

January 10, 2016

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"Let my prayer be incense before You [Lord], my uplifted hands an evening sacrifice." -Psalm 141:2

"Each of the elders held a harp and gold bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of the holy ones"-Revelation 5:8

This week, I am doing something a bit different. This week's bulletin is a sort of response to informal requests. And just as a reminder, I would be happy to write bulletin articles about matters of our Catholic Faith of which you have questions. Simply email me (slaflamme@dioceseduluth.org) and I'll consider your question, and perhaps write a bulletin article about it.

This week, I have two quotes from the Sacred Scriptures that refer to the use of incense. I have had, in the course of the last several weeks, a few different people ask me what is the significance or meaning of using incense at Mass. So I thought that I would address this question. First, recognize that the use of incense in worship goes back to ancient times. And it was not reserved solely to Christianity. Burning incense as a sign of worship has roots in ancient pagan worship rituals as well as roots in Jewish worship. The use of incense is present in many, many places in the Old Testament, and there were very specific rules for its use (read Exodus, chapter 30). The Temple priests, in offering sacrifice to God, offered incense on what was called the Altar of Incense. God commanded Moses to instruct the high priest, Aaron, to construct an altar of incense on which, "Aaron shall burn fragrant incense. Morning after morning, when he prepares the lamps, and again in the evening twilight, when he lights the lamps, he shall burn incense. Throughout your generations this shall be the regular incense offering before the Lord" (Exodus 30: 7-8).

In other words, offering or burning incense before an image or altar was a sign of a person offering veneration, honor or worship to that image, or the god whom that image represented. For this reason, the Romans often tried to force the early Christians to burn incense in front of an image of the emperor or a statue of a Roman god, and many Christians refused (and were subsequently killed because of it) because they knew that to do so would be to offer worship or honor to a false god.

Thus we burn and offer incense for two primary reasons- first, because we only incense holy, Godly things, as a sign of honor, or, in the case of God, worship. So, we incense the altar in Church because it is sacred since the Eucharist is celebrated upon it. We incensed the manger scene as a sign of reverence for what it represents- the Holy Family. We incense the Gospel Book because it contains the words and actions of Jesus Christ. We also incense the body of a deceased person at their Christian funeral as a sign of honoring their body since it was a temple of the Holy Spirit on earth.

But incense is also meant to be a sign not just of reverence and worship, but a symbol of our prayers rising up to God in Heaven. As the Psalmist states above, "may our prayers arise before you like incense in your sight O God." The sight of incense rising before the altar in Church should help us to recognize how we offer our prayers to God, before His holy throne. Thus incense helps to symbolize and solemnize our worship of God in His majesty. God bless you!

Pancake Breakfast -The Knights of Columbus will serve their famous pancake breakfast after Mass this **Sunday, January 10**. Please join us for great fellowship & delicious pancakes. If you attend Mass on Saturday, please come back Sunday morning for the breakfast. We'd love to see you and would enjoy visiting with you. Free will donation.

Help is needed to take down the Christmas Decorations after the Pancake Breakfast this **Sunday, January 10**.

St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry group will meet on **Wednesday, January 13, at 1 pm** in the Community Room at Silverpointe Apartments. We welcome new members. Knit/crochet/goodies. Any questions, contact Lana at 353-7714.

Parish Email Address: Our parish email address has changed to stmarysilverbay@outlook.com. If you'd like to send me a quick email as you update your contact list, I can make sure I have your email address, too.

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>CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY</i>	01/09/16
6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
7:15 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Jamie & Sarah Frericks</i>	
	Reader.....Tom Frericks	
	Cantor.....Marilyn Frericks	
	Plate.....Rose Elam	
	Chalices....Mary Wright	
	Chalices....Jeff Asmussen	
	Servers.....Jason Blood & Laurese McKinney	
Sunday	<i>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</i>	01/10/16
7:50 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
8:30 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>	
	Reader.....Marge Jorgenson	
	Cantor.....Joanne Curry	
	Plate.....Deacon Jack Ferris	
	Chalices....Sue Bahar	
	Chalices....Jerry Bahar	
	Servers.....Thomas Rowlee & Jake Stadler	
Monday	<i>FIRST WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME</i>	01/11/16
Tuesday	<i>WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	01/12/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Pauline Darby</i>	
Wednesday	<i>ST. HILARY</i>	01/13/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Johnny Jerabek</i>	
8:50 a.m.	Adoration	
Thursday	<i>WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	01/14/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Nathan Miller</i> ☩	
8:50 a.m.	Prayer Group	
Friday	<i>WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	01/15/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Linda Peterson</i> ☩	
Saturday	<i>BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i>	01/16/16
6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
7:15 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Ray & Phyllis Schlichting</i> ☩	
	Reader.....Jeff Asmussen	
	Cantor.....Rick Frericks w/Guitar Accept.	
	Plate.....Shelley Fredrickson	
	Chalices....Tom Frericks	
	Chalices....Michael Rowlee	
	Servers.....Lucas & Jake Stadler	
Sunday	<i>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	01/17/16
7:50 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
8:30 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>	
	Reader.....Greg Johnson	
	Cantor.....Rick Frericks w/Guitar Accept.	
	Plate.....Deacon Jack Ferris	
	Chalices....Marjorie Jorgenson	
	Chalices....Susan Frericks	
	Servers.....Sheena & Mita Frericks	

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- † **Parishioners:** Lino Rauzi, Marj Von Schenk, Lois Hynes, Lillian Miller, Betty Dugas, Tom Bott, Gale Fredrickson, Susan Gelatic, Lanay Frericks, Alma Ferris, Richard Keseley, Suzanne Seguin, Terry Scallen, Vicky Johnson, Angie Pruse, Marlene Petersen, Deanna Larson.
- † **Clergy:** Fr. Ben Hadrach, Deacon Fred Wright, Fr. Francis Paquette.
- † **Relatives & Friends:** Nathan Miller (Grandson of Lillian Miller) passed away this last week, *may he rest in peace.* Katie (Byrnes) Ament & her newborn twins who arrived earlier than expected. Dawn Stefanich, Liam Traut, Alexa & Rauri Byrnes, Grace Kramer, Elizabeth Johnson, Stephanie (Clifford) Martin, Ariana Marek, Kerry Larson, Diane Mayer, Don Hedin, Betty Westaby, Dick Kunz, Johnny Jerabek, Amy Buckner, Mae Dehnhoff, Elsie McGuire, Jim Morcomb, and Delaney, Cooper, Thomas & William Kutcha.
- † **Military:** Karen McGrane, Alex Seanger, Michael Seipke, Sam West, Chris Gensing, Sean Stebbins.

Family Faith Formation & Adult Faith Formation will meet next on **Wednesday, January 20 at 6 pm.** The evening will start with dinner at 6 pm, followed by classes for everyone at 6:30 pm. The Adult Faith Formation will continue our journey through the Sacraments with Father Steve. The **Adult Faith Formation is open to everyone**, not just the parents, so please join us as we all grow in our faith together.

MN March for Life: On **January 22, 2016**, the Diocese of Duluth's Office of Marriage and Family Life will be sponsoring buses to travel down to the Twin Cities for the Annual March for Life commemorating the 1972 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. The buses will leave the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary (2801 E. Fourth St., Duluth) after the 7 am Mass and will return to Duluth at approximately 5 pm. The cost is \$5 per person and participants are asked to register at www.dioceseduluth.org. This event is part of the diocesan wide Day of Fasting and Prayer in Reparation for a Culture of Violence and Disrespect of Human Life.

Save the Date: **St. Mary's Annual Spaghetti Dinner** will be held on **Wednesday, January 27.**

Please remember to pick up your **2016 calendars and envelopes** in the back of the church.

We need more **volunteers** to sign-up to **adopt a weekend** of snow removal. Please sign up in the back of the church. Thank you to everyone who has helped make this a successful way to keep our sidewalks safe.

LAST WEEK'S CONTRIBUTIONS

General Collection.....	\$2328.00
UCA.....	\$200.00
Building Fund.....	\$200.00