

## PASTOR'S NOTES

### Living in the Fifth Transition

According to George Weigel we are living the fifth major transition in the history of the Catholic Church. Weigel is a prominent Catholic author and commentator on matters of faith and culture. In addition he has written a fairly definitive biography of the late Pope John Paul II (*now St. John Paul II*). Weigel was the major presenter at last week's Presbyterate Days in Jamestown. Presbyterate Days is an annual gathering of the priests of the Diocese of Fargo for some spiritual/theological education as well as information and updating about diocesan offices and programs and a state of the diocese talk by Bishop Folda.

In Weigel's assessment Catholic Church history can be broken down into 4 major periods of roughly 500 years each. **We are now into the fifth major transition period.**

**The first 500 years** finds the Church engulfed by the hostile Roman Empire and built itself around the proclamation that Jesus is Lord. Christians witnessed to a more humane standard of life. Women were not treated as property, unwanted children were not left abandoned and to die of exposure, the sick were not set apart and isolated from family. Within the course of 250 years 30 - 40% of the Mediterranean world was converted to Christianity.

**The next 500 years** saw the great intellectual flowering of the Church where biblical imagery and language gets translated into many of the doctrines and dogmas that define Christianity to this day. This was known as the age of the Church Fathers (*Patristics*) [e.g. - *Sts. Augustine, Jerome, etc.*].

**The third 500 years** is known as medieval Christianity where Christianity and society live as a cohesive whole. This period is often known as Christendom. This synthesis of religion and culture is marked by some great saints - St. Francis of Assisi, St. Thomas Aquinas, etc. - the great Gothic cathedrals, the beginning of the university system, etc.

**The fourth 500 years** was the age following the Protestant Reformation of the 1500s often known as the age of the Counter-Reformation along with the age of missionary activities throughout the world, the building of institutions for immigrant peoples, great devotional life among Catholics in parish churches, etc. The Church survived many attempts by nation and state governments to make the Church a servant of the State (e.g. - *the French Revolution, the Kulturkampf of Germany, Communism, etc.*).

We are now entering into the **fifth major transition of the New Evangelization**. This age really began with Pope Leo XIII, who reigned from 1878-1903 and saw the emergence of the modern world with the coming of the Industrial Revolution, urbanization, colonization, market and labor economies. For him the Church was to engage this world of science and technology and not reside in our rectories and institutions. Pope Leo XIII writes the first social justice encyclical on labor unions [*Rerum Novarum*]. The modern age has a lot of problems and the Church has a story to tell (*the Gospel*). This was the thrust of the Vatican II Council (1962-1965) and its hope of New Pentecost. Here we move into a deeper focus on the person of Christ and less on building and maintaining institutions. The Church must re-present the Gospel in a new way [*the New Evangelization*]. The Church does not have a mission to the world. The Church is a mission and the world is its territory.

### Our king and queen

Congratulations to King Anthony Wisnewski and Queen Jaylin Cotton as this year's Homecoming King and Queen for Central Cass, both parishioners of St. Leo's.

### Three weeks and counting ...

**St. Leo's Fall Dinner & Raffle on Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.** Your generous support of raffle ticket sales, signing up to help, providing goodies, etc. is all deeply appreciated!!



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- EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME October 10, 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 Oct 10:

Mon - Oct 11 - 9:00 am - +**Stephen Levitsky** by Marian Watson

Tues - Oct 12 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - +**Josephine Pfeifer** by Joe & Lora Killoran  
*St. Leo's - NO MASS*

Wed - Oct 13 - 9:00 am - +**Msgr Jeffrey Wald**

Thurs - Oct 14 - 9:00 am - +**Ed Mergner** by Marian Watson

Fri - Oct 15 - 9:00 am - +**Souls in purgatory**

**Sat - Oct 16 - 5:00 pm - +Kenny Habiger by Marilyn Barnes**

**Sun - Oct 17 - St. Thomas - 8:30 am - Marvin & Minnie Ries**

**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/Nicole Scherweit

Phone: 701-347-4609

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


Wed., Oct 13 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas  
 Wed., Oct 13 - 6:30 pm - St. Leo's RE classes; Simple Supper at 6 pm  
     K/1<sup>st</sup> grades - Group A meets  
     6:15 pm - Senior class meets  
 Thurs., Oct 14 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Sun., Oct 17 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Tues., Oct 19 - 7:00 pm - Cemetery committee meeting at the rectory  
 Sun., Oct 24 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Tues., Oct 26 - 7:00 pm - **please note date change** - Social Concerns Committee meeting at the rectory  
 Wed., Oct 27 - 7:45 pm - KC meeting at the rectory  
**Sun., Oct 31 - 11:00 am - 1:30 pm - St. Leo's Fall Dinner**

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*"It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ~ Mark 10:25*

Jesus uses tough language that we may not want to hear. However, we are all called to be generous with all of our gifts. Not just the ones we pick and choose, but all our gifts, and especially the one that means the most to us! That included our time in prayer to God, our talent in participating in parish ministries and our treasure supporting our local parish and other charities.

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | <b>Saturday Oct 16</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><b>St. Leo's</b> | <b>Sunday Oct 17</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><b>St. Thomas</b> | <b>Sunday Oct 17</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><b>St. Leo's</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                      | Renee Anderson                                               | Judy Von Bank                                               | Steve Carvell                                               |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                       | Gary Grommesh                                                |                                                             | Jake Werner                                                 |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                               | Burchill Family<br>Hayden Faleide                            | Rudi Wendel<br>Ali Killoran                                 | Cassie/Elise Bartholomay<br>Lucas Miller                    |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                     | Arnie & Barb Buhr<br>Jackie Vavra                           | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                                | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                     | Arnie & Barb Buhr                                           | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    |

## NEWS AND NOTES

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

**Ron & Lorraine Kensok - 68 years on Oct 17**  
**Marvin & Minnie Ries - 69 years on Oct 18**  
**Keith & Barb Marschke - 52 years on Oct 18**  
**Larry & Penny Zaun - 50 years on Oct 23**  
**Don & Mary Ellen Nilles - 56 years on Oct 23**  
**Dennis & Kerry Radermacher - 53 years on Oct 26**

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to DeLilah Volk and her family on death of her husband, Jerry.

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

**Catholic Daughters to Meet:** Court St. Ann #261 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at St. Anthony's beginning with Mass at 5:15 PM; meal to follow (Unit 2 serving) and meeting at 6:30 pm. Members are invited to bring non-perishable food pantry donations. If interested in CDA, please join us at our meeting. Any questions, please send an email to [regentctstann@gmail.com](mailto:regentctstann@gmail.com).

**Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages** will be held locally October 22 – 24, 2021 in Fargo. Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program assisting couples who have been living with the misery of a failing marriage. For more information visit [HelpOurMarriage.com](http://HelpOurMarriage.com) or call (701)356-7962.

**Save the Date:** Diocese of Fargo Redeemed Women's Conference 2022 will be held March 4-5, 2022 at the Delta by Marriot in Fargo. Watch future bulletins for more information.

**Attention students in grades 7-12!** You are invited to the St. Leo's Youth Group Hayride and Bonfire on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00– 9:30 pm. Come join us for Mass at 5:00 pm and then leave for the bonfire on a hay wagon to the Burchill Farm. Come enjoy food, drinks, yard games and more! A flier went home on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at RE, along with a waiver to be filled out and brought back before you can load the wagon. A sign-up will come around this coming Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at RE (the sign-up is not necessary, but encouraged in order to plan for supplies). Please contact Karren Bartholomay with any questions. Phone: (701)367-0782 or email: [karen.bartholomay@hotmail.com](mailto:karen.bartholomay@hotmail.com)

**Middle School Youth Rally:** The Diocese of Fargo is excited to announce the return of its annual Middle School Youth Rally, for grades 6, 7 & 8. Each year, youth from across the diocese come together for a day of fun, fellowship, and spiritual growth. The theme for this year's rally is called *Relit* and will take place on Friday, October 22, 2021 at Red Willow Bible Camp in Binford, ND. The rally will go from 9:30 am — 6:30 pm and will cost \$50/person.

NEW to the 2021 Youth Rally:

- 1) Praise and Worship Band
- 2) Recharge social break with inflatable games, obstacle courses, and other activities
- 3) High ropes course
- 4) Door prizes (grand prize: Apple Air pods)

To learn more about the youth rally please speak with Casey Garman at: [caseygarman@hotmail.com](mailto:caseygarman@hotmail.com) or (701)373-1531.

**St. Thomas Church Annual Fall Drive:** St. Thomas is once again holding their annual Fall Drive. We ask each family to donate \$20 and each single person to donate \$10. Donations may be given to Linda Milbrandt, Treasurer.