


PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Tues., Aug 5 – 7:00 pm – Education Committee meeting at the rectory
Mon., Aug 11 – 7:00 pm – St. Thomas Pastoral Council meeting
Thurs., Aug 14 – 7:00 pm – **St. Thomas** – Holy Day Mass/Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Fri., Aug 15 – 7:00 pm – **St. Leo’s** – Holy Day Mass/Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Prayers and Sympathy: Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Theresa Dooley on her recent death.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. —Matthew 5:4

Special prayers and blessings to the faithful couples that help us see the presence and faithfulness of God in our lives:
Gary & Connie Bakken - 51 years on August 9
Ralph & Barb Nelson - 71 years on August 12

Upcoming Ministry Schedule			
	Saturday Aug 9 5:00 pm <i>St. Leo’s</i>	Sunday Aug 10 8:30 am <i>St. Leo’s</i>	Sunday Aug 10 10:30 am <i>St. Thoas</i>
<i>Lector</i>	Mark Voss	Shari Kensok	Alecia Killoran
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Bill Franck Lori Howard	Denise Bartholomay Ann Fought Mary Jendro Susan Kempel Paul Olsen	Jurgen Suhr Penny Zaun
<i>Altar Servers</i>	Addison Hushka Noah Hushka Payton Neumann	Melody Kempel Quinn/Riley Gunkel Emma Rupp	Carly Hovelson Tucker Killoran
<i>Offertory Collectors</i>	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	Dennis & Cristie Killoran
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	Keith & Joni Biggers
<i>Lead Rosary</i>	Richard Muscha	Deb Werner	

NEWS AND NOTES

Jubilee Indulgence Opportunities

Celebrating Maryvale Faith & Fun Day: 3150 116a Ave SE, Valley City, ND. Saturday, August 16th, 10 am to 5 pm. The day will feature 5k/1m trail run, dunk tank, bouncy houses for the kids, outdoor live music, bake sale/silent auction, food, and a Vigil Mass with Bishop Folda. Please visit: www.maryvalend.org for more information, to RSVP, or to register for the 5k/1m run. **Maryvale is a designated Jubilee site, so you may obtain an indulgence under the usual conditions by visiting the site before or after attending this event.**

St. James Basilica Community Corn Feed: This event will take place on Sunday, August 24th, from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm at the Stutsman County Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$10 with kids six and under free of cost. This event features lunch, bounce houses, corn hole, raffle prizes and more. You can purchase tickets in advance at St. James Basilica or at the door. For more information please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the church entry. **St. James Basilica is a designated Jubilee site, so you may obtain an indulgence under the usual conditions by visiting the Basilica before or after attending this event.**

69th Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Prairies: Sunday, August 17th starting at 2:00 pm at the Carmel of Mary Monastery, 17765 78th St SE, Wahpeton, ND. Guest speaker will be Fr. Luke Meyer followed by the Rosary and Mass with Bishop Folda at 5:00 pm. The event will conclude with a picnic after Mass. For more information please see the flyer on the bulletin board or visit: Carmelofmary.org **Carmel of Mary Monastery is a designated Jubilee site, so you may obtain an indulgence under the usual conditions by visiting the site before or after attending this event.**

This week’s Stewardship moment:

“Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions.”
~ Luke 12:15

The Gospel message is contrary to modern culture that continually tries to convince us that our joy comes from the material things we possess. That the more we acquire, the happier we will be. Jesus show us that our true joy comes from our “invisible” gifts like love, mercy, and forgiveness. True joy comes from “emptying” ourselves, giving of ourselves rather than always taking. We are called not to hoard but to share. True joy comes from living a grateful and generous lifestyle; become more “God-centered” and less “self-centered.”



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION:

RE Registration Letters will be going out this coming week by postal mail. Please watch for it in your mail. Thank you.

Jubilee Prairie Pilgrimage: 2 day bus tour to the six Jubilee sites, August 25-26, 2025. The tour will begin at Maryvale in Valley City, ND and end back at Maryvale. All meals and overnight lodging included. This also includes an overnight stay at the Jasper hotel in downtown Fargo. You will also get reserved seating for the “Man of the Shroud” presentation at St. Mary’s Cathedral. The cost is \$285 per person, double occupancy; or \$385 for a single person. For complete itinerary and to register please visit the Diocese of Fargo website at: fargodiocese.org/jubilee and scroll down to Jubilee Prairie Pilgrimage.

Men’s Retreat with Bishop John Folda: September 5-7, 2025 at the Maryvale Retreat Center in Valley City, ND. This retreat is for men 21-38 wanting to deepen and strengthen their faith with the Lord. The retreat begins on Friday, September 5 at 4:30 pm and concludes on Sunday, September 7 at 1 pm. Cost of the retreat is \$250 and includes room and board. Register online at: www.maryvaleND.org Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

PASTOR’S NOTES

Some Financial Musings —

Since we are half way through the year, I thought I would offer some financial facts and commentary on life here at St. Leo’s —

(1) Through 6/30/2025 Sunday adult giving has amounted to \$143,000 —

commentary: this is \$1000 less than last year and \$4000 less than our 6/30/ 2023 analysis (our highest half-year analysis) which was \$147,000. In that two- year time period we have had a couple of deaths and people move, who were very generous givers and explains this difference. This half-year’s giving comes from 134 households [HH] out a total of 257 registered households. 45 of these 134 HHs use some for monthly auto pay which averages \$7880/monthly. We graciously thank those who give so faithfully and generously!!

(2) Through 6/30/2025 Children’s envelopes have amounted to \$404 —

commentary: this is on track with last year’s number, but is a big slip from the \$620 we had received through 6/30/2018. We have more students today than in 2018. Parents are reminded that each RE student received personalized Sunday Offertory envelopes to be used for their Sunday giving. Also, there are generic children’s envelopes at the back of church that can be used for those who forgot their personalized ones. Just write your name on the generic envelopes. Parents – thanks for your efforts and encouragement in this matter!

(3) Through 6/30/2025 loose/plate collection has amounted to \$8025 —

commentary: this is \$600 higher than last year, but down \$1700 from our best year of 2022 [\$9751].

(4) Through 6/30/2025 Cemetery envelope offerings has amounted to \$625 —

commentary: this is roughly the same as last year. Maintaining a Catholic cemetery is expensive. It annually costs over \$8000+ to just spray and keep the grass mowed. Grave sales alone do not nearly cover these most basic costs. **In addition** we received \$4385 from our Memorial Day Cemetery Upkeep Appeal letter and \$900 in cemetery grave site sales. Your support is always welcome.

(5) Through 6/30/2025 the Diocesan Capital Campaign has raised \$253,000 in pledges

commentary: Sixty two (62) very generous donors have brought us to this point. St. Leo’s has been asked to raise \$289,086, which means we still need to raise \$36,086 to meet goal. Your support is deeply appreciated!!! **Please note:** St. Leo’s receives 30% of collected money back for use in upgrading RE technology and subsidizing youth events like summer camps and VBS. To date we have received \$48,115 in return money.

(6) Through 6/30/2025 St. Leo’s Endowment Fund stands at \$165,167 —

commentary: this fund began in 2015 with a \$5000 gift followed by a gift of \$6215 in 2017. Since March 2018, \$153,952 has been added to this fund. 74% of that \$153,592 [\$121,590] has come from one parish household, who has since moved to another State. St. Leo’s has been greatly blessed!! **Thank you!**

(7) Through 7/25/2025 St. Leo’s has pledged \$37,467 to the God’s Gift Appeal —

commentary: the last time St. Leo’s made and exceeded their parish goal for the Diocesan God’s Gift Appeal was 2014. In that year 127 parish households pledged \$40,272. To date 60 parish households have pledged on average - \$624 - towards St. Leo’s goal of \$64,992. **A most gracious thank-you to those donors.** God’s Gift Appeal supports the many ministries of the Diocese of Fargo of which we all benefit, especially having priests for our parishes. If each remaining household (197) pledged – \$140 – St. Leo’s would make their goal. With each of us doing our part our parish goal is very attainable. If you have not yet made your 2025 contribution there are God’s Gift Appeal envelopes at the back of the church.



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



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
August 3, 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 Aug 3:

Mon – Aug 4 – 10:30 am – Funeral Mass for Theresa Dooley

Tues – Aug 5 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – +Marvin Ries by Minnie Ries

NO Mass at St. Leo’s

Wed – Aug 6 – 9:00 am – +Souls in purgatory

Thurs – Aug 7 – 9:00 am – +JoAnne Lillis by Gary & Delores Grommesh

Fri – Aug 8 – 9:00 am – Andy Garman by Casey & Anna Garman

Saturday – Aug 9 – 5:00 pm – Adam Garman by Casey & Anna Garman

Sunday – Aug 10 – St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes

St. Thomas - 10:30 am – +Alvin Wolf 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

Phone: 701-347-4609

E-mail: dre@stleosnd.org

Website: www.stleosnd.org

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 or by appointment.

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