

PARISH EVENTS/MEETINGS

Tues., May 5 – 7:00pm – Liturgy Committee meeting at the rectory
 Wed., May 6 – RE Classes – see below
 Fri., May 8 – 6:00 pm – Confirmation Rehearsal Supper & Practice
Sat., May 9 – 5:00 pm – Confirmation Liturgy with Bishop John Folda
 Tues., May 12 – 7:00 pm – Cemetery Committee meeting at the rectory
 Sun., May 17 – 11:30 am – Graduation Breakfast after 10:30 am Mass honoring St. Leo’s 2026 graduates

REMINDER: Please remember to return your Lenten canisters.

Religious Education Class Times — Wed., May 6th


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

SAVE THE DATE!!

Father Ermer’s retirement/going away party has tentatively been set for Sunday, June 21st, 2026 at 4 pm, with evening prayer and picnic to follow.

Upcoming Ministry Schedule

	Saturday May 9 5:00 pm St. Leo’s	Sunday May 10 8:30 am St. Leo’s	Sunday Sun May 10 10:30 am St. Thomas
			
Lector	Ministries will be covered by the Confirmation Liturgy	Shari Kensok	Alecia Killoran
Eucharistic Ministers		Denise Bartholomay Ann Faught Mary Jendro Susan Kempel Paul Olsen	Joni Biggers Keith Biggers
Altar Servers		Melody Kempel Quinn/Riley Gunkel Emma Rupp	Hallie Besette Skylar Norrie
Offertory Collectors		<i>Volunteer needed</i>	JoEllen Killoran Mike & Lisa Zahnow
Gift Bearers		<i>Volunteer needed</i>	Jim Biggers Family
Lead Rosary			Deb Werner

NEWS AND NOTES



REMINDER: Next Saturday, May 9th the Confirmation Liturgy with Bishop Folda will be held along with the 5 pm Mass. There will be reserved seating for the 17 Confirmation students and their families and the Mass will be longer than 1 hour and will have a bigger attendance than normal for a Saturday 5 pm Mass. **For those who usually attend this Mass, you may want to attend one of the Sunday Masses that weekend (St. Leo’s- 8:30 am; St. Thomas- 10:30 am) given the limited amount of seating available at the 5 pm Mass.**

Join us to sing from the choir loft! “Choir Sunday” will be **Sunday, May 17th** at the 10:30 am Mass. **Last one before summer!** Anyone middle school and older is welcome 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: #730, #444, #439, #436, #184. YouTube is a great way to practice at home beforehand. Contact Wanda Mangin with any questions at wanda.mangin@yahoo.com

Prayers and Sympathy: Our Parish communities extend our deepest sympathies to Kristi Dutchuk and her family on the death of her mother, Rose Schwartz. *Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.* — *Matthew 5:4*

Special prayers and blessings to the faithful couples that help us see the presence and faithfulness of God in our lives:
Bob & Diane Weber - 53 years on May 5
Dennis & Elaine Volk - 52 years on May 11

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



God’s Gift Appeal 2026

	Goal	4/24/2026
St. Leo’s	\$63,988	\$ 22,350
St. Thomas	\$ 10,393	\$ 6,359

Thank you to all parishioners who have made their gifts to the 2026 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:

“The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.” ~ 1 Peter 2:7

Every person has been given gifts from the Holy Spirit. These are called “charisms” and they are used to build God’s kingdom of earth. While many people are able to recognize their natural talents and abilities, they may unsure of their charisms. If you know someone who is struggling for a direction in life, give them a little encouragement. Help them discern their charisms and how God is calling them to use them. Remember – no gift is too small or insignificant in God’s salvation plan.

PASTOR'S NOTES

Please note — Regular attendees at St. Leo's Saturday evening 5 p.m. Mass —

On this coming Saturday May 9th at the 5 p.m. Saturday Mass, Bishop John Folda will be celebrating the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist for this year's confirmands. Therefore, this Mass will much longer than normal. The first 8 rows of pews on each side will be reserved for confirmands, their sponsors and family members. Other family and friends and you will be able to use any remaining pews.

You may want to make other Sunday Mass arrangements for next weekend.

Lenten Canisters over the years — 2026

St. Leo's and St. Thomas had another good year with our Lenten canisters, *but fell \$898.40 short of last year's total of \$7026.86.* At the same time our number of RE canisters and contributions were at all-time highs. **Great job, students! Keep up the good work.** [af note --- of the 48 adult canisters 7 persons contributed 49% [\$2450] of the \$4979 total adult canister collection]

It is not unusual for us to receive a few more canisters over the course of the next few weeks. At that time we will give a final report for our Lenten canisters.

Here is a simple summary of the last few years and our present numbers for 2026:

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Total # of canisters:	143	117	138	132	126	134
Total # of RE canisters:	61	64	63	55	74	86
Total amount of money:	\$5814.92	\$8633.73	\$7832.20	\$7537.88	\$7011.87	\$6128.46

A final note: If you still have your 2026 Lenten canister at home and would like to contribute to our 2026 charities, please return that canister within the next couple of weeks so we can close our books on this and send our checks to our Lenten charities. *If you happen to have unused canisters at home from previous years, please return them so we can reuse them for next year and save us from purchasing them next year at a cost of nearly \$1 per canister.* Thanks for your cooperation.

Year of St. Francis of Assisi

Pope Leo announced a Jubilee year for St. Francis of Assisi to run from January 10th of 2026 and to conclude on January 10th of 2027. St. Francis of Assisi may be one of the better known saints in the life of the Church. **This year marks the 800th anniversary of his death.**

Francis was born around the year 1180 and named Francis Bernardone. His father was a wealthy merchant in Assisi. At 25 years of age Francis abandoned an affluent way of life and began to live a life of radical poverty and is said to have declared "to wed Lady Poverty". He attracted followers who became known as Friar Minors (*or lesser brothers*). By 1219 over five thousand Franciscans gathered at Assisi. An order of nuns was founded in this Franciscan spirituality of poverty, who are known today as *The Poor Clares*. The founder of that Order was St. Clare of Assisi. Francis received the stigmata in 1224 and died at sunset on October 3, 1226.

'Pope Leo emphasizes that this Jubilee is meant to show how Francis' way of life — though 800 years old — is just as achievable in modern society. It reminds us that simplicity, surrender to God's providence, and authentic Christian witness are timeless.'

During this Jubilee a plenary indulgence is granted to those who —

- > participate in a pilgrimage to any Franciscan conventual church, or place of worship in any part of the world named after St. Francis;
- > be in a state of grace; recite the Apostles Creed; pray for the intentions of the Holy Father; attend Mass within 8 days of the pilgrimage; and receive the grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation within 8 days either before or after the pilgrimage.



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



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 3, 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 3:

Mon – May 4 – **8:30 am** – Please note time change – +**Lucille Sherman** by Carol Nilles

Tues – May 5 – 9:00 am – St. Thomas – +**Ray Killoran** by Joe & Lora Killoran

NO 9 am Mass at St. Leo's

Wed – May 6 – 9:00 am – +**Ted Kaiser** by Bryce Radermacher

Thurs – May 7 – 9:00 am – **NO MASS**

Fri – May 8 – 9:00 am – +**Mike Eberhardt** by Sue Knoll

Saturday – May 9 – 5:00 pm – +Souls in purgatory

Sunday – May 10 – St. Leo's - 8:30 am – For the people of our parishes

St. Thomas - 10:30 am – +Barbara Buhr by Penny Zaun

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.