



**Pastor : Rev Thomas Barrett**  
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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

What's To Hate? In the [Gospel Reading](#), Jesus recommends hatred—of your mother and father, of your wife (or husband), in fact, of your very life.

What's to hate about these people? How can Jesus say that unless you hate them, you can't be his disciple? Didn't he command us to love our neighbors as ourselves? How can you hate your life if you love yourself?

Well, think of St. Thomas More. Henry VIII of England wanted his marriage to his wife annulled so that he could marry another woman Anne. (Anglicans and Catholics both have troublesome characters in their history!) When the Pope wouldn't agree to what Henry wanted, Henry declared himself supreme head of the Church in England. More was Chancellor of England then, and Henry wanted More to support him in all this. Henry wanted More to sign the Oath of Supremacy declaring Henry the Supreme Head of the Church in England.

More saw that Henry's passion for Anne was moving Henry to betray his wife and bring scandal on the Church. And More wouldn't support him. He wouldn't sign the Oath.

More left his wife and children behind and went to prison. So More resigned his chancellorship and went home. But Henry pursued him. First, he stripped More of his income and property, and then he imprisoned him. More's wife was frantic. More's children were heart-broken. They thought that More's life hung in the balance, and they were right.

Couldn't More have just signed that Oath? His wife would have had him home. His children would have rejoiced at his return. He would have kept his property. He would have kept his life.

But he would have lost his life in keeping it. He would have betrayed the Lord he loved if he had signed that Oath.

So More lost all his possessions. He left his wife and children behind and went to prison. And finally he went to his death, for love of the Lord. This is the kind of hatred of life and loved ones that the Lord is talking about. More loved his family and his life, but he let go of everything for love of Christ.

Because he maintained his integrity and did not let Henry push him into evil, More was true to the Lord he loved and to himself. He could not have loved himself or his wife or his children or his neighbors better than he did.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 17 # 36 **Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year, September 4, 2016**  
**CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST**

Sun	Sept	4	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Fam
			10:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners
Tue	Sept	6	9 & 11 am	Shawnee & Vienna Correctional	
Wed	Sept	7	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Thr	Sept	8	11:30am, 1 pm		USP Marion
Fri	Sept	9	12:00 pm	SP	Rev Charles Kribs
Sun	Sept	11	8:00 am	SFD	Britney Deaton
			10:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners

<b>Birthdays</b>	
Sept 4	Peggy Widowski Lynn Stone
Sept 5	Mary Treat
Sept 6	Mason Bishop
Sept 7	Irene Kojder
Sept 9	Steve Hupe

**St Paul, Vienna**

**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:** Children Lit of Word  
**Ushers:** F Dueker, G. Tesina  
 D Zmuda, C. Zmuda  
**E. Minister** S. Belske  
 B. Bishop, B. Palmer  
**Greeter:** S & P Widowski

**Sun, Sept 18: 10 am**  
**Server:** B. Bertran, J. Bayles  
**Lector:** Zachary Garrett  
**Gifts:** Catechists  
**Ushers:** M. McMahan, Mt Slife  
 D. Bishop, K. Felcyn  
**E. Minister:** C. Webb  
 P. Kalicki, F. Dueker  
**Greeter:** Marc, Beth Palmer

**St Francis DeSales, Stonefort**

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

**Sun, Sept 11: 8 am**  
**Server:** Mary Treat  
**Lector:** Christine Deaton  
**Gifts:** L Herbert, M. Moore  
**Usher:** Arnold Morse  
**E. Min:** Brenda Morse

**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

Sat	Sept	3	St Paul Mass.....	5:30 pm
Sun	Sept	4	St Francis DeSales Mass.....	8 am
			St Paul Mass .....	10 am
			First Sunday Social at SP.....	11 am
Tues	Sept	6	Shawnee & Vienna DOC Masses.....	9, 11 am
			RCIA Information Session at St Paul.....	7 pm
Wed	Sept	7	Weekday Mass at SP.....	6:00 pm
Thr	Sept	8	USP Marion Masses.....	11:30am, 1:00pm
			Eucharistic Adoration at SP.....	4-7:30 pm
Fri	Sept	9	Weekday Mass at SP.....	12 noon
Sun	Sept	11	St Francis DeSales Mass.....	8 am
			St Paul Mass .....	10 am
			Parish Picnic & activities.....	11 am



**Carry the cross  
and follow me.**

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

**FIRST SUNDAY SOCIAL** Light refreshments and a place is offered in the hall following this morning's mass to encourage parishioners to take some time to strengthen relations and be better understanding of our mutual concerns and needs.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** will be offered this Thursday, Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, 4-7:30 pm. All parishioners are encouraged to take advantage of individual prayer before Blessed Sacrament. A schedule is posted on the bulletin board to assure someone is present all times.

**CHILDREN LITURGY OF WORD** will be offered Sun, Sept 11, 10 am at St Paul. Children ages 3yrs – 4<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to go with an adult after the opening prayer to read and reflect on the Scripture message in age appropriate language.

**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 11<sup>th</sup>, after the mass. Participants are asked to bring a covered dish of vegetable, salad or dessert.

**DRAW-DOWN FUNDRAISER** 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) and must be purchased by Sept 18<sup>th</sup> to be eligible for Early Bird Drawing. Tickets are available after masses or from Matt Slife, Dolly Hopkins, Steve & Peggy Widowski, Madonna Slife.

**LAY LEADERS OF PRAYER BLESSING** will be conferred on Madonna Slife and Keith Felcyn during the Sept 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday mass after training and diocesan appointment.

**MEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT** @ Camp Ondessonk St. Noel Center October 1 (noon) to October 2 (after breakfast) Includes: Lunch and steak Dinner on Saturday; hot breakfast on Sunday, sleeping quarters and use of the lounge and dining areas. Bring your favorite beverage. Join us for fellowship and conversations on how we can grow in our brotherhood. This retreat is open to all men of the spiritual community. Guest speaker: Fr. Richard Mohr Cost \$70 donation recommended. RSVP to Liz DeRuntz by September 4. [lizderuntz@gmail.com](mailto:lizderuntz@gmail.com) or 618-924-1290

**RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION** On the weekend of September 17-18 you will have an opportunity to contribute to the first annual Retired Diocesan Priests Collection. All monies collected will be used only for long-term nursing care, Medicare supplemental insurance and prescriptions for our retired diocesan priests. Your gift is a wonderful way to show your gratitude to the priests who have and continue to serve us so faithfully. Please be generous.

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER** Ray Levesque, father of Craig Levesque, who died Aug 29.

## Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 9:13-18; Psalm 90; Philemon 9-10,12-17; Luke 14:25-33

"The good life" is an expression used to describe those who seem to have it all, at least in terms of material possessions. While there is nothing intrinsically wrong with having nice things, we know there's more to genuine living than interest rates and credit cards. Today's Scriptures teach the fullness of life in the light of God's wisdom.

The Wisdom passage shows how the human condition, by its very nature, requires divine assistance. If we are to learn the art of genuine living, God must communicate the spirit of wisdom. "Spirit" is actually a biblical category that connotes life, vitality, and closeness to God (see Ezekiel 37:9-14). Spirit-filled wisdom saves people; being wise means being alive in God.

Psalm 90 pleads for wisdom of heart as a way to combat human sinfulness and failure. This wisdom is the art of correct living, of adapting to life's problems, and of interacting with the God of Israel. God's presence makes life not a burden to be endured but a gift to be celebrated.

Luke has Jesus speak about the demands of discipleship. He gathers three sayings (Luke 14:26-27,33) and two parables (Luke 14:28-32). The second parable is a commentary on wisdom and life, explaining that to enjoy life in the kingdom the disciple must be wise enough to see the implications of his or her choices.

Both parables highlight the need to use wisdom in assessing the cost of discipleship. The tower builder and the warring king both must calculate the costs and study the risks before making a final decision. The disciple must know that following Christ requires an allegiance that will always be the highest priority. To accept the person of Christ is to accept his cross as well.

The Christian need not oppose human progress nor reject comforts and pleasures. The believer must assess these within the delicate balance of wisdom and life. Wisdom challenges: Does our happiness come from the mere acquisition of possessions or from sharing and interacting with God and neighbor?

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

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### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

It is hard enough "to guess what is in our grasp, the writer says, let alone the things of heaven." Can you relate to that statement? Is there anything you are uncertain about in the political arena in your country? Is there anything you are uncertain about in your spiritual life?

Is following Jesus a one-time choice or do you have to make it daily? Which would you rather have, all the possessions you could ever want, without Christ, or Christ and no possessions? Can you name some people who lived/live in Christ and have possessed nothing? What does this freedom allow them to do?

**NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES:** Exodus 32:7-11,13-14; Ps 51; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-32