

June 11-12, 2016

Thoughts from the pastor,

Next Sunday is the big game. This is the second annual I-80 Collar Series. The Lincoln priests vs. the Omaha priests. Once again it will be held at Werner Park. The original idea was to alternate the home field from the Omaha area to the Lincoln area but that didn't work so for now it will remain at Werner Park. It is very close to the border between the two dioceses and it is big enough to hold everyone. Last year we were hoping beyond hope that we would have close to 4,000 people. Originally I would have been excited if we had 1,000. We ended up with more than 7,000. Last year the game was great even if Omaha got killed.

That game was played a little bit like T-ball. All ten players had one chance to bat and then the inning was over. I never played T-ball but that is what I heard they do. Each diocese had two teams that alternated, so each priest played three innings of the six inning game. We got beat by about 31 to 17. This year several of the Omaha priests have been practicing but I wouldn't be placing any on us quite yet.

The tickets are \$10 per person or \$30 for a family and all the proceeds are split between the two dioceses for their vocation fund. The pre-game tail-gate party starts shortly after noon. There will be a bunch of people from St. James and SEAS. Just watch for their sign if you are interested in being a part of the group or let me know and I can connect you with some of the ones who are organizing the party. They will start letting people into the ballpark at 3pm and the game will start at 5pm. For more info get on the web and look up Spirit Catholic Radio.

Last year I was one of the pitchers but there are different roster assignments so I'm not sure where they will put me. Growing up I was usually the one they put out in right field, way out in right field, so I wouldn't get hurt. The good news is that I got better over the years. The bad news is that I also got older and slower over the years. Those of you who have seen me jogging around the neighborhood in the last four years can attest to that. It has always made me very frustrated that there were turkey vultures circling when I jogged. This year I am doing less jogging and more walking because I can read and walk at the same time, and I have a lot of reading that I want to do. I find I am going almost as fast and for some reason the turkey vultures are leaving me alone when I walk. I must not look as pathetic. But this is why the coach for the Omaha team is trying to find a place to put me. It does help that some of the newly ordained have signed up.

As you will also notice in this bulletin, the HOPE Parking Lot Sale is coming up in four weeks. I will be gone on the Steubenville weekend for teens. But this is a great way of helping out the window project. That will be where the proceeds will be going. Also remember that this weekend and next the second collection is a catch-up collection. We are trying to get closer to meeting our budget.

Patrick Moser has arrived as our seminarian resident for eight weeks this summer. His bio is on the back of this but I can tell you he grew up on a farm but they didn't even have dairy cattle. My reputation has gotten around so he knew he would be doing work outside so he came with work gloves and has already been helping me with the back forty.

God bless you,
Fr. Frank