

## From the Pastor—July 15, 2018

**Totus Tuus** Our past week of loving and living Jesus was VERY joyful! Please learn more, as you read...

**The Team** The seminarian leader was Dominic Winter, who is from Lincoln where he was a home school student. Dominic graduated with a Bachelor degree in philosophy from our diocesan college seminary (St. Greg's in Seward) this spring and will be continuing his studies in First Theology at St. Charles Seminary in Philadelphia. His older brother, Father Evan Winter, is a priest for our diocese, currently serving at Cristo Rey in Lincoln. Frank Helman was another teacher; he is from Brainard and attended East Butler High School there. Frank is currently at UN-L studying fisheries and wildlife management. I know Frank's uncle and aunt, who are former parishioners of mine from Dwight. Alex Hewitt joined us for the second time in our parishes, also having been on Totus Tuus in 2016. She grew up in Crete, and then Lincoln, and is entering her final year at Benedictine College in Atchison, KS. The fourth and final member of the team was Gabby Middendorf, who grew up partly in Ohio before her family moved to Columbus where she graduated from Scotus. Gabby attended UN-L, and has discerned a call to the religious life. Gabby's mother is pregnant with the *tenth* child in their family! Gabby will enter the School Sisters of Christ the King next month; these Sisters teach in our Catholic schools and are located on SW 56<sup>th</sup> Street between Lincoln and Denton.

**Our Kids** We averaged 40-45 students from St. Mary's and St. Joseph's in the daytime sessions for grades K-8, and about five high schoolers each evening. I get to know your beautiful and precious children so well after being with them the past five days. Keep loving on them like crazy, you dear parents and grandparents, because you are doing a great job!

**Our Volunteers** Totus Tuus would fizzle out and disappear if it weren't for the army of volunteers of YOU and your gracious support. Many of you were praying for us and sending gracious, supportive comments and thoughts our way, and we thank you. Others were responsible for housing the team, which is wonderfully welcoming to these college-aged young people who have given their summer to many kids. The parish hall sessions were watched over by many moms, as well as those who brought snacks and meals for the team's noon-time dinner. Our supper-at-night was gifted to the team and myself in six different homes in our two parishes. I need to publicize better next year the holy hours we prayed Sunday through Thursday, during the high school hours of 7:30-10:00 p.m. I am so grateful for all of you volunteers, including employees of our parishes who helped clean up our hall and answered many questions of volunteers and children.

**My Take** I am so grateful for Totus Tuus. It gives me—really demands of me—that I get to know all of you better. Desk work ties me to the rectory, but I so enjoy breaking free to get to know you better. Being in your homes for supper, seeing your grand/children, watching the volunteers engage with each other...it is a big boost to me. I love getting to know the team. I love Jesus for bringing Totus Tuus into the world, through Pope Saint John Paul II; it bears much fruit in my priesthood.

**New and Newly Placed** [*re-printed much the*

*same as last week, with this addition: I printed pictures of these items on my personal facebook page.]* St. Mary's and St. Joseph's have interesting changes. \*\*\* St. Mary's has two brand new refrigerator/freezers in the kitchen. I have been told that these units had been spoken of since our 2014 church and hall expansion project. While considering a commercial unit, the Parish Council was more in favor of this purchase made through Schneider's Hardware. We now have handsome, new, stainless steel-fronted, double refrigerator/freezers! Also, the black piano in St. Mary's Church is now on a "piano dolly" to allow it to be easily rolled to enhance our music ministry. This item came from Yanda's Music out of Kearney. \*\*\* St. Joseph's bells to announce the beginning of Mass have been moved to the entry area of church by the holy water fonts. These bells will be rung to signal the procession of the Cross, priest, and ministers while the opening hymn is sung. We also have added a stand-up mike to the front organ area to aid our cantor and musician.

**Humanae vitae** This Latin title, rendered "On Human Life," is approaching its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of release. I am running notes from our U.S. Bishops which were published earlier this year. See the February meditation and prayer from *Humanae vitae* on the reverse side of this sheet.

**The Angelus** The Angelus is prayed at morning, noon, and night. We prayed it during Totus Tuus. I highly encourage you to clip out this note and try to memorize it. The K-8 students who attended Totus Tuus will help you say it! The Angelus helps us turn to Jesus each day, every day. In families who make it part of your daily prayers, the prayer's beauty will edify you.

Leader: The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

Response: And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Hail, Mary, full of grace, etc.

Response: Holy Mary, Mother of God, etc.

Leader: Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

Response: Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Leader: Hail Mary...

Response: Holy Mary...

Leader: And the Word was made flesh (*strike breast or bow or genuflect*).

Response: And dwelt among us.

Leader: Hail Mary...

Response: Holy Mary...

Leader: Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

Response: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Leader: Let us pray...

All: Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

**God Bless You!**

**Father Grell**