

PASTOR’S NOTES

May 1<sup>st</sup> – St. Joseph the Worker

Throughout the world many nations celebrate May 1<sup>st</sup> as their ‘Labor Day’ or as it is often called – *International Workers Day*. In 1955 Pope Pius XII dedicated May 1<sup>st</sup> as “*St. Joseph the Worker, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary, confessor and patron of Working People*”. His intention was to give a Christian dimension to the whole notion of work and the gift of human labor.

In this year of St. Joseph it seems appropriate to examine this Christian dimension of work and how that perspective should shape the gift of human labor. In its deepest dimension work is done to improve the quality of one’s life. First and foremost that means meeting the most basic human needs we all have for food, shelter and clothing. Beyond this most rudimentary understanding of work, work should engage the human spirit so as to bestow self-worth and dignity upon the worker. Each worker should find pride in their labor. By the work of one’s hand one offers products to others that improve and better the welfare of the human race whether that be the most menial of labor to the highest realms of professional living. All labor is meant to improve the conditions of human living all in keeping with God’s design for the human race. **In essence all human labor is meant to sanctify the human race.**

This work of sanctification should guide and direct all work. Work should bring glory to God, be morally righteous, structured in justice, serve the poor and call forth our ‘better angels’ so as to give back to God a saintly life by which the human race is better off because I have lived and worked.

Such is the mystery of that carpenter’s shop in Nazareth!!

St. Joseph, pray for us –

Calendar notes

> Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup> –

Mother’s Day!! – let us rejoice and be glad for the mothers of our lives!

> Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> –

Closing Mass at 6:30 p.m. for this year’s Religious Education program followed by an Ice Cream Social. **All parishioners are invited to attend.**

> Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> –

+ the 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas in Buffalo will honor this year’s graduate from Maple Valley High School. This will be followed by a social for both this year’s graduate and last year’s Confirmation/First Eucharist students who were unable to be celebrated and acknowledged because of COVID restrictions. All parishioners are invited.

+ the 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Leo’s in Casselton will honor this year’s graduates from Central Cass High School. This will be followed by an ‘egg bake’ breakfast hosted by this year’s junior class students/parents. All parishioners are invited.

> Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> –

On Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> Matthew Kensok, along with two other men, will be ordained to the transitional diaconate for the Diocese of Fargo at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Fargo at 7 p.m.

On Sunday June 6<sup>th</sup> Matthew Kensok will be preaching at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Leo’s. This will be followed by an ‘egg bake’ breakfast in the Spirit of Life Center acknowledging and honoring this stage in his journey to the priesthood, which should take place next year.



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 EASTER  
May 2, 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 May 2:

Mon - May 3 - 9:00 am - +**Stephen Levitsky** by Marian Watson

Tues - May 4 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - +**Souls in purgatory**

*St. Leo’s - NO MASS*

Wed - May 5 - 9:00 am - +**Sr. Alice Grommesh** by Gary & Delores Grommesh

Thurs - May 6 - 9:00 am - +**Kathy Ahonen** by Audrey Cramer

Fri - May 7 - 9:00 am - +**Carla Jo Kowarsch-McCormick** by Nicole Hushka

Sat - May 8 - 5:00 pm - +**Dam Chi Dung** by Ron & Thuy Kaufman

Sun - May 9 - St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - +**Ida Seefeld** by Jerry & DeLilah Volk

St. Thomas - 10:30 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

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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.


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

PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., May 2 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
Sun., May 2 - 4:00 pm - RE 10<sup>th</sup> grade class meets in the Spirit of Life Center  
Tues., May 4 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy committee meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
Wed., May 5 - 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  
Sun., May 9 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
Tues., May 11 - 7:00 pm - Education committee meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
Wed., May 12 - 6:30 pm - RE Closing Mass, everyone is welcome to attend. NO 9 am Daily Mass  
Thurs., May 13 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
Sun., May 16 - 9:30 am - St. Thomas honoring graduates and Confirmation class after 8:30 am Mass  
Sun., May 16 - 11:30 am - St. Leo’s graduation breakfast after 10:30 am Mass  
**Fri., June 4 - 7:00 pm - Matthew Kensok transitional diaconate ordination at St. Mary’s Cathedral**

REMINDER: Please remember to return your Lenten canisters.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|                                                                                    |                                                             |                                                           |                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Saturday May 8</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><i>St. Leo’s</i> | <b>Sunday May 9</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><i>St. Leo’s</i> | <b>Sunday May 9</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><i>St. Thomas</i> |
| <i>Lector</i>                                                                      | Mark Voss                                                   | Shari Kensok                                              | Gary Milbrandt                                              |
| <i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>                                                       | Bill Franck                                                 | Ann Faught                                                |                                                             |
| <i>Altar Servers</i>                                                               | Theo Metzger<br>Ben Metzger                                 | Sarah Kempel<br>Melody Kempel                             | Rudi Wendel<br>Claire Halland                               |
| <i>Offertory Collectors</i>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                  | JoEllen Killoran<br>Lisa Zahnow                             |
| <i>Gift Bearers</i>                                                                | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                  | Corey Hovelson Family                                       |

NEWS AND NOTES

**ST. THOMAS NEWS:** On Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> St. Thomas will be honoring it’s graduate and the 2020 Confirmation class (last year’s class). Those being honored are: Courtney Hovelson, Hannah Besette, Carley Halland, Charlsey Kasowski and Ali Killoran. A celebration will follow the 8:30 am Mass, all are invited to attend.

**Jesus Approaches: A Women’s Retreat:** August 13-15, 2021 at the Franciscan Retreat Center, 102 6th St SE, Hankinson, ND and the cost is \$250. The retreat will be led by author and speaker Liz Kelly. The retreat is a chance to step out of the routine and stress of daily life in order to encounter the Lord Jesus through prayer and inspiring talks. To register visit: <https://www.fargodiocese.org/evangelization-retreats-workshops>. Contact Ashley Njaa for more information. [Ashley.njaa@fargodiocese.org](mailto:Ashley.njaa@fargodiocese.org) or at 701-356-7908



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.

**The Sts. Anne & Joachim Choir** will be presenting “I Lift Up My Eyes”: Choir Music and Memories on Sunday, May 2, at 7:00 p.m. at Sts. Anne & Joachim church (5202 25th St S, Fargo). Please join us for a night of beautiful music and memories!



God’s Gift Appeal 2021

|            |             |                  |
|------------|-------------|------------------|
|            | <u>Goal</u> | <u>4/23/2021</u> |
| St. Leo’s  | \$46,373    | \$ 25,066        |
| St. Thomas | \$11,103    | \$ 8,255         |

Thank you to all parishioners who have made their gift to the 2021 God’s Gift Appeal. Pledge cards and donations may be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the parish office and we will see they get to the Diocese.



**Teams of Our Lady:** Interested in knowing more about Teams of Our Lady? Interested in enriching your couple/marriage spirituality on a journey with other Catholic like-minded couples? The Fargo Sector of Teams of our Lady now has 11 teams comprised of 59 area couples and has been going strong for 16 years! Join us to learn more at our spring Information sessions!  
**Info Session #1 – Thursday, May 6 - 7:00-8:00 p.m. St. Anthony of Padua (upstairs)**  
**Info Session #2 – Sunday, May 16 - 4:00-5:00 p.m. St. Anthony of Padua (upstairs)**  
All couples (BOTH husband and wife) wishing to join TEAMS are required to attend one of these two meetings. Mark your calendar as these will be the only two information sessions this year! For more information, call Lorine Bernhardt at 701-781-2249 or e-mail [fargosectorinformation@gmail.com](mailto:fargosectorinformation@gmail.com).

This week’s Stewardship moment:

“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” - 1 John 3:18

Regarding our Catholic faith, do you “walk the talk?” Do your actions reflect what it means to be a good disciple? Are you an active participant at Sunday Mass? Are you joyful when participating in parish ministry? Do you give gratefully and generously with your financial support to your parish and other Church needs. If not, it’s not too late to start!