

December 27, 2015



Christmas/Holy Family

Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"Christian, remember your dignity ... Do not forget that you have been rescued from the power of darkness and brought into the light of God's kingdom." - Pope St. Leo the Great (400-461)

MERRY CHRISTMAS! My dear brothers and sisters, celebrate with joy and profound gladness this most happy day on which our Savior was born for us in order to save us from sin and everlasting death in Hell! Sadness should have no part of this day, but rather gladness, in knowing that our God was not content to let us die in our sins, but came to our rescue by becoming one of us, a human being like us in all things, except Himself free from sin.

Fellow Christians, as St. Leo the Great preached to his faithful flock in the fifth century A.D., remember your dignity! You are not some meaningless, random product of evolution, you have been intentionally and lovingly created by God Himself, so that He can share His love, mercy and salvation with you, so that He can fulfill you with the ecstasy of Divine love. This day is one of tremendous rejoicing, one in which we sing with the mighty army of Angels, Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth, peace to people of good will. REJOICE, because you are a beloved son or daughter of God; REJOICE, because you know the source of eternal salvation, Jesus Christ; REJOICE, because your God will go to any lengths to call you back to Himself, to rescue you from all that could harm you, to save you, to give you eternal life in Heaven; REJOICE, because you are wonderfully made, cast in the very image and likeness of God Himself. REJOICE, because "Today, in the City of David, a Savior has been born for you, who is Christ and Lord" (Luke 2:11).

My fellow Christians, today is a day of great gladness and thanksgiving, because today, the mystery of God's loving plan is revealed: there, hidden in a cattle shed, is the God of the universe, wrapped in rags and sleeping peacefully in the arms of our Blessed Mother, guarded carefully by faithful St. Joseph. The God of majesty, power and glory, the Creator and Master of the universe, the All-Holy one, is asleep on the hay, a powerless, vulnerable, dependent baby. Our God has chased after us all the way to His becoming one of us, and placing His life in the hands of His creatures. If we have ever doubted God's love and mercy for us, look at the manger scene- That's what length the All-powerful God of power and might will go to in order to bring you home to Him. You see? "If God is for us, who can be against us"? (Romans 8:31)

Today, in the midst of the festivities, good food, carols and presents, make sure that we take time to thank God for His coming down to Earth, being born a human being, so that He could one day die on the cross for us and rise to new life, bringing humanity back into right relationship with God the Father. Today, rejoice and be glad, and give thanks to God for His endless love for you, specifically for YOU. For today, in the City of David, a Savior has been born for YOU, who is Christ and Lord. God bless you, and Merry Christmas! *Fr. Steve*

PRAYER SHAWLS and lap robes are made in prayer by volunteers to be given to someone with a prolonged or serious illness, in hospice, as a comfort after a loss of a loved one, in times of stress such as during the deployment of a loved one to a combat location to name a few. If you know of someone who could benefit from a prayer shawl or would like more information, please call Liz Scheidt at 834-6492.

"COMING HOME BASKET": The basket sitting to the right of the Sanctuary is a "Coming Home Basket." If you know of someone who has drifted away from their Catholic faith, write their name on one of the sheets provided, fold it, and place it in the basket. As a faith community we are encouraged to pray for the people whose names have been placed in the coming home basket as well as to encourage those we are aware of to return

Holy Spirit Catholic Church — 227 Third Street, Two Harbors, MN 55616

Parish Office Located in the Basement of the Church **Office** 834-4659 **Rectory** 834-4313 **Church Hall** 834-4659

E-Mail hspirit@outlook.com **Parish Web Site** www.holyspirittwoharbors.org

Youth Ministry 834-4433 **Prayer Intentions** 834-4659 **Birthright** 1-800-550-4900

Fr. Steve's E-Mail slafamme@dioceseduluth.org **Deacon Tim Egan** 349-9175

Saturday	SAINT STEPHEN	12/26/15
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>	
	Reader: To be assigned	
	Plate: Deacon Tim Egan	
	Chalice: Carol Anderson & Beth Egan	
	Servers: Karley Fleischer & to be assigned	
Sunday	THE HOLY FAMILY	12/27/15
9:30 a.m.	Reconciliation	
11:00 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for †Larry Levinski</i>	
	Reader: Louis Button	
	Plate: Deacon Tim Egan	
	Chalice: Joanne Button & Nancy Olsen	
	Servers: Ethan Bopp & Arianna Sitra	
Monday	THE HOLY INNOCENTS	12/28/15
8:15 a.m.	No Mass	
Tuesday	SAINT THOMAS BECKET	12/29/15
8:15 a.m.	No Mass	
5:45 p.m.	Choir Practice	
Wednesday	WEEKDAY DURING CHRISTMAS	12/30/15
Thursday	SAINT SYLVESTER 1	12/31/15
	No Morning Mass or Adoration	
4:00 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for †Msgr. O'Shea</i>	
	Reader: Louis Button	
	Plate: Deacon Scott Peters	
	Chalice: Joanne Button & Liz Scheidt	
	Servers: Kate & Miles Thomasen	
Friday	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD	01/01/16
9:30 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>	
	Reader: Barb Haynes	
	Plate: To be assigned	
	Chalice: To be assigned & To be assigned	
	Servers: To be assigned	
Saturday	SAINT BASIL THE GREAT AND SAINT GREGORY NAZIANZEN	01/02/16
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>	
	Reader: To be assigned	
	Plate: To be assigned	
	Chalice: Carol Anderson & To be assigned	
	Servers: To be assigned & to be assigned	
Sunday	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	01/03/16
9:30 a.m.	Reconciliation	
11:00 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Deacon Scott & Family</i>	
	Reader: Mike Hoffman	
	Plate: To be assigned	
	Chalice: Linda Hoffman & To be assigned	
	Servers: To be assigned & To be assigned	

† **PARISHIONERS:** Please pray for Arthur Barthman, Florian Burger, Joe Haynes, Ron Kor and Ron Ostendorf.



† **FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Please pray for Al Aldinger, Patty Amitrano, Bill Carlson, Kathleen Despiegler, Lori Dybvig, Jean Farley, and Patty Harrison-Isakson.

† **MILITARY PERSONNEL:** Please pray for Garrett Aho, Nate Berger, Keith Dahl, Jacob Kearin, James Mickle, Ryan Ray and Christopher Uremovich.

Prayer Requests: 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, prayer requests can always be renewed by calling the church office 834-4659.

Youth Happenings

Check out our Youth Bulletin Board
"Like" us on Facebook: Holy Spirit Youth Group

TOBIT (Theology of the Body for Teens) Camp is open for registration. The dates are January 15-17th at Big Sandy Camp in McGregor, MN. Please contact the parish office to register.

Confirmation Retreats: This is a requirement for confirmation and is for 11 grade students. February 19-20 (Duluth), April 8-9, 2016 (Hibbing). Please turn your registration form in early to the parish office so we can register you.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS FOR OUR YOUTH TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE...

Last Week's Contributions

Weekend Collection.....	\$2,441.03
UCA	\$380.00
Bldg. Fund.....	\$225.00
Religious Retirement.....	\$60.00

UCA - 86%
\$21,300.00 of \$24,897.72

\$3,597.72 still owed