

Songs from the Vineyard

I came across this little piece on the religion page of the Ashland Daily

News back in 1942. It was written by Rev. Charles E. Rudy, pastor of Saint Peter's Lutheran Church in Lavelle, and I thought I would share it with you. Note the last section on "goodness." It's as true today as it was 50 years.

Our society wouldn't be falling apart as it is if we had always remembered that America was great because of its moral character and spiritual nobility. Today it seems to be measured by how many entitlement programs the government sponsors, or how much lewdness we allow in the entertainment media, or how many condoms are given free to school children.

The title of this reflective article is "The Rosary of Church Worship."

The purpose of worship is to keep the soul perpetually busy at the window of heaven. It is more than a time exposure. Salvage some spiritual meditation every day.

SELF. Make an acquaintance with your self. "Now we are the sons of God." Feel the reality of your spirit.

OTHERS. Keep green the remembrance of others who touched your life for goodness — mother, father and friends.

GOD. Listen to God. Repeat the phrase of the Psalmist, "In Thy presence there is fullness of joy."

HEALTH. Obey the laws of health: temperance, rest, work, exercise and mental healing. There are more sick people than sick bodies.

TRUTH. Shake yourself free from fear, prejudice and superstition. "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

BEAUTY. Close your eyes and listen to and see lovely things. This will bring peace and rest to your jaded and harrassed life.

GOODNESS. Great nations always fell into ruin and decay because its leaders did not cultivate character or nobility. The world needs every day the culture of the soul. Experiment with prayer and your life shall become an ecstatic experience.