

PASTOR’S NOTES

Lent - taking stock

With this Sunday there are 12 days remaining in this year’s Lenten season. It began with the mark of ashes and a call for prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

In the Gospels of both Matthew and Luke Jesus tells a parable of the rewards that go to servants who are faithful in fulfilling the duties at hand. Matthew says the faithful ones will be put in charge of the Master’s property {Mt. 24:47}. Luke has those servants being seated at table and being waited on by the Master {Lk. 12:37}. It seems to me we would love to be such servants. Such is the hope for each of us as the end of Lent appears on the horizon.

Hopefully our Lenten exercises will end on a high note. Here are some thoughts:

In terms of prayer:

- (1) you are invited to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation here at St. Leo’s on Friday, March 26th at 7 p.m.. There will be six priests to help celebrate this gracious gift of God’s reconciling love and mercy;
- (2) plan on making Holy Week special by attending the many services of that week (*confirm this week’s bulletin insert*).

In terms of fasting:

- (1) ‘double down’ on whatever personal sacrifice or thing you gave up for Lent;
- (2) remember this coming Friday (March 26th) is a day of abstaining from meat and next Friday (Good Friday - April 2nd) is a day of both abstinence and fasting (*eating only two small meals or simply the loaf of bread given out on Holy Thursday evening*).

In terms of almsgiving:

- (1) be generous with your Lenten canisters;
- (2) continue to enter more fully into becoming a tithing household in terms of both Sunday Offertory giving and the diocesan God’s Gift Appeal.

Holy Week – in need of your help!!

The greatest of the Church’s liturgies – **Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil** – will soon be upon us and hopefully this year we will be able to celebrate them.

These liturgies in particular need a lot of volunteers to give worthy worship and praise to our God who left us the gift of his Body and Blood on Holy Thursday, died for our sins on Good Friday, conquered death on Easter and opened the way to heaven on Ascension. ***To God be all honor and glory!*** Please sign up on the volunteers lists at the church entry or if asked to help, please do so willingly.

Holy Thursday needs: bread makers for our fast food on Good Friday; people to carry up the church’s blessed oils; people to have their feet washed; persons to spend time in adoration from the close of Holy Thursday’s liturgy until midnight; people to strip the altar and build ‘our tomb’ in addition to our regular need of musicians, Mass servers, two lectors and at least one person to be Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Good Friday needs: cross bearers for both procession and veneration in addition to our regular need of musicians, Mass servers, two lectors and at least one person to be Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Easter Vigil needs: eight readers; water bearer; 20 persons to dress the altar/altar area; put together vigil candles; prepare/serve Easter Vigil reception in addition to our regular need of musicians, Mass servers, and at least one person to be Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Thank you in advance for your spirit of service.



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 OF LENT
March 21, 2021

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 Mar 21:

Mon - Mar 22 - 9:00 am - +**John ‘Jack’ Ermer** by Brian & Linda Skjerseth
Tues - Mar 23 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - +**Mary Castellano**
St. Leo’s - NO MASS
Wed - Mar 24 - 9:00 am - +**Janice Miller** by Kathryn McGuire
Thurs - Mar 25 - 9:00 am - +**Lois Myers** by Marian Watson
Fri - Mar 26 - 9:00 am - +**Dawson Weiss** by Nicole Hushka
Sat - Mar 27 - 5:00 pm - Steve & Nicole Scherweit by Sandie Nystrom
Sun - Mar 28 - St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes
St. Thomas - 10:30 am - Larry Zaun

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer
E-mail: james.ermer@fargodiocese.org
Secretary: Delores Grommesh
Phone: 701-347-4609
E-mail: stleo@casselton.net
Liturgy/RE: Sue Knoll
Phone: 701-347-4609
Cell: 701-261-2047
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: 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., Mar 21 - 9:00 am - KC Breakfast in the Spirit of Life Center
 Mon., Mar 22 - 7:00 pm - 1st Eucharist Parent Meeting in the Spirit of Life Center
 Wed., Mar 24 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas - Group A
 6:30 pm - Re classes at St. Leo's - Group A, Simple Supper at 6:00 pm
 6:15 pm - Senior class meets
 Wed., Mar 24 - 6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas in Buffalo
 Wed., Mar 24 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting in the Spirit of Life Center
Fri., Mar 26 - 7:00 pm - Lenten Reconciliation Service at St. Leo's
 Sun., Mar 28 - NO Beverage and Bite after 8:30 am Mass
 Sun., Mar 28 - RE 10th grade in Spirit of Life Center



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 a reasonable 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 Mar 27 5:00 pm <i>St. Leo's</i>	Sunday Mar 28 8:30 am <i>St. Leo's</i>	Sunday Mar 28 10:30 am <i>St. Thomas</i>
Lector	Tony Roth	Fred Eldridge	Jackie Vavra Larry Zaun
Eucharistic Ministers	Paulette Schmitt	Denise Bartholomay	
Altar Servers	Lillian Roth Olivea Roth Evelyn Roth	Sarah Monilaws Claire Glennon	Rudi Wendel
Offertory Collectors	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Keith & Joni Biggers
Gift Bearers	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Keith Biggers Family

NEWS AND NOTES

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

Robert & Mary Lynne Snyder - 59 yrs on March 24

HELP NEEDED: There are sign-up sheets in the church entry for the liturgies during Holy Week. Lots of extra help is needed for these awesome celebrations! Please check them out to see where you can help. Easter Sunday falls on April 4th this year and that weekend (Apr. 3/4) is the FIRST weekend of April. People who usually serve on the 1st weekend will not be scheduled unless you sign up on the sheets.



Knights of Columbus Breakfast: Serving pancakes and sausage today, Sunday, March 21st from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm in the Spirit of Life Center. Take out available. Free will offering, *Proceeds will go to the Jeremiah Project.*

Stations of the Cross with Bishop Folda: Bishop Folda will be leading Stations of the Cross at the Fargo abortion clinic (Red River Women's Clinic, 521 1st Ave N, Fargo) at 10:00 am on Good Friday, (Friday, April 2nd). All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to join him.

Lenten Canisters - One Recipient of our Lenten canisters is **Sharehouse:** Located in Fargo, ND, for over 40 years Sharehouse has served adults, and the families of those, challenged by alcoholism, substance abuse, and/or mental health disorders. Their focus is to help clients begin and continue their lives in recovery. Their philosophy of care is based on the understanding that addiction is a chronic disease. Treatment programs use the 12 Steps structure of guiding principles that outline a clear course of action for an individual's recovery from addiction or other behavioral problems. Please be generous in supporting our Lenten charities.

This week's Stewardship moment:

"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - Jeremiah 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for the people we don't know, just as God cares for each of us.

MUSIC FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER at St. Leo's

Everyone is invited to help lead the music for the Holy Triduum- Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday- April 1-4, 2021.

We would love to have you join us for all (or some) of these great liturgies! Call Sue if you have any questions! 701-261-2047

Practice schedule:

Sun., Mar. 28- 9:30- 10:30am

Holy Week Liturgies:

Holy Thursday, April 1, 7:00pm

Good Friday, April 2, 7:00pm

Holy Saturday, April 3, 8:30pm

Easter Sunday, April 4, 10:00am



God's Gift Appeal 2021

Pledge cards and donations may be placed in the offertory collection basket or dropped off at the parish office and we will see they get to the Diocese.