

## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., Mar 23– 6:30 pm– Ecumenical Prayer Service at Goshen Moravian Church; Soup & Sandwich at 6 pm  
 Mon., Mar 24 – 6:30 pm – KC Meeting at the rectory  
 Wed., Mar 26 – 6:00 pm – St. Thomas– Stations of the Cross  
 Wed., Mar 26 – Religious Education Classes– see below  
 Thurs., Mar 27 – 12:00 pm – Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Fri., Mar 28 – 5:00 pm – Holy Hour at St. Leo’s  
 Fri., Mar 28– 6:30 pm – St. Leo’s– Stations of the Cross; Soup & Sandwich Supper at 6 pm  
 Sun., Mar 30–6:30 pm– Ecumenical Prayer Service at United Methodist Church; Soup & Sandwich at 6 pm

### Religious Education Class Times — Wed., March 26


St. Thomas RE classes — 3:45 pm

St. Leo’s RE classes: Simple Supper - 6:00 pm  
 Grades K & 3 — (5:15 pm session); (6:30 pm session)  
 Grades 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 — 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
 Grade 5 - Class B and 11<sup>th</sup> grade — 6:15 - 7:45 pm



**Gods Gift 2025:** Thank you to all who have already completed their pledge cards. Completed pledge cards can be returned either to the parish office or by placing in the collection basket at Mass.

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	<b>Saturday Mar 29</b> <b>5:00 pm</b> <i>St. Leo’s</i>	<b>Sunday Mar 30</b> <b>8:30 am</b> <i>St. Thomas</i>	<b>Sunday Mar 30</b> <b>10:30 am</b> <i>St. Leo’s</i>
			
<b>Lector</b>	Megan Bolda	Alecia Killoran	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Mona Franck Delores Grommesh	Joni Biggers Keith Biggers	Virjean Cramer Susan Kempel Deb Werner Jake Werner <b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Altar Servers</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	Damien Norrie Gavin Besette	Hayden Faleide Lucas Miller
<b>Offertory Collectors</b>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Keith & Joni Biggers	<i>Volunteers needed</i>
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Aaron Haseleu Family	<i>Volunteers needed</i>
<b>Lead Rosary</b>	Richard Muscha		Alexia Kieffer

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Ann Faught, Jack Kensok, Terry Kensok and their families on death of their mother, Margaret Kensok.

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

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

**Robert & Mary Lynne Snyder - 62 yrs on March 24**



**St. Leo’s Knights of Columbus Annual Fish Fry: Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 to 7:00 pm.** All are welcome. They are looking for anyone who has fish they would be willing to donate for the fish fry. Please call the parish office at 347-4609 if you would like to donate fish.

**St. Leo’s RE Lenten Challenge:** The Education Committee has teamed up with the Rural Cass County Emergency Food Pantry in an attempt to help fill their shelves with basic toiletry items for community members in need. Each Religious Education Class has been given a high need personal care product item(s) to bring in as a donation. All church members are welcome to bring donations as well. The items needed are posted in the Spirit of Life Center along with bins to drop off items. Items can be dropped off from now until **April 9<sup>th</sup>**. A goal and progress chart is also posted in the Spirit of Life Center.

**Lenten Canisters** – One recipient of our Lenten canisters is *St. Gianna’s Maternity Home*. St. Gianna’s Maternity Home is a national charity dedicated to providing safe shelter, food, clothing, education, and counseling; and to address the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of women in crisis pregnancies as an alternative to abortion. They are committed to providing families with a stable living situation based on spiritual values – one mother, one baby, one family at a time. **Please be generous in supporting our Lenten charities. We will collect these canister during Holy Week.**

### This week’s Stewardship moment:

*“He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.’” ~ Luke 13:7*

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have, or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous; we are called to develop and nurture our gifts; and return them with increase. We are called to be generous with all of our gifts; especially the one that means the most to you.

### EASTER CANTATA

*‘Lift High the Cross’*

**Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**3:00 pm**

St. Leo’s Catholic Church

All are Welcome

Refreshments to follow.

**Music for Holy Week and Easter:** Everyone is invited to join us in the choir loft to lead music for **Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>**. Practices will be on Sunday mornings either before or after the Sunday Mass. The practice schedule will be:

- March 23– 9:30 am
- March 30– 9:00 am
- April 6– 9:00 am
- April 13– 9:30 am

Music will be provided. Please come and help make these days special with some beautiful music!

**Upcoming Diocesan Events:** Please see information on the bulletin board for area churches events and retreats in our Diocese or visit the Fargo of Diocese website for more information at: [www.fargodiocese.org](http://www.fargodiocese.org)

## PASTOR'S NOTES

### Upcoming Lenten Events of note:

#### > Lenten Holy Hour —

On Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5 p.m. St. Leo's will host an hour of Eucharistic exposition and adoration. During that "hour with the Lord" we will pray that day's Evening Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours as well as the Rosary. The hour will close with Benediction. People can then go to our final soup & sandwich supper at 6 p.m. followed by our last 'regular' Lenten Stations of the Cross.

#### > Lenten Fish Fry —

On Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:30 p.m. and going until 7 p.m. St. Leo's Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual Fish Fry in the Spirit of Life Center. At 7 p.m. people are invited to join us for the *Living Stations of the Cross* in the church. Please mark your calendars!

#### > Lenten Living Stations of the Cross—

On Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7 p.m. our ninth grade RE students will portray the *Living Stations* of the Cross. The *Living Stations* enact the 14 stations of the Cross accompanied by a two-person narration/reflection beginning with Christ being sentenced to death and ending with his burial in the tomb.

#### > Lenten Area Reconciliation Services —

Lent is a special church season to examine our lives, acknowledge the sins that occupy our lives, and to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation. Each of the 11 Catholic parish churches in Cass County have special times set aside to host a Reconciliation Service along with a number of priests to hear Confessions and proclaim the Lord's absolution. Those dates and times can be found on a flyer on our bulletin board in the church entry along with ½ page hand outs on the shelves behind the last set of pews at the back of the church in St. Leo's or on the entry way table at St. Thomas.

**St. Leo's Lenten Reconciliation Service is scheduled for Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7 p.m.** There will be five (5) priests to hear confessions and bestow the Lord's absolution.

### Saintly advice – prayer

Prayer is one of hallmarks of the spiritual life. In terms of prayer, an early Church writer, Tertullian [160-225 A.D.] notes that Christian prayer is an upgrade over prayer from more ancient times. He writes, "Of old, prayer was able to rescue from fire and beasts and hunger ... bring an angel of comfort to the heart of a fiery furnace, or close up the mouths lions ... bring down punishment, rout armies, withhold the blessing of rain."

**But,** "Now, however, the prayer of the just turn aside the whole anger of God, keeps vigil for its enemies, pleads for persecutors ... **Prayer is the one thing that can conquer God** {emphasis mine}... Its only art is to call back the souls of the dead from the very journey into death, to give strength to the weak, to heal the sick, to exorcise the possessed, to open prison cells, to free the innocent from their chains."

"Prayer cleanses from sin, drives away temptation, stamps out persecutions, comforts the faint-hearted, gives new strength to the courageous, confounds robbers, feeds the poor, overrules the rich, lifts up the fallen, supports those who are falling, sustains those who stand firm."

"All the angels pray. **What more need to be said on the duty of prayer? Even the Lord himself prayed.** {emphasis mine}"



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



## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT March 23, 2025

### 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 Mar 23:

Mon – Mar 24 – 9:00 am – +Souls in purgatory

Tues – Mar 25 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – +Marvin Ries by Minnie Ries

*NO Mass at St. Leo's*

Wed – Mar 26 – 9:00 am – +Harriet Dimmer by Rene Anderson

Thurs – Mar 27 – 9:00 am – +Souls in purgatory

Fri – Mar 28 – 9:00 am – +Luvern Tamerius by Cecilia Gonzalez

**Saturday – Mar 29 – 5:00 pm - +Jim Schmitt by Kory Schaan**

**Sunday - Mar 30 – St. Thomas - 8:30 am - +Bill Grieve by Keith & Joni Biggers**

**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

E-mail: stleo@casselton.net

**RE Coordinator:** Patty Roth

Phone: 701-347-4609

E-mail: dre@stleosnd.org

**Website:** www.stleosnd.org

### Prayer Chain:

Kelsey Lako: 701-793-7088

**Maintenance:** Paul & Sherry Radermacher

Phone: 701-793-7740; 701-793-7798

**St. Leo's Directors:** Dave Glennon & Micah Bartholomay

**St. Thomas Directors:** Gary Milbrandt & Flint Kasowski

### 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.