

June 23-24, 2018

Thoughts from the pastor,

Lots of news this week. It was a happy Father's Day for the unwed Fathers of the Archdiocese of Omaha. Thanks be to God the pitching was sensational and we won. It was a very close game like last year but this time we won 20-18. One year of bragging rights. God even helped with the weather. It rained before the warm-ups, so it never got above 90 degrees, and there was a nice breeze and overcast the whole game. Just enough so that I didn't have to wear a jacket or sweater and no one suffered from heat problems. I hope next year it will be back in Omaha.

I am also happy to report that Fr. Nick Mishek has been assigned to a parish. He has been covering out at St. Patrick's in Fremont for the last few months and will do that until August 1st. Then he will be officially assigned as associate pastor for that parish. They have enjoyed his time out there so far and it will give him a chance to continue to work on his Spanish skills. Thanks for your prayers for him.

In the past month I have signed two contracts to get work done. I have mentioned them both before. One is to fix, put a top coat, and restripe the parking lot. That will cost \$39,000. The other one is \$35,000 to replace the analog sound system that has been deteriorating and exploding the last year or so. It will be replaced with a digital one that can be controlled better. The speakers will not be replaced but with better control will be more efficient. I mention these because that will be what the second collection will be about for the foreseeable future when there isn't another special appeal. Those will zero out our budget so hopefully nothing else will be a problem. It is your generosity that makes this possible. To be able to do these two important projects this year is great. Thank you!

I am hoping that you will be able to join me at the concert this Sunday at 2pm. It is a fundraiser for the tenth stained-glass window. It will go from 2-4pm. I will be the SEAS version of Ed Sullivan or your host. The Santos Family will provide entertainment with violin, piano, voice ensembles, and more. Skyler Steffey will be the guest performer on the cello. Admission is \$5/person or \$20/family at the door.

Fr. Don left on Friday for some time in Colorado. He will be coming back on Friday, 6/29. That is when I will be leaving for a vacation. Fr. Mike Malloy and I will be going to Boston to catch a ship to Montreal. I won't be back until the evening of Monday, 7/9. I will be in Canada on the 4th of July. So even though it will still be the 4th of July, it will not be a celebration of Independence Day where I am. You will have to blow things up without me. Just fireworks please.

Next weekend Fr. Jerry Morgan will be helping Fr. Don out while I am gone. He works with Unbound Ministries. You can read the flyer on it. There is no second collection for that, so the second collection will still be for the parking lot and sound system.

I am really looking forward to a break from the action. It has been a very exciting and busy year with the Spiritual Direction classes, writing a book and the normal business. So I will be doing a lot of sleeping, reading, praying, walking, and some eating. Hopefully it will be mindless. I will still be able to use my cellphone sporadically throughout the trip so I can respond to calls, texts and emails.

God bless you,
Fr. Frank