

Feb. 3, 2019

Thoughts from the pastor,

I checked with Danny Leger about how to listen to the new song that he sang at World Youth Day. The best way is to get on the internet and look up Danny Leger Music. The song is When I am King. It is about Jesus, as a boy, making a promise to his mother, Mary.

This weekend we will have the blessing of throats after the Masses for the Feast of St. Blaise. Monday morning I will be heading to the Priest's Council meeting and the Priest's Conference that are being held at St. Benedicts in Schuyler. I should be back by 4pm on Tuesday afternoon.

You will be seeing information on signing up to attend the Arch Omaha Unite. Notice you will be able to register on-line. You may be getting an email or a text to help you get started. It should be a powerful event. Pray to the Holy Spirit that this Pentecost celebration for our Archdiocese, held on June 8th, will help us all in the way we need it the most.

As you should have figured out, I enjoy going to different places on cruise ships. I can sign up for one per year with what is called the Apostleship of the Sea. This organization sets up priests for cruises with Holland America and Viking Cruises. Usually my cruise is in the fall but for this calendar year it ended up early. I will be leaving for an Asian cruise on Feb. 15th. It was a tricky one to set up because there are stops in China, South Korea, and Japan. You have to have a special visa to enter China. I just received mine last Thursday. I was getting a little worried because you have to have all your travel plans put together before you know if you will be granted the visa. Getting a visa for China is difficult for priests. I think they are afraid we might convert the whole country. If only I could. There is a lot of turmoil for the Catholic Church in China. The Communist government wants to control it. That seems a little like having a fox demanding to have control of a hen house.

But I did finally get my visa so I will be heading to Shanghai. One of the nice parts of this cruise is that the starting point and the ending point is the same, Shanghai. I will get back Sunday evening, 3/3. Once again I am looking forward to praying, walking, reading, sleeping, and eating. I get to say Mass every day for the passengers who want to attend and once a week for the crew. I will be going with Holland America on the MS Westerdam. It holds almost 2000 guests plus a crew of a few hundred.

While I am on board I will be doing some work on my book. Then I will be ready to have copies for everyone who wants to attend the Parish Mission, which is going to start the 1st Sunday of Lent, and so it will go from March 10-12. If you attend any of these evening sessions you will receive a draft of my book on the Kingdom and hopefully learn a lot of things that will help you with your prayer. Mark your calendar now, but you will be receiving more information soon.

God bless you,
Fr. Frank