

May 30-31, 2015

Thoughts from the pastor,

Next Sunday morning Mass times will switch to 8am and 11am as of June 6-7. The 5:30pm Mass on Saturday and Sunday will stay the same. As I mentioned in my letter last week, after July 1st there will be no Mass on Mondays at 7am or Fridays at 5:30pm. For the month of July there will be a communion service on Monday mornings.

You will notice that Deacon Chuck Sheik has written a short note to inform us of his move that will happen as of July 1st. About nine years ago Deacon Kevin Joyce from SEAS did the same thing as he was reassigned to Holy Name Parish. At that time I was the beneficiary of that move as the pastor of Holy Name, but it was the Archbishop who makes this kind of request official. Deacon Chuck had been talking with Fr. Walter Nolte at St. Bernard Parish and realized that he would be a very valuable asset over there. So he requested that the Archbishop make the same kind of reassignment from SEAS to St. Bernard. SEAS has been blessed with many vocations and I am proud of this generous spirit of service to the different parts of the Archdiocese. In the same way we will now have two priests in two years being ordained from the parish and hopefully more to come. But even though these priests come from SEAS the Archbishop does not assign them here but puts them where they are most needed and can serve the best.

Joe Sund was ordained a deacon this past Friday at the Cathedral. He is having his first experience of preaching and serving as a deacon this Sunday at our 11:00am Mass. He will also be assigned to another parish. I have not heard where that is. Hopefully he will know and will be able to announce what his job will be for this summer. After the summer he will go back to Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis to finish the last year of seminary before priesthood ordination. Please pray that all goes well for him and all the Omaha Seminarians.

As you should have noticed, Matt Niggemeyer was ordained a deacon last fall in Rome and next Saturday, June 6th, he will be ordained a priest at 10:00am at St. Cecilia Cathedral. The Cathedral holds 900 people and there are just two ordinations next Saturday so it is a good opportunity to go and witness an ordination. Next Sunday he will have his First Mass as main celebrant here at SEAS at 2:00pm. We have even more room so plan on coming to that very special Mass also. A First Mass is always a very special blessing, literally. Receiving a blessing from a newly ordained priest after his ordination or his First Mass has a plenary indulgence attached to it. Be sure you are in the state of grace to receive it by going to confession within 10 days before it, or if you are not aware of serious sin to receive the indulgence you should also go to confession within 10 days before or after and pray for intentions of the Holy Father, who extends these indulgences. Along with this blessing it is just a wonderful experience to be at these Masses for there are usually a few bishops, and over 70 priests at an ordination. At the First Mass there won't be bishops but there will be lots of priests and seminarians. With the seating capacity of our church there has been plenty of room for everyone to come.

You will also notice in this bulletin that we have included a sheet with the four people who are running for SEAS Parish Pastoral Council. Since there are four openings, all four are automatically accepted into the council, so there is no need of an election. Shelly Gray is actually continuing, after finishing her first term, by accepting a second term. Just another quick note there are 100 "Word Among Us" booklets for the month of June. They have the Mass readings and a meditation for every day of the month June. Individually they sell for \$6.00. But you can take one for a \$3.00 donation. It can kick-start your prayer life. If you like them, a year's subscription is \$35.00 or a web subscription is even less expensive.

God bless you all,
Fr. Frank