

PASTOR’S NOTES

“Hats off to you” – *our RE teachers*

This past Wednesday we celebrated our closing Religious Education liturgy for this school year. The heart and soul of every Religious Education (RE) program are those who step forward and volunteer their time and talent as teachers (catechists).

In some respects, they are an elite group of volunteers! They give on a weekly basis of their time and talent not only for the hour in the classroom but also the time that goes into preparation. They have a heartfelt conviction of desiring to pass on the treasure of the Catholic faith. Over the years numerous parishioners have told me they could never see themselves as RE teachers.

So the ones that do step forward and give of themselves deserve our deepest appreciation. As St. Paul writes in his letter to the Romans, “*How beautiful are the feet of those who announce good news!*” And what is more beautiful good news than that Christ died for our sins, rose from the dead, opened the gates of heaven and lives forever for us in the life of the Church!

We sincerely ‘tip our hats’ to this year’s RE teachers from St. Leo’s: Mary Richard and Missy Poulson [Kindergarten]; Melanie Poulson, Amanda Gunkel, and Heidi Neumann [1st grade]; Michelle Kappes and Nicole Scherweit [2nd grade]; Trista Ziegelmann [3rd grade]; Terri Monilaws [4th grade]; Susan Kempel [5th grade]; Denise Bartholomay [6th grade]; Mona Franck [7th grade]; Virjean Cramer [8th grade]; Karren Bartholomay [9th grade]; Jake and Kelsey Lako [10th grade] and Fr. Ermer and Shari Kensok [11th and 12th grade].

And a sincere ‘tip of our hats’ to our RE teachers from St. Thomas: Kristi Hovelson [Kindergarten & 1st grade]; Joni Biggers [2nd grade]; Jacki Vavra [3rd & 4th grades]; and Darci Besette and Alecia Killoran [5th and 6th grades]

RE ATTENDANCE —

Once again the RE attendance numbers for the past school year for the parishes of St. Leo’s and St. Thomas look very good.

In terms of perfect attendance at St. Leo’s we had 35 out of 171 students who did not miss any class for any reason. That is 20% of our RE students! At St. Thomas we had 7 out of 32 students with perfect attendance which is 22% of our RE students. That is remarkable given the fact that COVID took its toll on many school activities. This is fabulous – keep up the great work!

In terms of overall attendance Both St. Leo’s and St. Thomas parishes had 89% of their potential parish students registered in their Religious Education programs. Listed below by grade are the numbers of St. Leo’s/ St. Thomas registered students [1st number] compared to potential students [2nd number]:

	<u>St. Leo’s</u>		<u>St. Thomas</u>		<u>St. Leo’s</u>		<u>St. Thomas</u>
Kindergarten	18/18*	1/1*		Seventh grade	9/9*	2/2*	
First grade	19/22	4/4*		Eighth grade	14/16	4/5	
Second grade	17/17*	2/2*		Ninth grade	5/9	3/3*	
Third grade	14/14*	6/6*		Tenth grade	12/13	-0-	
Fourth grade	9/11	1/1*		Eleventh grade	17/20	2/2*	
Fifth grade	16/19	5/6		Twelfth grade	9/11	0/2	
Sixth grade	11/14	2/2*		* 100% attendance classes			

These students and their parents need to be sincerely congratulated for making Religious Education a priority in the life of their families!



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 15, 2022

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 15:

Mon - May 16 – 9:00 am - ++Gerald & Cathy Hulm by Bill & Mona Franck

Tues - May 17 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – +Souls in purgatory

St. Leo’s — NO MASS

Wed – May 18 – 9:00 am - ++Frank & Barbara Muscha by Theresa Dooley

Thurs – May 19 – 9:00 am - +Marie Hong Tran by Lisa Tran

Fri – May 20 – 9:00 am - +Henry Sherman by Lucille Sherman

Sat - May 21 - 5:00 pm - +Dam Chi Dung by Ron & Thuy Kaufman

Sun - May 22 – St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes

St. Thomas - 10:30 am - ++Bill & Aggie Hass by Keith & Joni Biggers

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer

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Secretary: Delores Grommesh

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RE Coordinator: Patty Roth/Nicole Scherweit

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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


Thurs., May 19 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center
Thurs., May 19 - 7:00 pm - Education committee meeting at the rectory
Sun., May 22 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
Wed., May 25 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting at the rectory
Sun., May 29 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
Sun., June 5 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
Tues., June 7 - 7:00 pm - Social Concerns meeting at the rectory
Sun., June 12 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
Tues., June 14 - 7:00 pm - Cemetery committee meeting at the rectory
Tues., June 21 - 7:00 pm - Finance committee meeting at the rectory
Tues., June 28 - 7:00 pm - Pastoral Council meeting at the rectory

REMINDER: Please remember to return your Lenten canisters.



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 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 May 21 5:00 pm St. Leo’s 3 rd Sat of May	Sunday May 22 8:30 am St. Leo’s 4 th Sun of May	Sunday May 22 10:30 am St. Thomas
Lector	Renee Anderson	Fred Eldridge	Keith Biggers
Eucharistic Ministers	Delores Grommesh	Dave Glennon	
Altar Servers	Burchill Family Hayden Faleide	Glennon Family Sarah Monilaws	Ali Killoran Rudi Wendel
Offertory Collectors	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	JoEllen Killoran Lisa Zahnow
Gift Bearers	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Dave Killoran Family

NEWS AND NOTES

Mother-Daughter Days at St. Francis Covent in Hankinson, ND. There will be two sessions offered this summer: June 19-21 and July 21-23. Come spend time listening to Jesus, getting to know the Franciscan Sisters, praying with Sisters, and meeting others pursuing a closer relationship with Jesus. To register or have questions, call or text Sr. Jean Louise at (701)208-1245. Participation is limited.

Beginning Experience Weekend to be Held: June 24-26, 2022 at the Retreat Center in Hankinson, ND. The BE weekend is a Friday evening to Sunday afternoon program for adults grieving the loss of a love relationship through death, divorce or separation. It is presented by people who have suffered the loss of a loved one. They are willing to share their experience to help others. Team members lead participants through a program of presentations, personal private reflection and small group sharing. The BE weekend is our core program and the foundation of the Beginning Experience ministry. If you or someone you know could benefit from coming to the BE weekend, please contact the BE line at 701-277-8784 and leave a message for more information and an application. More information can also be found on the website at: www.beginningexperience-easternnd.org

Women’s Retreat: The Diocese of Fargo is hosting a women’s retreat August 5-7, 2022 at the Franciscan Retreat Center, Hankinson, ND. The retreat starts on Friday evening August 5 at 6 pm to Sunday, August 7 at 1 pm. This retreat will be on the spirituality of St. Therese of Lisieux, directed by Ashley Njaa. Spiritual director Fr. Jayson Miller. Price is \$250 per person. Space is limited. Sign up on the Fargo Diocese website: www.fargo diocese.org/retreats

2022 Summer Camps and Events: There are a number of summer camps and events available for youths to participate in this summer. Please see the display in the entrance of the church for information and to pick up a brochure.

Rural Cass County Emergency Mobile Food Pantry will be take place on Tuesday, May 24th from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm at 602 1st St N, Casselton. All in need of food assistance are welcome to attend and receive food at no cost. No pre-registration is required. You will be asked to fill out a short intake form.

Pilgrimage to the East Coast shrines with Bishop Folda, Sept 10-14, 2022: Pilgrim spots are still available to join Bishop Folda on a Pilgrimage to Washington D.C, Emmitsburg and Philadelphia. Sites include the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, The Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, St. John Paul II National Shrine, Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine and the saints in Philadelphia along with many other historical sites. Visit fargodiocese.org/events for details and registration link. Or call the Diocese of Fargo for registration form, (701)356-7900. Sponsored by the Diocese of Fargo and organized by Peter’s Way Tours.

Job Opportunities: There are many job openings within the Fargo Diocese area. Check out the list on the bulletin board in the church entry.

This week’s Stewardship moment:

“I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.” ~ John13:34

“As I have loved you,” this is the hard part — Jesus’s love is unconditional; our love usually comes with strings attached. It is easy to love someone when they love you back. But it takes mercy and compassion to love someone when you feel unappreciated, feel used or feel like your opinion doesn’t matter. It takes courage and the grace of God to “love my neighbor” when they may be someone you don’t like, someone you don’t know or someone that doesn’t look like you.