

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time



September 11, 2016

Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"Do not think that love, in order to be genuine, has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired."

-St. Teresa of Calcutta

As promised, this week we have the opportunity to hear more words of spiritual wisdom from our newest saint, just canonized by Pope Francis last Sunday: St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa). I chose this quote because it so clearly states what is often a misunderstanding of love in our modern culture. Love is so often described as primarily a feeling, or good feelings that we have for someone else. The problem with this understanding of love is when our feelings either change or dissipate. This can lead to breakups in relationships, even marriages. How many of us have heard a friend or relative say that they are divorcing their spouse because the two of them "just fell out of love," or that "love died?" It's so very unfortunate when this happens because people are getting a divorce based on a completely false understanding of what love truly is.

I have said this before, and I'll say it over and over again: love is not an emotion, it is a decision; it is an act of our will. I *choose* to love someone. Certainly, good feelings can and should accompany that decision; in other words, I should (hopefully) feel feelings of affection for people that I love. But you and I know that this is not always the case: sometimes we may not *feel* like we love someone at all. But we can still choose to love them.

This is not how our world understands love because love as an act of the will, even and especially when we don't *feel* loving and gushy feelings for a person is not easy: it's hard! And it can be especially hard to love someone day after day, no matter what. But that's when true love is found- it's easy to "love" another person when we feel attracted to them. But true love is forged when we choose to love beyond how we may feel. And this is not just in regards to our relationship with our spouse, our children, our siblings or our parents. This is also true in regards to our relationship with God. Because let's be honest: many times we may not *feel* like loving God: we may not feel like going to Mass on a given Sunday morning. We may not feel like praying sometimes, we may not feel like doing the right thing when doing the right thing is hard. But it's exactly those times when we have the opportunity to *prove* our love for God. For it is a much greater act of love to do what we know we should by an act of our will than to do it because we get good feelings out of it. Let us then not tire of loving, but choose to do the hard but infinitely rewarding work of choosing every day to love God and those around us from our will. God bless you! *Fr. Steve Laflamme*

From the Desk of Fr. Steve: *Regarding the Parish pamphlet rack in the entryway to the Church* - In order to ensure that all materials in the pamphlet rack are theologically sound and accurate, anyone wishing to place pamphlets or books in the pamphlet rack **must** first submit them to me (Fr. Steve) for **must** review. Items placed without prior approval are subject to being discarded. Thank you for your cooperation.

ATTENTION! Holy Spirit Church is starting a new program which we are calling "Faith & Fellowship Sundays". These faith & fellowship Sundays are open to all parishioners. Our first event will be next Sunday, September 18th at 9:45 a.m. in the parish hall. A free continental breakfast will be provided. We will be watching the new DVD series entitled "Divine Mercy" by Fr. Michael Gaitley with discussion to follow.

Men of Holy Spirit, Young & Old: We will be working in the Two Harbors Cemetery (Catholic Section), straightening and leveling grave stone and markers. Please come and lend a hand, your help is needed on Saturday, September 17th from 8:00 a.m. till noon. Bring a shovel if you have one. This is an important corporal work of mercy in the year mercy assisting in the burial of the dead. Hope to see you there.

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

Liturgy email: jfleischer-hspirit@outlook.com

Youth Ministry 834-4433

Prayer Intentions 834-4659

Birthright 1-800-550-4900

Fr. Steve's E-Mail slaflamme@dioceseduluth.org

Deacon Tim Egan 349-9175

Deacon Scott Peters 834-2543

Saturday	WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	09/10/16
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: Gloria Uremovich Chalices: Liz Scheidt & to be assigned Servers: Luke Johnson & Hayden Johnson	
Sunday	24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	09/11/16
11:00 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for † Gil Hensgens</i> Reader: Louis Button Chalices: Joanne Button & Jeannie Shaw Servers: Nathan Campbell & Casey Underdale	
Monday	THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY	09/12/16
	No Mass	
Tuesday	SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM	09/13/16
8:15 a.m.	Mass - <i>Intention for † Darrin Theis</i>	
9:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry	
Wednesday	THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	09/14/16
6:30 p.m.	Faith Formation —grades 5-11	
Thursday	OUR LADY OF SORROWS	09/15/16
8:15 a.m.	Mass - <i>Intention for † Gary Aleff</i>	
6:30 p.m.	Men's Prayer Group	
Friday	SAINT CORNELIUS & CYPRIAN	09/16/16
7:30 a.m.	Reconciliation	
8:15 a.m.	Mass - <i>Intention for † Laurie Miller</i>	
8:45 a.m.	Adoration	
12:00 p.m.	Benediction	
Saturday	SAINT ROBERT BELLARMINE	09/17/16
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: Barb Haynes Chalices: Carol Anderson & Beth Egan Servers: Kate Thomasen & to be assigned	
Sunday	25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	09/18/16
9:30 a.m.	Faith Formation —Grades Pre, K -4	
11:00 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for † Lucille Olaf</i> Reader: Shannah Groothausen Chalices: Laura Lien & Shari Hendren Servers: Sid & Livy Hendren	

Annual Financial Report: Please pick up a copy at the back of the Church this weekend and review our parish finances. Thank you to everyone for your generous financial support. Please call the parish office if you have questions.

Last Week's Contributions

Weekend Collection	\$2,403.16
UCA	\$665.00
Bldg. Fund	\$315.00
Altar Flowers.....	\$75.00
Home Missions	\$10.00



- † **PARISHIONERS:** Please pray for Jeanne Battaglia, Arthur Barthman, Florian Burger, John Erickson Ron Kor, Joanne Payment, and Peg Werner.
- † **FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Please pray for Cara Barthman, Bill Carlson, Castiel Karels and Patty Harrison-Isakson.
- † **MILITARY PERSONNEL:** Please pray for Garrett Aho, Nate Berger, Keith Dahl, Jacob Kearin , James Mickle, Ryan Ray, Christopher Uremovich and Maddison Zavoral.
- † **Sacred Heart Candle:** The Dave Battaglia Family.

Please call the church office if you would 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

Faith Formation classes begin Wednesday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m. for grades 5-11 and Sunday, Sept. 18th at 9:30 a.m. for grades Pre,K-4. If you have not yet registered your children for class, please check your email for the registration form or pick one up in the Church entryway. Students must be registered in order to attend class.

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

Baptized in Christ: Savannah Lynn Doocy (parents: Chad & Cheryl Doocy). We congratulate her parents and the members of their families on this happy occasion!

Died in Christ: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Denis Boyd. We extend our condolences to his wife Carol and to the members of his family as well as to his many friends. May he live in God's eternal peace.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Holy Spirit's Prayer Shawl Ministry Group is an informal group who crochets and knits tangible signs of their prayers for others. *New people are always welcome to join us.* We will meet on Tuesday, September 13 at 9:00 a.m. (after morning Mass) in the church hall.