information please see the bulletin board in the church entry for contact numbers.

This week's Stewardship moment:

"But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend without expecting anything back..." ~ Luke 6:35

Easier said than done, right? However, if we are to imitate Christ, most of us need to practice mercy and compassion more frequently. Start with the little daily annoyances that we experience, the unkind word or hateful glance we receive. Instead of plotting revenge on that person, try saying a quick prayer for that person. Praying for our enemies doesn't change them, it changes us. Mercy and compassion will keep us on the path to holiness..