

July 3, 2016

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"The LORD God gave the man this order: You are free to eat from any of the trees of the garden except the tree of knowledge of good and evil. From that tree you shall not eat; when you eat from it you shall die." -Genesis 2:16-17

Today's quote is undoubtedly very familiar to us: it comes from the Book of Genesis, and it is God's warning to Adam and Eve that they are free to eat of any tree in the Garden of Eden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil; to do so would have dire consequences. Of course, we know the story well enough: Adam and Eve unfortunately did eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and through their disobedience to God's command, sin and death, division and violence entered the world, and has been plaguing mankind ever since. But, we may wonder, why was it such a big deal to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? Why would God restrict them from doing that? And why would doing so bring about sin and death?

The answer to these questions dovetails with the bulletin article series that I have been writing so far this summer concerning philosophies, ideas and opinions of our secular modern society that are at odds with our faith, and our need to be aware of their potential negative impact on us, and on the practice of our faith in our daily lives. Last week, I spoke about the danger of relativism, which is currently a very popular philosophy of life in secular society. Relativism (falsely) holds that each person is free to determine for themselves what is right and what is wrong, what is sinful and what is not, and that there is no such thing as objective truth, but only personal truths- what is true for me is not necessarily true for you and vice versa.

And here's what I want for us to recognize: relativism *is the same exact sin* of Adam and Eve. Since God is God, since He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-wise, He and He alone is the one who possesses perfect knowledge of what is good and what is evil. Therefore, for a human being, a creature, to attempt to claim for oneself the knowledge of what is good and what is evil, what is right and what is wrong is to try to make oneself like God. And to place oneself in the place of God breaks our friendship and communion with Him because we are acting as if we don't need Him. To claim that I can determine what is right and wrong for myself, to say that each person has the "freedom" to decide what is right and true for themselves, is to commit the sin of Adam and Eve: we have reached for the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. We have made ourselves into gods, trying to choose for ourselves what is right and wrong.

And as much as we may be told by society that such is the way to interior freedom and happiness, what we will find is that the opposite is true: making ourselves like God leads to loneliness, sorrow, dissatisfaction and disunity. It's the story of fallen, sinful humanity. But it doesn't have to continuously be our own story. As our nation celebrates freedom and independence this weekend, let's remember where true freedom lies- true freedom is found not in doing whatever I want or feel like, or in determining what is right and wrong for myself. True freedom of mind, body and soul is found by submitting myself to my Creator, following His commands, and trusting that what He has revealed to us about what is right and wrong, good and evil through His Church is perfect, and so requires my obedience. God bless you! ~Fr. Steve

Father Steve will be offering Mass at **Holy Spirit in Two Harbors** on **Monday, July 4, at 8:30 am**. All are welcome.

We have **Eucharistic Adoration** every Wednesday 9 am until 3 pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church for Adoration to be certain that someone is always in attendance during the time of Exposition. If you are available during this time, please consider signing up to spend an hour with the Lord in prayer.

Little Rock Bible Study Group: We will meet in the classroom area on **Tuesday, July 5 at 6:30 pm**. We are on Lesson 7, Chapters 19-21 of Acts.

Dine at the Lemon Wolf Café in Beaver Bay - When placing your order, ask about the Catholic Church Benefit. A donation equal to 10% of your bill will be given to the Catholic parish you attend on the North Shore.

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 E-mail**: mjlyons16@gmail.com

Saturday	<i>BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i>	07/02/16
6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
7:15 p.m.	Mass — Intention for Lee Anselment ☩	
	Reader.....Maria Riederer	
	Cantor.....Terri Frericks-Blood	
	Plate..... Deacon Fred Wright	
	Chalices....Shelley Fredrickson	
	Chalices....Jeff Asmussen	
	Servers.....Jason Blood & Giovanni Marolt	
	Gifts.....Volunteer	
Sunday	<i>14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	07/03/16
7:30 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
8:30 a.m.	Mass — Intention for All Parishioners	
	Reader.....Gerry Bahar	
	Cantor.....Sue Bahar	
	Plate.....Deacon Fred Wright	
	Chalices....Lois Kaari	
	Chalices....Marge Jorgenson	
	Servers.....Zack Fredrickson & Jada Kirk	
	Gifts.....Volunteer	
Monday	<i>INDEPENDENCE DAY</i>	07/04/16
Tuesday	<i>ST. ANTHONY ZACCARIA; ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL</i>	07/05/16
	7:50 a.m. Rosary	
	8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer	
Wednesday	<i>ST. MARIA GORETTI</i>	07/06/16
	7:50 a.m. Rosary	
	8:15 a.m. Mass – Intention for Ione Foss ☩	
	8:50 a.m. Adoration	
Thursday	<i>WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	07/07/16
	7:50 a.m. Rosary	
	8:15 a.m. Mass – Intention for Lee Anselment ☩	
	8:50 a.m. Morning Prayer Group	
Friday	<i>WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	07/08/16
	7:50 a.m. Rosary	
	8:15 a.m. Mass - Intention for Ione Foss ☩	
Saturday	<i>ST. AUGUSTINE ZHAO RONG & COMPANIONS</i>	07/09/16
6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
7:15 p.m.	Mass — Intention for Myrt Biller ☩	
	Reader.....Jody Majewsky	
	Cantor.....Patty Armstrong	
	Plate..... Don Seipke	
	Chalices....Judy Zupancich	
	Chalices....Jeff Asmussen	
	Servers.....Lucas Stadler & Jake Stadler	
	Gifts.....Volunteer	
Sunday	<i>15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	07/10/16
7:50 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
8:30 a.m.	Mass — Intention for All Parishioners	
	Reader.....Jessalyn Hansen	
	Cantor.....Tom Palen	
	Plate.....Deacon Jack Ferris	
	Chalices....Gerry Bahar	
	Chalices....Cindy Rowlee	
	Servers.....Thomas Rowlee & Caleb Geissler	
	Gifts.....Volunteer	

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- † **Parishioners:** Joe Rollins, Leona Currier, Steve Elam, Lino Rauzi, Marj Von Schenk, Lillian Miller, Tom Bott, Gale Fredrickson, Susan Gelatic, Alma Ferris, Suzanne Seguin, Terry Scallen, Vicky Johnson, Deanna Larson, Marlene Petersen.
- † **Clergy:** Deacon Fred Wright, Fr. Francis Paquette.
- † **Relatives & Friends:** James Currier, Dan Clark, Bruce Melchert, Penny Hanson, Gary Garlie, Fred Paine, Jim Seipke, Jim Osterholm, Dawn Stefanich, Aria & Aedan Ament, Rauri Byrnes, Don Hedin, Stephanie (Clifford) Martin, Elsie McGuire, Johnny Jerabek, Mae Dehnhoff, Jim Morcomb, and Delaney, Cooper, Thomas & William Kutcha.
- † **Military:** Karen McGrane, Alex Seanger, Michael Seipke, Sam West, Chris Gensing, Sean Stebbins, Mike Ament.

Please call the church office if you'd like to submit a prayer request; these requests will run for 3 weeks. If continued prayers are needed after that time, you can renew the request by calling the church office.

Faith Formation Summer Fun Nights: In Two Harbors on Sunday, July 17, 5-7 pm, at Odegaard Park. St. Mary's hosts on Sunday, August 14, 5-7 pm. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Don't forget to bring in your **aluminum cans** – They can be put in the garage or call the parish office if you would like Lance & Rodney to pick up the cans from your home (in the Silver Bay area).

Updating Our Records. A couple weeks ago we handed out information sheets so we could confirm and update our records to be sure we have current addresses, home and cell phone numbers, and email addresses for all of our members. If you haven't completed a sheet yet you will find them at the ends of the pews or on the back table, please complete one and drop it into the collection basket. We appreciate your time and effort.

Save the Date for the 11th Annual Diocesan Assembly. It will be held on **Saturday, October 8**, at Marshall School. The guest speaker will be Sherry Weddell on "Making Disciples." Sherry will lead us through the steps that help Catholics make the conscious choice to follow Jesus as his disciples. For more information or to register go to <http://tinyurl.com/DODAssembly>.

LAST WEEK'S CONTRIBUTIONS	
General Collection.....	\$2179.00
UCA.....	\$277.00
Holy Father's Mission.....	\$669.00