


PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS


Sun., Dec 7 – 5:00 pm – **NOTE Time Change – St. Thomas** – Holy Day Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass
Mon., Dec 8 – 7:00 pm – St. Leo’s – Holy Day Immaculate Conception Mass
Tues., Dec 9 – 7:00 pm – Education committee meeting at the rectory
Wed., Dec 10 – RE classes — see below
Thurs., Dec 11 – 7:00 pm – Inquiry Class on the Catholic faith in lower level of St. Leo’s church
Wed., Dec 17– 12:00 pm– Casselton Ministeirum meeting in the Spirit of Life Center
Wed., Dec 17 – 6:30 pm – Family Advent Bingo; 6 pm – Simple Supper
Fri., Dec 19 – 7:00 pm – St. Leo’s – Advent Reconciliation Service


Religious Education Class Times — Wed., Dec. 10th
St. Thomas RE classes — 3:45 pm
St. Leo’s RE classes: Simple Supper - 6:00 pm
Grades K– 5, 7, 8, 10 — 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Grades 6 & 9 – Class B — 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm
12th grade — 6:15 - 7:45 pm



Council 9477

Knights of Columbus
Breakfast: Serving
pancakes and
Langdon sausage
Sun., Dec. 7th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Spirit of Life Center.



Upcoming Ministry Schedule			
	Saturday Dec 13 5:00 pm <i>St. Leo’s</i>	Sunday Dec 14 8:30 am <i>St. Leo’s</i>	Sunday Dec 14 10:30 am <i>St. Thomas</i>
	Megan Bolda	Shari Kensok	Keith Biggers
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Bill Franck Lori Howard	Denise Bartholomay Ann Faught Mary Jendro Susan Kempel Paul Olse	Joni Biggers Keith Biggers
<i>Altar Servers</i>	Addison Hushka Noah Hushka Payton Neumann	Melody Kempel Quinn/Riley Gunkel Emma Rupp	Abigail Killoran Liam Biggers
<i>Offertory Collectors</i>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	Travis & Darcie Besette
<i>Gift Bearers</i>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	Adam & Amanda Gunkel Family	Frank & Laura Biggers
<i>Lead Rosary</i>	Richard Muscha	Deb Werner	

NEWS AND NOTES

Mass Schedule for
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary-Holy Day
Sun., Dec 7th - 5:00 pm Mass at St. Thomas
Please note: this is a time change for St. Thomas
Mon., Dec 8th - 7:00 pm Mass at St. Leo’s

Come and make some joyful music!
Join our Christmas Choir!
Mass on Christmas Eve – Wed. Dec 24th
Carols at 9:00 pm and Mass at 9:30 pm
Mass on Christmas Day - Thurs, Dec 25th at 10:00 am
Adults and students in 6th - 12th grades:
First practice Sun., Dec 7th from 8:45– 10:00 am
Singers and instrumentalist are welcome– we’ll have music ready! Practices continue on:
Sun., Dec 14 – 9:30 am to 10:45 am
Sun., Dec 21 - 11:30 am to 12:30 pm
Call the parish office with any questions. 347-4609

Join us to sing from the choir loft! “Choir Sunday” will be **Sunday, December 21st** at the 10:30 am Mass. Any-one middle school and older is welcome is to sing. **Gentlemen, we need you too!** We will meet in the choir loft from 9:30-10 am that day to run through these songs: #39, #62, #742, #70, #68, #51, #47. YouTube is a great way to practice at home beforehand. Contact Wanda Mangin with any questions at wanda.mangin@yahoo.com

St. Leo’s Annual Christmas Tree: Our usual source for a Christmas Tree for the Church is not available this year. If you have an evergreen tree that you would like to have removed from your property that is at least 14 feet tall, please contact the Church at 701-347-4609 and we will come and look at it. Thank you.

This week’s Stewardship moment:
“Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”~ Matthew 3:10
Do you bear good fruit for Jesus? Do you spend time in prayer or do you waster it with mindless activity? Do you use your talent to help others or are you too busy? Do you use your treasure to support the Church or do you buy more things that go unused. Our time, talent, and treasure are gifts from God. What we do with these gifts is our gift back to Him. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

Celebrate Baptism - We give thanks to God for the Baptism of Haakon Francis Weber, son of Harrison and Emma.
We pray that the Spirit of Christ may guide him to live as a child of God.
Prayers and Sympathy: Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Barbara Marschke and her family on the death of her husband, Keith.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. —Matthew 5:4

ADVENT Booklet: Please see the table in the church entry to pick up an Advent booklet along with an Advent Calendar with suggestions on how to make your Advent more meaningful.

Thank you to West Funeral Home for providing **The Miracles of Jesus** 2026 calendar. Calendars are located in the church entry. Please limit one calendar per household.

St. Leo’s Christmas Giving Tree: This year St. Leo’s will be sponsoring The Jeremiah Program and The Perry Center. Both non-profit organizations help young women who have chosen life for their babies. In this time of giving, lets remember these young women and the life they are working on to create for their babies. Starting November 22nd tags will be available on the Giving Tree located in the Spirit of Life Center along with instructions. **Unwrapped gifts along with the tags can be returned by Mon., Dec. 15th.**

PASTOR’S NOTES

The woman of Advent – Blessed Virgin Mary

Twice every Advent season we meet the person of Mary. God had awaited her response of ‘be it done to me according to your Word’ since the Fall of humanity in the Garden of Eden. With her cooperation God’s plan of redeeming the human race could begin.

> Monday, December 8th is the Holy Day and solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Since this holy day falls in the days leading up to Christmas many Catholics thinks that this day celebrates the conception of Jesus in the womb of Mary. **WRONG!** This holy day celebrates Mary’s conception and birth without the stain of Original Sin. She is the only human person ever born without Original Sin {Note: Jesus is a divine person with both a human and divine nature}. The Church teaches that the Original Sin of our first parents is transmitted to subsequent generations through our being born into the human race. It also teaches whatever is believed about Mary comes from its teachings about Christ. Since Jesus was born of the Virgin into the human condition it would seem that Christ would have original sin. But Christ is a divine person and no stain of sin can be a part of God. As Scripture says – ‘he was like us in all ways but sin’ [Heb. 4:15]. But Mary’s “Yes” to God’s saving plan brought forth the savior of the human race. As Scripture says of Mary through the angel Gabriel she is “full of grace”. [Lk. 1:38] Jesus was born of woman and therefore he shared our human nature at the same time being God’s only begotten Son. To be a worthy vessel of this divine plan of salvation the Church teaches – ‘by a singular grace of God Mary was preserved from Original Sin’ (the Immaculate Conception). Therefore the Church celebrates this mystery of faith, which strengthens us in our call to holiness and sinlessness.

Masses for this Holy Day of Mary’s Immaculate Conception are as follows:

Sunday, December 7th @ St.Thomas in Buffalo at 5 p.m.

Monday, December 8th @ St. Leo’s in Casselton at 7 p.m.

> Friday, December 12th is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. On December 9th of 1531 not many years after the Spaniards had conquered the Aztec nation in Mexico a young Aztec man, Juan Diego Cuanhtlatotzin, who had become Catholic was on his way to Mass. On his way he encountered a beautiful young woman who declared to him, “I am the perfect and perpetual Virgin Mary, mother of the True God.” This happened at Tepeyac hill, the site of a former Aztec pagan temple. The woman asked Juan Diego to have the archbishop of Mexico City to build a church on the site of this hill. When the archbishop asked for a sign, Juan Diego relayed that to the woman. On December 12, 1531 the woman asked Juan Diego to go to the summit of the hill. Even though it was winter Juan Diego found a bunch of Castilian roses. The woman placed these roses inside of Juan Diego’s cloak and told him to take them to the archbishop. When Juan Diego opened his cloak to the archbishop the roses fell out, but imprinted on his cloak was the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. That nearly 500-year old cloak and its image can still be seen today at the Basilica of our Lady of Guadalupe in a northern neighborhood of Mexico City. Guadalupe is a Spanish translation of Tecuotlaxope meaning “she will crush the serpent of stone”. Pope Pius XII declared Our Lady of Guadalupe as patroness of the Americas and in 1999 Pope John Paul II raised the day of December 12th to be a feast day for all the countries of the Americas. In 2002 Pope John Paul II canonized Juan Diego and made his saint day to be December 9th when he first encountered the Blessed Virgin Mary on Tepeyac hill. This day of spiritual pride for Hispanics is marked with major fiestas throughout Mexico, Central America and southwestern United States. Mary is seen as mother, protectress and guardian of the poor, the weak and especially the unborn. **Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!**



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 OF ADVENT
December 7, 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 Dec 7:

Mon– Dec 8– 7:00 pm– St. Leo’s– Immaculate Conception Holy Day Mass- + **Linus Kensok**

NO 9 am Daily Mass

Tues – Dec 9 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – +**Bob Killoran** by Joe & Lora Killoran

NO 9 am Mass at St. Leo’s

Wed – Dec 10 – 9:00 am – +**Shirley Marek** by Monica Qvale

Thurs – Dec 11 – 9:00 am – +**Souls in purgatory**

Fri – Dec 12 – 9:00 am – +**Jim Waldorf** by Gary & Delores Grommesh

Saturday – Dec 13 – 5:00 pm – +**Mary Ann Waxler** by Her family

Sunday – Dec 14 – St. Leo’s - 8:30 am - +**Lynn Kensok** by Ann Faught

St. Thomas - 10:30 am – 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

RE Coordinator: Patty Roth

Phone: 701-347-4609

E-mail: dre@stleosnd.org

Website: www.stleosnd.org

Prayer Chain: Kelsey Lako

Please call or email the parish office.

Maintenance: Paul & Sherry Radermacher

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

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

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

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.