

June 3-4, 2017

Thoughts from the pastor,

Instead of the movie line from Star Wars of “the force be with you,” may the Holy Spirit be your guide. Happy Pentecost. A couple of business items first. There was some confusion at the Formed.org office with their finance department. Even though they received our check, they did not let the appropriate people know, so the parish subscription was disconnected for a couple weeks. It is all back up so you can start up now or keep going as you have been. The parish code is still 67e4f3.

As I mentioned there will be a seminarian around this summer. Bill Cremers has moved into the rectory. This weekend he will be busy with the activities around the ordination and the two 1<sup>st</sup> Masses, so you will only see his picture on his biography sheet in this bulletin. But if you go to Fr. Nick Mishek’s 1<sup>st</sup> Mass at 2:30pm, this Sunday, 6/4, you will get to meet him. Be sure and get your blessing from the new priest if you go to the 1<sup>st</sup> Mass. Remember that there is a plenary indulgence for attending the Mass or ordination, getting the blessing from the new priest, praying for the Holy Father’s intentions, and making a good confession within ten days before or after the blessing. Bonus grace is so awesome. Bill will be starting a six week Sunday morning class on Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*. He will start Sunday, 6/18, after the 8am Mass or from 9:15-10:30am. This will fit well into what Archbishop Lucas is trying to do with his Vision for the Future.

Since it is Pentecost weekend I thought I might give you my latest musings on the work of the Holy Spirit. I apologize that I don’t think that it is very good and will drive some people crazy because it is math, but it is how my mind works.

First you need to know that the ratio of the distance around a circle to its diameter is called Pi and is 3.141... So if the diameter of a ball is one foot then the circumference of the ball is 3.141...feet. The diameter of the earth is 7,926 miles at the equator, so the circumference is just under 25,000 miles. I’m sure you knew all that. Now imagine you had a way of stationing a person every three feet around the equator. Since most of them would have to walk on water you might have to imagine angels doing this. Now imagine a rope laying on the surface of the earth at the equator right at the feet of these angels. There is no slack. Now I come into the picture and splice one meter of rope to that rope. If they did it all uniformly, how high could each angel lift that rope off the surface?

Think about that for a moment. Now think in terms of that twelve inch ball that I mentioned, and imagine the same process with smaller angels and a string around the ball. I then add one meter of string. How high could the string be lifted from the surface of the ball? The answer in both cases is approximately six inches. For a few people that is a no brainer. For most of us it is inconceivable. But no matter how big the circle is, if you add a meter to the circumference, it will add about one foot to the diameter, or six inches at each point.

Now that I have some of you confused, go back to the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit is working with one of us we are like the ball. A moderate amount of input by the Holy Spirit can double the amount of gifts we can hold from God, just like a ball going from one foot in diameter to two feet. With that same thought in mind, each person praying a small amount can add blessings to the human race. It is just that with billions of people it can seem an insignificant amount of change. So to really change the world, we all have to pray to make a significant change in how the world’s population will operate. I imagine that is why Jesus told everyone to pray always. It would also be why Mary told the children at Fatima to have everyone pray the rosary to make a difference. The question is whether you are doing your part to help the Holy Spirit give His gifts to us in order to help the world.

God bless you,  
Fr. Frank