

PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., Apr 6–6:30 pm– Ecumenical Prayer Service at Westminster Presbyterian Church; Soup & Sandwich at 6 pm
 Wed., Apr 9 – 6:00 pm – St. Thomas– Stations of the Cross
 Wed., Apr 9 – Religious Education Classes– see below
 Wed., Apr 9 – 7:15 pm – Living Stations presented by the RE 9th grade class; all are welcome to attend
Fri., Apr 11 – 7:00 pm – St. Leo’s Reconciliation Service
 Sun., Apr 13 – 3:00 pm – Easter Cantata at St. Leo’s
 Wed., Apr 16 – 7:00 pm – Tenebrae Service at St. Leo’s
 Thurs., Apr 17 – 7:00 pm – Holy Thursday Mass at St. Leo’s
 Fri., Apr 18 – 7:00 pm – Good Friday Service at St. Leo’s

Religious Education Class Times — Wed., April 9


St. Thomas RE classes — 3:45 pm

St. Leo’s RE classes: Simple Supper - 6:00 pm
 Grades K & 3 — (5:15 pm session); (6:30 pm session)
 Grades 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 — 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Grade 5 - Class B and 11th grade — 6:15 - 7:45 pm



Gods Gift 2025: Thank you to all who have already completed their pledge cards. Completed pledge cards can be returned either to the parish office or by placing in the collection basket at Mass.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	Saturday Apr 12 Palm Sunday 5:00 pm St. Leo’s	Sunday Apr 13 Palm Sunday 8:30 am St. Leo’s	Sunday Apr 13 Palm Sunday 10:30 am St. Thomas
	Mark Voss Second Reader Needed	Shari Kensok Second Reader Needed	Judy Von Bank Gary Milbrandt
Eucharistic Ministers	Lori Howard Bill Franck	Denise Bartholomay Ann Faught Susan Kempel Mary Jendro Paul Olsen	Linda Milbrandt Cynthia Comprendio
Altar Servers	Addison Hushka Noah Hushka Payton Neumann	Melody Kempel Quinn/Riley Gunkel Emma Rupp	Ali Killoran Carly Hovelson
Offertory Collectors	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Joe & Lora Killoran
Gift Bearers	Volunteers needed	Volunteers needed	Corey Hovelson Family
Lead Rosary	Richard Muscha	Deb Werner	

NEWS AND NOTES

HOLY WEEK HELP NEEDED:

Your help is needed with our Holy Week liturgies and the Easter Vigil Reception. Please see the sign up sheets located in the church entry to see where you can help out.

Church decorating: All parishioners are invited to help decorate the church for our Easter Liturgies on **Saturday, April 19th at 10:00 am.**

Please remember to bring you nails for Good Friday Service and to return you Lenten Canisters during Holy Week.

St. Leo’s RE Lenten Challenge Reminder: Personal care/toiletry items being collected by the RE students for the Rural Cass County Emergency Food Pantry need to be brought to your child’s classroom or dropped off in the Spirit of Life Center by this coming **Wednesday, April 9th.**

Prayers and Sympathy: Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Ron Kensok and his family on the death of his wife, Lorraine and to Darcee Rehovsky and her family on the death of her mother, Myrna Skalsky.

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

Lenten Canisters – One recipient of our Lenten canister is **Doctors Without Borders.** *Doctors Without Borders* is an international medical humanitarian organization created by doctors and journalists in France in 1971. They provide independent, impartial assistance in more than 60 countries to people whose survival is threatened by violence, neglect, or catastrophe, primarily due to armed conflict, epidemics, malnutrition, exclusion from health care, or natural disasters. The organization is committed to bringing quality medical care to people in crisis regardless of their race, religion, or political affiliation. **Please be generous in supporting our Lenten charities. We will collect these canister during Holy Week.**

This week’s Stewardship moment:

“...For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ...” ~ Philippians 3:8

The first commandment says that we should not put other gods before the Lord. Sharing all of our gifts – our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works, and our treasure to support the Church helps us keep God first in everything. It helps us from putting other gods before God. It helps us from becoming a slave to our possessions. It helps us to use our gifts for the glory of God and not for the glory of ourselves.

EASTER CANTATA

‘Lift High the Cross’

Sunday, April 13th, 2025

3:00 pm

St. Leo’s Catholic Church

All are Welcome

Refreshments to follow.

Music for Holy Week and Easter: Everyone is invited to join us in the choir loft to lead music for **Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, April 17th-20th.** The practice schedule will be:

- Sun. April 6– 9:00 am
- Wed. April 9– 6:30 pm
- Sun. April 13– 9:30 am

Music will be provided. Please come and help make these days special with some beautiful music!

Upcoming Diocesan Retreats: There are many retreat available in the coming months for anyone to attend. Please see the information on the bulletin board or visit the Fargo of Diocese website for more information at: www.fargodiocese.org

PASTOR'S NOTES

Luke's Passion — a most compassionate Jesus —

A note of introduction — Next week is Palm/Passion Sunday. Here are some points of meditation as you prepare to listen to next week's Passion story.

Every year on Palm Sunday we read the Passion story of Christ. Every Good Friday we read the Passion story of Christ. They are both the same and different. Every Good Friday we read the Gospel of John's version of Christ's passion, but the Palm Sunday narration of Christ's passion rotates every three years between the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke.

This year's Palm Sunday Passion story comes from Luke's Gospel. The basic structure of each passion narrative is the same [*the Last Supper, prayer and arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, trial before Jewish and Roman authorities, Peter's denial, Christ's death sentence, his walk to Calvary and his crucifixion and burial*], but details vary from gospel to gospel. Each Gospel writer presents Christ's saving mission to the world from a different angle and perspective. **Luke sees the person of Christ deeply through the lens of mercy and compassion.** His gospel alone tells the merciful stories of the Prodigal son, the Good Samaritan and the Good Thief on the Cross.

This trait of Christ's mercy is seen throughout Luke's passion narrative and is directed to all parties concerned – from disciples to enemies.

Christ's disciples are treated with a much more merciful touch than the other gospels. As Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane before his arrest he, like the other gospels, finds his disciples asleep. Only Luke's version says they sleep out of grief/sorrow and not because of tiredness and lack of awareness as in other gospel presentations [Lk. 22:45]. In Luke's gospel the disciples do not flee as Christ is arrested. Also, only in Luke's Gospel, does Christ heal the servant's ear that had been cut off by one of Christ's disciples [Lk. 22:51].

Only in Luke's gospel do we have Jesus turn and look at Peter after his third denial of knowing Christ when Jesus stands trial before the Sanhedrin. No cock crows. Christ's look alone has Peter remember what Christ had said at the Last Supper. Peter goes out and weeps bitterly [Lk. 22:61].

Only Luke's gospel has Jesus being sent by Pilate to trial by Herod. Herod is the 'king of Galilee' and place from which Jesus originates. Herod happens to be in Jerusalem for this Jewish feast. Pilate and Herod are political enemies, but both believe Christ is innocent. Luke's gospel declares that both became friends on that day [Lk. 23:12]. Even in the last moments of Christ's life, he is at work reconciling people to one another.

On his way to Calvary, only Luke has a multitude of people following Christ and lamenting his agony and state in life. To them Jesus offers prophetic words of consolation to the 'daughters of Jerusalem' [Lk. 23:28].

At the scene of the crucifixion and only in Luke's gospel do we hear Christ's merciful prayer: "*Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.*" [Lk. 23:34] But Christ's mercy is most evident in his dealing with one of the two thieves who had been crucified with him. One thief mocks and reviles Christ, while the other (*the Good thief*) acknowledges his guilt and condemnation and yet asks Jesus 'to remember him when Christ comes in his kingly power'. Christ goes well beyond this request when he declares, "*Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise*" [Lk. 23:39ff.]. What an extravagant gift of mercy in the midst of agony and pain!!!

For Luke such is the Savior who died for us — *rich in mercy, slow to anger, abounding in kindness!*



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



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT April 6, 2025

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 April 6:

Mon – Apr 7 – 10:30 am – **Funeral Mass for Lorraine Kensok**

Tues – Apr 8 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – **+Souls in purgatory**

NO Mass at St. Leo's

Wed – Apr 9 – 9:00 am – **+Rick Keller** by Sandra Keller

Thurs – Apr 10 – 9:00 am – **Carmen Gubrud** by Missy Poulson

Fri – Apr 11 – 9:00 am – **+Sarah Steidl** by Keith & Joni Biggers

Saturday – Apr 12 – 5:00 pm - +Keith Mack by Kris & Christi Mack

Sunday - Apr 13 – St. Leo's - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes

St. Thomas - 10:30 am - +Bob Killoran by Joe & Lora Killoran

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer

E-mail: james.ermer@fargodiocese.org

Secretary: Delores Grommesh

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Prayer Chain:

Kelsey Lako: 701-793-7088

Maintenance: Paul & Sherry Radermacher

Phone: 701-793-7740; 701-793-7798

St. Leo's Directors: Dave Glennon & Micah Bartholomay

St. Thomas Directors: Gary Milbrandt & Flint Kasowski

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.