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ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

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

A Man Just Like Me In the [Gospel Reading](#), Jesus tells a parable about a rich man who goes to hell. In the parable, while the rich man is still alive, he is beautifully dressed and eats very well. But at his door there is always a poor man, Lazarus, who is clothed in sores and very hungry. Eventually, both the rich man and the poor man die. But the rich man goes to hell, and the poor man Lazarus is comforted in the bosom of Abraham.

The thought of going to hell is alarming, and so we ought to ask ourselves this question: what exactly is the sin of the rich man? If the point of the parable is to give us a warning about a sin that can send a person to hell, the parable ought to tell us what that sin is. But it doesn't.

The poor man is a human person just like the rich man, but the rich man can't see it. We might think that the sin just is the rich man's failure to feed the poor man. But the parable doesn't actually say whether the poor man gets any food from the rich man. Notice too that if not feeding the hungry is the sin of the rich man, then the parable could stop near its beginning, when it tells us that the poor man hung around the house of the rich man and the rich man went to hell when he died.

But the parable doesn't stop there. It continues for a good while. In hell, the rich man sees that the poor man is comforted in the bosom of Abraham, and he says to Abraham: send the poor man to bring me a little water. Notice that the rich man is talking to Abraham, not to the poor man; and he is asking Abraham to *command* the poor man. Clearly, the rich man thinks no trouble for the poor man is too much if it brings a little something for the rich man.

When Abraham won't agree to this request, the rich man makes another request. He asks Abraham to send the poor man to his brothers, to warn them. In making this request on behalf of his brothers, the rich man still is talking only to Abraham. He spares a thought for the poor man only when he is figuring out how to make use of him. If not for bringing water to hell, then why not for bringing messages to earth?

And now we can see the sin of the rich man, can't we? The poor man is a human person just like the rich man, but the rich man can't see it. The rich man doesn't talk directly to the poor man because he doesn't see the poor man as a person in his own right. Insofar as he thinks of the poor man at all, it is only to calculate how the poor man could be used to benefit himself.

The sin is the failure ever to think "He is a man just like me."

Eleonore Stump

Vol 17 # 39 **Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year, September 25, 2016**
CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Sept	25	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Fam
			10:00 am	SP	Jim & Mary Ann Mudd
Tue	Sept	27	9 & 11 am		Shawnee & Vienna DOC
Wed	Sept	28	6:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Sept	30	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sat	Oct	1	8:30 am	SFD	In reparation for sin
Sun	Oct	2	8:00 am	SFD	Angela Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners

Birthdays
Sept 28 Midge Bigler
Sept 29 Tracey Johnson
Sept 30 Frank Tesina
Oct 1 Sabra Moore

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Sept 25, 10 am Server: A. Webb, R. Slife Lector: Sabra Moore Gifts: Children Lit of Word Ushers: R. & L. Stoerger, M. Palmer, P. Widowski E. Minister P. Widowski A. Dueker, D. Hopkins Greeter: Keith Felcyn</p>	<p>Sun, Oct 2, 10 am Server: J. Bayles, B. Bertran Lector: Rhi Slife Gifts: A. Street, G Tesina Ushers: J. Slife, P. Kalicki J. Nelson, S. Widowski E. Minister S. Moore L. Stoerger, V. Anderson Greeter: Sandy Belske</p>	<p>Sun, Oct 9: 10 am Server: R. Slife, A. Webb Lector: Steve Widowski Gifts: Children Liturgy Word Ushers J Bergmann, C. Brown G. Tesina, Mt Slife E. Minister: D. Bishop S. Nelson, M. Nelson Greeter: Pat Kalicki</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Sept 25: 8 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Marietta Moore Gifts: D Parks, R. Drone Usher: Stan Treat E. Min: Myron Cole</p>	<p>Sun, Oct 2, 8:00 am Server: Logan Shaw Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: M Cole, S. Treat Usher David Parks E. Min: Cecilia Parks</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Sept 25 St Francis DeSales Mass.....8 am
- St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word.10 am
- Blood Pressure Checks- before and after mass
- Parish School of Religion.....11 am
- Fall Council of Catholic Women Mt at Sesser..1 pm
- Tue Sept 27 DOC Masses at Shawnee & Vienna.....9am, 11 am
- Wed Sep 28 Weekday mass at SP.....6:00 pm
- Fri Sept 30 Weekday Mass at SP.....12 noon
- Sat Oct 1 Line-up for SP Parish Float in parade.....8:30 am
- First Saturday Mass & devotion at SF.....8:30 am
- Sun Oct 2 Rosary 20 minutes before masses in October
- St Francis DeSales Mass.....8 am
- St Paul Mass10 am
- Parish School of Religion.....11 am
- SP First Sunday social in hall.....11 am



WORDS OF GRACE New copies of the daily scripture reflection booklets are available in the bulletin board rack.

PARISH MISSION PRAYER CARD The Parish Mission sponsored by St Paul and St Francis DeSales will begin in two months. Please circle the dates of November 27-30 on your calendar and anticipate a renewed appreciation of the Eucharistic Celebration. Pray the Mission Prayer in today's bulletin for the favor of a successful mission.

JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES from Sept 21 are on the BB.

BDCCW VICARIATE FALL MEETING will be hosted at St Mary, Sesser beginning with registration on Sunday, Sept 25th. All ladies are encouraged to participate.

PARISH ADDRESS DIRECTORY In preparation for a new address directory, please review, and correct or put check mark by family information on sheets in church entrance.

DRAW-DOWN FUNDRAISER Early Bird Drawing was won by Marc & Beth Palmer. Less than ten tickets available. Grand Prize of \$4,000, 11- \$100 prizes, plus consolation prizes for all ticket holders. Tickets are \$100 (may be shared by up to ten people) Tickets are available after masses or from Matt Slife, Dolly Hopkins, Steve & Peggy Widowski, Madonna Slife.

PARADE FLOAT St Paul Parish will be represented by a float in the Fall Festival Parade on Sat, Oct 1. Youth and interested adults are welcome to accompany the float. Wear your St Paul T shirt. Line up begins 8:30 am by High School tennis courts.

COMMUNAL RECITATION OF ROSARY During the month of October, the rosary will be prayed 20 minutes before Sunday masses.

OCTOBER COUNT Each year, a count of mass attendance during October is made to be submitted to the diocese. Ushers are reminded to record # on the attendance sheet.

BDCCW CONFERENCE Oct 12 The Belleville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women annual Convention with the theme - Mercy, A Bridge Connecting God, Ourselves, and others will be at St Joseph, Marion 8am-3:30 pm Oct 12. Registration forms are on bulletin board in church or contact Madonna Slife. Early Registration by Sept 30

CARE OF OIL & CHIP The church driveway and parts of parking lot were resurfaced this week. Installer recommends avoid turning vehicle wheels while vehicle is at rest and making high speed turns.

BECOMING AN AUTHENTIC DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST at St. Mary Parish Anna, Illinois Join us as Deacon Ralph Poyo leads our 2016 parish mission. He will provide practical steps for the journey of becoming an authentic disciple of Jesus Christ & enough motivation to continue in the battle. Be inspired to enlist the help of the Holy Spirit to guide you to become Jesus' disciple. PARISH MISSION 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept 25 (Theme.. Gospel) Monday, Sept 26 (Theme.. Spiritual Warfare) Tuesday, Sept 27 (Theme.. Holy Spirit / Healing) Wednesday, Sept 28 (Theme.. Discipleship / Eucharist).

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 6:1,4-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Luke 16:19-31

Be all that you can be. The armed forces have used this motivational refrain in their advertising for youthful recruits. These ads seek to involve the young in the future of our country and the security of our population.

Today's readings also seek to develop potential, the potential of believers. The focus here is not on national security but on the well-being of the poor and downtrodden.

In the first reading, the prophet Amos describes the shocking contrast between rich and poor. The rich enjoy comfortable couches, eat lambs and calves, drink fine wine, and anoint themselves with the best oils. The excesses of the wealthy mean suffering for the oppressed. Yet, ironically, the rich are the ones forced into exile because they were wasteful of their talents and blind to the suffering poor.

The response to the Amos passage is Psalm 146. Yahweh is steadfast in concern for the down-and-out. This God releases the captives, restores sight to the blind, raises the downtrodden, and loves the just. This psalm praises the caring God for the fatherless and widowed and challenges believers to do the same. The exaltation of the poor and the humbling of the rich is a favorite theme for Luke (Luke 1:51-53; 6:20-26). In this passage, Luke cautions against seeing wealth as a sign of divine approval for the righteous life. Lazarus (the name means "God helps") is the hero who subsists on scraps from the overlaid table of the unnamed rich man. Death turns the tables; the man indifferent to suffering on earth now begs Abraham to send Lazarus with even a drop of water to quench his thirst.

These readings suggest that almsgiving is good but involvement is better. Ministering to the financially poor and the spiritually bankrupt develops our potential to enrich others as we are enriched in the process.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Do wealth and self-indulgence always go together? How are they related to your ability to respond to the needs of others?

Paul was appointed preacher and apostle to take the Good News to the Gentiles. How can you take Christ's message beyond the sphere of the Church?

Pope Francis says that "vast wealth and resources are in the hands of few." If it's not in your capability to change that unjust situation, what smaller things can you do to answer the "cry of the poor"?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Habakkuk 1:2-3;2:2-4; Ps 95; 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14; Luke 17:5-10