


PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Mon., - Thurs., July 21-24 – 1:00 to 4:00 pm – St. Leo’s Vacation Bible School (VBS)
Mon., July 28 – 6:45 pm – KC Meeting at the rectory
Tues., Aug 5 – 7:00 pm – Education Committee meeting at the rectory
Mon., Aug 11 – 7:00 pm – St. Thomas Pastoral Council meeting

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

**Celebrating Maryvale
Faith & Fun Day**
Saturday, August 16, 2025
10 am — 5 pm
Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule			
	Saturday July 19 5:00 pm <i>St. Leo’s</i>	Sunday July 20 8:30 am <i>St. Thomas</i>	Sunday July 20 10:30 am <i>St. Leo’s</i>
Lector	Lee Ann Monilaws Mallory Poulson	Judy Von Bank	Karren Bartholomay
Eucharistic Ministers	Gary Grommesh Delores Grommesh	Joni Biggers Keith Biggers	Micah Bartholomay Jake Lako Collin Miller Deb Werner Jake Werner
Altar Servers	Ann Burchill Grant Burchill Beau Parisien	Claire Halland Abigail Killoran	Elise Bartholomay Brynne Bartholomay Kayleigh Prochnow
Offertory Collectors	Volunteer needed	Jurgen & Barb Suhr	Volunteer needed
Gift Bearers	Volunteer needed	David Biggers Terri Biggers	Volunteer needed
Lead Rosary	Mona Franck		Volunteer Needed

NEWS AND NOTES

"Mysteries and Messengers: The Angels & The Rosary," a special itinerant Dominican preaching event on Wednesday, July 16th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Sts. Anne & Joachim Parish, 5202 25th St. S., Fargo. Renowned speakers from the Midwest province of the Order of Preachers, Fr. James Pierce Cavanaugh, OP from the Angelicum in Rome, and Fr. Adrian Patrick McCaffery, OP, will delve into the profound mysteries of the rosary and the mystery of the angels in scripture and tradition. Don't miss this opportunity for spiritual enrichment and deep reflection. All are welcome to attend this inspiring gathering. For more information, please see the flyer on the bulletin board or visit Sts. Anne & Joachim website: <https://stsaa.org/event-calendar/mysteries-and-messengers/>

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: [Carmelof mary.org](http://Carmelofmary.org)

Praying with the Shroud Retreat: Make plans August 22 -24, at the Maryvale Retreat Center, and learn how the Holy Shroud of Turin can provide you with additional options for meditation and contemplation. A suggested donation of \$225 covers your meal and room. Retreatants will receive a comprehensive array of Shroud information from speaker Jim Bertrand, who has over 10 years of experience sharing the message across more than 45 Diocese. Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation will be available. Register online at www.maryvalend.org

Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages – Sept. 26 – 28, 2025 Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program that has helped hundreds of thousands of married couples turn the tide, find new hope, and reclaim the love that initially brought them together. The Red River Retrouvaille program will be held locally on Sept. 26 – 28, 2025 in Fargo. For more information visit HelpOurMarriage.com or contact us at (701) 356-7962 or via email at rrretrouvaille@gmail.com.

Brother Benet (Denis) Tvedten celebrates 65 years as a monk: Born on November 22, 1936, he grew up in Casselton. In 1958, after earning a degree in English from St. John’s University, he decided to become a monk at Blue Cloud Abbey (Marvin, SD), enamored in part by Thomas Merton’s *Seven Story Mountaion*. On his first day in the abbey he fell off a ledge while washing windows and broke his foot. That proved providential. Thereafter he worked in the appeal office and produced *The Blue Cloud Quarterly*. He turned it into a Native American poetry anthology, and began writing his own material for publication. One of his books still in print– *How to Be a Monastic and Not Leave Your Day Job* was written for Benedictine Oblates. When Blue Cloud Abbey closed in 2012, he transferred to Assumption Abbey (Richardton, ND) and worked in the Gift Shop. Today he resides at the Richardton Health Center. He still loves to hear a good story, and occasionally tries to tell one.

This week’s Stewardship moment:
“Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do likewise.’”~ Luke 10:37

This was Jesus’ command at the end of the Good Samaritan story. Did you know that the Samaritans and Jews despised each other? The moral of the story is to love our neighbor. That means loving someone you may not know, or someone that looks different than you, or someone that has different beliefs than you, or someone that you don’t like. All without expecting anything in return.

PASTOR’S NOTES

What is (are) an indulgence(s)? – Part one –

To truly understand indulgences a person should have a working knowledge of a number of Catholic teachings about sin and the effects of sin, Reconciliation, purgatory, heaven, God’s mercy and justice, communion of saints, ‘binding and loosing’, etc.

A fair starting point is to acknowledge that the last book of the Bible speaks about the end of time when there will be a ‘new heavens and new earth’, no more death or mourning, crying out or pain. Revelation 21:26-27 says, “*The treasures and the wealth of the nations shall be brought there {new Jerusalem}, but nothing profane shall enter it, nor anyone who is a liar or has done a detestable act. Only those shall enter whose names are inscribed in the book of the living kept by the Lamb.*” Christ says as much when he challenges us in the Sermon on the Mount to be “*made perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect*”. [Mt. 5:48]

But sin has a strong foothold in our lives. Sin is a powerful force that can rupture our relationship with God {mortal sin}, or to a lesser degree weakens our relationship with God {venial sin}. Sin has a double consequence. **Firstly** grave sin deprives us of communion with God. This is called the eternal punishment due to sin. **Secondly** every sin entails an unhealthy attachment to the world around us and perverts the world in which we live. This is called the temporal punishment due to sin. Temporal refers to the space and time in which we live.

On Easter Sunday morning Christ gave the Church the power to forgive sin(s) in his name when he said, “*Receive the Holy Spirit, if you forgive men’s sins they are forgiven....*” [Jn. 21:22-23]. Thus the sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) was born.

When a person truly and contritely confesses their sins, Christ, through the priest’s prayer of absolution, restores that person’s relationship with God and removes any of *the eternal punishment due to sin*.

Absolution takes away sin, but does not remedy all the disorders sin causes. This is known as the temporal punishment due to sin. One must do what is possible to repair the harm that has been done by his/her sin(s). Simple justice demands as much. In justice we need to restore the wreckage our sin has reaped. For example, *the sin of gossip has a ripple effect of spreading far and wide. How does one remedy all the damage done by gossip, much more so – the pollution of rivers and streams, the causing of wild fires, having an abortion, etc?* The penance given in Reconciliation starts us on this road of reparation. Fully restoring this world broken by our sin(s) is how *the temporal punishment due to sin* is lifted from us. Most of us will probably die before full reparation has been restored. Since nothing profane enters heaven, purgatory is that state of being after death where we are purged of any remnants of sin before entering into heaven.

Yet God’s mercy is boundless. He desires all to be free from any and all encumbrances of sin including the temporal punishment due to sin. In giving the Church the powers of ‘binding and loosing’ many devotional practices have indulgences attached to them. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says this about indulgences:

“*An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sin whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfaction of Christ and the saints.*” “*An indulgence is partial or plenary as it removes either part or all the temporal punishment due to sin.*” “*The faithful can gain indulgences for themselves or apply them to the dead.*” [CCC 1471]

Indulgences are neither magic nor automatic. All indulgences come with conditions attached to them.

Next week I would like to conclude this article on indulgences by explaining conditions, kinds and in particular the indulgence attached to this Jubilee Year of Hope.



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



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 13, 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 July 13:
Mon – July 14 – 9:00 am – +**Dick Sinner** by Jane Sinner
Tues – July 15 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – +**Souls in purgatory**
NO Mass at St. Leo’s
Wed – July 16 – 10:30 am – **Funeral Mass for Don Nilles**
Thurs – July 17 – 9:00 am – **Justin Gullekson Family**
Fri – July 18 – 9:00 am – +**Souls in purgatory**
Saturday – July 19 – 5:00 pm – For the people of our parishes
Sunday – July 20 – St. Thomas - 8:30 am - +Bob Von Bank by Judith Von Bank
St. Leo’s - 10:30 am – +Doris Brandenburg by Paulette Schmitt

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer
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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 or by appointment.

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