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ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Sat – 5:30 pm, Sun - 10:00 a.m.

Weekdays – Wed 6:30 pm & Fri 12 pm

Parish Council Chair: Joe Nelson

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH

Mulberry Street, Stonefort, IL – 62987

Sunday - 8:00 a.m.

& First Saturday – 8:30 am

Parish Council Chair: Mary Treat

Trustees: Myron Cole, Stan Treat

True Humility - In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus censures people who take the seats of honor at a feast. Take the least honorable places, he tells them, and then the host can invite you to a more honorable place.

Jesus is rebuking the pride of those people who go for the honorable seats. But what is the solution to the problem of pride? If you race your friends to the least honorable seat because the reward for doing so is that you get one of the best seats, isn't this pride too?

So what is true humility?

Well, think about pride.

There is a childish kind of pride, of course, where you brag about your accomplishments while everybody else tries to be polite enough not to roll their eyes while you are talking.

The worst and most sophisticated kind of pride is found in the Pharisee. And then there is also the grown-up version of that childish pride. A multi-millionaire who explains that he is a self-made man has this kind of pride. He has failed to notice all the gifts he has been given that have helped him get where he is. He thinks he himself is responsible for the good he has.

A more complicated kind of pride can be found in a person who knows that all his good comes from the grace of God. But he is sure that God has given such grace to him and not to his neighbors, because God knew that *he*, unlike his stupid worldly neighbors, would make good use of God's gifts.

Finally, the worst and most sophisticated kind of pride is found in the Pharisee who thanked God that he was not like other men, especially not like that sinner, the publican. The Pharisee knew that every good in him was a gift from God. But he was glad that *he* had God's gifts and that the publican didn't. The Pharisee liked looking down on the publican.

Here is what humility is, then. It is recognizing that every good in yourself is a gift from God and is meant to be given back to the Lord by being shared with others.

You can't get true humility by racing for the least honorable seat. If the least honorable seat is, in the Lord's view, the best place to be seated, then true humility requires your sharing it with others in gratitude to the Lord who gave it.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 17 # 35 **Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year, August 28, 2016**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Aug	28	8:00 am	SFD	Mike Babick
			10:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners
Tue	Aug	30	9 & 11 am	Shawnee & Vienna Corrections	
Wed	Aug	31	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Sept	2	12:00 pm	SP	Rev Jack Joyce
Sat	Sept	3	8:30 am	SFD	General Intention
			5:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Sept	4	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Fam
			10:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners

Birthdays
Aug 30 Ethan Artis
Sept 4 Peggy Widowski
Lynn Stone

St Paul, Vienna

Sun, Aug 28: 10 am
Server: J. Bayles, R. Slife
Lector: Richard DaSilva
Gifts: Rick, Lynne Stoerger
Ushers: M. McMahan, Mt Slife
 R. Stoerger, K. Felcyn
E. Minister: P. Shallenberger
 D. Bishop, D. Hopkins
Greeter: Marc, Beth Palmer

Sun, Sept 4, 10 am
Server: A. Webb, J. Bayles
Lector: Joan Galey
Gifts: Chuck, Lynn Stone
Ushers: J. Nelson, C. Brown
 S. Widowski, J. Bergmann
E. Minister: K. Felcyn
 S. Nelson, M. Nelson
Greeter: Bill & Billie Porter

Sun, Sept 11, 10 am
Server: R. Slife, B. Bertran
Lector: Joe Nelson
Gifts: E. Speletich, J Starratt
Ushers: F Dueker, G. Tesina
 D Zmuda, C. Zmuda
E. Minister: S. Belske
 B. Bishop, B. Palmer
Greeter: S & P Widowski

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

Sun, Aug 28: 8 am
Server: Cecilia Parks
Lector: Marietta Moore
Gifts: Morse Family
Usher: David Parks
E. Min: Myron Cole

Sun, Sept 4, 8:00 am
Server: Brenda Morse
Lector: LaVonne Herbert
Gifts: Deaton Family
Usher: Myron Cole
E. Min: Cecilia Parks

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sat Aug 27 St Paul Mass.....5:30 pm
- Sun Aug 28 St Francis DeSales Mass.....8 am
- St Paul Mass10 am
- Tues Aug 30 Shawnee & Vienna DOC Masses.....9, 11 am
- RCIA Information Session at St Paul.....7 pm
- Wed Aug 31 Weekday Mass at SP.....6:00 pm
- Fri Sept 2 Weekday Mass at SP.....12 noon
- Sat Sept 3 First Saturday Mass & Devotions at SF.8:30 am
- St Paul Mass.....5:30 pm
- Sun Sept 4 St Francis DeSales Mass.....8 am
- St Paul Mass10 am
- First Sunday Social at SP.....11 am



PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION REGISTRATION The PSR Classes will begin at St Paul on Sept 18th, 11 am. To order textbooks, parents are asked to register participants by August 28th. An envelope for families registered last year will be passed out. Additional registration forms are on the bulletin board table.

DRAW-DOWN FUNDRAISER is scheduled Oct 15, 6 pm. Tickets are now available for \$100.00 which may be shared by more than one person. In addition to baskets, your assistance to collect gift certificates, food gift cards, services (car oil change, hair care, car wash, etc) for all players will be appreciated. A more complete list of suggestions is on the bulletin board.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) A series of sessions beginning with Inquiry—questions about God, Faith, search for meaning in life- and leading to an understanding of the Catholic Church, teachings and practices, potentially arriving at becoming a member of the Church, will begin at St Paul in September. An information meeting for any interested individuals will be offered Tues, Aug 30, 7 pm at St Paul parish center. If there is interest, but there's conflict with date, call rectory 658-4501.

PARISH PICNIC St Paul Parish will be hosting a Parish Picnic with Pork Steak and chicken meal (potluck vegetable, salad or dessert) followed by games and activities on Sunday, Sept 11th, 11:30 am. Participants are asked to bring a covered dish of vegetable, salad or dessert.

LAY LEADERS OF PRAYER APPOINTMENT AND BLESSING To recognize the role of Madonna Slife and most recently appointed, Keith Felcyn, as Lay Leaders of Prayer for St Paul Parish, a blessing will be offered at the Sunday mass on September 11 along with a bulletin insert outlining their ministry, esp in leading the Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest. We appreciate their willingness to participate in the diocesan training program, appointment by the bishop and being of service for the parish.

COLLECTION FOR SUPPORT OF LOUISIANA FLOOD VICTIMS The United States Bishop Conference has asked a nationwide response to assist flood victims whose homes, business, and churches have been devastated by recent historic floods. Funds will be distributed by Catholic Charities USA and affected dioceses. Collection will be Sept 4 & 11th.

MERCY MOMENT - Who to invite? We have all had the task of making the guest list for a dinner, a cookout, a wedding, the Christmas cards. Who is on it? Who is crossed off? Who must we invite? Who can't be seated next to whom? You know it all! Jesus, however, upsets our list making tasks today. He tells his host – and thus us – invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind. In short, invite everyone, especially those who probably cannot invite you back.

- Who do I need to invite over for coffee, for lunch?
- Who can I include in some outing, project, or conversation?

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 3:17-18,20,28-29; Psalm 68; Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24; Luke 14:1,7-14

"Quid pro quo" is a Latin expression that means, according to Webster, something given or received for something else. Charity sometimes takes on a mistaken quid pro quo mentality: If I help you out then "you owe me one." Charity becomes a rain check; the recipient is in a sort of debtor's prison. Today's readings remind us that charity is a free gift, a gift asked more often of those who have more. Reimbursement may be deferred, even to the next world!

The first reading comes from Sirach, a collection of Israel's wisdom sayings written around 190 B.C. Sirach 3:29 begins a message on almsgiving, addressed more than likely to an audience made up of wealthy families. The image is striking: Just as water extinguishes fire, so almsgiving atones for sin.

Psalm 68 speaks of Yahweh as one who cares for the orphan and the widow and meets the needs of the forsaken and prisoners. These are the truly needy in society, and Yahweh is the model of charitable concern for the Israelite community.

Chapter 14 of Luke is a collection of Jesus' sayings from other occasions set against the background of a sabbath meal. The question is: Who can eat bread in God's kingdom? Jesus answers by observing that to enter the kingdom one must perceive the value of others and embrace them wholeheartedly. One does not merit a heavenly reward by scrambling for a place at the head table, as status-seekers do. Those who are humble and serve others will gain a place at the eternal banquet.

The powerful and wealthy should invite the poor and the needy, motivated not by earthly reimbursement but rather by heavenly reward.

The poor and the needy are not able to say "I owe you one." We must assist those with less, not only for earthly rewards such as tax deductions but for the compelling reason that we are all sisters and brothers in Jesus.

-- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L.

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Name someone you think is a truly a great person. Is that person humble? What does humility look like in him/her? The Gospel mentions the lame, poor, crippled and blind. From your experience with these people would you say most of them are humble?

What is a covenant? What does it mean to say that Jesus is the mediator of a new covenant? Why does the sprinkled blood of the new covenant speak more eloquently than that of Abel, as this reading asserts?

Does anything cripple you, sometimes make you blind? Discuss the fact that Jesus experienced our human pain along with us in order to help us get to the banquet. Do you feel any responsibility as a member of the body of Christ to help other people get to the banquet?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Wisdom 9:13-18b; Ps 90; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33