

Oct. 1-2, 2016

Thoughts from the pastor,

The first news has to do with this weekend. **This Sunday is the annual Life Chain.** Our parish is assigned a spot on the **north side of W. Dodge between 80th and 84th from 2:00-3:00pm.** What we do is stand along the sidewalk and pray as we hold a sign reminding people of our stance on life. The weather should be great. We have done this in the rain a few times. But this year should be perfect. Come with your family. There will be people all along Dodge Street.

Life Chain has been going on for almost thirty years. It is not actually a protest although we hold signs. It is a reminder to others that people who don't believe in abortion are not going away. Last year there were about 1600 cities around the U.S. that had people standing along a main street to visibly stand up for a baby's right to life. The culture of death will not go away for the evil one will not give up until the end of the world. So God's people have to be that determined also.

One of the many reasons that a person may choose abortion has to do with what they see is the overwhelming task of raising a child. This is countered by the reality that we have people desperately wanting to adopt and that so many pro-lifers have set up ways to assist women with the pregnancy, birth, and care of the child.

Even people who are not dealing with a pregnancy can be pro-abortion. Some of these feel that we have to stop the world from being overpopulated. I find this odd because the reason the population of our world is still growing is not because we are breeding like rabbits but because we are not dying like flies. Experts in demographics all agree that around the year 2040 the population of the world will start a dramatic down-shift. That is because the birth-rate has declined below what it takes to maintain our current population. This has been the reality for years but since we are living longer the numbers will continue to rise for just over twenty years. Their answer is to abort the future. Oddly enough I don't see any of them volunteering to forgo medical intervention to lengthen their own lives. That would make the most sense because longevity is now the cause of overpopulation.

Another prolife activity that started last Wednesday is the **40 Days for Life.** It will go until Nov. 6th. **Our parish date is Saturday, Nov. 5th.** Our vigil location will be at Planned Parenthood which is in our neighborhood, on 3105 N. 93rd St. There will be a sign-up opportunity as our date comes closer.

I thought that this would be a good time to schedule another life opportunity. This one has more to do with life with God as we face illness. **On the weekend of Oct. 22-23 we will have the Anointing of the Sick at all of the Masses at SEAS.** That is the only weekend when all three priests will be around between now and the middle of November. Fr. Cleary will be gone next weekend. The weekend after that I will be gone for a Christians Encounter Christ weekend. On Oct. 24th I will leave for vacation. It is your chance to see Fr. Mario in action. He just returned from his trip to visit family and friends in India this weekend so he should be ready to work.

One last announcement is that in two weeks, Oct. 15-16, we will have the hand carved olive wood religious articles from the Holy Land for sale in the narthex. The profit goes to support 27 Catholic families who made these articles in Bethlehem and Jerusalem. These sales help them in their plight in this dangerous area of the world.

God bless you,
Fr. Frank