

Aug. 12-13, 2017

Thoughts from the pastor,

We have need of another volunteer. For the last couple years Deb Durr has been coordinating some of the activities for the SEAS altar servers. She is stepping down at this time. I am so grateful for the work she did to help with coordinating the training of new servers and then to being in charge of scheduling them. If anyone is interested in helping this area, contact the office for information.

Next weekend Fr. Don and I will be providing the Anointing of the Sick at all the Masses. It has been six months and the warranties might be done on the last one. This is for anyone who is seriously ill whether it is short term or a chronic condition. It is also for anyone over 65 for Pope Francis has reaffirmed that at this age we need to be even more ready to face the realities ahead of us. This is obviously a healing sacrament. The Sacrament of Reconciliation focuses more on spiritual healing and the Anointing of the Sick focuses more on the physical healing. But they also overlap. We can't go very long being spiritually sick without it affecting our physical wellbeing. We can't go very long being physically ill without it tending to affect our spiritual wellbeing. Because Jesus understands that we are both spiritual and physical beings He wants to help us in both areas.

Children under the age of seven, who are seriously ill, can come up or be brought up to receive a special blessing but do not receive the Anointing because they do not have the sins of adults, so they just need prayers for healing. Anyone who is going to be going in for a serious surgery can also receive the Anointing. While Fr. Don and I are doing the Anointing, be sure and pray for those receiving the sacrament. This is why it is so nice to have this at Mass. There is nothing better than a multitude of prayers. I especially think the prayers of children are helpful so parents should be sure and remind them to be praying.

Another quick bit of information is that Fr. John Zotoglo did receive the money we wired him from the parish. There was a total of \$9,000 that was donated to help him in his work in Togo, West Africa to build up a spirituality programs for the priests, religious, seminarians, and lay people. It is a big project. Much of this money will be to work on the house that his bishop gave him to set up as a retreat center. It needs a lot of work and your donation will help with that. It was exciting to wire it over there because the banks cannot always be trusted in situations like this. After a week of wrangling, he was finally able to collect what we had sent over. Thanks for your generosity and know that he will be praying for you.

Reading guides for reading the bible in one year will be available in the entry of the church. I will also have a place for signing up to purchase a bible if you are interested in getting a New American Bible. You can pay for it when you pick it up. Right now I just need to know how many to order. Remember, this is a bible that you will want to be okay with underlining and highlighting and writing in the margins.

The other thing that I want to emphasize is the parish picnic. That is coming up in two weeks. The first thing to remember is that there is no 5:30pm Sunday Mass that day, 8/27. This is a day when we can get together as a family and enjoy each other's company. We can even meet new

people. You might even invite a close friend or an extended family member as a way of evangelizing and sharing our parish family with others.

This a parish party but it also is our major fundraiser for the year. The Baskets & Bundles people have been working very hard to get some great silent auction items together for you to write your bids and hopefully bring home some things that are a plus for you or your family.

Another big part of the fundraising aspect of the picnic is the raffle. If you sell or buy one book, you receive entry into the H.O.P.E. Certificate drawing and receive a free meal ticket for your whole family. If you sell or buy two books, you receive one free book of tickets to place into the Grand Lottery for that chance at \$10,000. These tickets can be purchased until 6:30pm on the day of the picnic.

Meal tickets for those who haven't done the raffle tickets are \$8 per person or \$20 per family. For those of you who are new to all of this, many people bring lawn chairs and even tents to camp out and eat on the soccer field. There is usually a wonderful breeze and the grass is wonderful. Just like a picnic. Who would have thought of such a thing?

Next Tuesday is a Holy Day of Obligation, the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. As usual the Masses for the Holy Day are 5:30pm the evening before, Monday, 8/14; and 7am, 12:10pm, and 7pm on Tuesday.

There is a lot going on at the school to begin the new year of learning. Please pray for the children and the teachers at our parish school, St. James/Seton.

God bless you,  
Fr. Frank