

14 November 2016

Dear Dedicated Volunteer,

The 82nd Verboort Dinner has once again come and gone. Its success cannot be accomplished without your dedication, effort, and time. I, along, with Dean Hermance, Chair, and Liz Duyck, Vice-Chair are truly grateful for all of your help and assistance.

This year, no different than the past 6 years that I have been here at the Dinner, it has rained. Fr. Scott Vandehey, my predecessor, loves to remind me that during his 8 years, he was batting 4 of 8, that is .500, with 4 dry weather and 4 wet weather days. I guess I am batting 0 for 6!

But despite the wet, patrons still continue to come to the dinner in droves. For this reason, we made a half of ton more sausage, and a few more barrels of kraut. And both bulk sausage and kraut sold out early in the afternoon. Even the weather does not deter people because the sausage and kraut is so delicious and good.

This year, we were able to move the Beer Garden onto the campus. The closer location increased the number of patrons to get out of the cold to enjoy a “cold” one while watching a college football games and also participating in fun games as a “Bier stein” holding contest.

Although some of our long time patrons did miss the colorful shuttle bus that used to transport them. But through the creativity of the guys at the Verboort Rod and Gun Club who operated the Beer Garden, at the entrance and exit of the location, they had a shelter built in a shape of a front and back of a bus. Needless to say, it was clever way of fondly remembering the shuttle bus.

With that said, I am sure I know what you are all waiting for: THE NUMBERS! This year we served **7856** dinners, which includes dinners served in the dining hall, dinner to go, and dinners for the workers. Again each dinner served establishes not only a delicious experience, but a memory of how food, drink and good company brings all of us together and keeps us coming back each year.

I hope to see you next year at the 83rd Verboort Dinner on November 4th, 2017.

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving and Advent.

Always grateful in Christ,

Fr. Michael (Van Der) Vuky, pastor

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*Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
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