

April 1-2, 2017

Thoughts from the pastor,

Next Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, I will be presenting the Passion of the Christ movie by Mel Gibson. It will be in the Parish Hall at 1pm. The movie is two hours long but I will be stopping the movie periodically to add some comments that help in understanding the points being made in the film. I would love to do the same when we read the Passion at Mass but that is not possible. There is so much involved in this amazing part of the life of Jesus that comes at us so fast during this Holy Week. I'm sure all of you have had some personal time to reflect on the Passion accounts but I am hoping that by showing this powerful movie with breaks and discussion we can get even deeper into what is happening.

I really do suggest that everyone take the time to read through at least one passion account during this Holy Week. Next week for Passion (Palm) Sunday we read the one from Gospel of Matthew. To hear it is good, but what I am suggesting is to take time with it as an individual to meditate on the different parts. It would also be good if you had the chance to go through one of the passion account with your family. They hear it during Mass, but there is seldom time for them to share their thoughts about all that they have heard.

The month of May is when we have the parish elections for the Pastoral or Parish Council. We have four members who have served their term of three years. So we are looking for four new members. There are a lot of things that will be going on in the parish in the next three years. Maybe you can be a part of that group of leaders who work with me to help make those things work. Part of that will be to help implement the Archbishop's vision for the future that he has been telling people about. There has been information on this pastoral vision in the Catholic Voice and there is also information on the website: [archomaha.org](http://archomaha.org). Right now there are four main pushes that this website is displaying, so you may have to wait and watch for a minute before it appears on the top of the screen. So please let me know or call the office or one of the council members if you are willing to help. The last couple of years we only had enough to fill the positions so there was no election, but at least we filled all the spaces.

The other high priority item, that we have to work on very quickly, is finding Sunday Mass times that will work for the most people, when Fr. Mario is gone. We have had the 9:30 Sunday morning Mass since August but I hopefully made it clear that this was temporary while he was with us. I know for sure that he will be assigned to a different place by July 1<sup>st</sup>, if not sooner. When it is back to Fr. Don and me, we will only be able to handle two Masses on Sunday morning. I was reminded of this last weekend. Fr. Don was subbing in the rural area. Fr. Mario was called to help in a parish in Omaha. Luckily he was able to take the Saturday morning Mass. Then I had the 5:30pm Saturday and the 8, 9:30, & 11am Sunday. That was followed by a couple baptisms. After that I helped get things ready for the French Mass. That was about all my body and mind could take for that day. Luckily Fr. Mario was back and ready to take the 5:30 Sunday evening Mass.

You will be receiving an email from me in the next week with more information on this Mass times issue. If you do not get my emails, please get your information to the office.

God bless you,  
Fr. Frank