

# 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 31, 2016



## Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"Anyone who is so "progressive" as not to remain in the teaching of the Christ does not have God; whoever remains in the teaching has the Father and the Son." -2 John 1:9

I would like to resume the summer series of bulletin articles that I had been writing in which we were examining different modern secular opinions and philosophies that are at odds with the Catholic understanding of human nature and our relationship with God. Thus far, we have discussed the dangers of *relativism* and *hedonism*, and today I would like to move on to discuss *progressivism*. Now, I need to immediately caution you that here, I am not speaking of *progressives* as far as members of a political party. The term, *progressive*, as I am using it here, refers to a mindset or understanding of reality that is very popular in our modern culture in which any truths, teachings, behaviors, or traditions, especially about what is right and wrong, that come from the past are *by that fact* considered outdated, irrelevant and false. Similarly, for a philosophical progressive, "new" equals "true." The philosopher, Peter Kreeft, puts it this way: "Progressivism ... confuses 'new' with 'true'. It also confuses fact with values, by using a factual, chronological term to carry a value meaning. Hence, something 'modern,' 'contemporary,' or 'current' is 'truer,' 'better,' or 'more reliable.'"

In fact, we see this all the time. It manifests itself as the way of thinking in which doing something traditional is seen as outdated and antiquated solely because it's traditional. It is the view that generations past, especially people in the Middle Ages, were less enlightened than us modern folks. It's the view that all progress is good, without consideration that sometimes, progress is actually regress from a moral point of view. This form of understanding reality is particularly observable in our modern secular culture when tradition is not only viewed with suspicion, but openly ridiculed. The most glaring example is when people criticize the teachings of Christ's Church, especially on areas of sexual morality such as its teachings about artificial contraception, abortion and same-sex "marriage" by calling them "outdated," "old-fashioned," or from the "stone age." This is a criticism which tries to say that the Church is wrong simply because She has always taught something to be the case throughout history. In other words, because it's teaching is old, it is irrelevant and false. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. And quite honestly, progressivism is itself very problematic because it pretends like the past doesn't exist, and as we know from human experience, those who do not learn from the past are doomed to repeat it.

In particular, friends, I think progressivism raises its ugly head in the daily life of a Catholic whenever we are tempted to trust ourselves and our own emotions and understanding rather than the long-standing teachings of the Church. There is always a temptation, especially when we are faced with some of Christ's more difficult teachings, to trust and believe ourselves rather than the tradition of the Church which is the result of 2,000 years of prayer, study, teaching and tradition. And therein lies the antidote to progressivism: tradition. Trusting that God has, throughout its 2,000 year history, lead the Church in its tradition and teaching, and trusting that 2,000 years worth of history and tradition is a great gift to be embraced, not something of which to be suspicious. God bless you! **Fr. Steve Laflamme**

**All Families with Students in our Religious Ed. Program:** The next Faith formation BBQ/Summer Fun Night is being held on Sunday, August 14th, from 5-7pm. at St. Mary's Church in Silver Bay. We hosted the first one, which was well attended by both Silver Bay and Two Harbors. There will be plenty of food and games for all ages. All you need to do is RSVP to Connie ([koss@frontiernet.net](mailto:koss@frontiernet.net)) or phone (834-4433) and drive yourself up the shore! Everything else will be provided! Please let us know whether or not you can attend by August 10th.

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**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](mailto:hspirit@outlook.com)

**Parish Web Site** [www.holyspirittwoharbors.org](http://www.holyspirittwoharbors.org)

**Liturgy email:** [jfleischer-hspirit@outlook.com](mailto:jfleischer-hspirit@outlook.com)

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**Youth Ministry** 834-4433

**Prayer Intentions** 834-4659

**Birthright** 1-800-550-4900

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**Fr. Steve's E-Mail** [slaflamme@dioceseduluth.org](mailto:slaflamme@dioceseduluth.org)

**Deacon Tim Egan** 349-9175

**Deacon Scott Peters** 834-2543

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<b>Saturday</b>	SAINT PETER CHRYSOLOGUS	<b>07/30/16</b>
3:30 p.m.	<b>Reconciliation</b>	
4:30 p.m.	<b>Mass</b> — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: Christiane Kortuem Chalices: Liz Scheidt & to be assigned Servers: Hattie & Kaden Edlund	
<b>Sunday</b>	18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	<b>07/31/16</b>
11:00 a.m.	<b>Altar Servers leave for Twins Game!</b> <b>Mass</b> — <i>Intention for † Carl Moe</i> Reader: Shannah Groothausen Chalices: Laura Lien & Shari Hendren Servers: Nathan Campbell & Hayden Johnson	
<b>Monday</b>	SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI	<b>08/01/16</b>
	<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	SAINT EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI & SAINT PETER JULIAN EYMARD	<b>08/02/16</b>
8:15 a.m.	<b>Mass</b> - <i>Intention for Ted</i>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	<b>08/03/16</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	SAINT JOHN VIANNEY	<b>08/04/16</b>
8:15 a.m.	<b>Mass</b> - <i>Intention for † Mary and Al Lupa</i>	
6:30 p.m.	<b>Men's Prayer Group</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	THE DEDIATION OF THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY MAJOR	<b>08/05/16</b>
7:30 a.m.	<b>Reconciliation</b>	
8:15 a.m.	<b>Mass</b> - <i>Intention for † Margaret Mockler</i>	
8:45 a.m.	<b>Adoration</b>	
12:00 p.m.	<b>Benediction</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	<b>08/06/16</b>
3:30 p.m.	<b>Reconciliation</b>	
4:30 p.m.	<b>Mass</b> — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader: Harold Ek Chalices: Carol Anderson & to be assigned Servers: Ava Fosness & to be assigned	
<b>Sunday</b>	18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	<b>08/07/16</b>
11:00 a.m.	<b>Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Sylvia Schultz</i> Reader: Mike Hoffman Chalices: Linda Hoffman & to be assigned Servers: Nathan Campbell & Ethan Bopp	

**Ushers:** Did you notice the change in how we take up collections? Fr. Steve decided to return to the long handled baskets as the circular baskets were wearing out.

PLEASE CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARDS FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS.



† **PARISHIONERS:** Please pray for Arthur Barthman, John Erickson Ron Kor, Diane LeRoy and Peg Werner.

† **FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Please pray for Cara Barthman, Bill Carlson, Margie Giacomini 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:** Gorma Rose

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

We are looking for people who are willing to give some of their time to teach our youth this coming year. We are in need of teachers for our pre-k, 2nd, 7-8th grades. If you are willing to help with teaching, please contact Connie.

Connie is putting together a committee for the annual **Church Bazaar/ Bake Sale**. If you are interested, please contact Connie.

Connie—[koss@frontiernet.net](mailto:koss@frontiernet.net) or 834-4433.

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

**SAVE the DATE!** **2016 Annual Diocesan Assembly** will be held Sat., Oct. 8, at the Marshall School Auditorium in Duluth. Speaker is Sherry Weddell, author of "Forming Intentional Disciples." This Assembly will lead us through the steps that help Catholics make a conscious choice to follow Jesus as his disciples, transforming parish life and ultimately the life of the whole Church. Everyone is invited to attend! For more information or to register, please visit [www.dioceseduluth.org](http://www.dioceseduluth.org) or call Annette at 218-724-9111.

### Last Week's Contributions

Weekend Collection.....	\$2,727.04
UCA .....	\$390.00
Bldg. Fund.....	\$160.00
Organ Repair Funds .....	\$1,300.00