

Jan. 13-14, 2018

Thoughts from the pastor,

I sure do love Rocky & Bullwinkle. We did not have a big crowd to watch it but the kids there did have extra fun watching the adults laugh at things they didn't understand yet because some of the cartoons are better if you know some history. The pizza and games night went very well. Thanks to all the helpers.

This week I will be gone. I will be at Mundelein Seminary for another week of learning Spiritual Direction. I will be leaving right after Bible Study in order to get there on time. I will be back late Friday night. The following week Fr. Don will be gone during the week for some days away.

Next weekend our Knights of Columbus will be having their One Rose, One Life campaign, which is Nebraska's premier source of income for the Culture of Life Foundation. All funds collected will be used to support Pro Life organizations and activities throughout Nebraska.

A major objective of the Culture of Life Foundation is to place Ultrasounds in qualified pregnancy care centers throughout Nebraska. To date, One Rose, One Life funds have supported the purchase of seven ultrasound machines in Nebraska. In addition to the Ultrasound Initiative, many organizations, in all three Nebraska dioceses, benefit from this source of income. They include, but are not limited to, the Nebraska Catholic Conference, local Right-To-Life and Birthright chapters, and crisis pregnancy-help centers throughout Nebraska. We also support Nebraska Pro- Life Conference's Essay contest and the Culture of Life Art Contest with our funds. Councils also can receive funds for billboards or for special prolife programs or needs.

Prayer is the greatest action we can take in battling the culture of death. Only through prayer, fasting and our witness to Christ's love will we be able to change the hearts and minds of the many people who support abortion on demand. The One Rose, One Life Prayer cards are a good reminder for the importance of continued prayers throughout the year, not just during the campaign. You will receive a prayer card at Mass next weekend.

The Sunday morning Bible Study is now on day 99 of 365. I mention this because I am inviting any of you who thought about doing the Bible study, but didn't think it would work to reconsider. We are now past the first five books of the Old Testament and over half way through the psalms. So if you wanted to start now you can pick up a reader's guide and start on the readings for day 101. You can attend the class and ask questions with the rest of the group.

My spiritual tip for this week is to end your day with specific prayers that can prepare you for the coming day. Try to figure out what the biggest temptation you will face the next day and pray that you will remember to pray the moment before it comes so you will have strength to face it. The more specific the better. So if you know that you will be faced with a certain temptation during lunch, pray that you will remember to pray for strength right before lunch. Keep at this for a month and you will see a real difference. Then you can work on another temptation.

God bless you,  
Fr. Frank