

PASTOR’S NOTES

Matthew Kensok – seminarian

This coming week is *National Vocation Awareness Week* and we are very fortunate to have a seminarian from St. Leo’s parish – **Matthew Kensok**. For three (3) years Matthew was in seminary formation at St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward, Nebraska. Presently he is in his third year of major seminary formation at Mt. St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. At the end of this year’s formation Matthew should be ready to be ordained a transitional deacon. At the end of next year’s formation (2022), Matthew is on track to be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Fargo.

O happy day!!

Included in this week’s bulletin is a half-page insert from Matthew explaining life in seminary formation. I believe you will find it quite informative. Please keep Matthew and all men and women in priestly and/or religious formation in your prayers.

Suspended — until further notice

With the steeply rising COVID numbers throughout North Dakota as well as in this area **Sunday Beverage and Bite** as well as **KC breakfasts** will be suspended for the time being. When numbers improve we will certainly restore these important community events and gatherings.

New Lay Director

Dave Glennon has accepted an appointment as one of St. Leo’s two (2) lay directors. He will serve alongside of Mark Rehovsky as the other lay director.

Every parish in the Diocese of Fargo is a separate corporation under the state laws of North Dakota and each parish corporation is a five (5) member board {*Bishop, Vicar General of the Diocese, parish Pastor and the two (2) lay directors*}. At St. Leo’s and St. Thomas the lay directors also serve on the Parish Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee.

We thank Mark Wieland for his many years as lay director.
Lay directors for St. Thomas parish are Gary Milbrandt and Larry Zaun.
Thank you, Dave, for saying ‘yes’ for this Church service!

Video linked

This past week we established a video link between the church and the Spirit of Life Center, which will allow us to broadcast church services into the Spirit of Life Center. This should prove very helpful as we navigate these pandemic days and any other overflow church event.

Presently we have the ability to do a basic broadcast. We need a couple other connections to improve broadcast quality and that should be done in the very near future.

Book of REMEMBRANCE

At the entrance of the Church is a book titled *Book of Remembrance*. Parishioners are invited to write the names of **deceased** loved ones in that book. During the month of November and lasting until the end of this church year the names in that book will be remembered at the Masses offered at St. Leo’s and St. Thomas. Our last Mass for this church year will be Friday, November 27th.

This year’s new church year commences with Saturday evening Mass on November 28th as we will celebrate the First Sunday of Advent.



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



All Saints Day
November 1, 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 Nov 1:

Mon - Nov 2 - 9:00 am - **Ron Browning** by Richard & Joanne Browning
Tues - Nov 3 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - ++**John & Mary Ermer**
St. Leo’s - NO MASS
Wed - Nov 4 - 9:00 am - +**Ed Mergner** by Marian Watson
Thurs - Nov 5 - 9:00 am - +**Dale Nystrom** by Sandi Nystrom
Fri - Nov 6 - 9:00 am - **Family of Brian Pollock** by Missy Poulson
Sat - Nov 7 - 5:00 pm - +AvaLee Kaufman by Ron & Dung Thuy Kaufman
Sun - Nov 8 - St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - +John ‘Jack’ Ermer by Richard & Janice Muscha
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 & 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

Sun., Nov 1 - **NO Beverage and Bite** after 10:30 am Mass  
**Mon., Nov 2 - 7:00 pm - All Souls Day Remembrance Service at St. Leo’s**  
Tues., Nov 3 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy committee meeting in the Spirit of Life center  
Wed., Nov 4 - 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  
Thurs., Nov 5 - 7:00 pm - Inquiry Class on the Catholic Faith in large classroom in lower level of church  
Sun., Nov 8 - **NO Beverage and Bite** after 8:30 am Mass  
Tues., Nov 10 - 7:00 pm - Education committee meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
Wed., Nov 11 - **NO** RE Classes at St. Leo’s or St. Thomas  
Thurs., Nov 12 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center

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

- Linus & Margaret Kensok - 69 years on Nov 3**
- Stan & Angeline Mathias - 56 years on Nov 14**
- Keith & Sharon Monilaws - 54 years on Nov 25**
- Frank & Ruth Kasowski - 65 years on Nov 26**
- Gerry & DeLilah Volk - 56 years on Nov 26**
- George & Mary Ann Waxler-73 years on Nov 27**

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|                                                                                    |                                                                                                 |                                                                                               |                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Saturday Nov 7</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><i>St. Leo’s</i><br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sat of the Month | <b>Sunday Nov 8</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><i>St. Leo’s</i><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun of the Month | <b>Sunday Nov 8</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><i>St. Thomas</i> |
| <i>Lector</i>                                                                      | Tricia Gegelman<br>Lois Titus                                                                   | Shari Kensok                                                                                  | Gary Milbrandt                                              |
| <i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>                                                       | Lucy Wagner                                                                                     | Ann Faught                                                                                    |                                                             |
| <i>Altar Servers</i>                                                               | Nikita Howard<br>Ethan Richard                                                                  | Sarah Kempel<br>Melody Kempel                                                                 | Clay Hovelson                                               |
| <i>Offertory Collectors</i>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                      | Gary & Linda<br>Milbrandt                                   |
| <i>Gift Bearers</i>                                                                | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                      |                                                             |

NEWS AND NOTES

**Black and Indian Mission collection:** Each year parishes in the Diocese of Fargo, participate in six national collections. Sunday, **November 15<sup>th</sup>** is designated as *Black and Indian Mission* collection. This collection provides funds for evangelization and other programs for Native American and African-American Catholics. The envelope for this collection can be found with your regular collection envelopes. Please consider giving generously.

**St. Leo’s Endowment Fund:** This coming week (Nov. 2-6) all parish households will be receiving in the mail information from the Diocese’s Catholic Development Foundation information and a brochure on St. Leo’s Endowment Fund. **What is an endowment?** An endowment fund is a perpetual fund. It is created by charitable donations in the form of cash, stocks, mutual funds, real property, or other personal property to a foundation, such as Catholic Development Foundation (CDF), to support a specific ministry such as a parish or cemetery. In partnership with the Catholic Development Foundation, our parish established this fund to help secure our future as a parish family. St. Leo’s endowment fund provides a perpetual income stream annually which helps us maintain our church and provides for the necessary ministry our members depend on. To learn more about endowments or the Catholic Development Foundation, go to: [www.cdfnd.org](http://www.cdfnd.org).

**National Vocations Awareness Week:** is November 1-7. Please pray that young men and women in our community may respond generously with open hearts and willing Spirits to God’s call to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ!

**Soiree for Religious Life:** Young men and women curious about religious life, along with their parents and friends, are invited to an elegant dinner to celebrate religious life at Sts. Anne and Joachim Catholic Church, on Monday, November 2, at 6:30 PM. Two speakers - the first a professed religious, and the second a parent of a professed religious - will speak on their own joy at discovering this holy calling from God. There is no cost, but pre-registration is required. Contact [vocations@fargodiocese.org](mailto:vocations@fargodiocese.org) to reserve a place at the table.

**Retreat Opportunities:** Are you looking for an opportunity for spiritual growth and a deepening of your relationship with God, yourself and others? There are many different retreat opportunities available at Maryvale Spiritual Center, just outside of Valley City, ND. Visit [sistersofmaryofthepresentation.org](http://sistersofmaryofthepresentation.org) for more details or call Sr. Dorothy Bunce at 701-845-2864.

**This week’s Stewardship moment:**

*“Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you (falsely) because of me.” - Matthew 5:11*

We are all at different points on the path to holiness, on getting to Heaven and becoming a saint. Part of the journey is being mocked and ridiculed by others. When this happens, how do you respond? Do you become silent? Do you react in anger or do you react with love? Fortunately, as one Body of Christ, we are united with the saints already in Heaven. Ask your favorite saint for guidance in defending the Faith.