

August 26, 2018

The Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture is # 1009 in the Journeysongs Hymnal

FROM FATHER STEVEN... Welcome to all our visitors at St. John's and Holy Rosary churches. It is a wonderful thing, that as Catholics, no matter where we travel to, we can find a Mass and be in communion with fellow believers to pray and receive Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, he who believes in me shall never thirst" (John 6:35). Jesus has promised to be with us until the end of the world and we trust in His presence as we come together for Mass. Each Sunday we profess the *Niceno-Constantinopolitin Creed* or simply the *Nicene Creed*, coming from two Church Councils dating from 325 and 387. In it we proclaim, "We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church."

As the letter to the Colossians says, "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ" (1Cor 12:12). The Church is holy since Christ is living in her. "He is the head of the body, the Church" (Coll. 12:12). The Church is catholic or *universal* because she is Christ's body sent out to the whole world. We trace our roots, our beginning, to Jesus and His Apostles whom He sent to baptize and evangelize the world.

Several people have recently inquired about becoming Catholic. If this is something that you are interested in or want to learn more about, please talk to me, Fr. Steve, after Mass, or leave me a message with Bridget in the office. We will be starting a class this fall, probably in mid-September, for *RICA or Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*. This is open to those who are already baptized Christians who wish to become Catholic, as well as those who have not been baptized or have no faith tradition.

SECOND COLLECTION — Since Memorial Weekend, we have been asking for your financial help. At each weekend Mass at St. John's we have had a second collection after communion. This collection is to help us pay for two major projects that needed to be completed this year. The roof and stain glass window. Over the winter, our roof leaked in a few different spots and was replaced the end of June. Our beautiful stain glass window, above the entry of the church, has developed some structural problems that need repair. It is slated to be worked on this late fall. Both projects are estimated to cost ~\$90,000, possibly more depending on the condition of each window panel when the restorers start work. If you can give a financial donation, of any amount, we would gratefully appreciate it. As of last week, we have collected \$18,204.04. **We sincerely thank everyone for their donation.**

Religious Education begins Wednesday, September 12th: Parents of all incoming 1st grade students and those new to Religious Education at St. Johns and Holy Rosary, please contact Sharon Dorr (Director of Religious Education) at dre@stjohns-holyrosary.org or Bridget in the parish office at 387-1409 so we can add you to our mailing list. Registration materials will be mailed out at the end of August to all parents of 1st -11th grade students.

CATHOLIC BETHLEHEM CHRISTIAN FAMILIES... will be here this weekend to ask for your help and blessing for the native people of the Holy Land in Bethlehem. These families, sixty years ago, made up 18% of the population. Due to recent events in the Middle East, it has caused these families to face devastating economical strain, and caused the population to decrease to less than 2% in the Holy Land. These families have relied on the income from their religious hand carved olive wood artifacts to tourists. So, we have come to the USA to try to help support these families by bringing their artifacts here to sell in the USA. All the proceeds from sales will be sent back to the families of the Holy Land so that they may be able to keep their homes and provide for their families. The last few years were very tough for the Christian families, and this is the only source of income for them. **A TABLE IS SET UP IN THE BACK OF CHURCH, OR WEATHER PERMITTED—OUTSIDE. PLEASE BROWSE THEIR ITEMS AND HAVE SOMETHING FROM THE HOLY LAND.**

NATIONWIDE NOVENA... Each Friday, August 3—September 28, answer the U.S. Bishops' call to education, fasting and prayer for the protection of human life. Join at www.usccb.org/pray!

A GENEROUS MATCH—A generous person has offered to, once again, match all donations, going forward, to the UCA assessment at **Holy Rosary**. If you haven't given yet, please consider taking advantage of this gift and donate today!! Thanks to this generous person and to all who give to the UCA assessments at Holy Rosary and St. John's.

JMJT Dear Fellow Parishioners, my fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Praised be Jesus Christ!

As many of you know, I have been on a leave from the convent, the Congregation of the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus, for the past 11 months. The convent is a beautiful way of life but I have personally been struggling with my health while living the beautiful but demanding way of life. After much prayer, discernment, spiritual direction and guidance, it is with the peace of Christ yet also with a heavy heart that I did request a departure according to Canon 691. As far as what to address me as, I will continue to be addressed by my baptismal name of Victoria. I will continue to be God's and living the Christian vocation of my baptismal vows, but no longer the simple vows of obedience, poverty, and chastity as a Carmelite Sister DCJ. I entrust myself to God as He continues to lead me to holiness and His service.

Thank you for your prayers during this time and always! St. John's and Holy Rosary are blessed with beautiful parishioners. God bless you!

In Jesus and Mary, Formally known as Sr. M. Veronica Therese, soon to be known simply as Victoria Peterson, living my Baptismal Vows, in my Baptismal name, as a layperson, with a heart dedicated to His service.

COFFEE &....Join us each Sunday after Mass in the church hall for coffee &. **EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

Saint John's Catholic Church — Grand Marais

Holy Rosary Catholic Church — Grand Portage

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