

PASTOR'S NOTES

Different, but deeply connected, days

On **November 1st** and **November 2nd** the Church celebrates two different, but very deeply connected, realities in our lives of faith.

Both of these days remind us that death will come to all of us. **What happens at death is not the same for everyone.** At the very moment of death a particular judgement will be rendered on each person's life. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) teaches:

- (1) "Those who die in God's grace and friendship and are perfectly purified live forever with Christ" in **heaven** (CCC 1023);
- (2) "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified" (CCC 1030) undergo purification in **Purgatory** so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven [Rev. 21:27];
- (3) For those who "die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God's merciful love ... remaining separated from him forever by our own free choice. This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed is called **hell** ." (CCC 1033)

November 1st celebrates All Saints Day, which is one of the five Holy Days in the United States (the other 4 being: **January 1st** – *Mary, Mother of God*; **August 15th** – *Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven*; **December 8th** – *Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*; **December 25th** – *Christmas*). On the church calendar many days are designated as days of particular saints (e.g. - *October 4th* – *St. Francis of Assisi*; *November 10th* – *St. Leo the Great*; *July 5th* – *St. Thomas the Apostle*, etc.). But All Saints Day acknowledges there are many more saints than those officially recognized or listed on the church calendar (i.e. - *possibly deceased family and friends*). On November 1st we celebrate and seek the intercession of all holy men and women who live in heaven surrounded by and immersed in the blessedness of God.

On the other hand, **November 2nd (All Souls Day)** is a day set aside for us to pray for deceased loved ones undergoing the purification of Purgatory. It is our offering of Masses, prayers and almsgiving that assist them in being purified from their vestiges of sin and help them attain their final glory of heavenly life and the beatific vision of God. These offerings of Masses, prayers and almsgiving are often called – 'suffrages'.

Both of these days (*November 1st and 2nd*) acknowledge what the Apostles' Creed calls the 'communion of saints', which is another name for the Church. **The Church is comprised of three states of being: (1) we, the living on earth; (2) the saints in heaven; (3) the souls in purgatory.** Because the Church is One there is a sharing of spiritual goods among these three states of the Church. We seek the intercession of those already in heaven (the saints) while they are always praying for us, and we offer prayers and alms for loved ones in purgatory who are constantly seeking/desiring our spiritual help. The Church as the 'communion of saints' is both a communion among holy persons and a sharing of holy things among holy persons.

Masses for All Saints Day, which is a Holy Day, will be at St. Thomas in Buffalo on Sunday, October 31st at 4:30 p.m. and at St. Leo's in Casselton on Monday, November 1st at 7 p.m.

On **All Souls Day {November 2nd}** there will be 9 a.m. daily Mass at St. Thomas. St. Leo's will host an Evening Prayer Remembrance Service at 7 p.m. All who have lost a loved one – *this year or in years gone by* – are invited to attend this Evening Prayer Remembrance Service. Praying for the living and the dead is a spiritual work of mercy. The service will be followed by a simple reception in the Spirit of Life Center.



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



THIRTY– FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME October 31, 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 31:

Mon - Nov 1– All Saints Day Holy Day-7:00 pm - NO 9 am Mass- +Msgr. Val Gross

Tues - Nov 2 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - +Souls in purgatory

St. Leo's - NO MASS

Wed - Nov 3 - 9:00 am – +Marie Hong Tran by Lisa Tran

Thurs - Nov 4 - 9:00 am - +Lucille Matthey by Marian Watson

Fri - Nov 5 - 9:00 am - Ted & Virginia Pedeliski

Sat - Nov 6 - 5:00 pm - Linus & Margaret Kensok

Sun - Nov 7 - St. Thomas - 8:30 am - +Terry Ball by Keith & Joni Biggers

St. Leo's - 10:30 am - For the people of our parishes

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer

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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.

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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., Oct 31 - 11:00 am - 1:30 pm - St. Leo's Fall Dinner

Sun., Oct 31 - 5:30 - 6:30 pm - Halloween Holy House at St. Leo's; come and meet the Saints  
 Sun., Oct 31 - 4:30 pm - All Saints Day/Holy Day Vigil Mass - St. Thomas  
 Mon., Nov 1 - 7:00 pm - All Saints Day/Holy Day Mass - St. Leo's; **NO** 9 am Mass on Monday  
 Tues., Nov 2 - 7:00 pm - All Souls Day Remembrance service at St. Leo's, refreshments after  
 Wed., Nov 3 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas  
 Wed., Nov 3 - 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  
 Sun., Nov 7 - 9:00 am - KC Breakfast in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Sun., Nov 14 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Mon., Nov 15 - 7:00 pm - Confirmation Parent Meeting in the Spirit of Life Center

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*"And 'to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself' is worth more than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices." ~ Mark 12:33*

Of all the gifts that God gives us, the one He wants the most is our heart. He wants us to share out of our love for Him, not out of obligation. Using our talent in parish ministry and contributing money to support our parish mission is important, but it is more important to spend time in prayer with God daily and discern how He is calling us to be generous with all of our gifts. Not just the visible ones, but also the invisible ones like love, mercy and forgiveness.

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | <b>Saturday Nov 6</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><i>St. Leo's</i> | <b>Sunday Nov 7</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><i>St. Thomas</i> | <b>Sunday Nov 7</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><i>St. Leo's</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                      | Tricia Geggelman<br>Lois Titus                              | Keith Biggers                                              | Anna Garman                                                |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                       | Mona Franck                                                 |                                                            | Kristi Dutchuk                                             |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                               | Tristan Lako<br>Ethan/Olivia Richard                        | Clay Hovelson<br>Emercyn Killoran                          | Isabelle Dutchuk<br>Garman Family                          |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    | Gary & Linda Milbrandt                                     | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                   |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                                | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    | Corey Hovelson Family                                      | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                   |

## NEWS AND NOTES

### All Saints Day - Holy Day Mass Schedule:

Sun., Oct 31<sup>st</sup> - 4:30 pm - St. Thomas in Buffalo  
 Mon., Nov 1<sup>st</sup> - 7:00 pm - St. Leo's in Casselton  
No 9 am Mass at St. Leo's on Mon., Nov 1<sup>st</sup>

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

**Linus & Margaret Kensok - 70 years on Nov 3**  
**Stan & Angeline Mathias - 57 years on Nov 14**  
**Keith & Sharon Monilaws - 55 years on Nov 25**  
**Frank & Ruth Kasowski - 66 years on Nov 26**  
**George & Mary Ann Waxler-74 years on Nov 27**

**Evening of Remembrance:** Join us on Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm for a prayer service remembering those who have died this past year. During the service we will remember them by praying for them and inviting you to light a candle in their honor. Anyone who has had a family member, relative or friend pass away this past year or in the years past is invited to attend. An informal social will follow in the Spirit of Life Center following the service.

**Book of Remembrance:** Beginning November 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a Book of Remembrance in the church entry. We invite you to write down the name of your deceased loved ones and we will pray for them at daily Masses during the month of November.

**Black and Indian Mission collection:** Each year parishes in the Diocese of Fargo, participate in six national collections. Sunday, **November 21<sup>st</sup>** is designated as *Black and Indian Mission* collection. This collection provides funds for evangelization and other programs for Native American and African-American Catholics. The envelope for this collection can be found with your regular collection envelopes. Please consider giving generously.



Council 9477

### St. Leo's Knight of the

**Month:** The Knight for the month of **October** is in memory of **Jerry Volk**.

Thank you Jerry for all your years of service to the KC's.

Your dedication has been greatly appreciated.



### **Knights of Columbus**

**Breakfast:** Serving French toast and sausage Sunday,

November 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Spirit of Life Center. Free will offering, Proceeds will benefit the St. Leo's Youth Group.

### **The Rural Cass County Food Pantry (in Casselton)**

is in need of the following items: bake beans, chili beans, diced tomatoes, all kinds of soup, peaches, all vegetables-expect green beans, , boxed au gratin potatoes, scalloped potatoes, hamburger helper, cream soups, egg noodles, ramen noodles, pasta sides, ranch dressing, ketchup, mustard, apple and strawberry jelly, chocolate frosting, pancake mix, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, bar and pump soap, dryer sheets, cleaning supplies, laundry soap, dryer sheets, paper towels and kleenex. Items can be dropped off at TruCore Fitness in Casselton and Mary's Market in Arthur. The food pantry is located at 602 1st Street N, Casselton, and is open the first and third Wednesdays of the month. For question you can contact Bonnie at (701)740-3398 or Shelle at (701)866-7440. Monetary donations can be mailed directly to: RCCEFP, PO Box 392, Casselton, ND 58012 Thank You.