



Pastor : Rev Thomas Barrett
Phone (618) 658 – 4501
E-mail: sppcil@frontier.com
Web: www.stpaulvienna.org



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

The Way Things Are In the [Gospel](#) Reading, by means of heavenly signs God sent the Magi to the baby Jesus. In the end, the signs in heaven were not enough; but there was a special revelation about this child that added the missing element. When they did find the child, the Magi left him rich gifts. And then God warned the Magi in a dream not to return to King Herod to tell him where the baby was. Because of that dream, the Magi went home another way, and the baby was kept safe from Herod.

Just look at all the things God does for this one child! Signs in heaven, miraculously helpful strangers, special messages from God, rich gifts, and warning dreams, divine protection against powerful bad people.

God will not force anybody to omit what is evil or to do what is good. How many children die, who might have been saved if even one of these things had been done for them? A sign that brings help from afar, a special instruction from God, huge amounts of money, a dream that protects from bad guys—these things are not enough to keep all children from early death, but surely many children could have been saved by any of these means.

Why does God give all these things to Jesus? Why doesn't God give even some of them to all children?

The answer to both questions is the same, I think. The first thing that happens after the Fall is that Abel, one of the children of Adam and Eve, dies at the hand of Cain, their other child. God could have protected Abel from Cain by any of the means God used to help Jesus—but God doesn't do so. From the very beginning of our post-Fall world, God establishes this policy: he will not force anybody to omit what is evil or to do what is good. God will call his people and shepherd them—but he will not force them. And so countless children die because of the evil of other human beings.

But the powerless baby Jesus is God's best hope of healing for human evil. Jesus is God's call of love. And that is why God's power can be used to keep Jesus from dying as a baby. He needs to die on the cross. That death is the last, most powerful call of love.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 2 **Epiphany of Our Lord, January 8, 2017**
CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Jan	8	8:00 am	SFD	Angela Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	Doris Murphy
Tue	Jan	10	9 & 11 am	Shawnee & Vienna DOC	
Wed	Jan	11	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Thr	Jan	12	11:30am, 1 pm	Marion Penitentiary	
Fri	Jan	13	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Jan	15	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Fam
			10:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners

Birthdays	
Jan 11	Alan Stachowiak
Jan 15	Christine Deaton

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Jan 8, 10 am Server: A. Webb, B. Bertran Lector: Arlene Dueker Gifts: Children Liturgy Ushers:MMcMahan,C Brown S. Widowski, S. Hupe E. Minister P Widowski B. Bishop, S. Belske Greeter: Janet Hacker</p>	<p>Sun, Jan 15, 10 am Server: J. Bayles, B. Bertran Lector: Rhi Slife Gifts: Dale, Beverly Bishop UshersM Palmer,J Bergmann K Felcyn, D. Bishop E. Minister B. Palmer P. Kalicki, S. Nelson Greeter: Cathy Kruep</p>	<p>Sun, Jan 22, 10 am Server: A.Webb, R.Sliffe Lector: Keith Felcyn Gifts: Children Liturgy Ushers:P.Kalicki, F. Dueker Mt Sliffe, Geri Tesina E. Minister L. Stoerger D. Bishop, D. Hopkins, Greeter: Joan Galey</p>
--	---	--

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Jan 8: 8:00 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: Myron Cole Gifts: M. Moore, L. Herbert Usher David Parks E. Min: Mary Treat</p>	<p>Sun, Jan 15: 8 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: S. Treat, D. Parks Usher: Fred Deaton E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>
--	---

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Jan 8	Remove Christmas Decorations
	St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
	St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word.....10 am
	Parish School of Religion resumes.....11 am
	Liturgy Committee Meeting in hall.....11 am
Tue Jan 10	Shawnee and Vienna Dept of Correction Mass.9,11am
Wed Jan 11	Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
	New Parish Council Discernment Session....7:00 pm
Thr Jan 12	Marion DOP Masses.....11:30 am, 1 pm
	Eucharistic Adoration at SP.....4 pm – 7:30 pm
Fri Jan 13	Weekday Mass.....12 noon
	SP Finance Council Mt.....5:30 pm
Sun Jan 15	2016 Envelope Contribution Statements distributed
	St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
	St Paul Mass & Parish Council Elections.....10 am
	Parish School of Religion11 am



CHILDREN LITURGY OF WORD and PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION will resume this Sunday.

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION This Sunday is the close of the Christmas season. Volunteers to remove Christmas decorations following mass are welcome.

LITURGY COMMITTEE (and anyone interested) will be meeting in the hall following this Sunday's Eucharist.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will be offered at St Paul on Thursday, Jan 12, 4-7:30 pm. Those able to participate are encouraged to sign the schedule sheet to assure that someone will be present at all times.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES STATEMENTS will be prepared for distribution on January 15th. Any envelope or contributions for 2016 must be submitted by Jan 8 to be included.

ALTAR SODALITY MT The meeting listed on the calendar for this Sunday has been rescheduled for January 29th.

DVD Video of the Parish Mission talks are available on the CD rack in the foyer for anyone who missed a presentation or would like to listen again. All talks on same DVD.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION will be held Jan 15 before and after mass. Candidates for the four seats are Vickie Anderson, Joan Galey, Cathy Kruep and Steven Pobst.

HOSTS FOR STUDENTS Starting on Thurs, Jan 12th and concluding Jan 19th, Vienna High School will be hosting 25 high school sophomore students from South Korea along with Korean teacher and administrator chaperons. While the Korean students are at Vienna they will be assigned to a student council representative whom they will follow to classes each day and spend the school day with. The South Korean students are also being hosted by various families in the community for overnight accommodations. They are still seeking a few host families with the hosts receiving a stipend. If you are interested in hosting please contact Kijoung Na via email at kijoung@gmail.com.

Book Study – *Four Signs of A Dynamic Catholic* by Matthew Kelly will be hosted at St Joseph, Marion at two different times on six Thursdays, beginning Jan 12: 11:30-1 pm and 6-7:30 pm. For questions or registration, contact Cindy Yong @ cpmsjm@frontier.com

OBSERVATIONS AND DREAMS. Magi. Looking. Longing. Star at its rising. Traveling with gifts. Asking for helpful directions. Seeing the child. Giving gifts. Here is the point of the "We Three Kings" story: **All people reflect God's radiance.** Even people from the east. Even outsiders. Gentiles and Jews all belong to the one Kingdom, Saint Paul reminds us. Them and us are one because God is One. Let us sing Psalm 72 all week: "Lord, every nation on earth will adore you."
· What signs (stars) do I see calling me to act? · What gifts
of self, of things) will I give away? · Who will I include in _____?

FOUR GOOD REASONS TO BELIEVE IN GOD

#1 It is more reasonable to believe the universe comes from someone than to believe it comes from nothing. If there is no Creator, why does anything exist? A philosophical argument puts it this way: "Why is there something rather than nothing? The universe as we know it exists without a sufficient reason for existing. Its only sufficient reason must be in Another, a Being beyond the world, supernatural, namely God."

#2 It is reasonable to believe in God from the laws of chance alone. Chance means that something occurs without intention or cause. The odds against the whole universe being formed by accident or chance are astronomical. If there were no God, everything would have to be an accident. Few people would bet that anyone could drop a bomb on a junkyard and produce a Boeing 747 or throw dynamite into a print shop or create Webster's dictionary. But the odds for these things happening are better than the odds of producing the universe by accident.

#3 We have a hunger deep inside that this world cannot fill, because it is meant to be filled by God. Nothing in this world can bring us complete happiness. Life doesn't make sense unless we are moving toward a God who will give us what we long for. As Saint Augustine said: "You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

#4 Belief in God makes sense because it brings out the best in us. When we see how belief in God is the foundation for the beautiful lives of people like Mother Teresa of Calcutta, we realize that it makes us better than we would be otherwise. We can be fully human only when we believe in God.

-- The Padre, Father Oscar Lukefahr, C.M.

Copyright 1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION Even though darkness covered the earth, This reading says, light and glory will come to Jerusalem's people. How can this seeming contradiction take place? Do you notice God's unexpected actions/epiphanies in your own life? When did people first learn that God wanted to save all creation and not just the chosen ones? Do you think God planned to reveal his grace to people little by little through history? How does God work in your life? In response to God's message, the Magi rode camels across half the known world. Is there anything that would cause you to put forth effort like that? What made their search worth it for them?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 2nd Sunday of Year Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40; 1Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34