

Aug. 26-27, 2017

Thoughts from the pastor,

I sure hope that everyone remembers that there is no 5:30 Sunday Mass this weekend.

This is the parish picnic weekend. Fr. Don and I have our walking shoes all shined and ready to go. It is such a great time to renew acquaintances and meet new people. This is a part of our parish life that fits right into the Archbishop's Vision for the future. The mantra for his Vision is One Church, Encountering Jesus, Equipping Disciples, Living Mercy. The picnic builds on the One Church and Equipping Disciples parts. It builds that sense of family that we all wish we had more of, especially when it is at its best. That is what it seems like when we are at the picnic. All the volunteering that happens is building the sense of being disciples. We are a part of the family of God and this gives us practice for working with each other in actual parish conditions. I just hope that it works out for you to be here for it. It looks like the weather will be to most of your liking, partly cloudy with a high of just above 80 degrees. I will pray that the showers will come well before or after the big event.

The painting of the trim on most of the front of the church will be finished by this weekend. The full job should be done in a couple of weeks. I still hope the three stained-glass windows that I have been waiting for would be in by this weekend. There have been delays but surely they will be here by the end of next week. I will be emailing a budget statement in the next weeks and that will help you have a sense of all that you have accomplished with your generosity to the parish and its mission work.

The eclipse was a fascinating event. I was happy that there were no reports of anyone making the mistake of looking directly at the sun. They probably should have warned more people not to walk around with their special glasses on. I didn't hear of any people falling or getting hit by cars because of the glasses. They worked so well that you couldn't see anything but what was coming from the sun.

It is our nature to be able to be fascinated by new things. That is why we keep looking for new thrills and new revelations. That is why I love reading the Bible. There are parts of it that aren't thrilling but most of it is totally amazing and even those dull parts have so much to offer once you get to know what they are about. Just remember that the Bible study starts in three weeks. I will have more flyers ready for you to follow in order to know what we will be reading each week. Sept. 17 will be the first day of reading and the first class. I will be giving the introduction to what to watch for in the chapters you will read. There is so much in the readings for the first few days that it is good to have the introduction, read them and then have a chance to ask even more questions that will come up. So the first week will really be fun. I will start about 9:30 am on 9/17 and will finish by 10:30. That will give me a chance to do the confessions before the 11am Mass and anyone else who will be staying for that Mass to have a bathroom break and read over the scriptures for the Mass and come up with what you would preach about. That part is optional but should get to be more fun the more you do it. Remember you can invite others to join in on the Bible Study.

God bless you,
Fr. Frank