

PASTOR’S NOTES

A brother’s death —

On August 15, 2002 at 2:10 a.m. my younger brother, Jack, died of pancreatic cancer at the Sanford Hospice House in downtown Fargo. He first received diagnosis of pancreatic cancer in March of 2019. In the intervening months he did chemotherapy and a whipple surgery. He did the usual medical procedures, but in the end cancer had its way.

Jack, as he was known in family circles, but John to those who knew him in the Fargo area, had no previous health issues. He was fit and kept himself in good shape, but a long life was not to be.

It is very difficult to bury a brother four years younger than yourself. It just seems it should not be that way. All of sudden the Word of God speaks to that reality —

*“For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years. Rather understanding is the hoary crown for men and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.  
He who pleased God was loved ...  
Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord...”* [Wisdom 4:8-10a,13-14a]

I find great comfort in these words because I find great comfort in my brother’s life of faith, his deep involvement in the life of Nativity parish, his deep abiding friendships with the 7:45 a.m. Sunday Mass group at Nativity, his long-time membership and work on the church’s finance committee, his commitment to the work of Nativity Knights of Columbus, his very regular attendance of Sunday Mass and weekday Mass occasionally, his reception of the Last Rites of the Church [Reconciliation {Confession}, Anointing of the Sick and Viaticum {last Eucharist}]. For a guy who was a bachelor all his life, he ‘done good’. *Jack, may you rest in peace!*

Learning more about the Catholic Church

A couple people have expressed interest in learning more about the Catholic faith and possibly joining the Church next spring at Easter time.

If there are others with the same interest, please let me know as I start making plans on putting together those classes beginning in late September or early October.

Hospitalized? - Having surgery?

In the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew’s gospel, Christ speaks of the Last Judgment. The criteria of that judgment has come to be known as the 7 corporal works of mercy. One of those corporal works of mercy is visiting the sick. Many times the parish only hears of someone’s hospitalization after the person has returned home. Please do not hesitate to call the parish office and let us know of someone’s hospitalization, so Fr. Ermer can schedule a visit.

On a related note, it is certainly good to be anointed anytime someone is scheduled for surgery. The anointing of the sick is one of the Church’s 7 sacraments, which celebrates God’s healing love for the human family. Many time we celebrate that anointing after communion at a daily or Sunday Mass. If circumstances are otherwise, this anointing can be done to fit your schedule. Please call Fr. Ermer to schedule that.



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-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
August 23, 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 Aug 23:

Mon - Aug 24 - 9:00 am - +**Duane Mergner** by Marian Watson  
Tues - Aug 25 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - +**Fr. Loudon Flisk**  
*St. Leo’s - NO MASS*  
Wed - Aug 26 - 9:00 am - **Elizabeth Garman** by Casey & Anna Garman  
Thurs - Aug 27 - 9:00 am - +**Lucille Matthey** by Marian Watson  
Fri - Aug 28 - 9:00 am - ++**Cathy & Gerald Hulm** by Bill & Mona Franck  
**Sat - Aug 29 - 5:00 pm - +Paul Madsen by Stephen & LaRae Madsen**  
**Sun - Aug 30 - St. Thomas - 8:30 am - +Rita Halland by Dennis & Dora Elbert**  
**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  
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**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


Mon., Aug 24 - 7:00 pm - RE Parent meeting in the Spirit of Life Center (option #2)  
 Sun., Aug 30 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass following the current CDC COVID19 guidelines  
 Tues., Sept 1 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy committee meeting  
 Tues., Sept 8 - 7:00 pm - Cemetery committee meeting  
 Tues., Sept 15 - 7:00 pm - Finance committee meeting  
 Wed., Sept 16 - 6:30 pm - RE classes begin  
 Tues., Sept 22 - 7:00 pm - Pastoral Council meeting

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Fr. Ermer and his siblings on the death of their brother, Jack and to Sue Knoll and her family on the death of her uncle, Wayne Boucher.

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

**Having Masses offered** is a great prayer practice. In those Masses we offer to God our fondest prayers for the well being of others as well as the deepest yearnings of our own hearts and minds. If you would like to schedule a Mass intention, envelopes are available in the church entry. The recommended offering for a Mass intention is \$10.

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	<b>Saturday Aug 29</b> <b>5:00 pm</b> <i>St. Leo's</i>	<b>Sunday Aug 30</b> <b>8:30 am</b> <i>St. Thomas</i>	<b>Sunday Aug 30</b> <b>10:30 am</b> <i>St. Leo's</i>
<b>Lector</b>	Tony Roth	Jackie Vavra	Darcee Rehovsky
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	<i>Due to concerns regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) St. Leo's and St. Thomas will temporarily suspend the distribution of the Precious Blood.</i>		
<b>Altar Servers</b>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Rudi Wendel	Paris Mack Parker Mack
<b>Offertory Collectors</b>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>		<i>Volunteers needed</i>

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Parents of students attending St. Leo's RE Program:

Bishop Folda has asked all parishes to host a parent meeting so that you will get all the information on how the RE program will run this year. It is always good to get together in person when possible. This past Wed. we had the first meeting (of two) in the Spirit of Life Center so we were able to keep a good physical distance and the meeting lasted about 35 minutes.

The next meeting date is **Mon., Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at St. Leo's**. If you are not able to make that meeting, please let us know so that we can schedule another time as well. We need to hear from everyone so that we can plan the class schedules accordingly.

Thanks so much- we hope to see you on Monday!  
 Sue Knoll 701-347-4609/ 701-261-2047

**JPII Catholic Schools** is looking to hire the following positions for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Science Teacher – Shanley High School
- Substitute Teachers – All locations
- Assistant Cook – Trinity Elementary
- Little Deacons Para – Holy Spirit Elementary
- After School Workers – All locations
- Custodian – Holy Spirit Elementary
- Evening Custodian – Shanley High School/Sullivan Middle School

For more information on these positions or how to apply visit <https://www.jp2schools.org/central-office/careers/> or call 701-893-3231.

**St. Leo's Knights of Columbus Corn & Brat Feed** has been cancelled for this year. Instead the KC's will be selling fresh sweet corn weather permitting out at Gordy's Service Station corner. For more information and dates when corn will be available please call Grand Knight Micah Bartholomay at (701)404-0527.

**REBOOT: A Life-changing event** featuring acclaimed speaker, author and TV host Chris Stefanick. Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 7:00– 9:30 pm at Holy Family Catholic Church, 1018 18th Ave S, Grand Forks, ND. Tickets: \$25. Information and to purchase tickets: (701)746-1454 or [RealLifeCatholic.com/reboot](http://RealLifeCatholic.com/reboot)  
 Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.



### 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:

*"Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?" - Romans 11:35*

St. Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship. We cannot give the Lord anything - God already owns it all. God made everything. All we can do is return a portion of God's many gifts back to Him. Sincere gratitude for our gifts opens our hearts to joyful generosity! Through your generous sharing, you just may be the answer to someone's prayer.