

July 10, 2016

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"The road is narrow. He who wishes to travel it more easily must cast off all things and use the cross as his cane. In other words, he must be truly resolved to suffer willingly for the love of God in all things."

-St. John of the Cross (1542-1591)

This week, I would like to continue my summer theme of examining current philosophies and rules of life in our modern secular society and how they can negatively impact the practice of our faith. Over the last several weeks, we have been examining relativism and its detrimental effects. You may recall that the basic theory of relativism is the idea that there is no such thing as objective truths (what is right and wrong) that are applicable to all peoples of all times; rather, relativism holds that each person can determine for themselves what is right or wrong for them. This theory is dangerous, because it calls into question truths that are a part of human nature, and it makes human beings into gods, encouraging them to decide for themselves what is right and what is wrong. This is especially a dangerous philosophy for Catholics, because to be a relativist often means rejecting what Jesus Christ has revealed as truth through the Catholic Church's teachings, and doing this is always detrimental to our spiritual life.

This weekend, I would like to turn to a new modern philosophy: hedonism. Hedonism is a philosophy of life by which one should pursue what is pleasurable and avoid what is painful at all costs. It is the unbridled pursuit of pleasure. Now, it used to be that such persons who believed and practiced this way of life were seen as selfish by society at large. But I would argue that hedonism has currently become the lifestyle of choice in our secular society. And this is directly connected to relativism as well. Because if a person believes that they are capable and in fact have the "right" to determine what is true and good for themselves, then doesn't it make sense that when left to ourselves, we will be most easily tempted to choose what is pleasurable rather than what is painful? This is the danger of hedonism: it makes a god out of fleeting pleasures. Pleasure in itself is not bad. There are many morally good things which are accompanied by pleasure- eating a good meal, going for a swim on a hot day, sexual intimacy between spouses. But the problem with the hedonistic person is that they pursue pleasure solely for its own sake, and wish to avoid pain at all costs.

Now, don't get me wrong, it is morally acceptable to try to avoid excessive pain, and modern medicine has come a long way in making that possible. But sometimes, pain, difficulty, suffering are unavoidable. And for the Christian, suffering, struggle, and difficulty is not something to be avoided at all costs, but an opportunity to unite our struggles and pain with the sufferings of Jesus Christ on the Cross for the redemption of the world. It's the source of the old phrase to "offer it up." Offering our struggle, difficulty, pain and suffering to God as a prayerful sacrifice is a very powerful form of prayer. And, the reality is that Jesus said, "if anyone wishes to be my disciple, he must take up his cross daily and follow me." Jesus did not promise his disciples a life of pleasure and leisure, but rather that He would walk with us in life no matter what may come. God bless you! ~ Fr. Steve

Give your community a piece of your time. See what a difference a day can make. With Thrivent Builds Repairs, you can volunteer for a short-term home repair project, with immediate results that fits your busy schedule. Help renew your community – and yourself too. Help paint, landscape, minor repairs and exterior projects. All skill levels needed. Silver Bay work days are September 8-10. For more information on program visit thriventbuilds.com/repairs or contact Greg Hanson at 218-226-3442 or gregory.hanson@thrivent.com.

Northland Family Programs is offering a **Free Introductory Session on the FertilityCare™ System**, a natural and effective family planning method. Learn how to avoid or achieve pregnancy safely and naturally with a proven method that's 98% effective and 100% natural. Please go to www.nfpduluth.org for a full list of dates and locations.

St. Theresa's Circle is providing Coffee and Goodies after Mass on **Sunday, July 24.**

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>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	
Monday	<i>ST. BENEDICT</i>	07/11/16
Tuesday	<i>WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	07/12/16
	7:50 a.m. Rosary	
	8:15 a.m. Mass — Intention for Myrt Biller ☩	
Wednesday	<i>ST. HENRY</i>	07/13/16
	7:50 a.m. Rosary	
	8:15 a.m. Mass — Intention for Edward Grahek ☩	
	8:50 a.m. Adoration	
Thursday	<i>ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA</i>	07/14/16
	7:50 a.m. Rosary	
	8:15 a.m. Mass — Intention for Victoria Johnson ☩	
	8:50 a.m. Morning Prayer Group	
Friday	<i>ST. BONAVENTURE</i>	07/15/16
	7:50 a.m. Rosary	
	8:15 a.m. Mass - Intention for Gen Grahek ☩	
Saturday	<i>OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL</i>	07/16/16
6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
7:15 p.m.	Mass — Intention for Myrt Biller ☩	
	Reader.....A.J. LeGeault	
	Cantor.....Rick Frericks w/Guitar Accept.	
	Plate.....Susan Frericks	
	Chalices....Shelley Fredrickson	
	Chalices....Jeff Asmussen	
	Servers.....Jason Blood & Caleb Geissler	
	Gifts.....Volunteer	
Sunday	<i>16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	07/17/16
7:50 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
8:30 a.m.	Mass — Intention for All Parishioners	
	Reader.....Susan Michels	
	Cantor.....Rick Frericks w/Guitar Accept.	
	Plate.....Deacon Jack Ferris	
	Chalices....Ken Kruger	
	Chalices....Bonnie Kruger	
	Servers.....April Velcheff & Mita Frericks	
	Gifts.....Volunteer	

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- † **Parishioners:** Vicky Johnson passed away this last week, *may she rest in peace.* Joe Rollins, Steve Elam, Leona Currier, Lino Rauzi, Marj Von Schenk, Tom Bott, Lillian Miller, Gale Fredrickson, Susan Gelatic, Alma Ferris, Suzanne Seguin, Terry Scallen, 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!

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>.

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 on **Sunday, July 10 at 6:30 pm.** We are on Lesson 8, Chapters 22-24 of Acts.

LAST WEEK'S CONTRIBUTIONS

General Collection.....	\$2208.08
UCA.....	\$610.00
Holy Father's Mission.....	\$80.00
Building Fund.....	\$85.00
Total AED donations as of 7/5/16.....	\$1600.00
<i>(Estimated cost of an AED is \$2000.00)</i>	