

PASTOR'S NOTES

Some Parish notes

As we waddle through this pandemic and attempt to navigate the science and faith of this issue, parish life goes on. I would like to keep you informed on a number of issues:

> some thank you's are in order —

+ **Steve Carvell** for the wonderful work he did on taping, editing and uploading my Sunday homilies during our time of no public Masses;

+ **the 19 men** [Micah Bartholomay, Jim Flynn, Terry Kensok, Alex Richard, Ethan Richard, Gary Grommesh, Travis Grommesh, Jared Grommesh, Paul Radermacher, Bryce Radermacher, Dominic Spooner, Dave Glennon, Jake Werner, Mark Wieland, Adam Cotton, Tim Masset, Casey Garman, Byran Cramer and Jerry Christensen] who helped remove St. Leo's church pews in order for us to paint the nave of the church as well as make possible the cleaning and waxing of that floor space;

+ **parishioners** who have brought me meals during our 'close down' period.

> some facility items at St. Leo's —

+ we have finished painting the nave of the church (i.e., the area where the pews are and people sit) as well as the church entry and the Mass servers' vesting room. Hopefully the day following Memorial Day the painters will tackle the altar area followed by the choir loft and remaining areas;

+ hopefully the nave floor will be cleaned and waxed by Monday evening and the pews moved back on Tuesday evening;

+ the Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Committee decided to take down our old chimney. It has many areas needing repair and seems to be the source of a water leak by the Mary statue. Chimneys of this nature are no longer part of modern heating solutions.

+ we signed a contract for updating and modernizing our elevator. Parts have been ordered. It will take a minimum of 10 weeks to have an operational elevator. Hopefully that will happen by mid July.

> celebrating Reconciliation, Confirmation & Eucharist with our students —

+ we have tentatively scheduled the sacrament of Reconciliation for our students at **6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 18th**. This will be just for our students and their families. There are a number of details that must yet be accomplished (i.e., retreat, interviews). Sue will be in touch with parents with all preparatory details;

+ we have scheduled the celebration of the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist with Bishop Folda for **Friday, June 12th at 6:30 p.m.** There are a number of details that must yet be accomplished (i.e., a parent class, retreat, interviews). Sue will be in touch with parents with all preparatory details. Your cooperation in these matters is deeply appreciated.

> parish finances —

+ in comparing March, April and the first two Sundays of May for 2019 and 2020 St. Leo's Sunday Offertory giving is down by a total of \$10,500. We have not yet done the same comparison with St. Thomas' Sunday Offertory collection. If you find that you missed some collections during our 'down time' and can make an offering **we truly appreciate your continual financial support of our parishes.**

+ at the present time our 2020 Lenten canisters have raised \$4459. Our 2019 canisters raised \$6679. If you still have canisters to turn in, please do so by Memorial Day. We would like to send checks to those charities at that time.



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 OF EASTER May 17, 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 May 17:

Mon - May 18 - 9:00 am - +**Duane Mergner** by Marian Watson

Tues - May 19 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - +**Souls in purgatory**

St. Leo's - NO MASS

Wed - May 20 - 9:00 am - +**Kenny Habiger** by Tamara Krogman

Thurs - May 21 - 9:00 am - +**Gerry Huwe** by Gary & Delores Grommesh

Fri - May 22 - 9:00 am - ++**Joe & Helen Krumm** by Helen Franck

Sat - May 23 - 5:00 pm - +Karen Yoshihara by Steve & LaRae Madsen

Sun - May 24 - St. Leo's - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes

St. Thomas - 10:30 am - ++John & Mary Ermer

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer

E-mail: james.ermer@fargodiocese.org

Secretary: Delores Grommesh

Phone: 701-347-4609

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Phone: 701-347-4609

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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.

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

## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

There will be **NO** Beverage and Bite for the month of May.

*When we return to regular events you will be notified by email.*

**After Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> for those who cannot attend, Sunday and Daily Masses can be viewed on the Fargo Diocese website.**

Go to: [www.fargodiocese.net](http://www.fargodiocese.net)

on the home page you can either click right on the video

or

Scroll down under the heading **'Watch the Daily Mass from St. Mary's Cathedral in Fargo'**

click on the blue highlighted words **Diocese of Fargo YouTube** page and you can watch the Sunday Mass or the Daily Mass (all videos are dated).

**Votive Candles and Statues:** With the nave of the church painting now completed, the statues and votive candles have been moved back into the church. You are most welcome to come and light a candle and say a prayer. Suggested donation to light a candle is \$3.

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Inez Woell and family on the death of her husband, John Woell and to Audrey Cramer and her family on the death of her sister, Kathy Ahonen.

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

|  | <b>Saturday May 23</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><b>St. Leo's</b>                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Sunday May 24</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><b>St. Leo's</b> | <b>Sunday May 24</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><b>St. Thomas</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                      | Tony Roth                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Fred Eldridge                                              | Jackie Vavra                                                 |
| <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. At this time only Father Ermer will be distributing the Body of Christ.</i> |                                                            |                                                              |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                               | TBD                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | TBD                                                        | Carson Hovelson                                              |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                   | JoEllen Killoran                                             |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                                | Procession of gifts is omitted until further notice.                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                            |                                                              |

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Beginning Experience:** June 26 - 28, 2020 at the Retreat Center in Hankinson, ND. Beginning Experience is a program that helps people going through the difficult time of loss of a spouse whether widowed, separated or divorced. For more information please contact Frank (218-790-4202), Marlene (218-998-4300) or Jason (701-840-8951). You can also check the website: [beginningexperience-easternnd.org](http://beginningexperience-easternnd.org)

**Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages** Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program helping married couples with a hurting marriage find new hope and rediscover the love that initially brought them together. For more information visit [HelpOurMarriage.com](http://HelpOurMarriage.com) or call (701)356-7962, or via email at: [RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org](mailto:RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org).

**3rd Annual Rural Life Celebration:** As of this time the Rural Life Celebration is still on. Please join the parishioners of St. Philip Neri in Napoleon, ND on Sunday, July 12th at Frank & Helen Braun Farm, north of Napoleon. Guests may begin to arrive at 1:30 pm. Blessing of land, animals, and farm machinery will begin at 1:45 pm followed by a 2:00 pm Mass on the farm. A meal and entertainment will follow. The farm is located 3 miles North of Napoleon on ND Hwy 3. For more information visit: [www.fargodiocese.org/rural-life](http://www.fargodiocese.org/rural-life). Please RSVP at: (701)754-2860 or [evangelize@bektel.com](mailto:evangelize@bektel.com). Remember to bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. You may also bring a container of soil from your fields or garden to be blessed. This event is FREE. We will follow ND state guidelines for COVID-19 protections.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday's from 4:00 to 4:45 pm. For physical distancing, Fr. Ermer will hear confessions in the side sacristy (where the Mass servers get ready for Mass). It is located in the Northeast corner of the sanctuary. Use the door by the entry to the Spirit of Life Center. He will light a candle by the doorway when he is there. The room is large enough to have the option to go face-to-face or behind the screen. You can still call Fr. Ermer to schedule a time for the sacrament of Reconciliation as well. 347-4609.



**Help Support our Cameroon Card Mission: Father's Day cards are available.** 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:**

*"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be God's will, than for doing evil." - 1 Peter 3:17*

The old line says, "if you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." Many of us are diligent in our planning and making sure things are progressing smoothly. Then disaster strikes, we don't get the result that was intended or an unforeseen problem arises. Many times we may respond negatively and ask, "Why me? I did everything right!" Here's the thing — adversity humbles us and reminds us of our dependence on God and not on our own self-reliance. Rest assured, God has a better plan in store for you.