

PASTOR’S NOTES

16 – 44 – 432

This past Tuesday evening **sixteen (16) men** from St. Leo’s parish moved **forty-four (44) pews** from the Spirit of Life Center and **four hundred thirty two (432) screws** later all pews were securely in place. All of this was done in 90 minutes.

We graciously ‘tip our hats’ in thanks to this awesome group of volunteers and their spirit of service to St. Leo’s parish [*Micah Bartholomay; Jerry Christiansen; Jim Flynn; Casey Garman; Dave Glennon; Gary Grommesh; Jared Grommesh; Matthew Kensok; Terry Kensok; Tim Masset; Richard Muscha; Alex Richard; Ethan Richard; Dominic Spooner; Jake Werner and Ray White*]. This generous gift of time and talent certainly aided the faster painting of the church’s nave and allowed us the opportunity to strip and wax the floor of the nave. **Again – THANK - YOU!**

Upcoming Events

- > **Sunday, May 31st** – we will honor our graduating seniors at the 10:30 a.m. Mass all the while respecting the safety guidelines in place at that time;
 - > **Wednesday, June 3rd** – The annual Chrism Mass with Bishop Folda will be celebrated at St. Mary’s Cathedral at 11 a.m. *Given the safety measures of this time only the priests of the Diocese of Fargo will be in attendance.* At this Mass the 3 sacred oils of the Church (*Oil of the Catechumens; Oil of the Sick and Sacred Chrism*) will be blessed and brought back to our parishes to be used in the course of this coming year. Also, the priests of the Diocese will renew their priestly vows.
 - > **Friday, June 11th** – Bishop John Folda will be here to celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at 6:30 p.m. for the 24 students from our parishes of St. Leo’s and St. Thomas. There are a number of tasks yet to be completed (*e.g. - one last class for parents, student interviews, a modified retreat, a short rehearsal and some sacramental preparation books still need to be completed and turned in — everyone’s cooperation in these matters is deeply appreciated*).
- Note:** Next week’s bulletin will contain all the specific information and details for those students who will be celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation (*tentatively scheduled for the week following Confirmation*).

Some Facility notes (St. Leo’s parish)

- > church painting – the nave of the church (area of the pews) is **done**; hopefully on Tuesday of this week, the altar area is scheduled to be painted followed by the choir loft and small remaining areas.
- > stripping and waxing of the nave’s floor – **DONE!**
- > church’s chimney – is no longer necessary for heating purposes and was in need of much repair as well as believed to be the source of water damage at the ceiling level by the Mary statue. It was decided to be taken down and capped at the roof line with eventually assessing whether the church’s roof line can be extended and made to cover the remaining chimney entirely.
- > church’s elevator – contract has been signed; various component parts have been ordered; usually takes a minimum of ten (10) weeks once a contract is signed before we will have an operational elevator. No further reports as of this time.



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



The Ascension of the Lord
May 24, 2020

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 24:

Mon - May 25 - 9:00 am - +**Mary Ermer** by Mary Kempel
Tues - May 26 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - **NO MASS**
St. Leo’s - NO MASS
Wed - May 27 - 9:00 am - +**Ann Marschke**
Thurs - May 28 - 9:00 am - ++**John & Mary Ermer**
Fri - May 29 - 9:00 am - **Franck grandchildren** by Helen Franck
Sat - May 30 - 5:00 pm - +Charlie Radermacher by Joann Radermacher
Sun - May 31 - St. Thomas - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes
St. Leo’s - 10:30 am - +Bruce Dooley by Theresa Dooley

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 & Mark Wieland
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.


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

PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Thurs., May 28 - 6:30 pm - Confirmation parent meeting, retreat and practice (option 1)  
Sat., May 30 - 10:00 am - Confirmation parent meeting, retreat and practice (option 2)  
Tues., Jun 2 - 7:00 pm - Social Concerns meeting  
Wed., Jun 3 - 11:00 am - Chrism Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral for priests only  
Mon., Jun 8 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy meeting  
Tues., Jun 9 - 7:00 pm - Cemetery committee meeting  
**Fri., Jun 12 - 6:30 pm - Confirmation/First Eucharist with Bishop Folda**

There will be **NO** Beverage and Bite for the month of May.

Congratulations to  
**Michael Larson and Julia Rief**  
who entered into the sacrament of  
marriage at St. Leo’s on Friday, May 22.  
We pray to God to bless their love for each other and that  
they may support each other throughout the joys and  
sorrows of life.

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Saturday May 30</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><i>St. Leo’s</i>                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Sunday May 31</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><i>St. Thomas</i> | <b>Sunday May 31</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><i>St. Leo’s</i> |
| <i>Lector</i>                                                                      | Tony Roth                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Keith Biggers                                               | Darcee Rehovsky                                             |
| <i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>                                                       | <i>Due to concerns regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) St. Leo’s and St. Thomas will temporarily suspend the distribution of the Precious Blood. At this time only Father Ermer will be distributing the Body of Christ.</i> |                                                             |                                                             |
| <i>Altar Servers</i>                                                               | TBD                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Courtney Hovelson                                           | TBD                                                         |
| <i>Offertory Collectors</i>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                      | JoEllen Killoran                                            | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    |
| <i>Gift Bearers</i>                                                                | Procession of gifts is omitted until further notice.                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                             |                                                             |

NEWS AND NOTES

**Beginning Experience:** June 26 - 28, 2020 at the Retreat Center in Hankinson, ND. Beginning Experience is a program that helps people going through the difficult time of loss of a spouse whether widowed, separated or divorced. For more information please contact Frank (218-790-4202), Marlene (218-998-4300) or Jason (701-840-8951). You can also check the web-site: [beginningexperience-easternnd.org](http://beginningexperience-easternnd.org)

**Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages** Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program helping married couples with a hurting marriage find new hope and rediscover the love that initially brought them together. For more information visit [HelpOurMarriage.com](http://HelpOurMarriage.com) or call (701)356-7962, or via email at: [RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org](mailto:RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org).

**3rd Annual Rural Life Celebration:** As of this time the Rural Life Celebration is still on. Please join the parishioners of St. Philip Neri in Napoleon, ND on Sunday, July 12th at Frank & Helen Braun Farm, north of Napoleon. Guests may begin to arrive at 1:30 pm. Blessing of land, animals, and farm machinery will begin at 1:45 pm followed by a 2:00 pm Mass on the farm. A meal and entertainment will follow. The farm is located 3 miles North of Napoleon on ND Hwy 3. For more information visit: [www.fargodiocese.org/rural-life](http://www.fargodiocese.org/rural-life). Please RSVP at: (701)754-2860 or [evangelize@bektel.com](mailto:evangelize@bektel.com) Remember to bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. You may also bring a container of soil from your fields or garden to be blessed. This event is FREE. We will follow ND state guidelines for COVID-19 protections.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday’s from 4:00 to 4:45 pm. For physical distancing, Fr. Ermer will hear confessions in the side sacristy (where the Mass servers get ready for Mass). It is located in the North-east corner of the sanctuary. Use the door by the entry to the Spirit of Life Center. He will light a candle by the doorway when he is there. The room is large enough to have the option to go face-to-face or behind the screen. You can still call Fr. Ermer to schedule a time for the sacrament of Reconciliation as well. 347-4609.



**Help Support our Cameroon Card Mission:**  
**Father’s Day cards are available.** Cards are located in the in the magazine rack in church entry. Cost of cards is .50 cents, please place money in envelope provided and return to parish office. All proceeds go to the mission.

**This week’s Stewardship moment:**

*“I am praying for them...” - John 17:9*

Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Pray in good times and in bad. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation, not just the last resort. Pray for friends and family and for those that don’t treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given you.