

August 7, 2016

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Fr. Steve's Quotes for Consideration:

"All life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."
-Pope Francis

This weekend, I would like to continue our summer series of bulletin articles in which we have been exploring and critiquing several mainstream philosophies, ideals, and opinions of our modern secular society. This week, I would like to focus on an outlook which has a long name, but dangerous undertones: utilitarianism. Utilitarianism is the philosophy that what is useful in bringing about the greatest amount of pleasure and avoiding the greatest amount of pain for the largest group of people is best. Thus, truth is determined to be that which is most useful toward this end: what works is true and good. If a given action, moral decision, or behavior brings about the greatest pleasure and least pain for the greatest amount of people, that's good, right?

No, it's not, because what is useful is not always what is best. Utilitarianism judges a thing's value and even people's value by what they do to promote the greatest societal good. In other words, human beings become means to an end. In fact, utilitarianism is the source for another phrase: the ends justify the means. How many times have we heard someone say that? "Well, what I did must be okay because look at the result: it brought about good!" False! The ends never, ever, ever justify the means. In other words, it is never morally permissible to intentionally do wrong to bring about good. However, utilitarianism takes this thought process even a step further because it says that if a certain behavior produces good results, then that makes *that behavior true*.

The implications of this faulty way of thinking are very dangerous. It has been the philosophy behind such brutal regimes as Lenin's Russia, because utilitarianism says that it's okay to kill some people if doing so will usher in a new revolution which will (supposedly) bring about great good for the masses. Utilitarianism is also often the culprit behind what I have determined is a grave disrespect that our modern secular society has for our elderly population. Because our society is in love with efficiency, usefulness, athleticism, and appearances, our modern America often does not honor, cherish or admire our elderly as it should. As we know, health care costs are expensive, and our elderly brothers and sisters often need much health care. Utilitarianism is behind the totally false idea that our elderly, or the handicapped, or those with difficult-to-treat diseases are a burden to our economy or society, because the utilitarian doesn't believe that each individual person has a God-given dignity that must always be cherished and defended. Rather, practicality and pragmatism rules the day.

Friends, beware of this mentality! Our firm belief is that each person, no matter how healthy or frail, young or old, active or inactive, has a God-given dignity and value that cannot be taken away or lost, no matter what, and which must be always defended and safeguarded. Yes, sometimes doing what is right and living the truths and principles of our faith is not easy, efficient, or practical; sometimes it is downright difficult. But growing in virtue, becoming the saint that God calls each man and woman to be is not easy. Truth is not true because it's easy or practical. It's true because it's true. It's true because it's from God, Who is Truth itself. God bless you! ~Fr. Steve

Knights of Columbus Picnic will be on **Tuesday, August 16** at the Dugas Cabin at **5 pm**. Meat and drinks are provided, please bring an item to share, along with plates and utensils.

St. Mary's Summer Fun Night will be **Sunday, August 14, 5-7 pm**. Our faith formation families would like to invite ALL PARISHIONERS, along with the Faith Formation families from Holy Spirit in TH, to join us for an evening of food and fun. **All you need to do sign up!!** The sheet is in the back of the church. We'll need a count to help us plan for the food. The church will be providing hot dogs and beverages – the Faith Formation families will provide the rest. This event is for the whole parish. We hope to see everyone there!

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Monday, August 15 is not a holy day of obligation but it is a Solemnity so Fr. Steve will be offering Mass here at **7:30 am**.

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

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

Church Hall 226-3691 **Parish E-Mail** stmarysilverbay@outlook.com **Parish Website** www.stmarysilverbay.org

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

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

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

Saturday	<i>THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD</i>	08/06/16
6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
7:15 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Victoria Johnson</i> ☩ Reader.....Jody Majewsky Cantor.....Patty Armstrong Plate.....Deacon Fred Wright Chalices....Shelley Fredrickson & Jeff Asmussen Servers.....Caleb Geissler & Zack Fredrickson	
Sunday	<i>19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	08/07/16
7:50 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
8:30 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader.....Ed Hynes Cantor.....Tom Palen Plate.....Deacon Jack Ferris Chalices....Marge Jorgenson & Lois Kaari Servers.....Zack Fredrickson	
Monday	<i>ST. DOMINIC</i>	08/08/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass	
Tuesday	<i>ST. TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS</i>	08/09/16
No Mass or Morning Prayer		
Wednesday	<i>ST. LAWRENCE</i>	08/10/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Philip LaBelle</i> ☩	
8:50 a.m.	Adoration	
Thursday	<i>ST. CLARE</i>	08/11/16
No Mass or Morning Prayer		
Friday	<i>ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL</i>	08/12/16
7:50 a.m.	Rosary	
8:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer	
Saturday	<i>STS. PONTIAN & HIPPOLYTUS</i>	08/13/16
6:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
7:15 p.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for Philip LaBelle</i> ☩ Reader.....Gerry Bahar Cantor.....Terri Frericks-Blood Plate.....Don Seipke Chalices....Sue Bahar & Gerry Bahar Servers.....April Velcheff & Jason Blood	
Sunday	<i>20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	08/14/16
7:50 a.m.	Sacrament of Penance	
8:30 a.m.	Mass — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i> Reader.....Jim Frericks Cantor.....Andy Buell Plate.....Deacon Jack Ferris Chalices....Leann Buell & Tom Frericks Servers.....Lucas & Jake Stadler	
LAST WEEK'S CONTRIBUTIONS		
General Collection.....		\$2150.50
UCA.....		\$1025.00
Building Fund.....		\$50.00

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- † **Parishioners:** Bob Connor, Joe Rollins, Steve Elam, Leona Currier, Lino Rauzi, Marj Von Schenk, Tom Bott, Lillian Miller, Gale Fredrickson, Susan Gelatic, Alma Ferris, Suzanne Seguin, Terry Scallen, Deanna Larson, Marlene Petersen.
- † **Clergy:** Deacon Fred Wright, Fr. Francis Paquette.
- † **Relatives & Friends:** Dorothy Seipke, James Currier, Dan Clark, Bruce Melchert, Penny Hanson, Don Hedin, Gary Garlie, Fred Paine, Jim Osterholm, Elsie McGuire, Dawn Stefanich, Aria & Aedan Ament, Rauri Byrnes, Stephanie (Clifford) Martin, 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,

Give your community a piece of your time. See what a difference a day can make. With Thrivent Builds Repairs, you can volunteer for a short-term home repair project, with immediate results that fits your busy schedule. Help renew your community – and yourself too. Help paint, landscape, minor repairs and exterior projects. All skill levels needed. Silver Bay work days are September 8-10. For more information on the program, contact Greg Hanson at 218-226-3442 or gregory.hanson@thrivent.com or visit thriventbuilds.com/repairs.

Liturgy Schedule: It is that time again, please submit any dates that you are unavailable as soon as possible; I am working on putting together the liturgy schedule for September, October & November. If you are not already involved, please prayerfully consider helping with the celebration of Mass. **We can always use more volunteers** and there is nothing better than volunteering to keep your parish a thriving parish.

Daily Mass in August: Father Michael will be on vacation August 1-26. During that time Father Steve will be offering Mass here on Mondays & Wednesdays, with the exception of the week of August 22-26, when he will be out of town. Note the different time for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Monday, August 15, Mass will be at 7:30 am that morning. Watch the weekly bulletin for details throughout the month.

New programs have been added to FORMED. Have you logged on to FORMED yet? It truly is the Catholic faith - on demand. **Here's how easy it is to get FORMED:** Go to www.FORMED.org. You should see the registration box for parishioners. Type in our parish code **RYGYFN**. Next, set up a username and a password. Now you are set to use all the great programs on FORMED.org anytime by simply logging in.