

## PASTOR'S NOTES

**Wednesday – a very eventful day this year!!**

**This coming Wednesday (January 22<sup>nd</sup>) marks two very big events:**

1) On this day 47 years ago (1973) the United States Supreme Court issued two decisions (**Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton**) that effectively legalized abortion throughout the United States of America. Since that date million of babies have died in the abortion factories of our country. The Catholic Church has always taught that direct abortion is always wrong. It is an attack on the most defenseless of human beings.

In light of that horrific decision the Pro-Life movement in the United States was born. For its part the United States Catholic bishops have asked that all dioceses of the United States observe this day (January 22<sup>nd</sup>) as a **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**. In addition Catholics are encouraged to make this day a time of special prayer and fasting for the conversion of hearts and the healing of wounds caused by abortion.

**Your prayerful support is deeply encouraged!**

2) On this day (Wednesday) CAMA (*the Casselton Area Ministerial Association – St. Leo's Catholic, Martin's Lutheran, St. John's & St. Peter's Lutheran, Goshen & Bethel Moravian, Canaan Moravian, Westminster Presbyterian, Harvest Plains and Casselton United Methodist churches*) will celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Each year the Church celebrates an octave of days (8 successive days) for the restoration of Christian Unity. These 8 days fall between January 18 and January 25 with January 25<sup>th</sup> being the feast day that celebrates the conversion of St. Paul and his life and ministry of taking the Gospel to the world. In John's Gospel Jesus emphatically prays that 'all may be one as he and the Father are one.' (Jn. 17:21)

Ecumenism is the work of restoring Christian unity. In our small way CAMA is sponsoring a time of ecumenical prayer and song *on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:45 p.m. at St. Leo's Church*. The special emphasis of this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be standing in solidarity with our farmers as they struggle with some difficult days. This prayer service will be followed with refreshments in the Spirit of Life Center at about 7:30 p.m.

**Everyone is encouraged to attend.** Since the parents of our RE students will be picking up their students at that time, I highly encourage their attendance and participation in offering prayers for the restoration of Christian unity!

### Church Painting

Right now we are scheduling the painting of the interior of St. Leo's Church during the upcoming months so as to be finished by the end of summer with as little as possible disruption of regular parish life during this time.

St. Leo's Parish Pastoral Council worked with a liturgical consultant and has chosen the color scheme for our church's interior. **That color scheme will be revealed at our Annual Parish meeting on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

At our Annual meeting we will discuss the flooring for the altar area. The liturgical consultant suggested color schemes for either new carpet or replacing the carpet with a natural stone surface and the costs associated with either of these choices.



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



## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME January 19, 2020

### 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 Jan 19:

Mon - Jan 20 - 9:00 am - +Ernest Watson by Marian Watson

Tues - Jan 21 - 9:00 am - St. Thomas - +Fr. Leo Kinney

St. Leo's - NO MASS

Wed - Jan 22 - 9:00 am - Steve Bosch by Bill & Mona Franck

Thurs - Jan 23 - 9:00 am - +Bev Ehlers

Fri - Jan 24 - 9:00 am - +Stephen Levitsky by Marian Watson

Sat - Jan 25 - St. Leo's - 5:00 pm - +Ed Mergner

Sun - Jan 26 - St. Leo's - 8:30 am Mass - +Brent Siverson by Donna Siverson

St. Thomas - 10:30 am Mass - 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

**Liturgy/RE:** Sue Knoll

Phone: 701-347-4609

Cell: 701-261-2047

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 & Mark Wieland

**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

Tues., Jan 21 - 7:00 pm - Finance committee meeting at the rectory  
 Wed., Jan 22 - 3:45 pm - RE classes at St. Thomas  
 Wed., Jan 22 - 6:30 pm - RE classes at St. Leo's, Simple Supper at 6:00 pm  
 6:15 pm - Senior & Junior class meets  
 Wed., Jan 22- 6:45 pm- Casselton Area Ministerial Association Week of Christian Unity Prayer Service  
 Wed., Jan 22 - 8:00 pm - KC meeting at the rectory  
 Sat., Jan 25 - 5:00 pm - KC Memorial Mass along with 5 pm Mass at St. Leo's  
 Tues., Jan 28 - 7:00 pm - Pastoral Council meeting at the rectory  
**Sun., Feb 2 - 11:30 am - St. Leo's Annual meeting in the Spirit of Life Center**  
 Tues., Feb 4 - 7:00 pm - Social Concerns Committee meeting at the rectory  
 Tues., Feb 11 - 7:00 pm - Education Committee meeting at the rectory

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Bea Bachmeier on the death of her sister-in-law, Janice Fritel.

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

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|  | Saturday Jan 25<br>5:00 pm<br>St. Leo's | Sunday Jan 26<br>8:30 am<br>St. Leo's                                                | Sunday Jan 26<br>10:30 am<br>St. Thomas |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                      | <b>KC<br/>Memorial<br/>Mass</b>         | Fred Eldridge                                                                        | Jackie Vavra                            |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                       |                                         | Denise Bartholomay<br>Virjean Cramer<br>Dave Glennon<br>Terri Monilaws<br>Mark Weber | Linda Milbrandt<br>Jurgen Suhr          |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                               |                                         | Claire Glennon<br>Sarah Monilaws                                                     | Clay Hovelson<br>Meyer Wendel           |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                        |                                         |                                                                                      | Claudia Von Bank<br>John Hansen         |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                                |                                         | Kelly Rexine Family                                                                  | Brent Klein Family                      |

## NEWS AND NOTES

They Showed Us  
Unusual Kindness

(cf. ACTS 28:2)



Standing With Our Farmers  
in Their Time of Strife  
*An Ecumenical Service of Song and Prayer*  
**Wed., Jan. 22, 2020 at 6:45pm**  
**St. Leo's Church**  
**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2020**

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity **2020**

St. Leo's Knights of Columbus  
Memorial Mass  
for deceased members  
January 25, 2020  
5:00pm  
St. Leo's Catholic Church  
Casselton, ND



**Catholic Collage:** February 9, 16 & 23, 2020 at Shanley High School. Please see the flyer and registration forms on the bulletin board at the back of the church. Visit: [www.catholiccollage.com](http://www.catholiccollage.com) for more information and to register online.

**Redeemed Women's Conference 2020:** March 27-28 at the Avalon Events Center, 2525 9th Ave S, Fargo, ND. Space is limited. Early registration before March 1 is \$50, after March 1 the cost is \$75. To register on line and for more information go to: [FargoDiocese.org/RedeemedWomen](http://FargoDiocese.org/RedeemedWomen) Registration forms are also available on the church bulletin board along with more information about the conference.

**Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages** will be held locally February 7-9 in Fargo. Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program helping married couples with a hurting marriage find new hope and rediscover the love that initially brought them together. For more information visit [HelpOurMarriage.com](http://HelpOurMarriage.com) or call (701)356-7962, or via email at: [RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org](mailto:RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org). More information about Retrouvaille is posted on the bulletin board in the church entrance.

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*"Now the Lord has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb..." - Isaiah 49:5*

God has given each of us different gifts. In order for God's plan to work, you have to do what God is calling you to do and I have to do what God is calling me to do. And guess what? God has given each of us a different plan! So, stop comparing yourself to others. Don't let envy and jealousy enter your life. Be thankful for the gifts God has given you and generously share them with others.