

December 6, 2015

2nd Sunday of Advent



Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"The Lord is trustworthy in all his words, and loving in all his works. The Lord supports all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. The eyes of all look hopefully to you; you give them their food in due season. You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing." -Psalm 145 : 13-16

My dear brothers and sisters,

I have chosen the above verses from the 145th Psalm for this week's Quotes for Consideration for a very specific reason. As I am sure all of us are aware, this past week, our community underwent a major change- the idling of the Cliffs North Shore Mining plant in Silver Bay. I know that many of our brothers and sisters, not just in Silver Bay, but here in Two Harbors, are employed by the plant and depend upon it's functioning for their livelihood. It is certainly a difficult and uncertain time for our community, and for several mining communities around the Northland which are experiencing similar idling.

My reason for choosing these scripture verses for our reflection this week is simple: through them, God gently reminds us that He is trustworthy, even, and especially in difficult and worrisome times. God's providence is trustworthy. We can look to Him to provide for our needs, because our concerns are His concerns, and He desires that we entrust ourselves completely to His loving care.

Now, this does not mean that we may not suffer or go through difficult times in our lives. We certainly will. But what it does mean is that God is faithful, that He never abandons us, that He is always with us, and that He loves us so deeply and dearly that even in the face of difficulties, we have nothing to fear. God is trustworthy!

Speaking especially to those who will be directly affected by the idling of the North Shore plant, please know that your Church community is here for you. We are all the Body of Christ, and when one member suffers, so does the whole body. I wish to let you know I am more than willing to meet with any of you who may be struggling with concerns about the future, and that our parish family will do what we can to help during this unpredictable times.

Trust in our Lord: He is entirely faithful. God bless you! *Fr. Steve*

Jubilee Year of Mercy : Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has declared that a Jubilee Year of Mercy is to take place throughout the universal Church beginning this Tuesday, December 8th. In order to celebrate this Year of Mercy, Father Steve will be offering additional times for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance. Besides hearing confessions at the previously scheduled time of Saturdays from 3:30-4:15, Fr. Steve will also be hearing confessions on Fridays from 7:30 to 8:00am, and on the Tuesdays of Advent, Dec. 8, 15, and 22, from 5:00-5:45pm. As always, you are welcome to make a personal appointment for confession if you desire.

Reminder!!! Tuesday, December 8th is a **Holy day of Obligation**. It is the solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Please refer to Mass time on the back of the bulletin.

Altar Server Training: There will be **mandatory** training for all current and prospective Altar Servers the weekends of Dec. 5/6th and 12/13th. (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.

The Annual Ecumenical Advent Service will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church this Sunday evening, Dec. 6th at 7:00 pm. It is truly a beautiful and uplifting community event with Gospel readings, music by church choirs (including Holy Spirit), choral groups, and hymns sung by all! Hope you can attend!

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.

Support elderly religious. A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful." Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

The Little Blue Books for Advent are in the back of the Church. Pick one up for meditation and prayer as we await the coming of Christ at Christmas.



Christmas Poinsettias: Parishioners wanting to donate Christmas flowers should bring them to the church no later than December 23rd. Thank you for your help in providing Christmas flowers.

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	FIRST SATURDAY	12/05/15
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: Gloria Uremovich Plate: Deacon Tim Egan Chalice: Kathy & Shawn McMahon Servers: Spencer Ross & to be assigned	
5:30 p.m.	Altar Server Training	
Sunday	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	12/06/15
9:30 a.m.	Religious Education—Grades Pre, K-4	
11:00 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention Eric Hastings</i> Reader: Mike Hoffman Plate: Deacon Tim Egan Chalice: Linda Hoffman & Laura Lien Servers: Hattie & Kaden Edlund	
12:00 p.m.	Altar Server Training	
Monday	SAINT AMBROSE	12/07/15
8:15 a.m.	No Morning Mass	
5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary — <i>Intention † Daryl Kalla</i> Reader: Harold Ek Plate: Deacon Tim Egan Chalice: Jeannie Shaw	
5:45 p.m.	Choir Practice	
Tuesday	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	12/08/15
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention † Fr. James Datko, O.M.I.</i> Reader: Shannah Groothausen Chalice: Liz Scheidt	
9:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry	
5:00 p.m.	Reconciliation	
7:00 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: Michelle Thewis Plate: Deacon Tim Egan Chalice: Linda Hoffman	
Wednesday	SAINT JUAN DIEGO	12/09/15
6:30 p.m.	Religious Education—Grades 5-11	
Thursday	WEEKDAY DURING ADVENT	12/10/15
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention † Daryl Kalla</i>	
Friday	SAINT DAMASUS I	12/11/15
7:30 a.m.	Reconciliation	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention † Rita Lodge</i>	
Saturday	OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE	12/12/15
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: Harold Ek Plate: Liz Scheidt Chalice: Deel Hoffman & to be assigned Servers: Kate & Miles Thomasen	
Sunday	3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	12/13/15
9:30 a.m.	Religious Education—Grades Pre, K-4	
11:00 a.m.	Family Mass — <i>Intention Mary Sue Fisher</i> Reader: Religious Ed. Student Plate: Chris Lemke Chalice: Joanne Button & Gina Lemke Servers: Anthony Lemke & Jasmyn Uremovich	

Last Week's Contributions

Weekend Collection	\$2,393.70
UCA.....	\$245.00
Bldg. Fund	\$70.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Dev.....	\$25.00
Religious Retirement	\$5.00

UCA - 77%

\$19,098.00 of \$24,897.72

\$5,799.72 still owed

- † **PARISHIONERS:** Please pray for Arthur Barthman, Florian Burger, Ron Kor and Ron Ostendorf.
- † **FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Please pray for Al Aldinger, Patty Amitrano, Bill Carlson, Kathleen Despiegler, 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 Ziploc 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.

A Sincere Thank You to everyone who donated Turkeys and other items for our Thanksgiving Baskets. We were able help 6 families in our Parish.



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, Dec. 8 at 9:00 AM** in the church hall.

Funeral Dish Reminder: Please remember to pick up your dish outside the parish office. At the end of December, any unmarked/unclaimed dishes remaining will be donated to Neighbor to Neighbor. Please check to be certain you haven't forgotten a dish. Thank you so much to everyone who has helped with this very important ministry!

Masses at Christmas

Christmas Eve: 4:00 pm

Christmas Day: 9:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sunday Dec 20: from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Monday Dec 21: from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday Dec 22: 5:00 to 5:45 p.m.