

Jan. 27, 2019

Thoughts from the pastor,

There are a few interesting bits of news to share this week. First is that World Youth Day happened in Panama this past week. The Pope is actually wrapping it up with a closing Mass this weekend. Because it is right during school for our area it has been harder for our young people to attend. It is warm down there. The reason I mention it is that one of our parishioners is very much a part of it. Danny Leger is singing one of his new songs there. This is totally awesome. You might know the song, Gift of Finest Wheat. That was a song that made the scene of Catholic music at a gathering like this event. I don't know the name of his song but I will try to let you know more about this as I learn more. I had just found out about it a few days ago. Hopefully there will be a YouTube connection for it. There are some things that technology has been helpful with. This also means that there are a couple of proud families in our parish, David & Jean Wooten, and Kevin & Jen Euteneuer. Then there is Danny's wife Jill and their five children.

Another bit of news is a follow-up on what many of you already know, and that is that the Santos family is moving to Sioux City. Two of the girls, Renee and Kristen, have been singing for the school Masses at SJS the past year and a half. This leaves an opening. The Masses are normally at 8:15am on Wednesdays and Thursdays. We are looking for replacements. The alternative is that Fr. Tom, Fr. Knecht, and I will have to be leading the singing acapella. So if you are interested in helping with the music for school Masses contact Mr. Kelly at the school. There is reimbursement for this task.

That leads me to mentioning that this is the beginning of Catholic School's Week. There is information about the activities associated with it in this bulletin. What I want to mention is that you need to notice the attack on us as Catholics. A young high school student has been attacked this past week in Washington, D.C. He was at the March for Life and his high school group was confronted by a counter demonstration at the Lincoln Memorial. As you may have heard, a Native American activist from Omaha, Nathan Phillips, tried to defuse the situation with his drum. Nick Sandmann was the Catholic school student from Kentucky who happened to be right there in the middle of this. He simply tried to stand quiet and remain calm in the midst of a very tense situation. For that he was condemned and threatened. For a teenager I think he did great. What would you have done? But if you think this had nothing to do with the fact that he was a Catholic student at the March for Life than you are missing the story behind the story. The hatred that came out in this attack against him and his whole school is what we are all getting closer and closer to facing.

This same thing is happening to Brian Buescher, an Omaha-based lawyer nominated by President Trump to sit on the United States District Court of the District of Nebraska. He is being attacked because he is a member of the Knights of Columbus. The Knights in our parish are a good example of what good men should be standing for, the right to life. We just had the One Rose, One Life collection for that purpose. Did you think about how much you are hated by pro-abortion people as you donated to this cause? Hopefully you did and were proud. Jesus was also proud. He warned us that we would be persecuted for standing up for what he taught.

God bless you,
Fr. Frank