

## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS


Sun., July 5 – NO Beverage and Bite after 10:30 am Mass  
 Mon., July 20– Thurs., July 23 – 1:00pm– 4:00pm– Vacation Bible School at St. Leo’s

**St. Leo’s Vacation Bible School** will be held on July 20-23, 2026 daily from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Children grade K-5<sup>th</sup> can attend. The cost is \$20 per child with a family max of \$50. Older kids and adults are welcome to volunteer. **Registration deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>.** Registration forms are available on the table in the church entry. Contact Patty at [dre@stleosnd.org](mailto:dre@stleosnd.org) for more



**Ministry Schedule for upcoming Holiday weekend– July 4<sup>th</sup> (First weekend of July):** Holiday weekends often find people out of town and regularly scheduled liturgical ministers are looking for substitutes. If you will be around and can help– sign-up sheets are in the main church entry. If regularly scheduled ministers will be around, please sign up your names on the sign-up sheets so as to avoid any confusion. Thank you.

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	Saturday July 4 5:00 pm St. Leo’s	Sunday July 5 10:30 am St. Leo’s	Sunday July 5 8:30 am St. Thomas
			Gary Milbrandt
<b>Lector</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>Please see sign-up sheets in the church entry.</b></p> <p><i>If this is your normally scheduled weekend and you will be here, we ask that you please sign up. Thank you.</i></p> </div>		Joni Biggers Keith Biggers
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>			Hannah Besette Ali Killoran
<b>Altar Servers</b>			
<b>Offertory Collectors</b>	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	Jurgen & Barb Suhr
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	Flint & Dee Kasowski
<b>Lead Rosary</b>	Richard Muscha	Volunteer needed	

## NEWS AND NOTES

### What is beyond the words — THANK YOU???

Last Sunday’s farewell and retirement party for me was simply fantastic and very deeply appreciated. I was able to greet many friends I have met along my priesthood journey. We shared wonderful memories of God’s providential care of bringing us together, sharing spiritual moments of both tough times and joyous celebrations, and the grace of spiritual friendship. What could be more wonderful?


All of this came together because of the time and talent of so many good parishioners of St. Leo’s and St. Thomas parishes.

The church was alive with the sound of music and praise – thanks for our ever-faithful group of musicians! I heard many kudos about the great food and savory meat – thanks to Tony Roth and that band of brothers called St. Leo’s Knights of Columbus! The speakers did a marvelous job of keeping things flowing along with ‘*interesting commentary*’ – thanks to Dave Glennon, Gary Milbrandt, Jake Lako, and Fr. Paul Duchscherer! There were the many who did the ‘*behind the scenes grunt work*’ of setting up tables and chairs both inside and outside as well as the eventual work of take-down and clean-up – thanks so much! Then there was the planning group who organized and set in place this special day and those who served as hospitality ministers at the party itself – blessings to you! A very special note of thanks to Delores Grommesh and Sue Knoll for coordinating and directing this well-crafted party.

Beyond all of this are the many cards and gifts. I have just finished opening and reading your many comments. Your kind words of gratitude and love are overwhelming — thank you! thank you! thank you! Thank you for 17 years of helping to build the Kingdom of God on these North Dakota plains surrounding the communities of Casselton and Buffalo. You have left a deep mark of love on my soul and I will be forever grateful for you and my years of priestly service at St. Leo’s and St. Thomas.

**With the deepest of love and thanksgiving — Fr. Ermer**

**Pilgrimage to Rome with Fr. Mulligan!:** Interested in a pilgrimage to Rome? Fr. Mulligan and Mary Hanbury will be leading a pilgrimage to Italy from Monday, March 1 through Wednesday, March 10, 2027. The pilgrimage will include visits to Rome, Assisi, and Subiaco. Estimated cost is \$3,360 per person, which includes airfare, transportation, lodging, supper, and admission tickets to museums and other sites. Pilgrims will be responsible for breakfast and lunch. Please note: this pilgrimage involves a significant amount of walking each day, approximately 5–12 miles daily. Space is limited to 4 pilgrims. For additional details or questions please contact Fr. Mulligan at 701-347-4609; email: [sean.mulligan@fargodiocese.org](mailto:sean.mulligan@fargodiocese.org)

 **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Bishop’s Charity Golf Classic Putt 4 a Purpose:** Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at Rose Creek Golf Course, Fargo, ND beginning at 10:00 am. Join the fun and fellowship for a round of golf, dinner and prizes. Register three golfers and bring your Priest, Deacon or Seminarian as your 4<sup>th</sup> player for free. Register online at: [www.fargodiocese.org/puttpurpose](http://www.fargodiocese.org/puttpurpose)  
 For more information see the flyer on the bulletin board or contact Steve Schons at the Diocese at (701) 356-87925 or email [steve.schons@fargodiocese.org](mailto:steve.schons@fargodiocese.org)

### This week’s Stewardship moment:

“...whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” ~ Matthew 10:38

Pope Benedict XVI said “The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness”. “Comfort” puts me first. “Picking up your cross and following Jesus” puts God and others first. Why settle for comfort when you can achieve greatness! Pick up your cross, ask Jesus for guidance on using your gifts and live the life God intended for you!

## PASTOR'S NOTES

### Welcome Fr. Mulligan!

I grew up on our family farm four miles north of Grand Forks. My parents are James and Jeanne Mulligan. I'm the second oldest of four children, with two sisters, Jenny and Jamie, and a younger brother, Mike. They're all married and have children.

Along with my younger siblings, I was homeschooled from kindergarten through 12th grade, but played football and track via the public and Catholic schools. After high school, I attended the University of North Dakota from 2002–2006. During my time at UND, I became very involved at the Newman Center and with FOCUS. Through those experiences, along with being inspired by the lives of the saints and mystics, I developed a deep love for prayer and for helping others encounter Christ. It was there that I heard Jesus calling me to give my life completely to Him and to serve His people as a priest.

I graduated from UND with a bachelor's degree in General Studies and a minor in Music before entering seminary in 2006. My first year was spent at St. John Vianney Seminary in Denver for a spirituality year (2006–2007). I then studied philosophy at Cardinal Muench Seminary from 2007–2009 before returning to Denver to complete my theology studies from 2009–2013.

I was ordained to the priesthood on June 7, 2013, and my first assignment was at St. James Basilica in Jamestown and its surrounding parishes. In 2016, I was assigned to Holy Spirit in Fargo. In 2018, I became pastor of the parishes in Wimbledon, Dazey, and Kensal. In 2024, our parish cluster changed, and I began serving Sanborn instead of Kensal. Today, I am honored and grateful to serve as pastor of St. Leo's in Casselton and St. Thomas in Buffalo!

When I'm not serving the parish, I enjoy fishing (both open water and ice fishing), snowboarding, playing board games, biking, running, lifting weights, being physically active and, most of all, simply spending time with people. I also enjoy teasing people a bit and sharing plenty of laughs along the way!

The greatest passion of my life is God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. I love spending time with Him in prayer, growing deeper in my relationship with Him, and helping others come to know Him personally. Nothing amazes me more than God's incredible love and mercy - it never gets old! My deepest desire is to help people discover just how infinitely, personally, and deeply loved they are by Him.

I'd love the opportunity to come and meet you and your family! If I may be so bold as to ask... If you'd like to invite me over for breakfast, lunch, or supper (or all three! LOL! I don't cook!) I'd be delighted! I'm not a picky eater, I'll eat almost anything. My nutritionist wants me to eat more protein and vegetables, but I don't always listen to her! LOL! Or you're always welcome to come over to the rectory. I can only make two things—popcorn and coffee—but I'd love to visit with you.

I am truly excited to meet you, get to know you, and love you! Please don't hesitate to reach out. I look forward to the privilege of serving you and your family. God bless you!



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



## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME June 28, 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 June 28:

Mon – June 29 – 9:00 am – **NO MASS**

Tues – June 30 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – **NO MASS**

*NO 9 am Mass at St. Leo's*

Wed – July 1 – 9:00 am – **NO MASS**

Thurs – July 2 – 9:00 am – **NO MASS**

Fri – July 3 – 9:00 am – **NO MASS**

**Saturday – July 4 – 5:00 pm – +Mike Eberhardt by Lillian Eberhardt**

**Sunday – July 5 – St. Thomas - 8:30 am – +Lynn Olund by Lydia Biggers**

**St. Leo's - 10:30 am – For the people of our parishes**

### Parish Staff:

**Pastor:** Fr. Sean Mulligan

**E-mail:** sean.mulligan@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

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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 or by appointment.

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