

PASTOR’S NOTES

Highlights from —
St. Leo’s Annual Parish Meeting —

- Last Sunday (February 2nd) St. Leo’s parish had their annual parish meeting accompanied by a free pork chop and potato dinner cooked by our KC Council. A number of reports were given, a copy of which can be found at the church entry. Here are some highlights:
- > The **Social Concerns Committee** reported the formation of a group of parish visitors, who will keep in touch with parishioners who are homebound, in nursing homes or find themselves in assisted living/independent living situations in surrounding communities. Last year our parish gave away a record high of \$9645 in charitable giving to 13 local, national and international organization. This does not include the \$28,000 St. Leo’s tithes to our mission project in Cameroon, Africa nor the \$616 our youth gave through their Sunday Offertory giving to the Friends of Chimbote in Peru, South America.
 - > Beyond the continual and unending work of straightening grave stones, **St. Leo’s Cemetery Committee** has completed a policy booklet for St. Leo’s cemetery. They are also working on establishing a site within the cemetery grounds for a baby section and are still exploring the cost, size and placement of a columbarium. A columbarium is an upright burial unit with a number of niches in which to place the remains of persons (cremains), who have decided to be cremated at the time of their deaths.
 - > Our **Liturgy Committee** continues its strong support of providing adornments for our various church seasons, feast/holydays as well as preparing the Prayers of the Faithful for Weekend liturgies. We have been blessed with a small, but extremely dedicated group of musicians who lead us in prayer and worship. **We are always looking for new musically-inclined parishioners to join our ranks!!!!**
 - > Our **Education Committee** once again reported an excellent 88% attendance rate for our RE students, but would always love to have the remaining 22 students to be with us. A big thank you to the 14 teachers who faithfully give of their time and talent to pass on our faith to our 158 attending students over the course of a school year. Last school year (2018-19) we had 52 students who had perfect attendance, which meant they did not miss any class for whatever reason. **Way to go!!!**
 - > Our **Finance Committee** reported our highest Sunday Offertory collection to date of \$221,675 from 170 households. 100 households had no record of Sunday Offertory giving. 59% of Sunday Offertory giving (\$131,000) comes from households who are 60 years of age and older leaving 41% (\$91,000) coming from households younger than 60 years of age. **It takes on average \$750 per household to pay the essential bills to ‘keep the lights on’ at St. Leo’s.** We are genuinely grateful for those households and whose stewardship allows us to not only pay the basic bills but also enable us to do major capital improvements (e.g. - update Spirit of Life Center kitchen, replace parking lot, paint the church’s interior, etc.)
 - > **St. Leo’s Knights of Columbus** continue to do awesome work providing the parish and community with over 2000 volunteer hours and \$9500 in charitable contributions. **Hats off to you!!!**
 - > Our year-old **Evangelization Committee** is meeting and planning ways to re-ignite the ‘fires of faith’ in our parish.

Read in detail about these many accomplishments in the stapled packets at the church entrance.
Thanks to all who make St. Leo’s a great parish!!!



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 IN ORDINARY TIME
February 9, 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 9:

Mon - Feb 10 - 9:00 am - **+Ernest Watson** by Marian Watson
Tues - Feb 11 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - **+Fr. Larry Haas**
St. Leo’s - NO MASS
Wed - Feb 12 - 9:00 am - **+Don Mergner** by Marjorie Mergner
Thurs - Feb 13 - 9:00 am - **Eva Garman** by Casey & Anna Garman
Fri - Feb 14 - 9:00 am - **+Gene Dooley** by Theresa Dooley
Sat - Feb 15 - St. Leo’s - 5:00 pm - **+Leroy Scherr** by Helen Franck
Sun - Feb 16 - St. Thomas - 8:30 am Mass - **For the people of our parishes**
St. Leo’s - 10:30 am Mass - **+Ken Habiger by Keith & Barb Marschke**

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 9 - 1:00– 4:30 pm - Catholic collage at Shanley High School, Fargo  
Mon., Feb 10 - 7:00 pm - Reconciliation parent meeting in big classroom in lower level of church  
Tues., Feb 11 - 7:00 pm - Education Committee meeting at the rectory  
Wed., Feb 12 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas  
Wed., Feb 12 - 6:30 pm - RE classes at St. Leo’s, Simple Supper at 6:00 pm  
6:15 pm - Junior class meets  
Thurs., Feb 13 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
Sun., Feb 16 - 10:00 am - 12:30 pm - KC Baked Potato Bar  
Sun., Feb 16 - 1:00– 4:30 pm - Catholic Collage at Shanley High School, Fargo  
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**

*Prayers and Sympathy:* Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Lorraine Kensok and family the death of her sister, Leona Janitell and to Korey Lorenz and family on the death of his grandfather, Emil Lorenz.  
*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. —Matthew 5:4*

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | Saturday Feb 15<br>5:00 pm<br>St. Leo’s | Sunday Feb 16<br>8:30 am<br>St. Thomas | Sunday Feb 16<br>10:30 am<br>St. Leo’s                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lector                                                                             | Renee Anderson                          | Judy Von Bank                          | Steve Carvell                                                           |
| Eucharistic Ministers                                                              | Gary Grommesh<br>Delores Grommesh       | Laura Biggers<br>Barb Buhr             | Joan Carvell<br>Jeff Grommesh<br>Tom Nowak<br>Deb Werner<br>Jake Werner |
| Altar Servers                                                                      | Samantha Burchill<br>Ronnie Burchill    | Gavin Besette<br>Carly Hovelson        | Mikaela Prochnow<br>Katherine Sullivan                                  |
| Offertory Collectors                                                               | Volunteer needed                        | Larry & Penny Zaun                     | Volunteer needed                                                        |
| Gift Bearers                                                                       | Micah Bartholomay Family                | Dennis & Cristie Killoran              | Tim Masset Family                                                       |


NEWS AND NOTES

**GIVING HEARTS DAY - Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.**  
What is Giving Hearts Day? Giving Hearts Day was started in 2008 by Dakota Medical Foundation and Impact Foundation as the region’s first one-day ‘virtual’ fundraising event to create awareness for many charities in ND and western Minnesota and for individuals to make donations. St. Leo’s has received cards from Catholic Charities, Community of Care and Women’s Care Center to please consider making a donation on Giving Hearts Day. For more information on Giving Hearts Day please see the poster on the bulletin board in the church entrance. Donations can be made by check directly to the organization, but must be received by February 13<sup>th</sup>. To make a donation electronically please visit: [www.GivingHeartsDay.org](http://www.GivingHeartsDay.org).

**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! Your assistance greatly helps this effort.*



**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.



**St. Leo’s Knight of the Month**

The Knight for the month of **February** is **Collin Miller**. Thank you Collin for your dedication and the works you do for the KC’s. It is greatly appreciated.

Council 9477

**KC Baked Potato Bar:** St. Leo’s Knights of Columbus will be serving a Baked Potato Bar on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 12:30 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.

**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.*

**This week’s Stewardship moment:**  
*“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” - Matthew 5:16*  
The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Let your light shine! Be careful to recognize that God is working through you and don’t put yourself above the people you have been called to help.