

February 21, 2016

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"In proportion to God's need of nothing is man's need for communion with God." -St. Irenaeus (130-202 A.D.)

This weekend's quote comes from perhaps one of the biggest forces for doctrinal instruction and teaching in the very early Christian Church: St. Irenaeus. He was a bishop in the 2nd century in Gaul (modern-day France), and labored heroically for the faith under severe persecution by the Roman Empire, led at that time by Marcus Aurelius. He was a pastor and missionary, and became known as one of the Church Fathers, primarily for his profound and theologically rich writings. His most famous writing is called the Treatise Against Heresies, in which he details the reality of the Incarnation and humanity of Jesus.

The quote above reminds us of a simple point that can often be forgotten in the hustle and bustle of daily life- God has no need of us whatsoever. Now, that may sound harsh, but it's true. God does not need us in any way. His glory, His perfection, His love, His Divinity is whole, and infinitely perfect whether we exist or not. God did not create humanity because he needed us or our worship or our love. God created us so that He could share His love with us, not because He needed to, but because he desired to. It is important sometimes to remind ourselves that our prayer, our worship, our adoration, our sacrifices do nothing to increase God's glory or goodness, rather we do these things because God deserves them, simply because of Who He is!

Conversely, our need for God in our lives is infinite. God doesn't need us, but he wants us to be in relationship with Him, but we need God, even if many people don't seem to want to be in relationship with God. Our hearts ache for friendship with God because of the fact that God has created us for the purpose of sharing in His life and friendship. And Lent is the perfect time for us to consider: how am I responding to God's call in my own life to be in close friendship with Him? Do I take time for focused, daily prayer? Do I take a few minutes here or there to read about the faith, study the Catechism or read the Bible? Am I committed to God in my life? Is He my number one priority?

With that in mind, I have a challenge for each and every one of us during this Lent. I mentioned this challenge in my homily this weekend, but I want to reiterate it here. One of the beautiful opportunities that Lent provides is for us not just to grow in our own prayer relationship with God, but for us to spend more time praying for each other. And so, I am challenging each of us to do the following: once a week during Lent (there are five weeks left including Holy Week), come to the Church, and pray two Our Fathers- one Our Father for your fellow parishioners, and one Our Father for any and all fallen away Catholics in our community. I have listed the times each day that the Church is open to visit below. Please, take up this challenge- Just imagine the tremendous power of prayer that would be offered if each parishioner prayed just two Our Fathers for each other and our parish family each week in front of the Blessed Sacrament! I would love to see the front doors of our Church become revolving doors with the traffic of parishioners praying for each other this Lent. Take up this challenge, and just watch the graces that God will pour out upon us! God bless you! -Fr. Steve

Church hours during Lent: Monday – Friday: 7:30 am - 7 pm, Saturdays: 10 am - 8:15 pm & Sundays: 7:30 am - 7 pm.

Little Rock Introduction to the Bible: A Bible study for newcomers and experienced Bible students alike. Participants will become comfortable finding their way around the Bible, develop a better understanding of its themes and writing styles, and gain clear insights about Catholic use and interpretation of the Bible. Interested? Sign up with Cindy by February 23. Cost will be \$20 for supplies, but couples may share supplies if they'd like. We need a minimum of 8 participants. Class is planned for Sunday evenings, 6:30-7:30, and we'd like to begin on February 28. If you have any questions, contact Cindy in the parish office or Gerry Bahar at 353-6008; Gerry will be leading the study.

Finance Council will meet on **Wednesday, February 24 at noon** in the Rectory.

Knights of Columbus and KC Auxiliary Meeting: Thursday, February 25. Mass at **6:30 pm** - Meeting follows at **7 pm**.

St. Mary's Catholic Church - 57 Horn Blvd; Silver Bay, MN 55614

Parish Office Located in Rectory 8 am - 2 pm Monday - Thursday **Office/Rectory** 226-3100 **Fax Machine** 226-3116

Church Hall 226-3691 **Parish E-Mail** stmarysilverbay@outlook.com **Parish Website** www.stmarysilverbay.org

Eucharistic Adoration Wednesdays 8:45 am - 3:00 pm **K of C Auxiliary Prayer Chain** 226-3639 or 226-3351

Fr. Steve Laflamme (218) 834-4313 **Fr. Steve's E-Mail** : slaflamme@dioceseduluth.org

Fr. Michael Lyons (218) 830-1600 **Fr. Michael's Email** : mjlyons16@gmail.com

Saturday	<i>WEEKDAY IN LENT</i>	02/20/16
6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
7:15 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Betty Dugas</i> ☩	
	Reader.....Rose Elam	
	Cantor.....Rick Frericks w/guitar acpt.	
	Plate.....Tom Frericks	
	Chalices....Mary Wright	
	Chalices....Jeff Asmussen	
	Servers.....Caleb Geissler & Jason Blood	
Sunday	<i>SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT</i>	02/21/16
7:50 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
8:30 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>	
	Reader.....Ed Hynes	
	Cantor.....Rick Frericks w/guitar acpt.	
	Plate.....Deacon Jack Ferris	
	Chalices....Susan Frericks	
	Chalices....Gerry Bahar	
	Servers.....Mita & Sheena Frericks	
Monday	<i>THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE</i>	02/22/16
Tuesday	<i>ST. POLYCARP</i>	02/23/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Sister Miriam Dolores (Rauzi)</i> ☩	
Wednesday	<i>WEEKDAY IN LENT</i>	02/24/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Susan Michels</i>	
8:50 a.m.	Adoration	
Thursday	<i>WEEKDAY IN LENT</i>	02/25/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Betty Dugas</i> ☩	
8:50 a.m.	Prayer Group	
Friday	<i>WEEKDAY IN LENT</i>	02/26/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Ed & Betty Dugas</i> ☩	
5:00 p.m.	Soup Supper	
6:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday	<i>WEEKDAY IN LENT</i>	02/27/16
6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
7:15 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for John & Dick Fredrickson</i> ☩	
	Reader.....Jeff Asmussen	
	Cantor.....Tom Palen	
	Plate.....Rose Elam	
	Chalices....Shelley Fredrickson	
	Chalices....Don Seipke	
	Servers.....Giovanni & Corrina Marolt	
Sunday	<i>THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT</i>	02/28/16
7:50 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
8:30 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>	
	Reader.....Gerry Bahar	
	Cantor.....Kim Josephson	
	Plate.....Deacon Jack Ferris	
	Chalices....Sue Bahar	
	Chalices....Marge Jorgenson	
	Servers.....Zack Fredrickson & Jada Kirk	
LAST WEEK'S CONTRIBUTIONS		
General Collection.....		\$1949.00
Home Missions.....		\$335.00

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- † **Parishioners:** Susan Michels, Leona Currier, Steve Elam, Lino Rauzi, Marj Von Schenk, Lois Hynes, Lillian Miller, Tom Bott, Gale Fredrickson, Susan Gelatic, Lanay Frericks, Alma Ferris, Suzanne Seguin, Terry Scallen, Vicky Johnson, Marlene Petersen, Deanna Larson.
- † **Clergy:** Deacon Gene Biever, Deacon Fred Wright, Fr. Ben Hadrich, Fr. Francis Paquette.
- † **Relatives & Friends:** Jim Osterholm, Dawn Stefanich, Aria & Aedan Ament, Lincoln & Liam Traut, Rauri Byrnes, Grace Kramer, Stephanie (Clifford) Martin, Ariana Marek, Kerry Larson, Elizabeth Johnson, Diane Mayer, Don Hedin, Betty Westaby, Dick Kunz, Elsie McGuire, Johnny Jerabek, Amy Buckner, Mae Dehnhoff, Jim Morcomb, and Delaney, Cooper, Thomas & William Kutcha.
- † **Military:** Karen McGrane, Alex Seanger, Michael Seipke, Sam West, Chris Gensing, Sean Stebbins.

Join us for Soup Supper & Stations of the Cross – Fridays during Lent, soup at 5 pm followed by Stations at 6 pm. These delicious soups will be prepared by our volunteer cooks. If you are interested in preparing a soup or providing bread for a soup supper, please contact Cindy. Donations to Operation Rice Bowl will be accepted during the soup supper.

If you wish to donate money toward **FLOWERS FOR EASTER**, there are envelopes prepared for this purpose on the bulletin table. The suggested donation is \$8.00 and can be dropped into the collection basket. Please remember to include a name with your donation so your memorial can be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. We thank you for your generosity.

Community Dinner: Put on by the local churches, community dinners are being planned to celebrate and support our community life. Everyone is invited! The next dinner is **Thursday, March 19, 4:30-6:30 pm** in the **Kelley High School cafeteria**. Free will donations will be accepted, with proceeds supporting the SB Food Shelf. If you'd like to volunteer to help with this dinner or on April 21, please contact Sue Bahar at 353-6008.

Ruby's Pantry: Saturday, February 27. Registration at **10 am**, Distribution 11-12:30 pm. Share donation of \$20.

Good Used Clothing Wanted- As part of our almsgiving again this year, we are having a clothing drive. Please drop good usable clean clothing in the corner of the Church Hall near the coat racks. Lance and Rodney have volunteered again this year to deliver them to the Damiano Center in Duluth.

Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet this **Wednesday, February 24, at 1 pm** at Silverpointe Apartments.