

August 16, 2017

Hello from Sixth Street! I've been on vacation for the last week, and it was a nice break. My family and I met my best friend and her family in St. Louis, a city exactly half way between my house in Middletown, Indiana, and her house in Topeka, Kansas. It also happens to be the home of the Cardinals baseball team, which my husband adores. I think it's safe to say he was the only fan among our group; the rest of us were into other things like catching up on two years of conversation – at least that was my objective – and eating every hotdog in sight. It took something completely unexpected before I started paying attention. It was in the middle of the sixth inning when a kitten started sprinting across the outfield. Everybody stopped to watch until a member of the grounds crew scooped the little guy up and carted him off the field. After that, well, I was watching the game. The bases were loaded, the Cards had two outs, and what do you know, Yadier Molina hit a home run, and the score went to 8-5 in favor of the Cardinals. The unexpected can happen in the church as well, and that can be a good thing. It grabs our attention, and, if we let it, energizes us and enlivens our spirits. When that happens, we need to be ready, bases loaded, for what comes next.