The Seven Sorrows of Our Lady (September 15)

From the Sermon of St. Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux On the Twelve Stars

The Martyrdom of the Virgin is set before us, not only in the prophecy of Simeon, but also in the story itself of the Lord's Passion. The holy old man said of the Child Jesus "Behold, this Child is set for the fall and the rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; yea, said he unto Mary, a sword shall pierce through thine own soul also" (Luke ii. 34) Even so, O Blessed Mother! The sword did indeed pierce through thy soul! for nought could pierce the Body of thy Son, nor pierce thy soul likewise. Yea, and when this Jesus of thine had given up the ghost, and the bloody spear could torture Him no more, thy soul winced as it pierced His dead Side. His Own Soul might leave Him, but thine could not.

The sword of sorrow pierced through thy soul, so that we may truly call thee more than martyr, in whom the love, that made thee suffer along with thy Son, wrung thy heart more bitterly than any pang of bodily pain could do. Did not that word of His indeed pierce through thy soul, sharper than any two-edged sword, even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, (Heb. iv. 12), Woman, behold thy son! (John xix. 26). O what a change to thee! Thou art given John for Jesus, the servant for his Lord, the disciple for his master, the son of Zebedee for the Son of God, a mere man for Very God. O how keenly must the hearing of those words have pierced through thy most loving soul, when even our hearts, stony, iron, as they are, are wrung at the memory thereof only!



Marvel not, my brethren, that Mary should be called a Martyr in spirit. He indeed may marvel who remembereth not what Paul saith, naming the greater sins of the Gentiles, that they were without natural affection, Rom. i. 31. Far other were the bowels of Mary, and far other may those of her servants be! But some man perchance will say, "Did she not know that He was to die?" Yea, without doubt, she knew it. Did she not hope that He was soon to rise again? Yea, she most faithfully hoped it. And did she still mourn because He was crucified? Yea, bitterly. But who art thou, my brother, or whence hast thou such wisdom, to marvel less that the Son of Mary suffered than that Mary suffered with Him? He could die in the Body, and could not she die with Him in her heart? His was the deed of that Love, greater than which hath no man John xv. 13; hers, of a love, like to which hath no man, save He.

September 10, 2023



Saint Joseph's Traditional Roman Catholic Chapel Traditional Latin Mass

29968 County 22 Harmony, Minnesota 55939 Sunday, September 10 15th Sunday After Pentecost

Confessions 12:30 pm (St. Nicholas of Tolentino, C)

Holy Mass 1:00 pm

Sunday, September 17 16th Sunday After Pentecost

Confessions 12:30 pm (Stigmata of St. Francis)

Holy Mass 1:00 pm

CONTACTS:

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MASS INTENTIONS may be submitted to Father for a stipend of \$25.00. If you wish a specific date, please submit well in advance. Mass Intention envelopes are available in the vestibule.

MEAL VOLUNTEERS: There is a new sign up sheet in the vestibule for the month of September to help provide Father with a meal-to-go after Mass. *Thank You* to all those who have been assisting with this Corporal Work of Mercy to feed the hungry; and supporting your parish priest.

<u>PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND</u> for May of 2024 is being coordinated by Fr. Benedict Hughes. Please see flyer in the vestibule and contact Fr. Benedict if interested.

NOVENA PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH to be prayed after the Holy Rosary. The prayer will be in the pews.

<u>PARISH POTLUCK</u> – Please join us after Mass today for an outdoor potluck. All are welcome!

ST. JOSEPH'S ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL will take place on Saturday, September 30th. Mark your calendars for a day of wholesome fun and entertainment! For more information please see flyer in the vestibule.

<u>SPECIAL THANK YOU</u> The CMD Sisters wish to thank each and all who gave donations in the second collection last Sunday. May God reward you for your kindness and generosity. Be assured of the prayers of the Sisters, especially when they pray for their benefactors. God bless you all.

BANNS OF MATRIMONY are announced for the first time for Patrick Rinkleff and Sydney Alexander. If anyone is aware of an impediment to this marriage, please notify Father.

BASEMENT UPDATE: The asbestos removal for the floor is completed. We ask you to please **AVOID WALKING** through the basement except for using the restrooms. Thank you!

FATIMA CONFERENCE – **OCTOBER 11-15, 2023:** A gathering of Traditional Catholics from around the country at historic Mount St. Michael for five days of Latin Masses, spiritual exercises, inspiring lectures and sermons. For more information please see the flyer in the back of the vestibule.

FINANCIAL AWARENESS: FROM THE PARISH BOARD:

For some time the chapel has been struggling at a deficit. Please give generously if you can afford to.

Average Weekly Operating Costs: \$590

Average Weekly Collection (year-to-date): \$762

Last Four Collections: 8/13 \$610 8/20 \$3,841 8/27 \$750 9/3 \$657