

## Take Me Out to the Ball Game 🎵

August 12, 2009

Through a very generous gift of Art Korreck's son-in-law, four (4) free tickets to the August 4th Washington Nationals vs. Florida Marlins game at National Stadium in D.C.—and a bonus valuable parking pass, which allowed us to walk a short way to the ball park main entrance gate—Fr. Mike, Deacon Larry, Art Korreck, and Tom Wood had the pleasure of attending the game and having a most enjoyable time. With car pooling details firmed up, we drove on to cheer the home team with full expectations of a victory; after all, the Nationals were coming off a two game winning streak!

Unfortunately, the game started out poorly and went downhill from there. It was da-je-vu for me since I had not been to a DC major league home team baseball game in approximately 30 years; and at the outset, it sure looked like defeat all over again! We were still in the first inning and already had fallen behind by one run. I sank into my seat after just enjoying a 5 Guys hot dog (with mustard and onions just the way I like it) and a Diet Coke, courtesy of Father Mike, and sulked over the prospects of sitting through 8 more innings of dejection...just like in the old days of the Washington Senators. By the beginning of the bottom of the 8th inning I was settled in and reconciled on getting creamed. The score was Marlins up 4 to zip, and I was borderline dozing off. (I already had memorized the stadium architecture, the cool convenient cup holder appurtenances to the row seats, pretty lights, and amazing score board replete with game/player stats, when all of a sudden our ~~chumps~~ mighty warriors sprang into action. I was considering hitting up Father for a celebratory cold beer after being roused by the crowd's cheers over our bats finally coming alive! When it was over our guys had rallied to victory; the final score was Washington 6, Marlins 4.

Thanks to Art and Art's son-in law for the opportunity for all four of us to have a nice evening out with "just" the guys!

Tom Wood, GK