

## PASTOR'S NOTES

Mark your calendars – *Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>*

*St. Leo's parish will be hosting a farewell reception for Sue Knoll after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.*

Sue has been with us for the past 11 years and has generously given of herself as coordinator of both our Religious Education program and served as musician and liturgist for countless celebrations of week-end Masses, Christmas, Holy Week and Easter celebrations, funeral liturgies, baptismal and wedding celebrations, etc. We have all been the beneficiaries of her servant leadership!

She sees herself as retiring and spending more time with family and grandchildren. We certainly wish her all the best in the weeks, months and years ahead. In grateful thanks all parishioners are cordially invited to her farewell reception. Come and bid her farewell and extend your best wishes. A very short program will follow a nice luncheon meal. **See you there!**

### Labor Day — a spiritual note

As is often the case, we enter into holidays and many times give little heed to the meaning and purpose of the days 'we get off from work'. The late Pope John Paul II (*now St. John Paul II*) issued an encyclical letter titled *Laborem Exercens* on September 14, 1981 and its purpose was to offer a reflection "On Human Work". The overall theme of *Laborem Exercens* was the transcendent dignity of work. Work always must be evaluated through the meaning it has in the eyes of God and how it collaborates in the redemption of the human race and the development of the Kingdom of heaven.

To that end he writes, "*The work of the individual human being [must] be given the meaning which it has in the eyes of God.*" ... "*Work is one the characteristics that distinguishes man from the rest of creatures.*" ... "*God's fundamental and original intention with regard to man ... was not withdrawn or canceled out [because of the Fall] ... work is the means whereby man achieves that 'dominion' which is proper to him over the visible world.*" ... "*... in the first place work is 'for man' and not man 'for work.'*"

From this theology/spirituality of work St. John Paul II speaks to a number of work-related issues: (1) labor has priority over capital; (2) the right to private property is subordinate to the right of common good, to the fact that the goods of the earth are meant for everyone; (3) property should be at the service of the person; (4) the rights of workers; (5) the conflict that often arises between labor and capital.

As we take a "day off work", we are really called to celebrate the dignity of work by which we earn our daily bread, but more importantly the ways by which we bring about greater justice, a wider brotherhood/sisterhood, and the more human ordering of social relationships. Every now and then it is important to take a break and meditate upon the fundamental dimensions/activities of our lives so as to gain a renewed perspective on things. I believe *Laborem Exercens* offers such a reflection and encourage you to read this encyclical.

### Dates to keep in mind

- > Tues., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. – Liturgy Committee meeting – at the Rectory
- > Wed., Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 p.m. – Opening Mass for Religious Education
- > Sun., Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. – Parent planning meeting for Youth group activities-Spirit of Life
- > Mon., Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. – St. Thomas Pastoral Council meeting
- > Tues., Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. – Cemetery Committee meeting – at the Rectory
- > Wed., Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 p.m. – First RE class for this year (*Simple Supper at 6 p.m.*)



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– THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME September 5, 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 Sept 5:

Mon - Sept 6 - 9:00 am - +**Ed Mergner** by Marian Watson

Tues - Sept 7 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - +**Souls in purgatory**

*St. Leo's - NO MASS*

Wed - Sept 8 - 6:30 pm– RE Opening Mass– **RE Students & Teachers**

Thurs - Sept 9 - 9:00 am - +**Lois Sinner** by Andrea Eberhardt

Fri - Sept 10 - 9:00 am - +**Vincent Nicolai** by Sandie Nystrom

**Sat - Sept 11 - 5:00 pm - +Dam Chi Dung by Ron & Thuy Kaufman**

**Sun - Sept 12 - St. Leo's - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes**

**St. Thomas - 10:30 am - +Deb Egan by Keith & Joni Biggers**

### 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

Tues., Sept 7 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy committee meeting at the rectory  
**Wed., Sept 8 - 6:30 pm - RE opening Mass**  
 Thurs., Sept 9 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Sun., Sept 12 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Sun., Sept 12 - 7:00 pm - Parent planning meeting for Youth group activities in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Mon., Sept 13 - 7:00 pm - St. Thomas Pastoral Council meeting at the church in Buffalo  
 Wed., Sept 15 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas  
 Wed., Sept 15 - 6:30 pm - RE classes at St. Leo's; Simple Supper at 6 pm  
 6:15 pm - Senior class meets  
 Tues., Sept 14 - 7:00 pm - Cemetery committee meeting at the rectory  
 Sun., Sept 19 - 11:30 am - Farwell party for Sue Knoll after the 10:30 am Mass in the Spirit of Life Center  
 Mon., Sept 20 - 7:00 pm - Finance committee meeting at the rectory  
 Tues., Sept 21 - 7:00 pm - Pastoral Council meeting at the rectory

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

**Frank & Laura Biggers-58 years on Sept 7**  
**Fred & Rose Mary Eldridge-58 years on Sept 7**

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | <b>Saturday Sept 11</b><br><b>5:00 pm</b><br><i>St. Leo's</i> | <b>Sunday Sept 12</b><br><b>8:30 am</b><br><i>St. Leo's</i> | <b>Sunday Sept 12</b><br><b>10:30 am</b><br><i>St. Thomas</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                      | Mark Voss                                                     | Shari Kensok                                                | Gary Milbrandt                                                |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                       | Nicole Scherweit                                              | Susan Kempel                                                |                                                               |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                               | Ben Metzger                                                   | Sarah Kempel<br>Melody Kempel                               | Carly Hovelson<br>Hannah Besette                              |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                        | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                      | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    | Betty Lou Stallman<br>Lisa Zahnow<br>Jennaca Killoran         |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                                | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                      | <i>Volunteers needed</i>                                    |                                                               |

## NEWS AND NOTES

**40 Days for Life — North Dakota starts Sept 22:** The National 40 Days for Life campaign will take place Sept 22 — Oct 31. This campaign provides a peaceful, prayerful presence in front of the Fargo abortion facility from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day of the campaign. Person can sign up for an hour of prayer by contacting the Pregnancy Help Center at 701-284-6601, or in Fargo 701-356-7979. Email: phc@polarcomm.com or visit: [www.40daysforlifend.com](http://www.40daysforlifend.com)

**Free 40 Days for Life Yard Signs:** The Diocese of Fargo is giving away **free 40 Days for Life yard signs**. They are available at the Diocese office at 5201 Bishops Blvd in Fargo. This is a great way to show your support for LIFE – and they are free. For more information, contact the Farog Diocese at 701-356-7900.

**Beginning Experience “Coping with Life Alone”:** A 10 week program offered for widowed, divorced or separated persons. Helping to understand the grieving process and the stages of grief. Led by teams of peers who have experienced similar losses in their own lives. Starts on Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at Liberty Brethren Lutheran Church, 1702 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave S, Fargo. Registration at 6 pm and sessions starts at 6:30 pm. Cost is \$45. Information line, please call 701-277-8784 to leave a message.

**Catholic Daughters to Meet:** Court St. Ann #261 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Anthony's beginning with Mass at 5:15 PM; meal to follow (Unit 1 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).

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*“Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?” ~ James 2:5*

What is more important — being rich or rich in possessions? Society tells us that possessions are most important. God teaches a different lesson. When we are rich in faith, we keep God first and experience true joy and peace. When we put possessions first, we soon realize we can never have enough and happiness is fleeting. When we put faith over possessions, we truly realize it is better to give than receive.

**Special Collection for Haiti:** The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has asked all parishes to take up a special collection to support Haiti which suffered a massive earthquake and tropical storm. **Envelopes for this special collection are available on the tables at the back of the church.** Make checks payable to St. Leo's and return you donation to the church office or place in the collection basket. Thank you for your generosity.

**When Mourning Dawns:** Grief Support Coordinators at Boulger Funeral Home in Fargo will be holding a six-week series from September 21—October 26 that looks at the seasons of the year to guide conversations about loss and grief. The sessions will be held on Tuesdays from 6 pm to 7:15 pm. Preregistration is required. For more information and to register call 701-237-6441 or email: [GriefSupport@boulgerfuneralhome.com](mailto:GriefSupport@boulgerfuneralhome.com)



### 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 purchase. Cost of cards is 50¢, please place money in envelope provided and return to parish office. All proceeds go to the mission.