

## PASTOR'S NOTES

### Transitional Deacon – *what's that?*

On Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> our parishioner and seminarian, Matthew Kensok, will be ordained as a transitional deacon for the Diocese of Fargo. **Exactly -- what is a transitional deacon??**

First, the word 'ordination' refers to the sacrament of Holy Orders. Secondly, the sacrament of Holy Orders is the only sacrament that is plural (*it is Holy Orders, not Holy Order*), which means there is more than one order in this particular sacrament. **In fact there are three (3) ranks or levels to the sacrament of Holy Orders.** The first rank is deacon; the second rank is priest; and the third rank is bishop, which is the fullness of the sacrament of Holy Orders. The three ranks are related to one another, but at the same time, are distinct from one another. In terms of the Eucharist – a deacon is the Ordinary Minister (distributor) of Holy Communion; a priest and bishop are ones who can consecrate the Eucharist; but a bishop is the only one who ordains both a priest and a deacon.

As a deacon (the first rank) one is either a permanent deacon or a transitional deacon. A permanent deacon can be married and his intention at ordination is to always live in the role of a deacon. On the other hand, **a transitional deacon can not be married and is ultimately seeking to be ordained to the priesthood (the second rank).**

Deacons (*either permanent or transitional*) can celebrate two of the Church's 7 sacraments. A deacon can baptize, and solicit the consent and witness the vows of a couple desiring to be married. In addition deacons can proclaim the Gospel, preach, preside at funeral burial services, bless certain religious objects, celebrate the exposition and benediction of the Eucharist, etc.

At their ordinations deacons become clerics in the Church and are incardinated into a diocese. According to the Church's canon law incardination means *'the permanent attachment of bishops, priests and deacons to a particular church .... for the primary purpose of the service of the people of God'*. In a deacon's ordination ritual, they will make a promise of obedience to their bishop, to celebrate faithfully the liturgy of the hours for the Church and the world, be vested in a stole and dalmatic and presented with the Book of the Gospels. **Particular to the ordination of a transitional deacon is his commitment to celibacy.** In church usage celibacy is forgoing the dignity of married life and living a life of chastity. The bishop asks the transitional deacon: *"In the presence of God and the Church, are you resolved, as a sign of your interior dedication to Christ, to remain celibate for the sake of the kingdom, and in lifelong service to God and mankind?"* The candidate answers: **I am.**

Perhaps this is more than what you wanted to know, but with Matthew's ordination to transitional deacon on the horizon, I thought it would be good to inform the parish of what it means to be a transitional deacon.

After his ordination on Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> Matthew will assist as a deacon at Mass on Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> both at St. Thomas and St. Leo's as well as proclaim the Gospel and preach the homily. The 10:30 Mass at St. Leo's will be followed by an egg-bake breakfast for Matthew and the parish hosted by our Knights of Columbus. **This is a great gift for St. Leo's parish to have one of our own ordained for the service of the Church here in eastern North Dakota. Next year we look forward to his ordination to the priesthood.**

During the course of this upcoming summer Matthew will serve as a deacon at Sts. Anne and Joachim Church in Fargo before returning to his final year of seminary formation at Mt. St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

**Let us keep Matthew in our prayers!**



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 9, 2021

### 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 9:

Mon - May 10 - 9:00 am - **Collin & Anne Miller** by Sharon Miller

Tues - May 11 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - **NO MASS**

*St. Leo's - NO MASS*

Wed - May 12 - **6:30 pm - RE Closing Mass - RE Students**

Thurs - May 13 - 9:00 am - **+Ernest Watson** by Marian Watson

Fri - May 14 - 9:00 am - **+Janice Miller** by Stan & Angeline Mathias

Sat - May 15 - **5:00 pm - +Marian Kasowski by Carol Nilles**

Sun - May 16 - **St. Thomas - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes**  
**St. Leo's - 10:30 am - 2021 Graduates**

### 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

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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 & Dave Glennon

**St. Thomas Directors:** Larry Zaun & Gary Milbrandt

### *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.


## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., May 9 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Tues., May 11 - 7:00 pm - Education committee meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Wed., May 12 - 6:30 pm - RE Closing Mass, everyone is welcome to attend. NO 9 am Daily Mass  
 Thurs., May 13 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Sun., May 16 - 9:30 am - St. Thomas honoring graduates and Confirmation class after 8:30 am Mass  
 Sun., May 16 - 11:30 am - St. Leo's graduation breakfast after 10:30 am Mass  
 Sun., May 23 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Wed., May 26 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Sun., May 30 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Tues., June 1 - 7:00 pm - Social Concerns committee meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
**Fri., June 4 - 7:00 pm - Matthew Kensok transitional diaconate ordination at St. Mary's Cathedral**

**REMINDER:** Please remember to return your Lenten canisters.

**Religious Education Closing Mass:** We will be celebrating Mass this **Wed., May 12<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm**, here at St. Leo's, as we conclude our RE classes for this school year. It has been another good year, despite COVID, and we have good reason to celebrate! Fr. Ermer will be handing out Perfect Attendance Awards that evening and we will follow Mass with and Ice Cream Social. **EVERYONE** is invited to celebrate with our RE Families. Hope to see you there!

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | <b>Saturday May 15</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><b>St. Leo's</b> | <b>Sunday May 16</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><b>St. Thomas</b> | <b>Sunday May 16</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><b>St. Leo's</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                      | Renee Anderson                                               | Larry Zaun                                                  | Steve Carvell                                               |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                       | Lucy Wagner                                                  |                                                             | Joan Carvell                                                |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                               | Cassie Bartholomay                                           | Jami Vavra<br>Abigail Killoran                              | Daniel Sullivan<br>Alex Sullivan<br>Logan Prochnow          |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                     | JoEllen Killoran<br>Lisa Zahnow                             | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                                | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                     | Flint & Dee Kasowski                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    |

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Dustin Burchill and his family on the death of his father, Duane Burchill.

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

**ST. THOMAS NEWS:** On Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> St. Thomas will be honoring it's graduate and the 2020 Confirmation class (last year's class). Those being honored are: Courtney Hovelson (graduate), Hannah Besette, Carley Halland, Charlsey Kasowski and Ali Killoran. A celebration will follow the 8:30 am Mass, all are invited to attend.

**Jesus Approaches: A Women's Retreat:** August 13-15, 2021 at the Franciscan Retreat Center, 102 6th St SE, Hankinson, ND and the cost is \$250. The retreat will be led by author and speaker Liz Kelly. The retreat is a chance to step out of the routine and stress of daily life in order to encounter the Lord Jesus through prayer and inspiring talks. To register visit: <https://www.fargodiocese.org/evangelization-retreats-workshops>. Contact Ashley Njaa for more information. [Ashley.njaa@fargodiocese.org](mailto:Ashley.njaa@fargodiocese.org) or at 701-356-7908

**St. Leo's Knight of the Month:** The Knight for the month of **May** is **Jesse Martinez**. Thank you Jesse for your dedication and the works you do for the KC's. It is greatly appreciated.



Council 9477



**Help Support our Cameroon Card Mission:**

Cards are available for purchase in the magazine rack in church entry. There is a wonderful selection for all occasions available for a reasonable purchase. Cost of cards is 50¢, please place money in envelope provided and return to parish office. All proceeds go to the mission.



**Teams of Our Lady:** Interested in knowing more about Teams of Our Lady? Interested in enriching your couple/marriage spirituality on a journey with other Catholic like-minded couples? The Fargo Sector of Teams of our Lady now has 11 teams comprised of 59 area couples and has been going strong for 16 years! Join us to learn more at our spring Information sessions!

**Info Session #2 – Sunday, May 16 - 4:00-5:00 p.m. St. Anthony of Padua (upstairs)**

All couples (BOTH husband and wife) wishing to join TEAMS are required to attend one of these two meetings. Mark your calendar as these will be the only two information sessions this year! For more information, call Lorine Bernhardt at 701-781-2249 or e-mail [fargosectorinformation@gmail.com](mailto:fargosectorinformation@gmail.com). Also, make sure to visit the TEAMS website at [www.teamsofourlady.org](http://www.teamsofourlady.org).

**This week's Stewardship moment:**

*"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you, No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." - John 15:12-13*

Do you love Jesus? Do you consider Him your friend? Jesus says that if we love Him we would be willing to offer whatever we have to Him, not because we want praise and glory, but simply because we love Him. Does your giving seem mechanical out of obligation or do you share freely out of love?