



Pastor : Rev Thomas Barrett
Phone (618) 658 – 4501
E-mail: spccil@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: Steve Pobst

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 Law of Love - The focus of today's liturgy is "obedience to God's word." We are challenged to "keep the commandments, to walk in the law of the Lord."

In order to keep the commandments, we must first know what they are and then we must understand them correctly. Jesus deals with this problem in the Gospel. The Jews had a law about murder, but they had misread it to mean that one was in the clear as long as one was not actually, personally killing someone. Jesus challenged his Jewish followers to follow the correct interpretation of the law, which meant that they were not to be the kind of people who would kill or would do anything that leads to someone else's death.

We Christians believe that God's "command of perfect love" obliges us to do what is just and right. It is not good enough to stay out of trouble; we must work at setting things right in the world. It is not good enough to give food to the hungry; we must work at making ours a society in which people do not go hungry.

"Give me discernment, that I may observe your law and keep it with all my heart."

The responsibility for alleviating the plight of the poor falls upon all members of society. As individuals, all citizens have a duty to assist the poor through acts of charity and personal commitment. But private charity and voluntary action are not sufficient. We also carry out our moral responsibility to assist and empower the poor by working collectively through government to establish just and effective public policies.

U.S. Bishops, [*Economic Justice for All*](#), 1986: 189.

Gerald Darring

Vol 18 # 7 **Sixth Sunday of the Year, February 12, 2017**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Feb	12	8:00 am	SFD	Angela Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	Mary & Charles Querrey
Tue	Feb	14	9 & 11 am		Shawnee & Vienna DOC
Wed	Feb	15	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Feb	17	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Feb	19	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Family
			10:00 am	SP	Mary Everett

Birthdays	
Feb 13	Edlein Dillow
Feb 15	Mary Starrick
Feb 16	Doug Jones
Feb 18	Lynne Stoerger
	Jared Bergmann

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Feb 12, 10 am Server: B. Bertran, J. Bayles Lector: Joan Gale Gifts: Childen Liturgy Ushers: Mt Mlife, C Brown M McMahan, D. Bishop E. Minister P Shallenberger P Kalicki, B Bishop, Greeter: JoAnn Brown</p>	<p>Sun, Feb 19, 10 am Server: B. Bertran, R. Slife Lector: PSR Students Gifts: PSR Youth Ushers: M. Palmer, K Felcyn J Bergmann, F. Dueker E. Minister P. Widowski B. Palmer, S. Belske Greeter: Pat Kalicki</p>	<p>Sun, Feb 26, 10 am Server: A. Webb, J. Bayles Lector: Arlene Dueker Gifts: Ron, Marilyn Beanland Ushers J Slife, P Kalicki G Tesina, S. Hupe E. Minister S Nelson, D. Bishop, C Webb Greeter: Mike McMahan</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Feb 12: 8 am Server: Logan Shaw Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: Parks Family Usher: Fred Deaton E. Min: Myron Cole</p>	<p>Sun, Feb 19: 8:00 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Myron Cole Gifts: M Moore, L. Herbert Usher Stan Treat E. Min: Mary Treat</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Feb 12 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word.....10 am
- Parish School of Religion11 am
- Chili & Dessert Cook-off..... after 10 am Mass
- Tue Feb 14 Shawnee and Vienna DOC Mass.....9,11am
- SF church cleaning.....10 am
- Wed Feb 15 Ministerial Alliance.....12 pm
- Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
- SP Parish Council Mt...hall.....7:05 pm
- Fri Feb 17 Weekday Mass.....12 noon
- Sun Feb 19 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy.....10 am
- Parish School of Religion11 am



CHILI & DESSERT COOK-OFF All parishioners are encouraged to participate as contestants or judges in the Chili cook-off and Dessert Bake-off this Sunday, Feb 12, following the 10am mass in St Paul Parish Center. Prizes of \$25, 15, and 10 will be awarded. Prizes for Bingo following the meal are also needed.

MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL - Messenger renewal weekend was last weekend. If you overlooked your renewal envelope you ,may still subscribe to the print edition (\$25.00), the E-edition (online \$25.00) or both for \$30.00. Subscription envelopes are in the contribution envelope box.

SP PARISH COUNCIL MT The next meeting of St Paul Parish Council will be this Wed, Feb 15th, 7:05 pm in the Parish Hall. Extra copies of the minutes are on bulletin board.

WINE MAKING CLASS Frank Dueker will offer a wine making class at St Paul hall on Monday, Feb 20th, 7 pm for all who are interested. All materials provided.

MARDI GRAS NOON MASS, POTLUCK, CATHOLIC TRIVIA at St Francis DeSales is being planned for Sunday, February 26th, beginning 12 noon at church and following at the Stonefort Community Center. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for participants to indicate food dishes.

LADIES RETREAT Ladies of St. Paul Parish are you over-due for a relaxing weekend of peace, quiet, great food, and spiritual nourishment? Take some time for a women's retreat on Mar 31-Apr 2 (note change of date) at King's House in Belleville, Illinois. Reservations filling fast. If interested see Vickie Anderson after mass or call 658-1576 soon.

PALM BRANCHES from last Palm Sunday are burned Feb 26th to become ashes for Ash Wednesday. A container is in the church entrance to collect your old palm.

ST. CLEMENT OF ROME WURSTMARKT (All you can eat) 603 E. Market Street, McLeansboro, IL 62859 Sunday, February 19, 2017 Serving from 10:30 am - 3:00 pm. MENU Whole Hog Sausage-Mashed Potatoes Gravy-Sauerkraut-Applesauce-Dessert-Drinks. Tickets Adults \$10.00 Children (5-12) \$5.00 (Age 4 and under free except carry-outs) Carry outs Available; Door Prizes

THE "FOUR SIGNS OF A DYNAMIC CATHOLIC" PRESENTATION Saturday, March 4, 2017, featuring Jonathan Fanning, will be held on the 1st Saturday of Lent, March 4th at St. Joseph Church in Marion from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 P.M. and everyone is invited to attend. Tickets are available at St. Joseph and any of the co-hosting parishes as well as online at dynamiccatholic.com at a cost of \$20/ticket. For questions or registration, contact Cindy Yong at cpmsjm@frontier.com.

FREE WILL The freedom we all have is not a license to murder, be unfaithful, or tell lies. We **can do** these things. But we **can choose not to do** any of them. If we trust God – and God's saving plan for us and for the world – then we will want to be just, to act with righteousness, and to be in right relationship with God, with others, and with the whole of creation. What have I heard today about being right with God? What have I been taught today about right relationship with family and friends? · How will I choose to trust God this day, this week?

Sixth Sunday of the Year

Sirach 15:15-20; Psalm 119; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37

Law is often regarded as impersonal. Law is a massive structure that becomes clear only when we break it; then there are fines and penalties to be paid. But what about the person or persons behind the laws?

God's law is the focus of today's readings. The biblical view admits that law is part of human life. But more than that, law is a relationship between the individual, the community, and God. If we are to experience the divine and human enterprise fully, we must seek the heart of the law.

The Sirach passage takes up the theme of free will. The personal dimensions of rules and regulations are stressed: "To act faithfully is a matter of your own choice" (Sirach 15:15). The believer chooses between life (dialogue and community with God) and death (monologue and disruption of community).

Psalm 119 is the longest of all the psalms. Basically it provides a meditation on God's law. A number of synonyms are used for law: precepts, statutes, and words. Response to law is personal allegiance to God. Obedience to law demands all the energy and loyalty of the believer.

Matthew, in this section of the Sermon on the Mount, establishes the relationship of the Mosaic law to Jesus. The heart of religious obedience is not some lifeless statute but Jesus. Righteousness means the moral living out of God's will. The disciple surpasses the legalism of the Pharisees to devote self to God and neighbor. In Matthew 5:21-48 the embrace of law is expanded: Not only is murder prohibited, so too is anger toward neighbor; adultery is wrong and so is the regarding of women as sex objects.

Legislation comes from every direction: local ordinances, state and federal laws, Church law. The Christian discerns the values inherent in law. Our biblical heritage urges us to do more by raising the question: What is at the heart of the law?

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION "The eyes of God are on those who fear him; he understands [our] every deed." If so, should we be frightened? Or is God the one who not only understands, but forgives and loves even sinners?

How is it that the Spirit can scrutinize the depths of God? Discuss ways in which the Spirit scrutinizes you.

Jesus is critical of the Pharisees' type of righteousness, which focuses on externals. They make sure everyone sees when they fast, pray on street corners, wash hands, etc. How do these things relate to the inner Spirit of the law? How do they relate to loving God and neighbor?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 6th Sunday of Year Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18; Ps 103; 1Corinthians 3:16-23; Matthew 5:38-48