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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

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE FAITHLESS? In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus tells two parables, one about servants and one about stewards. In the parable about the servants, he mentions a reward for the good ones. In the parable about the stewards, he adds a punishment for the bad ones. The bad steward will be assigned a place with the unfaithful.

The unfaithful are those who don't have what faith alone will get you: union with the Lord. So when the Lord says to some people, "Go away!" the bad steward will be in that group.

This is truly a dreadful punishment.

So what is a steward, and what does it take to be a bad one?

Well, a steward is a person who has servants under him. In the parable, those who are under the steward are the Lord's servants. So to be a steward of the Lord's is to have in your power other people who are servants of the Lord.

Now a person of faith serves the Lord voluntarily; but those who reject faith serve the Lord too; they just do so involuntarily. God is Lord over all people. And so every human being is the Lord's servant.

So if you are the president of a company, you are a steward of the Lord, because there are human beings who are in your power. But you don't have to have a lot of people under you to be a steward of the Lord. If you are the mother of small children, you are a steward of the Lord's too because these small human beings are in your charge.

Two things mark out the bad steward. First, he considers his own needs and desires first and foremost. He does not care enough about the needs and desires of those who are in his power. Second, when he deals with those in his power, he treats them unjustly. A mother who watches TV instead of caring for her children or who lets the older child tyrannize the younger one is a bad steward. A president of a company who assigns raises not to reward merit but to get revenge on his political enemies in the company is a bad steward too.

So having other people in your power is a fearsome responsibility. Do it badly, and you get a place among the faithless, outside, looking in at the joy the Lord gives his faithful, who served him well.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 17 # 32 **Nineteenth Sunday of the Year, August 7, 2016**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Aug	7	8:00 am	SFD	Bill McCabe
			10:00 am	SP	Mike Moore
Tue	Aug	9	9 & 11 am	Shawnee & Vienna Corrections	
Wed	Aug	10	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Thr	Aug	11	11:30 am, 1 pm	USP, Marion	
Fri	Aug	12	12:00 pm	SP	Rev Charles Kribs
Sat	Aug	13	5:30 pm	SP	For the Parishioners
Sun	Aug	14	8:00 am	SFD	Britney Deaton
			10:00 am	SP	Edna Jones

Birthdays Aug 7 Emma Hustedde Aug 8 Patsy Bishop Aug 10 Joan Galey Aug 12 Emily Taylor

St Paul, Vienna

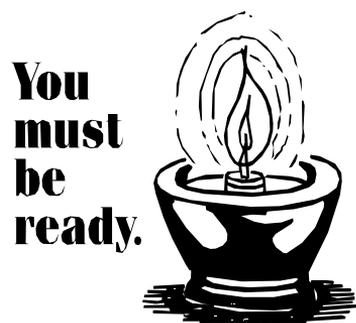
<p>Sun, Aug 7: 10 am Server: A. Webb, B. Bertran Lector: Sarah Nelson Gifts: C. Ross, P. Shallenberger Ushers: D. Zmuda, C. Zmuda C. Brown, J. Bergmann E. Minister: S. Moore Z. Garrett, A. Dueker Greeter: Janet Hacker</p>	<p>Sun, Aug 14, 10 am Server: R. Slife, J. Bayles Lector: Rhi Slife Gifts: Jon & Madonna Slife Ushers: J. Nelson, A. Dueker G. Tesina, Mt Slife E. Minister: V. Anderson, L. Stoerger, F. Dueker Greeter: Mike McMahan</p>	<p>Sun, Aug 21, 10 am Server: A. Webb, B. Bertran Lector: Steve Widowski Gifts: Matt, Rhi Slife Family Ushers: M. Palmer, F. Dueker D. Bishop, P. Widowski E. Minister: L. Stoerger P. Widowski, K. Hupe Greeter: Geri Tesina</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Aug 7, 8:00 am Server: Logan Shaw Lector: Cecilia Parks Gifts: S. Treat, A. Morse Usher: Myron Cole E. Min: Mary Treat</p>	<p>Sun, Aug 14: 8 am Server: Brenda Morse Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: Parks Family Usher: Arnold Morse E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sat	Aug 6	St Paul Mass.....	5:30 pm
Sun	Aug 7	St Francis DeSales Mass.....	8 am
		St Paul Mass	10 am
		First Sunday social at SP.....	11 am
Tues	Aug 9	Shawnee & Vienna DOC Masses.....	9, 11 am
Wed	Aug 10	South Vicariate Pastoral Mt...Ridgway.....	12 pm
		Weekday Mass at SP.....	6:30 pm
Thr	Aug 11	Masses at Marion USP.....	11:30 am, 1 pm
		Eucharistic Adoration at SP.....	4-7:30 pm
Fri	Aug 12	Weekday Mass at SP.....	12 noon
Sat	Aug 13	St Paul Mass.....	5:30 pm
Sun	Aug 14	St Francis DeSales Mass.....	8 am
		St Paul Mass	10 am



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.

AFTER MASS SOCIAL will be held this Sunday after the 10 am Mass. Plan to spend a few minutes of your time to informally share with other parishioners.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will be offered this Thursday, Aug 11th. If you can participate, signing the schedule on the bulletin board will assure all the times are covered.

PARTNERSHIP JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MT will be held at St Paul on Aug 17th at 6:30 pm. We will finalize Updated Pastoral Plan for Renewal and Restructuring in preparation for meeting with Bishop Braxton and committee.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER Who in the Church Should Participate in Political Life? – In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. Learn, Act, Connect, Pray: As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to any political party or interest group. Visit www.usccb.org to view a copy of “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship.” This updated resource will help you prepare to elect our leaders. Pray that our loving and gracious God will guide us to effectively proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through our daily witness to our faith and its teachings

THE CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL...bringing God's mercy to those who need it most Griffin Center, an agency that receives funding from the Appeal, provides after-school and summer programs free of charge to 550+ children who live in public housing. With an emphasis on learning, homework assistance, computer labs and tutoring, Griffin Center gives these youngsters a chance for a brighter tomorrow. Be a part of their dreams with your gift to this year's Appeal.

MERCY MOMENT Jesus tells his beloved “little flock” – that includes us – to sell belongings and give alms. Do not be afraid. Sell. Give. Yet, we are sometimes afraid to let go, to give away. I really like this, we say. I might need it later, we say. Since we are numbered among his disciples, what Jesus said to Peter and to the rest of the Followers, he says to us:

- Do not fear!
- Give alms!
- Be ready to act for the benefit of others; be ready to do what is good!
- So, this week, I will _____!

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 18:6-9; Psalm 33; Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19; Luke 12:32-48

Our Christian tradition teaches us about priorities in living: God, love of neighbor as yourself, justice and truth, and so forth. We all know, however, that in the practical realm of everyday life, values are rarely ordered with such precision and clarity. Actually living the values we know to be right requires a harmony of mind and heart, spirit and flesh. Today's readings challenge our priorities, our hierarchy of values.

The gospel passage from Luke clearly identifies the kingdom of God as our ultimate concern. The kingdom does not result from human ingenuity; it is a pure gift of God. The classic measure of priorities is stated by Jesus, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Luke 12:34).

"Thy kingdom come" is an unrelenting prayer and desire for those who choose the kingdom in mind and heart. The true believer is constantly prepared with belt fastened and lamp burning. To doze off is to abandon the ultimate quest.

Jesus speaks of priorities in the lives of Church leaders. People in roles of leadership sometime choose power over justice as their ultimate concern. The leader is first of all servant. Jesus states the leader's responsibility in this way, "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded" (Luke 12:48).

The Hebrews passage today, the second reading, presents Abraham and Sarah as examples of responsible servant-leaders who are uncompromising in their values. The lesson we learn from these giants of faith is that God's promises will always be fulfilled, but perhaps not in our time for our viewing. "Faith is assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

The world focuses priorities and values around power, success, popularity, and pleasure. Today's Scriptures help us to measure these priorities and values against the ultimate concerns of the kingdom.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Are you certain enough of God's covenant with us that you can carry out a "leap of faith"? What gave the Israelites the courage to begin their journey into the unknown? How do you yourself make smaller leaps, maybe hops, of faith in your everyday life? Abraham was called to an unknown country. Do you ever feel you are in uncharted faith territory? Who helps you with certainty and responsibility in these unmapped areas of faith? What tests your faith?

In the Gospel, Jesus says to "be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks" The servants are watching for the master. Do you "watch" for God in your everyday life? Where do you find him?