

PASTOR'S NOTES

10 (Ten) days out --- *and then more to come ...*

In ten more days (July 17th) the 5-day National Eucharistic Congress will begin in Indianapolis, Indiana.

On Pentecost Sunday (May 19th) the Blessed Sacrament started a pilgrimage and procession from 4 different directions in the United States to culminate in Indianapolis and begin our national Eucharistic Congress. Since we live in the northern part of the United State, our route began at the headwaters of the Mississippi river in Minnesota and is known as the Marian Route. To date the Blessed Sacrament of this northern route has traveled through 5 of the 6 dioceses in Minnesota, through 4 of the 5 dioceses in Wisconsin, just the Archdiocese of Chicago in Illinois and recently has traveled through the Diocese of Gary, Indiana and is now in the Diocese of Ft. Wayne -South Bend. During the course of this week the Blessed Sacrament of the Marian Route will traverse the Diocese of Lafayette and finally enter the territory of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis on July 15th and then the city of Indianapolis for the Eucharistic Congress.

Since 1881 there have been 52 **international** Eucharistic Congresses throughout the world and since 1895 there have been 9 **national** Eucharistic Congresses in the United States. The last national Eucharistic Congress for the United States was held in 1941 in St. Paul, Minnesota. The upcoming National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis will be our country's Tenth Eucharistic Congress.

As with all such congresses, the emphasis will be on some dimension of our Eucharistic faith and the life that flows from the Eucharist. This congress' focus will be on Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist. Polls suggest a number of Catholics have lost or have a very diminished belief that the Eucharist is the real Body and Blood of Christ. There will be numerous talks, devotions and celebrations of the Eucharist at the Indianapolis gathering. **Let us keep this Congress in our prayers!!**

So what is coming?? We have just begun the 3rd and final year of this 3-year National Eucharist Revival. **This third year focus will be on being missionary disciples of the Eucharistic mystery.** The Eucharist is the 'source and summit' of our lives of faith and is the gift of nothing less than God's undying love for the world. This *Good News* must be taken far and wide.

To help facilitate and inspire us for the missionary task at hand **the Diocese of Fargo will be hosting a Redeemed Eucharistic Congress in Jamestown on Friday, September 6th and Saturday, September 7th.** This gathering is meant for all the faithful in the Diocese of Fargo. It is hoped that the fruits of the National Eucharist Congress will begin to blossom in our midst. A number of speakers [**Scott Hahn, Msgr. Tom Richter, Julianne Stanz**] will headline this gathering. Along with the celebration of the Eucharist there will be a Eucharistic procession, a Eucharistic healing service, praise and worship time along with all-night adoration. There is a \$35 registration fee through August 1st and then \$50 after August 1st. **To register:** www.fargodiocese.org/redeemed or call (701) 356-7900.

Capital Campaign Update

On another front, the Diocese of Fargo is in the middle of their \$20 million Capital Campaign with each of the 125 parishes/missions doing their part to raise sufficient funds to fully renovate/upgrade the gift of the Valley City Maryvale Convent into the Diocesan Maryvale Retreat Center, to build a priest retirement home, to bolster the priest's retirement pension plan as well a provide funds for parish-determined needs/programs.

As of July 3rd thirty six (36) households of St. Leo's parish have pledged \$194,900 towards our goal of \$289,086. Thanks so much for your generosity!! Six (6) households of St. Thomas parish have pledged \$17,520 towards our goal of \$49,536. Again our thanks for your generosity.



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



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME July 7, 2024

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 7:

Mon - July 8 – 9:00 am – +**Paul Grommesh** by Gary & Delores Grommesh

Tues - July 9 – 9:00 am - St. Thomas – +**Souls in purgatory**

NO MASS at St. Leo's

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

Thurs – July 11 – 9:00 am – **Justin Gullekson Family**

Fri – July 12 – 9:00 am – **Anna Garman**

Saturday – July 13 – 5:00 pm - +Dick Sinner by Francis & Liz Kritzberger

Sunday - July 14 – St. Leo's- 8:30 am - For the people of our parishes

St. Thomas - 10:30 am - +Kelly Muscha by Keith & Joni Biggers

Parish Staff:

Pastor: Fr. James Ermer

E-mail: james.ermer@fargodiocese.org

Secretary: Delores Grommesh

Phone: 701-347-4609

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RE Coordinator: Patty Roth

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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.

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

## PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., July 7 - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
 Sun., July 14 - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
**July 17- 21 -National Eucharistic Congress, Indianapolis, IN –please pray for the congress**  
 Sun., July 21 - Beverage and Bite after Mass  
**Mon. - Thurs. - July 22-25 - 1 to 4 pm - Vacation Bible School**  
 Mon., Aug 5 - 11:00 am - 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Bishop's Charity Golf Classic, Rose Creek Golf Course, Fargo  
 Tues., Aug 5 - 7:00 pm - Education committee meeting at the rectory

**Special prayers and blessings** to the faithful couples that help us see the presence and faithfulness of God in our lives:


**Harlan & Sandra Volk - 59 years on July 10**

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

**2024 Summer Camps and Events:** There are a number of summer camps and events available for youths to participate in this summer. Please see the display in the entrance of the church for information and to pick up a brochure.

**St. Leo's Vacation Bible School (VBS):** July 22 - 25, 2024. 1-4pm each day for students entering K - 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Registration forms and information is available in the church entry. Registration deadline is July 12<sup>th</sup>.

### Upcoming Ministry Schedule

|                                                                                   | Saturday July 13<br>5:00 pm<br>St. Leo's | Sunday July 14<br>8:30 am<br>St. Leo's                                        | Sunday July 14<br>10:30 am<br>St. Thomas |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|  | Mark Voss                                | Shari Kensok                                                                  | Judy Von Bank                            |
| <b>Lector</b>                                                                     | Mark Voss                                | Shari Kensok                                                                  | Judy Von Bank                            |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                                                      | Bill Franck<br>Lori Howard               | Denise Bartholomay<br>Ann Faught<br>Mary Jendro<br>Susan Kempel<br>Paul Olsen | Kristi Hovelson<br>Joe Killoran          |
| <b>Altar Servers</b>                                                              | Addison Hushka<br>Noah Hushka            | Melody Kempel<br>Quinn/Riley Gunkel<br>Emma Rupp                              | Carly Hovelson<br>Abigail Killoran       |
| <b>Offertory Collectors</b>                                                       | Volunteers needed                        | Volunteers needed                                                             | Jurgen & Barb Suhr                       |
| <b>Gift Bearers</b>                                                               | Volunteers needed                        | Volunteers needed                                                             | Bryce Kasowski Family                    |
| <b>Lead Rosary</b>                                                                | Richard Muscha                           | Deb Werner                                                                    |                                          |

## NEWS AND NOTES

**DID YOU KNOW...** Community of Care provides transportation to medical appointments for older adults **FREE** of charge. Our dedicated volunteers provide these important rides for older adults to receive their medical care. If you are 65+, living in Cass County and need a ride to your doctor appointment, give them a call at **(701)347-0032**. Volunteer Coordinator, Tammy Schempp, will do her best to arrange a ride. You must be able to independently transfer in and out of the vehicle. **They do request a one week notice to arrange for a ride.**

### Rachel's Vineyard Retreat: Hope and Healing: September 13-15, 2024

Have you, or someone you know, suffered from the physical, emotional, or spiritual effects of a past abortion? **Rachel's Vineyard** offers a safe, non-judgmental and confidential weekend retreat for anyone – including women, men, couples, grandparents or siblings - who struggle with the feelings of loss or guilt that can accompany an abortion experience. The weekend begins on Friday evening and concludes on Sunday afternoon. The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat in the Diocese of Fargo is scheduled for **September 13-15, 2024**. For more information, contact Ruth at 701-219-3941, [rruch68@gmail.com](mailto:rruch68@gmail.com) or Sherry at 701-520-1229. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



### God's Gift Appeal 2024

|            | Goal     | 6/28/2024 |
|------------|----------|-----------|
| St. Leo's  | \$61,723 | \$ 38,958 |
| St. Thomas | \$ 9,893 | \$ 5,350  |

Thank you to all parishioners who have made their gifts to the 2024 God's Gift Appeal. Pledge cards/donations may be placed in the offertory collection basket or dropped off at the parish office.

### This week's Stewardship moment:

*"As the Lord spoke to me, the spirit entered me and set me on my feet, and I heard the one who was speaking say to me, 'Son of man, I am sending you...'" ~ Ezekiel 2:2-3*

God has a plan for each of us. He calls us to do something for Him. But, He doesn't leave us on our own to figure it out. He gives us the resources we need to do His work. Are you listening for God's call? When you hear it, do you get on your feet and do the work He asks of you? Do not be afraid. God doesn't call the equipped, he equips the called. Answer His call.

The Rosary is prayed before each weekend Mass at St. Leo's . **We are in need of persons to lead the rosary** on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays each month. This would be about 20 minutes before the 10:30am Masses on these days. Call the parish office if you can help.

### Pilgrimage to Fatima, Spain and Lourdes: October 21-31, 2024

Bishop Folda personally invites you to join him on a pilgrimage where they will visit the holy sites of Fatima and Lourdes where Our Lady appeared to young people with her messages of conversion, peace and healing. In Fatima, we join thousands for the Rosary and candlelight procession. Lourdes, as you may know, is the place of the miraculous waters of healing that millions of people visit every year. We will visit the birthplace of St. Anthony of Portugal and see the burial place of St. Teresa of Avila along with many other saints and martyrs. There will also be a special stop to visit a church with a Eucharistic miracle. To visit and worship in these holy places can bring a renewal I our spiritual lives and greater understanding of the universal Church. Price of the trip is \$4900 based on double with flights out of Fargo. More information and registration is available at: [www.fargodioces.org/pilgrimages](http://www.fargodioces.org/pilgrimages) For questions please contact Mary Hanbury at-(701)356-7909 or [mary.hanbury@fargodiocese.org](mailto:mary.hanbury@fargodiocese.org)