

November 22, 2015



Our Lord Jesus Christ the King of the Universe

Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"Isn't it completely ironic that the very next day after we have just given thanks for having all that we need, we race to the stores to buy everything that we want?" Multiple/anonymous

The above quote is not really a quote in the strict sense- in fact, I couldn't locate an author to which to attribute it. But I have seen versions of it on Facebook and other places, and the above version is my own twist on it. The point is clear: every year we hear stories of people being injured or even killed in stampedes, beatings, and shootings over "door-busters" and shopping sales. It's bad enough that a person would be so inhumane to another human being as to insult or even injure them in order to get their hands on a flat-screen TV. It's even more ironic and perhaps troubling that all this madness occurs the very day after we have just spent time giving thanks for all of the blessings in our lives, for having everything that we needed during the last year, and for the gift of family and friends. It is truly a 180 degree turn.

Most troubling is this new trend in which stores have bowed to consumer demand and are now beginning their "mega-sales" on Thanksgiving night itself. Some large department stores even open at 4 or 5pm on Thanksgiving night. Utter madness.

Now, I suspect that some of you reading this might be perturbed at my article thus far- after all, what's wrong with doing some Holiday shopping? Some people even do it as a family event, or make a day of it with close friends. Please know that I am not against shopping on Black Friday; I have done it before plenty of times myself. What I am cautioning against is the spirit of materialism that can often plague people as they race out the door to stand in line for hours for that one prized possession. In other words, when we go out shopping (if we do) on Black Friday, can others tell by our words, attitude and action that we are Christians? Do we see it as an opportunity to witness to our Christian name and faith?

However, I *would* encourage all of you to consider refusing to go shopping on Thanksgiving Day itself. Why? Because if anything else, think of the workers at these department stores who have to work on Thanksgiving, rather than celebrate with their families, so that others can go shopping. Don't fall for the argument of, "Well, the stores going to be open anyways, so what difference does it make if I go or not?" It does make a difference. If less people go, the stores will take note.

This Thanksgiving, put aside the desire to possess more, to gain more, to buy more and make time to thank God for all that He has given to you. Our very life would not have been possible without God's willing it. This Thanksgiving, rest in God's love for you and thank Him for all that you have, relishing the gift of family and friends. May God richly bless you this Thanksgiving and always!

BY THE WAY... Looking for a new/creative way to give thanks this Thanksgiving? How about going to Thanksgiving Day Mass with the family? The word, "Eucharist," means "thanksgiving." Mass on Thanksgiving Day at Holy Spirit Church is at 9:30 am. *Fr. Steve*

Adult Faith Formation Class: Fr. Steve's Adult Faith Formation class had been scheduled for **Thursday, December 3rd.** The class will be on the Sacrament of Marriage. All are invited and encouraged to attend

Altar Server Training: There will mandatory training for all current and prospective Altar Servers the weekends of Dec. 4/5th and 11/12th. {Reminder: Adults are both able and welcome to be Altar Servers!} Training sessions will take place after both the 4:30 Sat. Mass and the 11:00 Sunday Mass. Altar Servers may choose to go to the training session on either Saturday or Sunday but must go to one session each weekend. If you are not able to attend, please contact Fr. Steve.

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 slaflamme@dioceseduluth.org Deacon Tim Egan 349-9175

Saturday	THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	11/21/15
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: Kate & Miles Thomasen	
Sunday	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING	11/22/15
9:30 a.m.	Religious Education—Grades Pre, K-4	
11:00 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention † Gary Aleff</i> Reader: Christiane Kortuem Plate: Chris Lemke Chalice: Gina Lemke & Lee Kortuem Servers: Hayley Larson & Anthony Lemke	
Monday	ST. CLEMENT & ST. COLUMBAN	11/23/15
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention † Fr. James Datko, O.M.I.</i>	
Tuesday	ST. ANDREW DUNG-LAC & COMP.	11/24/15
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention † Al & Mary Lupa</i>	
5:45 p.m.	Choir Practice	
Wednesday	SAINT CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA	11/25/15
6:30 p.m.	Religious Education—Grades 5-11	
Thursday	THANKSGIVING	11/26/15
9:30 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention † Jim Buske</i>	
Friday	WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	11/27/15
8:15 a.m.	No Mass	
Saturday	WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	11/28/15
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: Paulette Moreland Plate: Deacon Tim Egan Chalice: Beth Egan & Liz Scheidt Servers: Hayden Johnson & Luke Johnson	
Sunday	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	11/29/15
9:30 a.m.	Religious Education—Grades Pre, K-4	
11:00 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention † Ralph & Shirley Wurster</i> Reader: Michelle Thewis Plate: Deacon Tim Egan Chalice: Nancy Olsen & To be assigned Servers: Nathan Campbell & Ariana Sitra	



- † **PARISHIONERS:** Please pray for Arthur Barthman, Florian Burger, Ron Kor and Ron Ostendorf.
- † **FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Please pray for Al Aldinger, Bill Carlson and Patty Harrison-Isakson.
- † **MILITARY PERSONNEL:** Please pray for Garrett Aho, Nate Berger, Keith Dahl, Ryan Ray, James Mickle 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**

The Children's Christmas program will be on Saturday, December 19th at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome, with fellowship to follow.

Christmas Cookies: Annual cookie bake will be on Sunday Dec. 20th @ 1:00. Please come join us in baking cookies for the local food shelf. All ages are welcome to join us for a fun afternoon of baking. Bring your pre-mixed Christmas cookie dough and bake it at the church. The more people, the more the varieties we will have. If anyone is willing to donate medium Ziplock containers please put them in the kitchen marked for the cookie bake. Any questions, please call Connie; 834-4433.

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 .



Please take a name from the Christmas Tree This year all of the names on the Giving Tree are for seniors . Please bring wrapped gifts along with the name tag to the church by December 5th. A huge thanks to all who help with this project!

Parish Envelopes: Your assigned packet of envelopes is available at the back of Church for the coming year. Envelope usage is very important as it helps support intentional stewardship by everyone. We urge you to use your envelopes, it makes our record keeping much easier when you do. If you need envelopes, please let us know.

Last Week's Contributions

Weekend Collection	\$1,807.00
Bldg. Fund	\$255.00
UCA.....	55.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Dev.....	\$5.00

UCA - 76%
\$18,853.00 of \$24,897.72