



**ST MARY'S  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH  
Hamburg, IA.**

**June 21, 2020**

**12th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

As we honor our fathers today we hear Jesus reassure his disciples by reminding them of the tender care of his heavenly Father. Our heavenly Father watches over us assiduously, faithfully, lovingly; every hair on our heads is accounted for. Let us recall all the times our own fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and father figures—living and deceased—made us feel safe and secure with their vigilant care.



Cycle A -- Reflections on the Readings

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20:10-13; Psalm 69; Romans  
5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33

### **Theme: Freedom from Fear**

Every human person is haunted with crippling fears. We are fearful about many things. We are fearful of our health in every small meaningless symptom, we detect the evidence of a disease. We are fearful of the security of our job in every small mistake our boss detects in us, we see the possibility of our lay off. We fear the unity of our family in every small fight that we have.

This pandemic has also brought some kind of fear and stigma in our social fabric. Some entertain the fear of going to some places. There is fear of showing affection through handshake or hugs for friends and love ones. I see this as following precautionary measures out of love for our neighbor. As businesses begin to open up, there has been fear of the virus spreading.

In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "Fear not! For every hair on your head is counted and you are more precious than hundreds of sparrows."

Jesus is not encouraging us to root out fear from our lives completely. Fear is legitimate human emotion and has an appropriate part to play in daily living. This passage is addressed to those who profess the faith but are afraid to bear public witness to our Christian mission because of fears. We are afraid to speak out our deepest Christian convictions and act courageously according to the values we have learnt from Jesus, our Master.

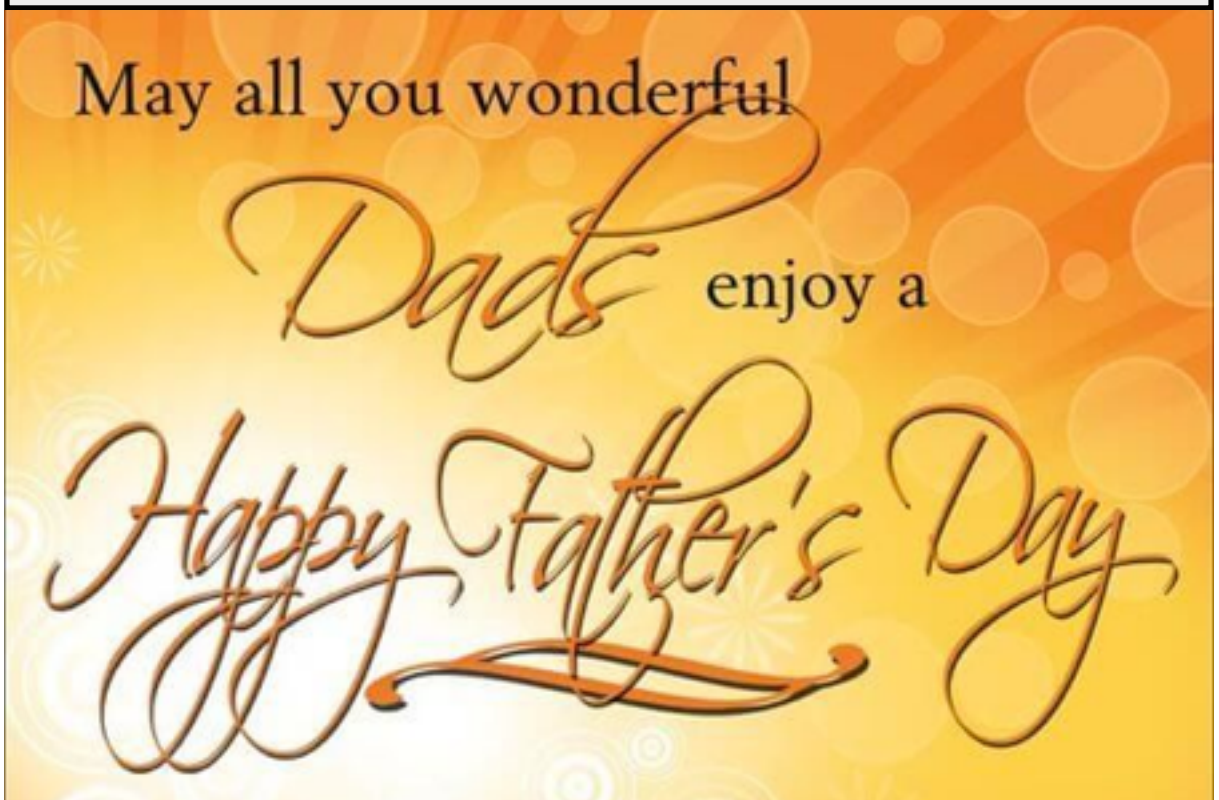
continued.....

## Face your fears

People vary a lot in the way they deal with their fears. Some pretend that they are not scared at all. Others may get agitated and look for help everywhere. It is important to identify our fears and deal with them without pretending that they do not exist. We need to go further and, in a sense, “befriend” them, face them squarely, and examine their texture and quality.

Let us all seek to identify our fears and ask God for courage and strength to overcome them. Today is a good occasion to identify a person, possession, place or position we are attached to and say without fear “I can live without you. In God I trust. He will always stand by me.”

May God uproot every fear in our world with His victorious right hand. Shalom!



## **Happy Father's Day**

A hearty Father's Day to our Grandfathers, Godfathers, and fathers on this day. Your church family in St. Mary's appreciate all you do and acknowledge your fatherly role.

Your strength in carrying stuffs in the church bespeaks your ability to stand with us in the stormy weather. As head of the family, you continue to show us love and forgive our failures. You are the one who is there for us no matter what in our lives.

Today, we thank God for your lives and appreciate all you do for us.

Happy Father's Day!

## **How To Be A Good Father: Qualities And Involvement**

Written by MOMJUNCTION

DECEMBER 9, 2019

How important is a father for their kids? Research says a child's well-being, education, behavior and mental strength all depend on their dad's involvement in their upbringing.

Noted sociologist Dr. David Popenoe says, "Fathers are far more than just 'second adults' in the home. Involved fathers bring positive benefits to their children that no other person is as likely to bring." continued.....

## **Qualities Of A Good Father**

### **1. He is protective:**

A good dad protects his kids by drawing clear boundaries, considers their best interests, talks to them about things they should be aware of and puts things in place. He teaches his kids about consequences of making the wrong choices.

Fathers instill character development in kids

### **2. Affection is his middle name:**

A good father is affectionate to his children. Though he may not hug and kiss the child like a mother does, his affection is no less than a mother's. He lets the children know they can count on him.

### **3. A wall of trust and security:**

The children believe that their father is always right. He will never lie to them, he will never betray them, he will never leave them in the lurch. That is the trust a good father builds in a child. The kids know that their father is always there whenever they want some help or whenever they are in trouble.

### **4. The source of encouragement:**

You are the source of encouragement to your kid. Be it a football match or a debate competition, your presence at the venue gives a boost to your child's confidence. You are the happiest when they succeed and you are the one who will make them strive better if they fail. Your words will make a world of difference to your child. Your words have the power to make or break them. Continued.....

### **5. Has the patience to listen:**

A good father takes out time to listen to their children. He gives his kids undivided attention and tries to understand things from their perspective.

### **6. Provides the necessities of life:**

As the head of the family, the father is responsible for giving a decent living for his children, be it a home, food, education or love, security, and attention.

### **7. Respects the mother of his children:**

Children do well when they see their parents working together. A good father teaches his children *how to respect their mother*, and this he does by respecting his partner. He honors her views and does not *argue with her in front of the kids*. This sends the right message to the children that their parents work together, and they need to respect them both equally.

### **8. Spending time with him is fun for kids:**

If the dad is at home, it is a fun time for kids. He plays with them, shares some tricks and shortcuts, makes their artwork easy, and their homework enjoyable. He involves them in things he likes to do. Television, laptops, and phones are put aside.

### **9. He is the best teacher:**

A father teaches lessons not just for academics but about life. He shows how children can channelize their emotions when met with failure or disappointment, how they can use their energy for their good, how they can plan their careers or study hours.

If we sum up all the above characteristics of a father, we can understand that all of them arise from the man's involvement and interest in his child's life. The father's involvement varies with the stage of his fatherhood.

## **A SHORT STORY TO INSPIRE YOU TO OVERCOME FEAR AND ANXIETY**

There once was this criminal who had committed a crime

(Because, hey, that's what criminals do. That's their job!)

Anyway, he was sent to the king for his punishment.

The king told him he had a choice of two punishments.

He could be hung by a rope.

Or take what's behind the big, dark, scary, mysterious iron door.

The criminal quickly decided on the rope.

As the noose was being slipped on him, he turned to the king and asked:

"By the way, out of curiosity, what's behind that door?"

The king laughed and said:

"You know, it's funny, I offer everyone the same choice, and nearly everyone picks the rope."

"So," said the criminal, "Tell me. What is behind the door? I mean, obviously, I won't tell anyone," he said, pointing to the noose around his neck.

The king paused then answered:

"Freedom, but it seems most people are so afraid of the unknown that they immediately take the rope."

### **Moral lessons**

This story offers a powerful reminder about the dangers of clinging to the familiar.

Yes, unfortunately, too many of us live our lives choosing the familiarity of our rope (aka: familiar pain, familiar struggle, familiar patterns). To Page 8.....

## **Too many of us are far too fearful about the unknown.**

But if you want to live your best life, you must embrace the freedom of picking new choices for being and doing.

After all, it is these new choices which can open the door to your ultimate happiness.

Alan Watts, said it well when he said: “Our lives are one long effort to resist the unknown.”

## **Today decide to have the courage to push past your fears!**

- Make the decision to finally take off those ropes that bind you – and blind you!
- Start bravely opening up those *doors which lead to the unfamiliar*.
- Recognize: When nothing changes, then nothing changes.
- Remember: If you keep doing what you are always doing, you will keep getting what you’re always getting.
- **Remember:** Opening up doors to the unknown is the only way to ensure you are headed towards new opportunities, freedom, growth, and greater joy.



## Schedule for St. Mary's.....

June 24—-Weekday mass—6:30 p.m.

June 25—-Weekday mass—6:30 p.m.

June 28—Sunday mass—8:30 a.m.

With these mass offerings, we hope that you are aware that we are carrying out the rules for social distancing, and the wearing of mask—Please know that we are being as careful as possible with respect to this pandemic.

Below are the volunteers that helped with the Green's cleanup this last week. They were very appreciative of our help and feel blessed to be part of St. Mary's parish. They will be living in Nebraska until their home is ready to move into again.



# Thank You

## **St. Mary's church families —**

Words cannot begin to thank you enough for all the meals you brought to Robert while I was in the hospital, the gift cards that were sent, phone calls and visits. You mean the world to us, we will never be able to thank you enough!

Robert and Nancy Dalton

## **St. Mary's Cleaning opportunities!**

If this sounds like something that you would like to help with, please contact Cheryl.

## ***Family updates—***

If you have had a change in address, email, or phone number in the past year, would you please contact Cheryl via text, email, or phone to get your records updated.

# ST. MARYS HAPPENINGS

## PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

CHRIS HINES

JOSH SIMMONS

JACOB ANDERSON

DERRICK HUBARD

STEVEN ANDERSON

COLBY MCGINLEY



6-17—William Green

6-18—Pat Sheldon

6-18—Daniel Whitehead

6-19—Bev Finnigan

6-21—Donna Whelan

6-22—Bill Clark

6-23—Stephanie Foster

6-29—Kayla Walters

*ADA update  
Our goal this year  
is \$19,824.*

*To date, we have  
received  
\$16,050.00  
with 39 families  
contributing.*

*\$3,774.00 to go!  
Getting close!*

*We want to Thank  
those of you who  
have continued to  
tithe during this  
pandemic!!*

*June Tithes to date—  
\$2834.10  
Thank You!!!*



Greg Andersen  
Grady Secht

Reese Kemp  
James Dowling  
LeRoy Herscheid

Noah Howe  
Mary Lou Miller  
Dottie Dankof

Isacc Durr  
Robert & Nancy Dalton  
Todd Quick

Verona Mitchell  
Joel Loggins

Kenneth Russell  
Bill Long

Henry Johnsen  
Lawrence DuBois  
Angie Witter-Childers

Pat Sheldon  
Joe Kirk

Tim Konecny  
Esther McCowan  
Shawn Collins  
Drake Travis  
Martha Gude  
Bill & Gloria Green

Larry Dalton  
Vickie Graham  
Glen Whitehead  
Ronda Shirley  
Zayne Osborn  
Cathy Mason  
Anna Weber





















