

PASTOR’S NOTES

Different, but deeply connected, days

On November 1<sup>st</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup> the Church celebrates two different, but very deeply connected, realities in our lives of faith.

Both of these days remind us that death will come to all of us. **What happens at death is not the same for everyone.** At the very moment of death a particular judgement will be rendered on each person’s life. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) teaches:

- (1) “Those who die in God’s grace and friendship and are perfectly purified live forever with Christ” in **heaven** (CCC 1023);
- (2) “All who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified” (CCC 1030) undergo purification in **Purgatory** so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven [Rev. 21:27];
- (3) For those who “die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God’s merciful love ... remaining separated from him forever by our own free choice. This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed is called **hell** .” (CCC 1033)

**November 1<sup>st</sup>** celebrates All Saints Day, which is one of the five Holy Days in the United States (the other 4 being: **January 1<sup>st</sup>** – *Mary, Mother of God*; **August 15<sup>th</sup>** – *Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven*; **December 8<sup>th</sup>** – *Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*; **December 25<sup>th</sup>** – *Christmas*). On the church calendar many days are designated as days of particular saints (e.g. - *October 4<sup>th</sup>* – *St. Francis of Assisi*; *November 10<sup>th</sup>* – *St. Leo the Great*; *July 5<sup>th</sup>* – *St. Thomas the Apostle*, etc.). But All Saints Day acknowledges there are many more saints than those officially recognized or listed on the church calendar (i.e. - *possibly deceased family and friends*). On November 1<sup>st</sup> we celebrate and seek the intercession of all holy men and women who live in heaven surrounded by and immersed in the blessedness of God.

On the other hand, **November 2<sup>nd</sup> (All Souls Day)** is a day set aside for us to pray for deceased loved ones undergoing the purification of Purgatory. It is our offering of Masses, prayers and almsgiving that assist them in being purified from their vestiges of sin and help them attain their final glory of heavenly life and the beatific vision of God. These offerings of Masses, prayers and almsgiving are often called – ‘**suffrages**’.

Both of these days (*November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>*) acknowledge what the Apostles’ Creed calls the ‘communion of saints’, which is another name for the Church. **The Church is comprised of three states of being: (1) we, the living on earth; (2) the saints in heaven; (3) the souls in purgatory.** Because the Church is One there is a sharing of spiritual goods among these three states of the Church. We seek the intercession of those already in heaven (the saints) while they are always praying for us, and we offer prayers and alms for loved ones in purgatory who are constantly seeking/desiring our spiritual help. The Church as the ‘communion of saints’ is both a communion among holy persons and a sharing of holy things among holy persons.

**Masses for All Saints Day**, which is a Holy Day, will be at St. Thomas in Buffalo on Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 p.m. and at St. Leo’s in Casselton on Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m.

On **All Souls Day {November 2<sup>nd</sup>}** there will be 9 a.m. daily Mass at St. Thomas. St. Leo’s will host an Evening Prayer Remembrance Service at 7 p.m. All who have lost a loved one – *this year or in years gone by* – are invited to attend this Evening Prayer Remembrance Service. Praying for the living and the dead is a spiritual work of mercy. The service will be followed by a simple reception in the Spirit of Life Center.



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



THIRTY– FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
October 31, 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 Oct 31:

**Mon - Nov 1– All Saints Day Holy Day-7:00 pm - NO 9 am Mass- +Msgr. Val Gross**  
**Tues - Nov 2 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - +Souls in purgatory**  
**St. Leo’s - NO MASS**  
**Wed - Nov 3 - 9:00 am – +Marie Hong Tran by Lisa Tran**  
**Thurs - Nov 4 - 9:00 am - +Lucille Matthey by Marian Watson**  
**Fri - Nov 5 - 9:00 am - Ted & Virginia Pedeliski**  
**Sat - Nov 6 - 5:00 pm - Linus & Margaret Kensok**  
**Sun - Nov 7 - St. Thomas - 8:30 am - +Terry Ball by Keith & Joni Biggers**  
**St. Leo’s - 10:30 am - For the people of our parishes**

Parish Staff:

**Pastor:** Fr. James Ermer  
**E-mail:** james.ermer@fargodiocese.org  
**Secretary:** Delores Grommesh  
**Phone:** 701-347-4609  
**E-mail:** stleo@casselton.net  
**RE Coordinator:** Patty Roth/Nicole Scherweit  
**Phone:** 701-347-4609  
**E-mail:** dre@stleosnd.org  
**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

Sun., Oct 31 - 11:00 am - 1:30 pm - St. Leo’s Fall Dinner  
Sun., Oct 31 - 5:30 - 6:30 pm - Halloween Holy House at St. Leo’s; come and meet the Saints  
Sun., Oct 31 - 4:30 pm - All Saints Day/Holy Day Vigil Mass - St. Thomas  
Mon., Nov 1 - 7:00 pm - All Saints Day/Holy Day Mass - St. Leo’s; **NO** 9 am Mass on Monday  
Tues., Nov 2 - 7:00 pm - All Souls Day Remembrance service at St. Leo’s, refreshments after  
Wed., Nov 3 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas  
Wed., Nov 3 - 6:30 pm - St. Leo’s RE classes; Simple Supper at 6 pm  
K/1<sup>st</sup> grades - Group A meets  
6:15 pm - Senior class meets  
Sun., Nov 7 - 9:00 am - KC Breakfast in the Spirit of Life Center  
Sun., Nov 14 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
Mon., Nov 15 - 7:00 pm - Confirmation Parent Meeting in the Spirit of Life Center

**This week’s Stewardship moment:**  
“And ‘to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself’ is worth more than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices.” ~ Mark 12:33  
Of all the gifts that God gives us, the one He wants the most is our heart. He wants us to share out of our love for Him, not out of obligation. Using our talent in parish ministry and contributing money to support our parish mission is important, but it is more important to spend time in prayer with God daily and discern how He is calling us to be generous with all of our gifts. Not just the visible ones, but also the invisible ones like love, mercy and forgiveness.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	<b>Saturday Nov 6</b> <b>5:00 pm</b> <i>St. Leo’s</i>	<b>Sunday Nov 7</b> <b>8:30 am</b> <i>St. Thomas</i>	<b>Sunday Nov 7</b> <b>10:30 am</b> <i>St. Leo’s</i>
<i>Lector</i>	Tricia Gегelman Lois Titus	Keith Biggers	Anna Garman
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Mona Franck		Kristi Dutchuk
<i>Altar Servers</i>	Tristan Lako Ethan/Olivia Richard	Clay Hovelson Emercyn Killoran	Isabelle Dutchuk Garman Family
<i>Offertory Collectors</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Gary & Linda Milbrandt	<i>Volunteers needed</i>
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Corey Hovelson Family	<i>Volunteers needed</i>

NEWS AND NOTES


**All Saints Day - Holy Day Mass Schedule:**  
Sun., Oct 31<sup>st</sup> - 4:30 pm - St. Thomas in Buffalo  
Mon., Nov 1<sup>st</sup> - 7:00 pm - St. Leo’s in Casselton  
No 9 am Mass at St. Leo’s on Mon., Nov 1<sup>st</sup>

**Special Prayers and blessings** to the faithful couples that help us see the presence and faithfulness of God in our lives:  
**Linus & Margaret Kensok - 70 years on Nov 3**  
**Stan & Angeline Mathias - 57 years on Nov 14**  
**Keith & Sharon Monilaws - 55 years on Nov 25**  
**Frank & Ruth Kasowski - 66 years on Nov 26**  
**George & Mary Ann Waxler-74 years on Nov 27**

**Evening of Remembrance:** Join us on Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm for a prayer service remembering those who have died this past year. During the service we will remember them by praying for them and inviting you to light a candle in their honor. Anyone who has had a family member, relative or friend pass away this past year or in the years past is invited to attend. An informal social will follow in the Spirit of Life Center following the service.

**Book of Remembrance:** Beginning November 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a Book of Remembrance in the church entry. We invite you to write down the name of your deceased loved ones and we will pray for them at daily Masses during the month of November.

**Black and Indian Mission collection:** Each year parishes in the Diocese of Fargo, participate in six national collections. Sunday, **November 21<sup>st</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.



Council 9477

**St. Leo’s Knight of the Month:** The Knight for the month of **October** is in memory of **Jerry Volk**. Thank you Jerry for all your years of service to the KC’s. Your dedication has been greatly appreciated.



**Knights of Columbus Breakfast:** Serving French toast and sausage Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Spirit of Life Center. Free will offering, Proceeds will benefit the St. Leo’s Youth Group.

**The Rural Cass County Food Pantry (in Casselton)** is in need of the following items: bake beans, chili beans, diced tomatoes, all kinds of soup, peaches, all vegetables-expect green beans, , boxed au gratin potatoes, scalloped potatoes, hamburger helper, cream soups, egg noodles, ramen noodles, pasta sides, ranch dressing, ketchup, mustard, apple and strawberry jelly, chocolate frosting, pancake mix, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, bar and pump soap, dryer sheets, cleaning supplies, laundry soap, dryer sheets, paper towels and kleenex. Items can be dropped off at TruCore Fitness in Casselton and Mary’s Market in Arthur. The food pantry is located at 602 1st Street N, Casselton, and is open the first and third Wednesdays of the month. For question you can contact Bonnie at (701)740-3398 or Shelle at (701)866-7440. Monetary donations can be mailed directly to: RCCEFP, PO Box 392, Casselton, ND 58012 Thank You.