

PASTOR’S NOTES

Catechetical Sunday

This Sunday (September 20<sup>th</sup> ) has been designated *Catechetical Sunday* in the life of the Catholic Church in the United States of America. This day recognizes the invaluable service, which the Church receives from the ministry of our catechists (*teachers within Religious Education (RE) programs*).

Our parishes have truly been blessed by those who have volunteered to do their best in passing on the heritage of the Catholic faith to your sons and daughters. Without question parents are the first teachers of faith, but the glory of the Gospel and the mystery of the Church is an enterprise much larger than simply family life. Probing that glory and understanding that mystery involves the collaborative efforts of all parish members.

For those who ‘*step to the plate*’ and enter the classrooms of instruction as catechists, *Catechetical Sunday* gives both formal recognition and grateful thanks to their gift of time and talent. This weekly gift of instruction and the preparation that goes into that instruction is no small gift. It is the heart of the spiritual life – *dying to self and living for others*. Catechists are more than teachers. Catechists embody the truths they teach and witness by their lives the joy of knowing Christ, the beauty of the Catholic faith, hope in eternal life, faith in the goodness of humanity, and love for all that is good, right and holy. **Such are the gifts of catechists!!**

The prayer cards in the pews contain the names of our catechists and a prayer for them. Please take a prayer card home and in the course of this school year pray in gratitude for our catechists and their essential work in the life of the Church. Again our deepest thanks!

Off to a great start!!

Our first week of Religious Education went remarkably well. Thanks ever so much for the cooperation and support of parents, students, cooks, helpers and teachers.

‘Troubles’ in your marriage?? —

For those couples whose marriages have come upon ‘tough times’ and there are serious issues in communications, conflict resolution, partner habits, struggling to stay together, etc., a **Retrouvaille Weekend** may be for you!!

A **retrouvaille weekend** is specifically oriented to marriages that are going through troubled times. It is meant to help married couples who are struggling to communicate, who are struggling to stay together, who are cold and distant from one another, or who are separated or divorced, but want to try again. It is not a sensitivity group, a seminar, social gathering nor a spiritual retreat. The weekend is organized around helping each couple listen to couples who themselves have experienced marital difficulties and ways in which they have ‘rediscovered’ communication patterns and gained insights about themselves as individuals and as a couple. After each presentation each couple takes some personal private time to reflect and write about what has been presented and then in turn discuss their writings with their spouse.

Research shows that couples in happy marriages live longer, have greater wealth, and enjoy a better standard of living with their children being happier, healthier, more secure and who do better in school.

There are tri-fold brochures at the back of the church explaining Retrouvaille in more detail and giving you telephone numbers for registration information.

**There will be a Retrouvaille Weekend in Fargo on October 2-4.** For more information please call **1-800-470-2230**.



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



TWENTY- FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
September 20, 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 Sept 20:

Mon - Sept 21 - 9:00 am - **NO MASS**  
Tues - Sept 22 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - **Perry Pollock** by Larry & Penny Zaun  
*St. Leo’s - NO MASS*  
Wed - Sept 23 - 9:00 am - **+Bruce Dooley** by Theresa Dooley  
Thurs - Sept 24 - 9:00 am - **+Lucille Matthey** by Marian Watson  
Fri - Sept 25 - 9:00 am - **++John & Mary Ermer**  
**Sat - Sept 26 - 5:00 pm - +Pat Schuler** by Sue Knoll  
**Sun - Sept 27 - St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes**  
**St. Thomas - 10:30 am - +Mike Vavra** by Keith & Joni Biggers

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**  
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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

Tues., Sept 22 - 7:00 pm - St. Leo’s Pastoral Council meeting  
Wed., Sept 23 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas - Group B  
Wed., Sept 23 - 6:30 pm - RE classes at St. Leo’s - Group B, Simple Supper at 6:00 pm  
6:15 pm - Junior class meets  
Wed., Sept 23 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
Thurs., Sept 24 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
Sun., Sept 27 – 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass following the current CDC COVID19 guidelines  
Sun., Oct 4 - 4:00 pm - RE 10<sup>th</sup> grade class meets in the Spirit of Life Center

**Church seating:** As we ease into the Fall season, we do anticipate an upswing in Mass attendance. To respect the physical distance, we are still using every other pew for seating. We believe it would help with church seating if —

- families sit together in one pew;
- up to 3 groups of 2 person groupings occupy one pew;
- individual persons occupy the middle of the pew allowing groups at either end.

It is good to have a full church and we do have overflow seating in the Spirit of Life Center.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|                                                                                    |                                                               |                                                             |                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Saturday Sept 26</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><i>St. Leo’s</i> | <b>Sunday Sept 27</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><i>St. Leo’s</i> | <b>Sunday Sept 27</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><i>St. Thomas</i> |
| <i>Lector</i>                                                                      | Tony Roth                                                     | Fred Eldridge                                               | Jackie Vavra                                                  |
| <i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>                                                       | Paulette Schmitt                                              | Dave Glennon                                                | Clay Hovelson                                                 |
| <i>Altar Servers</i>                                                               | Lillian Roth<br>Olivea Roth<br>Evelyn Roth                    | Clair Glennon<br>Sarah Monilaws                             |                                                               |
| <i>Offertory Collectors</i>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                      | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    | Betty Lou Stallman<br>Lisa Zahnow<br>Jennaca Killoran         |
| <i>Gift Bearers</i>                                                                | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                      | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    |                                                               |

NEWS AND NOTES

**Catholic Man Night!** Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. 6-7 pm Adoration & Confession. 7-8 pm Father Metzger will give a short presentation and dessert will be served. Holy Cross Catholic Church, 2711 7<sup>th</sup> Street East, West Fargo. Please see flyer on bulletin board for more information.

**Blue Mass to be Held:** St. Anthony’s will be holding a Blue Mass for all law enforcement on Wednesday, September 30, at 6:30 pm. A Blue Mass honors, in a special way, all those serving in public safety, both licensed and civilian. The color blue, predominantly worn by the men and women in service, provides the name for this Mass. The Mass and blessing is being held close to the time of the Feast of the Archangels, because St. Michael, one of the Archangels is the patron Saint of police officers. This Mass will also honor retired Fargo Police Chief David Todd and will include prayers and blessing for police officers, firefighters, correctional officers, 911 operators EMS personnel and others serving in public safety. A light reception will follow Mass. All are welcome to attend!

**Respect Life Sunday:** Bishop Folda invites the faithful of the diocese to join him in the annual Eucharistic procession, *Walk with Christ for Life*, on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. It will begin with Holy Mass at 12:00 noon, at the Cathedral of St. Mary, 604 Broadway, Fargo. This will be followed by a prayerful, peaceful procession to the state’s only abortion facility. A short prayer service will be held outside the abortion facility, and then those gathered will return to the Cathedral for Benediction.

**Rosary Coast to Coast:** This October 11, Catholics of all ages across North America are uniting in prayer. Many will meet face to face in familiar locations. Others can participate in spirit. You are invited to join us in this extraordinary movement of prayer that is designed to mobilize and energize multi-generational groups of children and families. Rosary Coast to Coast will be anchored by the 5<sup>th</sup> annual National Rosary Rally in front of the US Capitol in Washington DC. Plan to join together across the country in praying the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. Sunday, October 11 at 3:00pm at Holy Cross Catholic Church, West Fargo. Hosted by Court Holy Cross, Catholic Daughters of the Americas.



**Help Support our Cameroon Card Mission:** 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:**  
*“So the last will be first and the first last.” - Matthew 20:16*  
You’ve heard the saying “it’s not where you start, but how you finish.” This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live “God-centered” lives and not “self-centered” lives.