

May 8, 2016

## ***THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD***

### **Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:**

*"God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer."*

-Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)

Continuing my series of bulletin articles on prayer, this week I would like to focus on the absolute necessity of silence for growth in the spiritual life. The quote above comes from someone who is undoubtedly familiar to us all, Mother Teresa (who will be canonized a saint on September 4<sup>th</sup> of this year, by the way!). And her message strikes at the very heart of prayer: silence.

Silence is a strict requirement for authentic prayer. However, one of my great fears for our modern society, and especially including modern American Catholics, is that we are afraid of silence. We keep ourselves very distracted with smartphones, Facebook, Pinterest, Snapchat, texting, music, movies and video games. And while none of these things are bad in themselves, I truly believe that many people surround themselves constantly with noise because of the fact that they do not want to face the silence because they are afraid of what they may hear. Silence can scare us because silence can give rise to self-examination, to questions of the meaning and purpose of our life, to the memory of sins that we have not acknowledged, or past hurts that we would rather forget, or worries about the future that we would rather not consider. And so, our modern society blocks all that out with noise and busyness. If you need proof, ask yourself, when you wake up in the morning, which do you reach for first? The Bible/prayerbook/Rosary or your smartphone/television remote/newspaper? It's a sobering question.

But all of those things that I mentioned above that humanity often tries to avoid by avoiding silence are exactly the things that God wants to talk to us about in prayer: He wants us to examine our lives and discover that He is the reason and purpose for our life. He wants us to acknowledge our sins so that He can bring us forgiveness and reconciliation. He wants us to deal with past hurts so that we can find healing, and He wants us to bring our worries about the future and place them at His feet so that we can find peace. But we have to be willing to enter into the silence of prayer. Are we ready? Are we willing? Are we determined to dedicate at least some time each day to silence with God, unplugging, turning off the distractions and giving God our undivided attention? We may be afraid to give it a try, but we won't be happy until we do. Next week, I'll talk about what silent prayer practically looks like. God bless you! ~ Fr. Steve

**EVERYONE** is invited downstairs for a **Mother's Day Breakfast** following Mass **this Sunday, May 8**. This delicious breakfast (scrambled eggs, sausage, sweet rolls and fruit cup) is hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

**Little Rock Bible Study Group** There will be no study group on Mother's Day, May 8th. Our next meeting will be Sunday, May 15, 6:30 – 8:00 pm in the Parish Hall. We will be studying Lesson 2, Chapters 3-5 of the Acts of the Apostles. Those who have not picked up their books can do so in the Parish Office. There are extra books for anyone who would like to join.

Mark your calendars for the **Annual Spring Salad Luncheon on Tuesday, May 17, serving 11:30 - 1:00 pm**. Each family is asked to bring a salad (large enough to serve 12) to the Church Kitchen by 11 am. If you are unable to bring a salad, a donation of \$10.00 is requested. **Salads are preferred**. Thank you for your participation. This is a community event so remember to invite all your friends to come to enjoy these delicious salads for only \$8.

Everyone is invited to our **Faith Formation Year End BBQ & Teacher appreciation on Wednesday, May 18 at 6 pm**. We will have yard games plus the students will be taking on the parents/teachers in a game of kickball. Rain or Shine (we'll adapt our plans to the weather). We'll need a count for the food, so please sign up in the back of the church by Sunday, May 15. Hope to see you there!

**United Catholic Appeal:** Please be generous in your pledge and gifts in support of the ministries of our Bishop and diocese. As the branches are to the vine, so are we as parish communities to the diocese as a whole. Together we are one in the true vine - the Lord!

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**St. Mary's Catholic Church - 57 Horn Blvd; Silver Bay, MN 55614**

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**Parish Office** Located in Rectory 8 am - 2 pm Monday - Thursday **Office/Rectory** 226-3100 **Fax Machine** 226-3116

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**Church Hall** 226-3691 **Parish E-Mail** [stmarysilverbay@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysilverbay@outlook.com) **Parish Website** [www.stmarysilverbay.org](http://www.stmarysilverbay.org)

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**Eucharistic Adoration** Wednesdays 8:45 am - 3:00 pm **K of C Auxiliary Prayer Chain** 226-3639 or 226-3351

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**Fr. Steve Laflamme** (218) 834-4313 **Fr. Steve's E-Mail** : [slaflamme@dioceseduluth.org](mailto:slaflamme@dioceseduluth.org)

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**Fr. Michael Lyons** (218) 830-1600 **Fr. Michael's E-mail**: [mjlyons16@gmail.com](mailto:mjlyons16@gmail.com)

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<b>Saturday</b>	<i>WEEKDAY IN EASTER</i>	<b>05/07/16</b>
<b>7:15 p.m. Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Lois Hynes</i> ☩		
Reader.....Jeff Asmussen		
Cantor.....Patty Armstrong		
Plate.....Deacon Fred Wright		
Chalices....Ken Kruger		
Chalices....Don Seipke		
Servers.....Caleb Geissler & Zack Fredrickson		
Gifts.....Volunteers		
<b>Sunday</b>	<i>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</i>	<b>05/08/16</b>
<b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b> — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>		
Reader.....Ed Hynes		
Cantor.....Tom Palen		
Plate.....Deacon Fred Wright		
Chalices....Bonnie Kruger		
Chalices....Lois Kaari		
Servers.....Thomas Rowlee & Jason Blood		
Gifts.....Volunteers		
<b>Monday</b>	<i>WEEKDAY IN EASTER</i>	<b>05/09/16</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>ST. DAMIEN DE VEUSTER</i>	<b>05/10/16</b>
7:50 a.m. <b>Rosary</b>		
8:15 a.m. <b>Morning Prayer</b>		
<b>Wednesday</b>	<i>WEEKDAY IN EASTER</i>	<b>05/11/16</b>
7:50 a.m. <b>Rosary</b>		
8:15 a.m. <b>Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Lois Hynes</i> ☩		
8:50 a.m. <b>Adoration</b>		
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>STS. NEREUS &amp; ACHILLEAUS; ST. PANCRAS</i>	<b>05/12/16</b>
7:50 a.m. <b>Rosary</b>		
8:15 a.m. <b>Morning Prayer</b>		
8:50 a.m. <b>Morning Prayer Group</b>		
<b>Friday</b>	<i>OUR LADY OF FATIMA</i>	<b>05/13/16</b>
7:50 a.m. <b>Rosary</b>		
8:15 a.m. <b>Morning Prayer</b>		
<b>Saturday</b>	<i>ST. MATTHIAS</i>	<b>05/14/16</b>
<b>7:15 p.m. Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Lois Hynes</i> ☩		
Reader.....Maria Riederer		
Cantor.....Andy Buell		
Plate.....Jeff Asmussen		
Chalices....Leanne Buell		
Chalices....Shelley Fredrickson		
Servers.....Giovanni & Corrina Marolt		
Gifts.....Volunteers		
<b>Sunday</b>	<i>PENTECOST SUNDAY</i>	<b>05/15/16</b>
<b>8:30 a.m. Mass</b> — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>		
Reader.....Gerry Bahar		
Cantor.....Sue Bahar		
Plate.....Deacon Jack Ferris		
Chalices....Bonnie Kruger		
Chalices....Ken Kruger		
Servers.....Lucas & Jake Stadler		
Gifts.....Volunteers		

**LAST WEEK'S CONTRIBUTIONS**  
Will be included in next weekends bulletin.

**PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

- † **Parishioners:** Joe Rollins, Leona Currier, Steve Elam, Lino Rauzi, Marj Von Schenk, Lillian Miller, Tom Bott, Gale Fredrickson, Susan Gelatic, Alma Ferris, Suzanne Seguin, Terry Scallen, Vicky Johnson, Marlene Petersen, Deanna Larson.
- † **Clergy:** Deacon Fred Wright, Fr. Francis Paquette.
- † **Relatives & Friends:** Jim Seipke, Don Hicks, Jim Osterholm, Dawn Stefanich, Aria & Aedan Ament are now about 7#! prayers are appreciated, Rauri Byrnes, Don Hedin, Stephanie (Clifford) Martin, Elsie McGuire, Johnny Jerabek, Mae Dehnhoff, Jim Morcomb, and Delaney, Cooper, Thomas & William Kutcha.
- † **Military:** Karen McGrane, Alex Seanger, Michael Seipke, Sam West, Chris Gensing, Sean Stebbins, Mike Ament

**Please call the church office if you'd like submit a prayer request; these request will run for 3 weeks. If continued prayers are needed after that time, you can renew the request by calling the church office.**

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**A BIG thank you to our sponsors who gave so generously for us all to enjoy these amazing programs!**

**St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry** group will meet on Wednesday, May 11th, at 1pm in the Community Room at Silverpointe Apt. We welcome new members. Knit/crochet/goodies. Questions: Lana 353-7714

