

June 17-18, 2017

Thoughts from the pastor,

There is a lot of news this week. First is to wish everyone a Happy Father's Day. We all have a great Father in heaven. Then we have other Fathers in our lives: biological fathers, stepfathers, foster fathers, priest fathers, grandfathers, etc. Some of us are in those roles. Sometimes we do a good job and sometimes we don't do so well. I usually have to go to the beginning and realize that God the Father did everything that God could do for His first children, Adam & Eve, and yet they didn't turn out so well. As fathers we don't have the resources that God has and each of us are still trying to grow in wisdom and knowledge. So as we go between success and failure we should look to God and pray: Lord do not hold against me the sins of my youth and stupidity. Then we can be grateful that there is one day when our successes are celebrated. So once again, Happy Father's Day.

This year the gathering of priest Fathers will not be held this weekend but is scheduled for next Sunday. That event is the third annual I-80 Collar Series. Once again the priests from the Archdiocese of Omaha will battle against the priests from the Diocese of Lincoln for a softball game for your entertainment. This is one of those times when being an 'Arch'diocese doesn't help a bit. Please pray for us. The Omaha team is down to thirteen players. The last two years we had 20 or 21 on the roster so we could field two teams that could alternate innings. The game will be in Lincoln at Haymarket Park at 6pm. Tailgaters are invited to gather at 1pm. We had a big group from St. Elizabeth Ann doing this last year. According to all reports they had a great time.

Tickets are \$10 for ages 4 and up, \$30 family pack. If you are under 4 you are able to sneak in free. You can get them on the web at saltdogs.com/I-80 or at Gloria Deo Stores. I'm sure you can also get them at the park that day. The proceeds are split between the two vocation's offices.

Fr. Tom from St. James and I will be arm-wrestling for the pitcher's mound since we will only have one team. Last year he pitched for the A-Team and I was with the B-Team. The B-Team did not have a version of B.A. Baracus (Mr. T), or Howling Mad Murdock, etc. Fr. Damian Cook tried to be Murdock for a while, which was cool.

It is time to make sure your calendars are marked for the parish picnic. It will be on Sunday, 8/27, from 2:30-7pm. Once again there will be games, rides, indoor (cool) BINGO, a beer garden, music, and the Baskets and Bundles. The dinner will be a BBQ pork meal. As usual this happens because many of you are willing to volunteer for the event. Contact Brad Schmidt if you can help or if you have questions, 515-450-8687. His email is bjs9860@gmail.com.

Just a quick reminder of the HUSH movie and panel discussion on the effects of abortion on women's health. That will be June 19 at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Your \$5 donation will go to help fund the UNO March for Life Trip. Our summer seminarian, Bill Cremers, will start his classes this Sunday, 6/18, at 9:15am in the Parish Hall, and he will repeat it at St. James on Wednesday evenings. Also the four week Bible Study, in our parish hall, will be at 7pm on Thursday evenings starting on June 22.

This Father's Day weekend, Father Don will be helping out at Winnebago for Masses. And last but not least, on the weekend of July 2-3 the second collection will be to help Fr. John set up his house of formation for Spiritual Director training in Togo. More on that next week, because this is enough news for this week.

God bless you,
Fr. Frank