

PASTOR’S NOTES

A goal of \$3,288,934 . . . . a request of \$190 !!

This is the goal of the 2020 God’s Gift Appeal!  
This week Bishop John Folda will be sending a letter to each of the 24,611 Catholic households in the Diocese of Fargo, which comprises the 30 eastern counties in North Dakota. As a successor of the apostles Bishop Folda bears the responsibility of proclaiming the Gospel and sharing the Catholic faith to all who may live within the diocese.

- This is a daunting task —**
- > of educating and forming seminarians and permanent deacons in their becoming priests and deacons to serve our 130 parishes and missions;
  - > of helping vulnerable people through the *Guardianship and Adults Adopting Special Kids* programs offered by Catholic Charities;
  - > of sustaining our young people’s faith on the UND and NDSU university campuses through Neman Centers;
  - > of offering thousands of hours of faith-filled marriage, family and individual counseling;
  - > of assisting couples who struggle with infertility and seek adoption services;
  - > of sponsoring numerous faith-filled youth experiences (e.g. - SEARCH, youth rallies);
  - > of bringing stories of faith and new articles into our homes through *The New Earth*;
  - > of serving the needs of those who are divorced and seeking annulments;

*and much more* is laid on the plate of Bishop Folda for his pastoral care and concern.

**This is an awesome array of good work! Obviously, Bishop Folda can not do this alone!** He needs our help. Such is the purpose of the God’s Gift Appeal (GGA). The 260 parish households in St. Leo’s and the 51 in St. Thomas are being asked to give a **combined total** of **\$58,936** towards the 2020 GGA goal of \$3,288,934. This is an average of \$190 per parish household in St. Leo’s and St. Thomas.

This all looks so reasonable and doable as one looks at the 2020 Giving Hearts Day statistics. They raised over \$19,000,000+ from 34,000+ donors. That is an average of \$552 per donor!

**The many works of the Diocese are certainly worthy of our generous support.** I invite you to join me and my gift of \$400 as we journey together in the theme of this year’s Appeal of “*Seeking First the Kingdom of God.*”

St. Leo’s Prayer Chain

St Leo’s parish has a Prayer Chain made up of parishioners who will offer prayers on your behalf. Prayer requests can be of many kinds (*e.g.- for people who are sick, for persons/families who have suffered the loss of a loved one, for people going through troubled times, etc.*)

All prayer requests are to be directed to Bea Bachmeier, who will gather pertinent and necessary information and forward each prayer request to all members of the Prayer Chain. If Bea is unable to be contacted people are asked to direct their requests to Kelsey Lako, who will, in turn, forward any prayer requests.

**Telephone numbers for Bea** {701-347-5555} **and Kelsey** {701-793-7088} can be found on the front page of the church bulletin in the box listing staff persons.



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



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
February 16, 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 Feb 16:**

Mon - Feb 17 - 9:00 am - **+Deceased Bosch Family member** by Helen Franck  
Tues - Feb 18 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - **+Souls in purgatory**  
*St. Leo’s - NO MASS*  
Wed - Feb 19 - 9:00 am - **++Frank & Barbara Muscha** by Theresa Dooley  
Thurs - Feb 20 - 9:00 am - **+Jim Waldorf** by Gary & Delores Grommesh  
Fri - Feb 21 - 9:00 am - **Marie Swallow** by Bill & Mona Franck  
Sat - Feb 22 - St. Leo’s - 5:00 pm - **+Myrtle Mergner** by Marian Watson  
Sun - Feb 23 - St. Leo’s - 8:30 am Mass - **+Gary Siverson** by Donna Siverson  
**St. Thomas - 10:30 am Mass - 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  
**Liturgy/RE:** Sue Knoll  
Phone: 701-347-4609  
Cell: 701-261-2047  
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 & 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.


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

## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., Feb 16 - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm - KC Baked Potato Bar  
 Wed., Feb 19 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas  
 Wed., Feb 19 - 6:30 pm - RE classes at St. Leo's, Simple Supper at 6:00 pm  
 6:15 pm - Senior class meets  
 Wed., Feb 19 - 8:00 pm - KC meeting at the rectory  
 Sun., Feb 23 - 1:00- 4:30 pm - Catholic Collage at Shanley High School, Fargo  
**Wed., Feb 26 - Ash Wednesday - 5:30 pm - Mass at St. Thomas in Buffalo**  
**7:00 pm - Mass at St. Leo's**  
 Fri., Feb 28 - 6:30 pm - Stations of the Cross at St. Leo's, 6:00 pm- Soup & Sandwich Supper  
 Sun., Mar 1 - 9:00 am - KC Breakfast in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Tues., Mar 3 - 7:00 pm - Confirmation Parent Meeting in the lower level of church  
 Wed., Mar 4 - 6:00 pm - Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas in Buffalo  
 Fri., Mar 6 - 6:30 pm - Stations of the Cross at St. Leo's, 6:00 pm- Soup & Sandwich Supper  
 Mon., Mar 9 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy committee meeting at the rectory  
 Thurs., Mar 12 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life center

**Palms:** If you have old palms at home, please bring them to the church. We will use them for ashes on Ash Wednesday. You may also return **Lenten Canisters** and **nails** you have for re-use for the upcoming Lenten season. Thank you.

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	<b>Saturday Feb 22</b> <b>5:00 pm</b> <b>St. Leo's</b>	<b>Sunday Feb 23</b> <b>8:30 am</b> <b>St. Leo's</b>	<b>Sunday Feb 23</b> <b>10:30 am</b> <b>St. Thomas</b>
<b>Lector</b>	Tony Roth	Fred Eldridge	Larry Zaun
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Paulette Schmitt Sandie Nystrom	Denise Bartholomay Virjean Cramer Dave Glennon Terri Monilaws Mark Weber	Joe Killoran Linda Milbrandt
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Lillian Roth Olivea Roth Evelyn Roth	Lauren Glennon Sarah Monilaws	Carson Hovelson Carly Hovelson
<b>Offertory Collectors</b>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	Larry & Penny Zaun
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	Alex Richard Family	Joe & Lora Killoran

## NEWS AND NOTES

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

**Jim & Paulette Schmitt - 52 years on February 17**

**Thank yous.** St. Leo's has recently received some thank yous from various charities that we have given to. The thank yous are available for you to read on the bulletin board in the entrance of the church.

**Thank you from Sr. Suzanne Stahl, Sisters of Mary of the Presentation, Valley City:**

*Dear Fr. Ermer and the parishioners of St. Leo's Catholic Church, Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your continued generous donation to our missions in Cameroon, Africa. We recently received a report with supporting documents from our Sister in Cameroon. We continue to strive to meet the needs of the people of South East Cameroon while teaching them of Jesus Christ and the Salvation of the World!*



**Help Support our Cameroon Card Mission:**

Cards are available for purchase 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.

**Women's Care Center** in Fargo has an opening for a part-time nurse or sonographer. Will train. Please forward your resume to angela@wccnd.com or call (701)532-1928 for further details or questions.

**KC Baked Potato Bar:** St. Leo's Knights of Columbus will be serving a Baked Potato Bar today, Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Spirit of Life Center. Everyone is welcome.

**Financial Contribution Statements:**

To help cut down on the cost of postage, financial contribution statements will be available for pick up in the church entry through February 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.



**God's Gift 2020**

Next weekend, Feb 22/23, is Commitment Weekend for the 2020 God's Gift Appeal. This coming week you will be receiving your letter and personalized commitment card in the mail. Commitment cards may be placed in the offertory basket and we will see that they delivered to the Diocese. Thank you.

**Marriage Encounter Weekend** will take place March 6 - 8, 2020 at the Ramada in Fargo. For more information visit: NDWWME.org or call (701) 347-1998.

**This week's Stewardship moment:**

*"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." - Matthew 5:20*

The scribes and Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it's the love that you have in your heart that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules out of obligation, not love, does not put you on the path to heaven. Attending Mass on Sunday and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of a modern day Pharisee.