


PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Sun., May 17 – 11:30 am – Graduation Breakfast after 10:30 am Mass honoring St. Leo's 2026 graduates
 Tues., May 19 – 7:00 pm – Cemetery Committee meeting at the rectory
 Mon., May 25 – 6:30 pm – KC meeting at the rectory
 Fri., Jun 5 – 7:00 pm – Diaconate Ordination at St. Mary's Cathedral, Fargo
 Sat., Jun 6 – 10:00 am – Priestly Ordination at Sts. Anne & Joachim Church, Fargo
 Sun., Jun 7 – 10:30 am – Corpus Christi Celebration, St. Mary's Church, Dazey, ND
 Tues., Jun 9 – 7:00 pm – Social Concerns Committee meeting at the rectory
 Sun., Jun 14 – 4:30 pm – 9th Annual Rural Life Celebration, Kurt & Cheryl Elliott Farm, Blanchard, ND

Let's celebrate Fr. Ermer as he retires after 48 years of priesthood and ends his tenure of 17 years as our pastor! **On Sunday, June 21st at 4:00 pm**, at St. Leo's, we will have Evening Prayer and a short program in the church followed by a picnic-style meal in the Spirit of Life Center. We'll need help with the set-up, serving and take-down for the meal. Watch for upcoming details in the bulletin and sign-up sheets at the churches. For anyone planning to attend, **please RSVP by June 12th** by email to stleo@casselton.net or by phone to the parish office at (701)347-4609.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	Saturday May 23 5:00 pm <i>St. Leo's</i>	Sunday May 24 8:30 am <i>St. Leo's</i>	Sunday Sun May 24 10:30 am <i>St. Thomas</i>
			
Lector	Tony Roth	Fred Eldridge	Judy Von Bank
Eucharistic Ministers	Paulette Schmitt Lori Howard	Virjean Cramer Dave Glennon Patty Glennon Terry Kensok Terri Monilaws	Joe Killoran Linda Milbrandt
Altar Servers	Evelyn Roth Joe Kappes Jensen Kappes	Claire Glennon Jack Glennon Nolan Ziegelmann Paxton Ziegelmann	Hanna Besette Ali Killoran
Offertory Collectors	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	JoEllen Killoran Mike & Lisa Zahnow
Gift Bearers	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>	
Lead Rosary	Michelle Kappes	Sandra Keller	

NEWS AND NOTES

Teams of Our Lady for Your Marriage: Are you interested in enriching your couple/marriage spirituality on a journey with other Catholic like-minded couples? The F-M Sector of Teams of Our Lady now has 12 TEAMS comprised of 70+ area couples, 11 chaplains, and has been going strong for 19 years! Join us to learn more at our Spring Information Sessions!

- Info Session #1 – Thursday May 28th at 7:00 pm at Holy Cross Church in West Fargo
- Info Session #2 – Tuesday, June 2nd at 7:00 pm at Holy Spirit Church in Fargo

All couples (BOTH husband and wife) wishing to join TEAMS are *required to attend one* of these two sessions. Mark your calendar as these will be the only information sessions this year. For more information, e-mail fargosectorinformation@gmail.com More information can also be found on the TEAMS website at www.teamsofourlady.org

Planning with Faith and Wisdom End-of-Life Preparation Seminar: A practical and faith-filled seminar on preparing for end-of-life matters with peace and confidence. Wednesday, May 20th, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Holy Cross Catholic Church, 2711 7th St E, West Fargo. Topics include: Estate Planning & Wills, Catholic Funeral Rites and Traditions, Life Insurance Options, Understanding Funeral Home Costs and Pre-Planning. This seminar will help you and your family make informed decisions that honor your Catholic faith, protect your loved ones, and reduce future stress and financial burden. There is no cost to attend and is open to all parishioners and their families. For questions please contact John Clark at (701) 306-3369.

St. Mary's 121st Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession for the feast of Corpus Christi: Sunday, June 7th, 2026. Led by Fr. Sean Mulligan, 10:30 am Mass followed by Eucharistic procession, outdoor rosary, free-will offering meal, fellowship and outdoor kid games. Please plan for outdoor activities and weather conditions. St. Mary's Church is located 6 miles East of Dazey, 1624 115th Ave SE, Dazey ND.

9th Annual Rural Life Celebration: Sunday, June 14th, 2026 at the Kurt & Cheryl Elliott Farm, 15154 6th St SE, Blanchard, ND beginning at 4 pm. Event Activities include Mass at 4:30 pm, blessing of land, machinery, animals followed by a meal at 6 pm. Bring a bag of soil or seed to be blessed. The event is free and open to all. Please RSVP by June 1st to olpstagnes@midco.net or (701)788-3234. For more information please visit: www.fargodiocese.org/rural-life

Beginning Experience for Widowed, Separated & Divorced: June 26-28, 2026 at the St. Francis Retreat Center in Hankinson, starting Friday at 6:30 pm and ending Sunday at 4:00 pm. "Let go of the pain and get ready to live again. Real results, real hope." For more information and an application, contact Bonnie (Fargo) at 701-318-0949 or visit: www.beginningexperience-easternnorthdakota.org

This week's Stewardship moment:

"I am praying for them..." ~ John 17:9

Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation – not just our last resort. Pray for friends and family, and especially for those that don't treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank, and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given you. Teach others how to pray. It has been said that teaching someone how to pray is the best gift you can give someone.

PASTOR'S NOTES

“Hats off to you” – our RE teachers

This past Wednesday we celebrated our closing Religious Education liturgy for this school year. The heart and soul of every Religious Education (RE) program are those parishioners who step forward and volunteer their time and talent as teachers/catechists.

In some respects, **they are an elite group of volunteers!** They give on a weekly basis of their time not only for the hour in the classroom but also the time that goes into preparation. They have a heartfelt conviction and desire to pass on the treasure of the Catholic faith. Over the years numerous parishioners have told me they could never see themselves as RE teachers. **So the ones that do step forward and give of themselves deserve our deepest appreciation.** As St. Paul writes in his letter to the Romans, “*How beautiful are the feet of those who announce good news!*” And what is more beautiful good news than that Christ died for our sins, rose from the dead, opened the gates of heaven and lives forever for us in the life of His Church!

We sincerely ‘tip our hats’ to this year’s RE teachers for **St. Leo’s**: Mary Richard & Missy Poulson [Kindergarten]; Melanie Parisien [1st grade]; LeeAnn Monilaws [2nd grade]; Michelle Kappes & Mallory Poulson [3rd grade]; Trista Ziegelmann [4th grade]; Susan Kempel [5th grade]; Alecia Killoran & Luke Steckler [6th grade]; Paul Olsen [7th grade]; Virjean Cramer [8th grade]; Sandra Keller [9th grade]; Jake and Kelsey Lako [10th grade] and Fr. Ermer and Shari Kensok [11th and 12th grade].

And a sincere ‘tip of our hats’ to our RE teachers for **St. Thomas**: Cardell Biggers [Kindergarten] Kristi Hovelson with help from Joni Biggers [2nd grade]; Keith Biggers [5th grade].

St. Leo’s RE attendance

Besides a great group of teachers another measure of our 2025-26 RE program is overall attendance. 158 out of a potential 191 students or 83% of our potential parish students were registered in our RE program [cf. column 1 and column 2].

Of the 158 registered students, 48 (or 30%) had **perfect attendance** [cf. column 3], which means they did not miss a single class for whatever reason. These are great numbers!! *Next week I will have St. Thomas numbers.*

Grade	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Kindergarten	9/10	90%	2
First grade	13/15	87%	3
Second grade	11/12	92%	3
Third grade	15/16	87%	6
Fourth grade	13/15	87%	2
Fifth grade	17/17	100%	4
Sixth grade	17/20	85%	11
Seventh grade	13/14	93%	2
Eighth grade	11/13	85%	3
Ninth grade	13/18	72%	4
Tenth grade	9/14	64%	3
Eleventh grade	6/9	66%	1
Twelfth grade	<u>11/18</u>	<u>61%</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL	158/191	83%	48



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



The Ascension of the Lord May 17, 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 May 17:

Mon – May 18 – 9:00 am – +**Jane Sinner** by Lil Eberhardt

Tues – May 19 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – +**Barbara Buhr** by Arnie Buhr

NO 9 am Mass at St. Leo’s

Wed – May 20 – 9:00 am – +**Keith Marschke** by Mary Ellen Nilles

Thurs – May 21 – 9:00 am – +**Souls in purgatory**

Fri – May 22 – 9:00 am – +**Shirley Marek** by Monica Qvale

Saturday – May 23 – 5:00 pm – +Deceased Franck Grandparents by Bill & Mona Franck

Sunday – May 24 – St. Leo’s - 8:30 am – +Catherine Adam by Terri & Kent Monilaws

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

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.