

PASTOR’S NOTES

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 “*God’s fundamental and original intention with regard to man ...was not withdrawn or canceled out [because of the Fall] ...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.

Your are invited —

Bishop Folda of the Diocese of Fargo is personally inviting all parishioners of parishes in the diocese to attend the **Redeemed Eucharistic Conference** that is being held at the Delta Hotel in Fargo beginning Friday evening, September 23rd and ending Saturday afternoon, September 24th.

This Eucharistic Congress is part of the 2-year Eucharistic Revival that is happening across the United States and began in the Diocese of Fargo this past *Most Holy Body and Blood Sunday* (June 19th). The whole goal of the Revival is to reinvigorate Catholics in their love of the sacrament of the Eucharist. This two-year Revival will culminate in a National Eucharistic Congress in July of 2024 in Indianapolis, Indiana. In the meantime each diocese in the United States will offer a variety of events and programs to heighten our awareness and love of the Eucharist. **The Redeemed Eucharistic Congress** is meant to be one of these many events.

The Redeemed Eucharistic Conference will feature presentations by Bishop Andrew Cozzens of the Diocese of Crookston and the bishops’ Head of the U.S. Eucharistic Revival; Msgr. James Shea, President of the University of Mary; Sr. Miriam James Heidland, who leads healing retreats; and Dr. Mary Healy, member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission and Scripture professor at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, Michigan. Hopefully and prayerfully one’s faith will be built up by encountering the Lord’s Real Presence in the celebration of the Eucharist, a Eucharistic Holy Hour, a Eucharistic healing service in addition to having an opportunity to view the relics of Blessed Carlo Acutis and Saint Manuel Garcia.

One can register online at fargodiocese.org/redeemed.



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 4, 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 Sept 4:

Mon - Sept 5 – 9:00 am – **NO MASS**
Tues - Sept 6 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – **+Souls in purgatory**
St. Leo’s — NO MASS
Wed – Sept 7 – 9:00 am - **Special intention** by Jackie Anderson
Thurs – Sept 8 – 9:00 am - **Special intention** by Jackie Anderson
Fri – Sept 9 – 9:00 am - **Special intention** by Jackie Anderson
Sat - Sept 10 - 5:00 pm - +Charlie Radermacher by Paul & Sherry Radermacher
Sun - Sept 11 – St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - +Henry Sherman by His family
St. Thomas - 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.

Please join in praying the Rosary
25 minutes before the Saturday evening
and Sunday morning Mass times.

PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., Sept 4 - 11:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
Tues., Sept 6 - 7:00 pm - Liturgy Committee meeting at the rectory
Tues., Sept 8 - 12:00 pm - Casselton Ministerium meeting in the Spirit of Life Center
Sun., Sept 11 - 9:30 am - Beverage and Bite after Mass
Tues., Sept 13 - 7:00 pm - Cemetery Committee meeting at the rectory
Wed., Sept 14 - 6:30 pm - RE Opening Mass followed by an ice cream social
Mon., Sept 19 - 7:00 pm - Finance Committee meeting at the rectory
Tues., Sept 20 - 7:00 pm - Pastoral Council meeting at the rectory

This week’s Stewardship moment:
“Every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.” ~ Luke 14:33
When we first hear this statement, it seems that Jesus is making an unrealistic demand upon us. How can we renounce all of our possessions? We need them to live. However, what we must renounce is the belief that they belong to us. Everything that we have belongs to God alone. All of our resources are entrusted to us not only for our own use, but also so that we can help others. Once we renounce the idea that we possess or are entitled to anything, it is much easier to share the many gifts that God has given us. Then we truly are His Disciples.


Upcoming Ministry Schedule			
	Saturday Sept 10 5:00 pm <i>St. Leo’s</i>	Sunday Sept 11 8:30 am <i>St. Leo’s</i>	Sunday Sept 11 10:30 am <i>St. Thomas</i>
<i>Lector</i>	Mark Voss	Shari Kensok	Alecia Killoran
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Bill Franck	Richard Muscha	
<i>Altar Servers</i>	Addison/Noah Hushka Sophie/Emma Scherweit	Sarah Kempel Melody Kempel Lucas Miller	
<i>Offertory Collectors</i>	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Jennaca Killoran Betty Lou Stallman Mike & Lisa Zahnow
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Mark & Carmen Gubrud
<i>Lead Rosary</i>	Richard Muscha	Deb Werner	

NEWS AND NOTES

Special prayers and blessings to the faithful couples that help us see the presence and faithfulness of God in our lives:
Frank & Laura Biggers-59 years on Sept 7
Fred & Rose Mary Eldridge-59 years on Sept 7

Looking for Feedback on Summer Events: Hi, I’m Casey Garman a member of St. Leo’s Educational Committee and the one who spearheaded the pamphlet for this year’s Summer Youth Camps/Events. I have one quick favor to ask of the parents who have children who attend St. Leo’s. Did any of your children attend any Church-related Summer Youth camps, retreats, or events? If so, I would like to hear how they went, which one(s) they attended, and if you’d be okay with me sharing their experiences with our other St. Leo’s youth during a small portion of one of their upcoming Faith Formation classes. It would be to “spread” the word to other St. Leo’s youth on how impactful attending one of these events can be in regards to their Faith and also to share what they all did and learned at the camp/event. Feel free to reach on my cell # anytime. It is 701-373-1531. Thanks!

Beginning Experience of Eastern ND, Fargo Chapter will be offering: *“Moving Forward with Hope...Coping with Life Alone”*. Offered for widowed, divorced or separated persons. Helping to understand the grieving process and the stages of grief. It will be at Liberty Brethren Lutheran Church, 1702 32nd Ave S, Fargo. This 10 week program starts on Monday September 12th. Registration will be at 6:00 pm and session will start at 6:30 pm. The cost is \$45.00 which includes your Coping book. For more information, visit: www.beginningexperience-easternnd.org or contact Bonnie at 701-318-0949 or call the information line at 701-277-8784 and a leave message.

 **St. Leo’s GGA update** — (Adam Diemert): As of 8/31/22 — 89 of 254 households have made pledges totaling \$46,420 towards St. Leo’s God’s Gift goal of \$51,011. That means 35% of St. Leo’s households have contributed to the support of the Diocesan Church leaving 165 households to each contribute \$27 in order to reach our goal. See the tag board in the church entry for more information. Thanks to all who have gotten us so close to our goal. There are God’s Gift envelopes on the shelves behind the last set of pews for those who would like to make their contribution.



St. Leo’s Knight of the Month:
The Knight for the month of **August** is **Andy Levos**. Thank you Andy for all you do for the KC’s. Your dedication is greatly appreciated.

Catholic Man Night: Tuesday, September 13th 6 – 8 pm at Holy Cross Catholic Church, 2711 7th St E, West Fargo. 6 pm - Adoration & Confessions. 7 pm - Meal with talk presented by Fr. Jayson Miller, Priest Secretary to Bishop Folda. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.



Redeemed Eucharistic Conference: Friday, September 23rd through Saturday, September 24th, at the Delta Hotel, Fargo. Cost is \$75. The conference will feature presentations by Bishop Andrew Cozzens of the Diocese of Crookston, MN and head of the National Eucharistic Revival for the USCCB; Monsignor James Shea, President of the University of Mary in Bismarck; Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT; and Dr. Mary Healy, professor of Scripture, author, and international speaker. Have your faith built up through powerful encounters with the Real Presence of Jesus Chris in the Eucharist during Mass with Bishop John Folda, a Eucharist Holy Hour with music provided by Aly Aleigha, and a Eucharistic healing service. To learn more, please see the flyer on the bulletin board. Register on-line at: www.fargodiocese.org/redeemed or call (701) 356-7900.