

PASTOR’S NOTES

A week like no other —

Holy Week is a tumultuous week. It begins with joy on Palm Sunday as Jesus enters the city of Jerusalem. It suffers an agonizing death on Good Friday only to be trumped by Easter in which the resurrected Christ declares that death no longer reigns. Holy Week is filled with the Church’s greatest liturgies and ritual celebrations. It is a week rich in prayer rousing our hearts and minds to enter the mystery of Christ’s suffering and death, to meet the resurrected Christ, and to be raised to the glory of heaven.

You are highly encouraged to attend Holy Week Services:

On Tuesday Bishop Folda celebrates the **Chrism Mass** at 11 a.m. at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Fargo. The three oils of the Church {Oil of the Catechumens, Oil of the Sick and Sacred Chrism} will be blessed, consecrated and then brought to our diocesan churches to be used throughout the year in the sacramental life of the Church. Also, during the Chrism Mass the priests of the Diocese of Fargo will renew their priestly vows;

On Wednesday we celebrate the ancient prayer service called **Tenebrae** at 7 p.m. at St. Leo’s Church. Tenebrae is a Latin term meaning ‘shadows’. The service begins with a procession of lighted candles that are gradually extinguished representing the abandonment of Christ by his followers. In the midst of this deepening darkness the Christ candle on the altar remains burning though temporarily taken from our midst only to reappear on the altar representing Christ’s burial and triumphant resurrection and victory over the darkness of death. This service of light moving into darkness anticipates the *Triduum* – {Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil} and sets the tone for our meditation on the Paschal Mystery (*the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ*);

On Holy Thursday we gather at 7 p.m. at St. Leo’s Church. St. Thomas and St. Leo’s parishes receive their blessed oils from Tuesday’s Chrism Mass; there is a footwashing ceremony; at the end of Mass the Blessed Sacrament is reposed in the Spirit of Life Center for adoration until midnight. As people leave each person is given a loaf of bread to be their food for Good Friday’s fast and abstinence;

On Good Friday we gather at 7 p.m. at St. Leo’s Church. We hear the Passion story of Christ; venerate the Cross, which acknowledges both the crucifying power of sin and the exalted throne of God’s unconquerable love for his people; we end with a simple Communion Service;

On Holy Saturday (the Easter Vigil) we gather at 8:30 p.m. at St. Leo’s Church. Our night begins at the Easter fire and the lighting of our Easter Candle; this is followed by readings from salvation history; then the baptismal waters are blessed and our RCIA candidates are received into full communion with the Catholic Church; we end celebrating Easter Mass. After Mass all people are invited to the Spirit of Life Center for a wonderful reception of food and drink.

Easter Sunday liturgies are at 8 a.m. at St. Thomas and 10 a.m. at St. Leo’s.

Perhaps Psalm 122 can lead us this Holy Week. The psalmist writes,
“I rejoiced when I heard them say - let us go to the house of the Lord.”



St. Leo’s Catholic Church
211 Langer Ave North
PO Box 340
Casselton ND
347-4609



PALM SUNDAY
March 28, 2021



St. Thomas Catholic Church
401 Third St. North
PO Box 22
Buffalo ND
633-5150



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 28:

Mon - Mar 29 - 9:00 am - +**Dale Cox** by Linus & Margaret Kensok
Tues - Mar 30 - 11:00 am - Chrism Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral, Fargo
NO MASS at St. Thomas and St. Leo’s
Wed - Mar 31 - 9:00 am - +**Charlie Radermacher** by Joann Radermacher
Holy Thursday - April 1 - 7:00 pm - +**Fr. Bernard Bachmeier**
Good Friday - April 2 - 7:00 pm Service
Holy Saturday- April 3- 8:30 pm- ++Clarence & Margaret Baumler by Rob & Jenifer Punton
Easter Sunday- April 4 - St. Thomas - 8:00 am - +Marian Kasowski by Dave & Becky Elbert
Easter Sunday– April 4 - St. Leo’s - 10:00 am - For the people of our parishes

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., Mar 28 - NO Beverage and Bite after 8:30 am Mass
Sun., Mar 28 - RE 10th grade class in the Spirit of Life Center
Tues., Mar 30 - 11:00 am - Chrism Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Fargo
Wed., Mar 31 - 7:00 pm - Tenebrae Service at St. Leo’s
Thurs., Apr 1 - 7:00 pm - Holy Thursday Mass at St. Leo’s
Fri., Apr 2 - 7:00 pm - Good Friday Service at St. Leo’s
Sat., Apr 3 - 8:30 pm - Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass at St. Leo’s followed by reception in Spirit of Life Center
Sun., Apr 4 - 8:00 am - Easter Sunday Mass at St. Thomas in Buffalo
10:00 am - Easter Sunday Mass at St. Leo’s in Casselton
Wed., Apr 7 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas - Group B
6:30 pm - Re classes at St. Leo’s - Group B, Simple Supper at 6:00 pm
6:15 pm - Junior class meets

Church decorating: All parishioners are invited to help decorate the church on **Saturday, April 3rd at 9:00 am** for our Easter liturgies.

Please remember to bring your nails to the Good Friday’s service and to return your Lenten canisters during Holy Week.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	Sunday April 4 8:00 am St. Thomas	Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday St. Leo’s
<i>Lector</i>	Keith Biggers	<div>Please see Holy Week Sign-Up Sheet in the back of the Church.</div>
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>		
<i>Altar Servers</i>	Jami Vavra	
<i>Offertory Collectors</i>	Joe & Lora Killoran	
<i>Greeters</i>		
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Terri Biggers & David Biggers	

NEWS AND NOTES



Everyone is invited to attend the Tenebrae service on Wednesday night, March 31st at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Presented by the students in grades 9 - 12 from St. Leo’s and St. Thomas.
Tenebrae (TEN-eh-bray) has a rich tradition in the church dating back to the 8th century. Through word and music, this service dramatizes the suffering, death, and burial of Jesus

Holy Land/Good Friday: Each year St. Leo’s/St. Thomas, along with the Diocese of Fargo, participate in six national collections. *Good Friday’s* collection helps fund maintenance of the holy sites under Catholic care in the Holy Land. *The envelope for this collection can be found with your regular offertory envelopes.*

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.

St. Leo’s Knights of Columbus will be praying a Perpetual Rosary for Vocations before the Holy Thursday Mass on Thursday, **April 1st at 6:30 pm** and before the Good Friday Service on Friday, **April 2nd at 6:30 pm.** All parishioners are welcome to come and pray the rosary with the Knights.



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.



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.

Lenten Canisters - One Recipient of our Lenten canisters is **CHI Friendship, Inc:** a local non-profit organization serving people with developmental disabilities. They provide individualized comprehensive support to allow for full community participation and inclusion. CHI Friendship, Inc. works in collaboration with a number of businesses, and offers a variety of paid work opportunities for those people who wish to participate. The Mission of Catholic Health Initiatives is to nurture the healing ministry of the Church, supported by education and research. Fidelity to the Gospel urges them to emphasize human dignity and social justice as they create healthier communities. Please be generous in supporting our Lenten charities.

This week’s Stewardship moment:

“Pilate again said to them, ‘Then what shall I do with the man whom you call the King of the Jews?’ And they cried out again, ‘Crucify him.’” - Mark 15:12-13

Jesus told us “whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me.” Every day we are presented opportunities to help someone. Every day we have the opportunity to see the face of Jesus in others and be the face of Jesus to others. Every day we pass by someone in need. Pray for the strength and courage to be the answer to someone’s prayer.