

PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., Mar 29– 4:00 pm– Cantata Performance followed by reception in the Spirit of Life Center
 Tues., Mar 31 – 11:00 am – Chrism Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral, Fargo
 Wed., Apr 1 – RE Classes – see below
 Wed., Apr 1– 7:00 pm– Tenebrae service at St. Leo’s
 Thurs., Apr 2– 7:00 pm – Holy Thursday Mass at St. Leo’s
 Fri., Apr 3 – 7:00 pm – Good Friday Service at St. Leo’s
 Sat., Apr 4 – 8:30 pm– Easter Vigil Mass at St. Leo’s; reception to follow
Sun., Apr 5 – 8:00 am – Easter Sunday Mass at St. Thomas– NOTE: Time change.
Sun., Apr 5 – 10:00 am – Easter Sunday Mass at St. Leo’s– NOTE: Time change.

Religious Education Class Times — Wed., April 1st

St. Thomas RE classes — 3:45 pm


St. Leo’s RE classes: Simple Supper - 6:00 pm

All classes will attend the Tenebrae Service at 7:00 pm.

NOTE: All sessions of 6th grade (A & B) will meet at **6:15 pm**

NOTE: **All** 9th - 12th graders will meet at 6:30pm in the church for Tenebrae practice.

NOTE: All other classes start at regular times.

	<p align="center">Sunday April 5 Easter Sunday 8:00 am St. Thomas</p>	<p align="center">Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday Sat. Apr 4th-8:30pm/Sun. Apr 5th-10 am St. Leo’s</p>
<p>Lector</p>	<p>Alecia Killoran</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Please see Holy Week Sign-Up Sheets in the back of the Church.</p> </div>
<p>Eucharistic Ministers</p>	<p>Jurgen Suhr Penny Zaun</p>	
<p>Altar Servers</p>	<p>Claire Halland Layla Norrie</p>	
<p>Offertory Collectors</p>	<p>Joe & Lora Killoran</p>	
<p>Gift Bearers</p>	<p>Judy Von Bank Cynthia Comprendio</p>	

NEWS AND NOTES

EASTER CANTATA ‘How Great Thou Art’ Sunday, March 29, 2026

4:00 pm

St. Leo’s Catholic Church

All are Welcome – Free will donation admission.
 A reception will be held in the Spirit of Life Center following the performance.



Everyone is invited to attend the **Tenebrae service** on Wednesday night, **April 1st** at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Presented by the students in grades 9 - 12 from St. Leo’s and St. Thomas. Tenebrae (TEN-eh-bray) has a rich tradition in the church dating back to the 8th century. Through word and music, this service dramatizes the suffering, death, and burial of Jesus Christ.

Join us to sing from the choir loft! “Choir Sunday” will be **Sunday, April 19th** at the 10:30 am Mass. Anyone 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: #177, #353, #366, #338, #191. YouTube is a great way to practice at home beforehand. Contact Wanda Mangin with any questions at wanda.mangin@yahoo.com

Lenten Canisters – one recipient of our Lenten canisters is **Make A Wish Foundation of ND.** *Make A Wish Foundation of ND* is a national organization that grants life-changing wishes for children going through a critical medical illness. Just the act of making their wish come true can give them, and their families, the courage to comply with their medical treatments. **Please be generous in supporting our Lenten charities. Lenten canisters will be returned during Holy Week.**

This week’s Stewardship moment:

“As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross.” ~ Matthew 27:32

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbor and help him “carry his cross.” These opportunities aren’t usually big events, they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person’s need before our own and not expecting anything in return.

HELP NEEDED! There are sign-up sheets located in the church entry for the liturgies during Holy Week **plus** the Easter Vigil Reception. Lots of extra help is needed for these awesome celebrations! Please check them out to see where your can help.

Attention! Need Sausage. We are looking for deer/homemade sausage donations for the Saturday, April 4th Easter Vigil reception. If you have any you would be able to share, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the parish office at 347-4609 if you can help. Thank you.

Church decorating: All parishioners are invited to help decorate the church for our Easter Liturgies on Saturday, April 4th at 10:00 am.

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

Celebrate Baptism - We give thanks to God for the Baptism of Grace Elizabeth and Shirley Rose Hermann, twin daughters of Doug and Brandi.

We pray that the Spirit of Christ may guide them to live as a children of God.

PASTOR'S NOTES

Holy Week [March 29 to April 5] 2026

~~ the premier week in the life of the Church ~~

Holy Week is a tumultuous week. It begins with joy on Palm Sunday [March 29th] as Jesus enters the city of Jerusalem. It suffers an agonizing death on Good Friday only to burst forth in glory on EASTER Sunday as the resurrected Christ declares that death no longer has a hold on the human race. Holy Week is filled with the Church's greatest liturgies and ritual celebrations. It is a week rich in prayer — rousing our hearts and minds to enter the mystery of Christ's suffering and death, meet the resurrected Christ, and be raised to the glory of heaven.

You are highly encouraged to attend Holy Week Services:

On Tuesday [March 31st] Bishop Folda celebrates the **Chrism Mass** at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral in Fargo. The three oils of the Church {Oil of the Catechumens, Oil of the Sick and Sacred Chrism} will be blessed, consecrated and then brought to our parish churches to be used throughout the year in the sacramental life of the Church. Also, during the Chrism Mass the priests of the Diocese of Fargo will renew their priestly vows;

On Wednesday [April 1st] we celebrate the ancient prayer service called **Tenebrae** at 7 p.m. at St. Leo's Church. Tenebrae is a Latin term meaning *shadows*. The service begins with a procession of lighted candles that are gradually extinguished representing the abandonment of Christ by his followers. In the midst of this deepening darkness the Christ candle on the altar remains burning though temporarily taken from our midst only to reappear on the altar representing Christ's burial and triumphant resurrection and victory over the darkness of death. This service of light moving into darkness anticipates the **Triduum** {the three holy days: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil} and sets the tone for our meditation on the Paschal Mystery (the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ);

On Holy Thursday [April 2nd] we gather at 7 p.m. at St. Leo's Church. St. Thomas and St. Leo's parishes receive their blessed oils from Tuesday's Chrism Mass; there is a footwashing ceremony; at the end of Mass the Blessed Sacrament is reposed in the Spirit of Life Center for adoration until midnight. As people leave each person is given a loaf of bread to be their food for Good Friday's fast and abstinence;

On Good Friday [April 3rd] we gather at 7 p.m. at St. Leo's Church. We hear the Passion story of Christ from John's Gospel; venerate the Cross, which acknowledges both the crucifying power of sin and the exalted throne of God's unconquerable love for his people; we end with a simple Communion Service;

On Holy Saturday (the Easter Vigil) [April 4th] we gather at 8:30 p.m. at St. Leo's Church. Our night begins at the Easter fire and the lighting of our Easter Candle; this is followed by readings from salvation history; then the baptismal waters are blessed and we end celebrating Easter Mass. After Mass all people are invited to the Spirit of Life Center for a wonderful reception of food and drink.

Easter Sunday [April 5th] liturgies are at 8 a.m. at St. Thomas and 10 a.m. at St. Leo's.

Perhaps Psalm 122 can lead us this Holy Week. The psalmist writes,

"I rejoiced when I heard them say - let us go to the house of the Lord."



~~ Please mark your calendars ~~



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



 **PALM SUNDAY** 
March 29, 2026

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 Mar 29:

Mon – Mar 30 – 9:00 am – +**Charlie Radermacher** by Bryce Radermacher

Tues – Mar 31 – 11:00 am– **Chrism Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, Fargo**

NO 9 am Mass at St. Leo's & St. Thomas

Wed – Apr 1 – 9:00 am – +**Lorraine Kenosk** by Ron Kensok

Holy Thursday – Apr 2 – 7:00 pm– St. Leo's– +**Souls in purgatory**

Good Friday – Apr 3 – 7:00 pm Service at St. Leo's

Holy Saturday – Apr 4 – 8:30 pm – +Bob Von Bank by Judith Von Bank

Easter Sunday – Apr 5 – St. Thomas - 8:00 am – For the people of our parishes

Easter Sunday – Apr 5 – St. Leo's - 10:00 am – +Arnie Schafer by Stu & Kim Romsdal

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

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.