


PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Mon., Feb 9 – 6:30 pm – Confirmation Parent meeting #2 in the Spirit of Life Center  
Tues., Feb 10 – 7:00 pm – Cemetery Committee meeting at the rectory  
Wed., Feb 11 – RE Classes – see below  
Thurs., Feb 12 – 7:00 pm – Inquiry Class on the Catholic faith  
Sun., Feb 15 – 9:00 am – KC Breakfast in the Spirit of Life Center  
**Wed., Feb 18 – Ash Wednesday – 5:15 pm – Mass at St. Thomas in Buffalo  
7:00 pm – Mass at St. Leo’s**

**Religious Education Class Times — Wed., Feb 11<sup>th</sup>**  
St. Thomas RE classes — 3:45 pm  
St. Leo’s RE classes: Simple Supper - 6:00 pm  
Grades K– 5, 7, 8, 10 — 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm  
Grades 6 & 9 – Class A — 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm  
11<sup>th</sup> grade — 6:15 - 7:45 pm

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Jake Lako and his family on the death of his grandfather, Alan Lako.  
*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. —Matthew 5:4*

Upcoming Ministry Schedule			
	<b>Saturday Feb 14</b> <b>5:00 pm</b> <i>St. Leo’s</i> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sat of February</b>	<b>Sunday Feb 15</b> <b>8:30 am</b> <i>St. Thomas</i>	<b>Sunday Sun Feb 15</b> <b>10:30 am</b> <i>St. Leo’s</i> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sun of February</b>
	Mark Voss	Judy Von Bank	Volunteer Needed
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Lori Howard Bill Franck	Jurgen Suhr Penny Zaun	Micah Bartholomay Jake Lako Collin Miller Deb Werner Jake Werner
<i>Altar Servers</i>	Addison Hushka Noah Hushka Payton Neumann	Abigail Killoran Liam Biggers	Elise Bartholomay Brynne Bartholomay Kayleigh Prochnow Natalie Prochnow
<i>Offertory Collectors</i>	Volunteer needed	Gary & Linda Milbrandt	Volunteer needed
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Volunteer needed	Roger & Marsha Kasowski	Volunteer needed
<i>Lead Rosary</i>	Richard Muscha		<b>Volunteer Needed</b>

NEWS AND NOTES


**Join us to sing from the choir loft!** “Choir Sunday” will be **Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** at the 10:30 am Mass. Anyone middle school and older is welcome is to sing. ***Gentlemen, we need you too!*** We will meet in the choir loft from 9:30-10 am that day to run through these songs: #730, #419, #453, #418, #590. YouTube is a great way to practice at home beforehand. Contact Wanda Mangin with any questions at [wanda.mangin@yahoo.com](mailto:wanda.mangin@yahoo.com)

**Cantata Practice:** All singers are invited to join the Cas-selton United Singers in performing this year’s cantata on Palm Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at St. Leo’s Church. **Prac-tices will begin on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm and will be held every Sunday at 4 pm at St. Leo’s Church.** If you have any questions please contact Maari Loy at (701)261-1069.

**Ash Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**Mass Schedule:**  
5:15 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.*  
**Palms, Nails and Lenten canisters:**  
If you have palms, nails and Lenten canisters at home, we ask that you please return them before Lent begins. *Thank you.*


**Did you collect all Jubilee Pilgrimage site coins?** If you did, GREAT! Please call the parish office. We would like to recognize this spiritual effort. Thank you.

**This week’s Stewardship moment:**  
*“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” ~ Matthew 5:16*  
The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people, and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Generosity is a by-product of a grateful lifestyle. The more we recognize God’s gifts, the more we want to share them. Good stewards recognize that God is working through them, and they don’t put themselves above the people they have been called to help.



Council 9477

**Knights of Columbus Breakfast:**  
Serving pancakes and  
Langdon sausage **Sun.,  
Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00  
am to 12:00 pm** in the Spirit of  
Life Center. Free will offering.



**Contribution Statements/Annual Letter:**  
To help us cut down on the cost of postage, your Contribution Statements/Annual Letter will be available for pick up in the church entry after Mass, or you may stop by the parish office during the week to pick it up. Thank you.

**Catholic Daughters to Meet:** Court St. Ann #261 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Anthony's Church (710 10<sup>th</sup> St. S, Fargo) beginning with Mass at 5:15 PM; meal to follow and meeting at 6:30 pm. Members are invited to bring non-perishable food item donations. If interested in CDA, please join us at our meeting. Any questions, please send an email to Peggy: [pmmots25@gmail.com](mailto:pmmots25@gmail.com)

**Catholic Man Night:** Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, at Nativity Catholic Church (1825 11<sup>th</sup> St S, Fargo, ND). 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Adoration & Confession; 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm meal and talk. The guest speaker is Fr. Kevin Lorsung. Meal is a free will offering. **All men are invited, bring a friend!**

PASTOR’S NOTES

Getting a head-start on ‘the Forty’

The Forty is the 40 days of Lent, which will begin in ten days on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wednesday). Forty (40) is that symbolic number in Scripture representing a time of change, a passing from one way of life to a new reality. In Noah’s time it rained 40 days and nights before God restores his covenant; Moses spent 40 days and nights on Mt. Sinai before receiving God’s Ten Commandments; the Israelites spent 40 years in the desert before entering into the Promised Land; Christ spent 40 days in the desert before beginning his public ministry that ends in the saving mystery of His Death and Resurrection.

In this same spirit we go through a 40-day ‘desert experience’ (Lent) as the pathway to Easter joy. Our Ash Wednesday Gospel will call us to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. **These are the essential practices of a well lived spiritual life.** During Lent the Church encourages a special intensification of these spiritual practices.

In praying we recognize all honor and glory belongs to GOD! Living depends on praying!!

- Perhaps this year we will enter the spirit of prayer – some possibilities to explore:
- > attend Ash Wednesday Mass
  - > attend daily Mass {when possible}
  - > attend Friday Stations of the Cross
  - > celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation {Lenten Reconciliation Services or Saturday afternoon}
  - > attend Holy Week services: {Chrism Mass, Tenebrae, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil}
  - > prayer before every meal
  - > morning & evening prayer
  - > attend Lenten Ecumenical Services

In fasting we recognize our need to discipline passions and excesses in our lives so as not to become indifferent and ungrateful to God and lose our focus for doing what is good, right and holy.

- Perhaps this year we will enter the spirit of fasting – some possibilities to explore:
- > give up some amenity (e.g.- food item, unnecessary computer time, TV/movies, etc.)
  - > keep days of abstinence (no meat) on all Lenten Fridays
  - > keep days of fast ( 2 small daily meals) and abstinence {Ash Wednesday and Good Friday}
  - > fast from the 7 capital sins: {pride, lust, greed, gluttony, sloth, anger, envy}
  - > come early for Sunday Mass and prayerfully dispose oneself for the Eucharist
  - > honor the 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment by refraining from all unnecessary work of Sunday

In almsgiving we ‘die to ourselves’ and live for other people’s highest good {Shalom}.

- Perhaps this year we will enter the spirit of almsgiving – some possibilities to explore:
- > attend to the corporal works of mercy: {feed the hungry; give drink to the thirsty; clothe the naked; shelter the homeless; visit the imprisoned; visit the sick; bury the dead}
  - > serve a meal for the homeless at Churches United for the Homeless or Salvation Army
  - > attend to the spiritual works of mercy: {admonish the sinner; instruct the ignorant; counsel the doubtful; comfort the sorrowful; bear wrongs patiently; forgive injuries; pray for the living and the dead}
  - > give generously to the Ash Wednesday collection, the Holy Thursday collection, the Lenten canisters
  - > strive towards financial giving of tithing, i.e., 5% to your local parish, 4% to personal charities, and 1% to the diocesan God’s Gift Appeal
  - > pray for all those joining the Church this Easter Vigil



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



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
February 8, 2026

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 8:

Mon – Feb 9 – 9:00 am – +Souls in purgatory  
Tues – Feb 10 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – NO MASS  
NO 9 am Mass at St. Leo’s  
Wed – Feb 11 – 9:00 am – +Don Nilles by Don & Audrey Cramer  
Thurs – Feb 12 – 9:00 am – Anna Garman  
Fri – Feb 13 – 9:00 am – Eva Garman by Anna Garman  
Saturday – Feb 14 – 5:00 pm – +Theresa Dooley by Her children  
Sunday – Feb 15 – St. Thomas - 8:30 am – +Bob Von Bank by Judith Von Bank  
St. Leo’s - 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  
**E-mail:** stleo@casselton.net

**RE Coordinator:** Patty Roth  
**Phone:** 701-347-4609  
**E-mail:** dre@stleosnd.org

**Website:** www.stleosnd.org

**Prayer Chain:** Kelsey Lako  
Please call or email the parish office.

**Maintenance:** Paul & Sherry Radermacher  
**Phone:** 701-793-7740; 701-793-7798

**St. Leo’s Directors:** Dave Glennon & Micah Bartholomay  
**St. Thomas Directors:** Gary Milbrandt & Flint Kasowski

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 or by appointment.

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