

PASTOR'S NOTES

Confirmation/Eucharist – *an understanding*

At this Sunday's evening 5 p.m. Mass [May 1st] twenty three (23) of our young parishioners from St. Thomas and St. Leo's parishes will mark their full initiation into life with Christ and His Church. On Sunday they will celebrate both the sacraments of Confirmation and 21 will receive the Eucharist for their first time.

At that first Pentecost the risen Christ returned in the power and person of the Holy Spirit and forever changed the lives of the apostles (*e.g. - the fisherman Peter did not die as a fisherman at the sea of Galilee, but as Christ's missionary in Rome being crucified upside down on a cross and buried in a place called the Vatican gardens*). The Church teaches that in **Confirmation** the Holy Spirit of Pentecost deepens the gifts which were bestowed in the waters of our baptisms. It was at Baptism that God took up residence in our lives. Now these 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit [*knowledge, wisdom, understanding, counsel, piety, fortitude and fear of the Lord*] are deepened within us to fashion us, like Peter of old, to become ambassadors for Christ in our world.

By the **gift of knowledge** we begin to see life as God sees it. The **gift of wisdom** assists us applying this knowledge in living holy lives. The **gift of understanding** helps us grasp the deep mysteries of faith and navigate the paradoxes of daily life. The **gift of counsel** informs our consciences in making right judgements and choosing correct actions. The **gift of piety** inspires us to pray, to seek the graces of the sacraments and to learn from the lives of the saints. The **gift of fortitude** gives us courage to remain faithful to God in the face of temptation and the lure of evil. The **gift of the fear of the Lord** fills us with awe as we glory in nothing but friendship with God and his gift of salvation. Isaiah prophesied these very gifts of the Holy Spirit upon that descendent of King David who would usher in the time of salvation [Is. 11:1-9].

Christians have always understood this descendent to be Jesus Christ.

Like all life this new life in Christ needs to be constantly nourished by the risen life of Christ. Such is the gift of **Eucharist** - the Body and Blood of Christ. At his last supper on earth Christ took the bread and wine of the Jewish Passover meal and declared it to be his body and blood and then invited them – *'Do this in memory of me'*! At that same last supper Christ promises to send the Holy Spirit who would be with us always and instruct us in everything and remind us of all he told us.

With the reception of these two sacraments our young students will be fully initiated into the life of the Church. To be fully initiated into the life of the Church means to be more deeply rooted in the life of faith that cries out *Abba, Father*, live a deeper bond with the Church, and possess the strength to both spread and defend the faith by boldly proclaiming Christ and never being ashamed of the Cross [ccc 1301].

With this understanding in mind let us join our confirmands in rightful joy and prayer as they celebrate this milestone in their lives of faith:

[From St. Leo's parish – *Konnor Baarstad; Brynne Bartholomay; Annabelle Eggl; Quinn Gunkel; Beckett Henderson; Joe Kappes; Ayden Keller; Owen Kieffer; Reese Kieffer; Beau Parisien; Grady Poulson; Eli Rexine; Mila Rood; Connor Weber*].

[From St. Thomas parish – *Finley Haseleu; McCall Haseleu; Blaise Kasowski; Ava Killoran; Riggins Kohler; Piper Koller; Damien Norrie; Layla Norrie; Ben Salberg*].



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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 EASTER May 1, 2022

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 1:

Mon - May 2 – 9:00 am - **Special intention**

Tues - May 3 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – **+Souls in purgatory**

St. Leo's — NO MASS

Wed – May 4 – 9:00 am - **+Linus Kensok** by Lois Titus

Thurs – May 5 – 9:00 am - **+Marie Hong Tran** by Lisa Tran

Fri – May 6 – 9:00 am - **+Souls in purgatory**

Sat - May 7 - 5:00 pm - +Nick Kaufman by Ron & Thuy Kaufman

Sun - May 8 – St. Leo's - 8:30 am - +Leona Volk by Adam Keller

St. Thomas - 10:30 am - For the people of our parishes

Parish Staff:

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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, May 1 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
Sun., May 1 - 5:00 pm - Confirmation/1st Eucharist with Bishop Folda at St. Leo's
 Tues., May 3 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy committee meeting at the rectory
 Wed., May 4 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas
 6:30 pm - St. Leo's RE classes; Simple Supper at 6 pm
 K/1st grade - Group A meets
 6:15 pm - Senior Class meets
 Sun., May 8 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
 Wed., May 11 - 6:30 pm - RE Closing Mass- All parishioners are welcome to attend; NO 9 am Mass
 Thurs., May 12 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life center
 Sun., May 15 - 9:30 am - St. Thomas breakfast honoring 2022 Confirmation Students and Graduates
 Sun., May 15 - 11:30 am - St. Leo's graduation breakfast honoring 2022 Graduates
 Wed., May 25 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting at the rectory

REMINDER: Please remember to return your Lenten canisters.

Olive Wood Religious Items Sale: After the weekend Masses of May 7-8, 2022 a representative from *Shepherds of the Good Shepherd* will be in the Spirit of Life center displaying religious items for purchase. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	Saturday May 7 5:00 pm <i>St. Leo's</i> 1 st Sat of April	Sunday May 8 8:30 am <i>St. Leo's</i> 2 nd Sun of May	Sunday May 8 10:30 am <i>St. Thomas</i>
Lector	Tricia Geggelman/ Lois Titus	Shari Kensok	Larry Zaun
Eucharistic Ministers	Mona Franck	Mary Jendro	
Altar Servers	Tristan Lako Ethan Richard Olivia Richard	Sarah Kempel Melody Kempel Lucas Miller	Clay Hovelson Emercyn Killoran
Offertory Collectors	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	JoEllen Killoran Lisa Zahnow
Gift Bearers	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	<i>Volunteers needed</i>	Flint & Dee Kasowski

NEWS AND NOTES



Council 9477

St. Leo's Knight of the Month: The Knight for the month of April is **Casey Enge**. Thank you Casey for all you do for the KC's. Your dedication is greatly appreciated.

St. Thomas Parish will honor their 2022 Confirmation students and High School graduates with a light breakfast following the 8:30 am Mass on Sunday, May 15th. Please join us in celebrating with them!

Job Opportunities: There are many job openings within the Fargo Diocese area. Check out the list on the bulletin board in the church entry.

Beginning Experience Weekend to be Held: June 24-26, 2022 at the Retreat Center in Hankinson, ND. The BE weekend is a Friday evening to Sunday afternoon program for adults grieving the loss of a love relationship through death, divorce or separation. It is presented by people who have suffered the loss of a loved one. They are willing to share their experience to help others. Team members lead participants through a program of presentations, personal private reflection and small group sharing. The BE weekend is our core program and the foundation of the Beginning Experience ministry. If you or someone you know could benefit from coming to the BE weekend, please contact the BE line at 701-277-8784 and leave a message for more information and an application. More information can also be found on the website at:
www.beginningexperience-easternnd.org

AmazonSmile – another way to support St. Leo's parish!!!
Did you know? -----

Every time you make an AmazonSmile purchase, Amazon will donate .5% of your eligible purchases to *St. Leo's parish*— at no cost to you! When you shop at smile.amazon.com you will find the exact same shopping experience as on Amazon.com.

Here is how it works:

- 1) Go to smile.amazon.com and use your existing Amazon credentials to log in;
- 2) Type in **St Leos Church Casselton** as your charity;
- 3) Add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com or add the page to you home screen to make it easy to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

If you should have any questions talk to Delores [347-4609] in the parish office. Thanks for your support.

This is not an endorsement of Amazon.com, but intended to give another option to support St. Leo's if you shop on Amazon.

This week's Stewardship moment:

"...Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, 'Do you love me?' and he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'" ~ John 21:17

How often do you actually say the words "I love you" to Jesus, to family members, or to friends? We are made to be in relationship with God and each other. Sincerely telling someone that you love them is the best gift you can give them because it comes from your heart. You are giving them the gift of yourself. We all crave love. Tell someone you love them every day.