

PASTOR'S NOTES

Belated Thanks –

As time has flown by I came to realize that I have not properly thanked those parishioners who wished or sent greetings on the occasion of my 71st birthday this past October 23rd. Your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated. Birthdays have ways of stirring good memories of family, friends and the gift of faith that has come over the years. Your well wishes mean a lot.

End of another church year

Next Sunday (Nov. 22nd) is the solemnity of *Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*, which is often shortened to simply Christ the King Sunday. That solemnity is always the last Sunday of the church year. The following Sunday (Nov. 29th) will be the first Sunday of Advent and Advent is the season that begins a new church year.

Our Sunday gospel readings for this present church year that is soon ending have come from Matthew's gospel. All gospels tell the story of Christ whom the Father sent into the world to save the human race. Each gospel develops this story in the unique ways that God has spoken to that particular gospel writer.

In many ways Matthew's gospel can be summarized in chapters 5, 6 & 7. These three chapters are known as the *Sermon on the Mount*. This sermon begins with the Beatitudes, which outlines the stairway to heaven

[Mt. 5:1-12]. This is followed by probing the deepest meaning of the Ten Commandments (e.g. - not calling one another names {5th Commandment}; adultery in the heart {6th Commandment}; praying for one's enemies, etc.).

In chapter seven (7), Jesus ends the *Sermon on the Mount* with the images of two houses — one built on sand and other built on rock. He challenges all people **who listen to these words and puts them into practice** as being a person who has built his house on rock. Such houses can stand the falling rain and the buffeting winds whereas houses built on sand will collapse. **The following chapters in Matthew's gospel spell out this house-building project.**

All readers are left to ponder and ask themselves — is my house of faith built on sand or is it built on rock?

- > have we interiorized the Ten Commandments or just lived them in the most minimal of ways?
[Mt. 5:21ff.; 5:27ff.; 5:38-48, etc.]
- > do we see the Christian way of life as the 'pearl of great price' and sold everything to purchase it?
[Mt. 13:44-46]
- > do we expect and accept great mercy from God but do not give to others in the same way?
[Mt. 18:21-35]
- > do we desire all the perks and privileges of attending a wedding, but do not do our part in purchasing a wedding garment? [Mt. 22:1-14]
- > do we expect to get or to borrow spiritual gifts from others that can only be obtained by ourselves?
[Mt. 25:1-13]

Hopefully this year's walk with Matthew's gospel has enriched our spiritual lives and called us to live more fully the ways of God's Kingdom.

Liturgical accoutrements

This Sunday will be our last poster of liturgical items frequently used in the life of a parish church. Each week we have posted the past week's item on the walls of St. Leo's church. Hopefully this has been a point of education for parishioners as we come to see and get to know the names of these various liturgical items that facilitate the ongoing life of the Church.



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-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME November 15, 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 15:

Mon - Nov 16 - 9:00 am - +Eileen Grommesh by Gary & Delores Grommesh

Tues - Nov 17 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - NO MASS

St. Leo's - NO MASS

Wed - Nov 18 - 9:00 am - +Kenny Habiger by Mary Kempel

Thurs - Nov 19 - 9:00 am - +Myrtle Megner by Marian Watson

Fri - Nov 20 - 9:00 am - +John 'Jack' Ermer by Stan & Angeline Mathias

Sat - Nov 21 - 5:00 pm - +Harold Holm by Ron & Dung Thuy Kaufman

Sun - Nov 22 - St. Leo's - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes

St. Thomas - 10:30 am - +Clem Pollock by Larry & Penny Zaun

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 & 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., Nov 15 - **NO Beverage and Bite** after 10:30 am Mass  
 Mon., Nov 16 - 7:00 pm - Confirmation Parent Meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Tues., Nov 17 - 7:00 pm - Finance Committee meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Wed., Nov 18 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas - Group B  
     6:30 pm - Re classes at St. Leo's - Group B, Simple Supper at 6:00 pm  
     6:15 pm - Junior class meets  
 Wed., Nov 18 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Thurs., Nov 19 - 7:00 pm - Inquiry Class on the Catholic Faith in large classroom in lower level of church  
 Sun., Nov 22 - **NO Beverage and Bite** after 8:30 am Mass  
 Mon., Nov 23 - 7:00 pm - St. Leo's Pastoral Council meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Wed., Nov 25 - **NO RE** classes at St. Thomas and St. Leo's  
 Thurs., Nov 26 - 9:00 am - Thanksgiving Day Mass at St. Leo's  
 Mon., Nov 30 - 7:00 pm - St. Thomas Pastoral Council meeting

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Tyler Wasien and his family on the death of his grandmother, Mabel Orth.

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. —Matthew 5:4*

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | <b>Saturday Nov 21</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><b>St. Leo's</b><br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat of the Month | <b>Sunday Nov 22</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><b>St. Leo's</b><br>4 <sup>th</sup> Sun of the Month | <b>Sunday Nov 22</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><b>St. Thomas</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                      | Renee Anderson                                                                                   | Fred Eldridge                                                                                  | Jackie Vavra                                                 |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                       | Delores Grommesh                                                                                 | Denise Bartholomay                                                                             |                                                              |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                               | Cassie Bartholomay                                                                               | Claire Glennon<br>Sarah Monilaws                                                               | Jami Vavra                                                   |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                         | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                       | Gary & Linda<br>Milbrandt                                    |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                                | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                         | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                       |                                                              |

## NEWS AND NOTES

**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.

**Divorced, Widowed, or Separated: Are you doing your best to cope with life alone?** "Beginning Experience" is a program of peer ministry that has helped a lot of people going through the difficult times of the loss of a spouse. ***The next Beginning Experience Weekend will be November 20-22, 2020, at Maryvale, Valley City.*** For more information please contact Frank (218) 790-4202, Marlene (218) 998-4300, or Jason (701) 840-8951. Check the website: [beginningexperience-easternnd.org](http://beginningexperience-easternnd.org).

**Women's Care Center** has an opening for a part-time nurse or sonographer. Seeking special people committed to our mission, who are personable with excellent communication skills. Will train. Please forward your resume to [angela@wccnd.com](mailto:angela@wccnd.com) or call 701-532-1928 for further details or questions.

**REDEEMED Trusted Sisters Women's Conference:** The REDEEMED Women's Conference has been rescheduled for February 19-20, 2021 at the Delta Hotel in Fargo. Featured speakers will include Dr. Helen Alvaré, Dr James Link, Marcie Stockman (foundress of Well Read Mom), and Andrea Thomas of the Vigil Project. The event will also include performances and worship led by the Vigil Project. [This conference will be available to attend both in person as well as via livestream.](#) More information is available at [fargodiocese.org/redeemedwomen](http://fargodiocese.org/redeemedwomen).

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." - Matthew 25:21*

God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us. He expects us to grow our gifts, use them wisely and be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us.

**Book of Remembrance:** All are invited to write down the names of your deceased loved ones and we will pray for them at the Daily and Weekend Masses during the month of November. The Book of Remembrance is located in the church entry.

**Hospice of the Red River Valley** is offering several different virtual classes on dealing with grief. Classes are intended for those who have experienced a loss. All programs are free and open to the public but registration is required prior to each class date. If you are interested, please call 800-237-4629 and ask to speak to a member of the grief support department.



### 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.

