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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: 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

Love Your Enemy - If a schoolyard bully beats up your child, are you supposed to instruct her to turn the other cheek and let him do it again? Or should you alert the principal of the school and get him stopped? Christ's command to turn the other cheek seems to insist on that first alternative. And so it looks as if Christ is commanding us to help people do bad things with impunity.

But to think this is to be focused only on yourself and what you take to be your virtue. It is to forget entirely the wellbeing of the person engaged in evil.

Think about the matter this way. In the [Gospel](#) Reading for last Sunday, Christ says that anyone who hates his brother is shut out of heaven. If mere hatred is enough to get a person excluded from heaven, how about hatred in action, like physical attack? A schoolyard bully has hate in his heart and hate in action too. If you enable him to keep attacking, you are helping him to hell.

But in the Gospel Reading for this week Christ is asking us to *love* those who hurt us. How is love shown to a person by helping him towards hell?

So in exhorting us to turn the other cheek Christ is not commanding us to be an enabler of people doing bad things. He is exhorting us to love even our enemies *as ourselves*. If we love our enemies in this way, we will want to help them be what we ourselves want to be: people trying to love and obey Christ.

Think of Christ's command to turn the other cheek this way, then.

Ordinarily, a person given to evil will become worse and worse if he thinks he can hurt others with impunity. That is why to threaten him with reprisal is to tug him back from his own moral destruction. But sometimes a person is so sunk in evil that no threat of punishment would deter him. And then your best bet is to let him hit you again. If he does, he may finally understand the evil in himself and hate it.

So turning the other cheek might make a schoolyard bully worse; but, this attitude expressed in non-violent resistance did help get the British out of India.

Christ's command, then, is to do whatever it takes to *love* our enemies.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 8 **Seventh Sunday of the Year, February 19, 2017**
CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Feb	19	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Family
			10:00 am	SP	Mary Everett
Tue	Feb	21	9 & 11 am		Shawnee & Vienna DOC
Wed	Feb	22	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Thr	Feb	23	11:30am, 1 pm		Marion Penitentiary
Fri	Feb	24	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Feb	26	8:00 am	SFD	Angela Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	Mary Sherman

Birthdays
Feb 20 Jayda Bayles
Feb 24 Debby Brown
Feb 25 Vanessa Hopkins
Diane Pruemmer
Feb 26 Will Ashford

St Paul, Vienna

<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>	<p>Sun, Mar 5, 10 am Server: R Slife, L. Slife Lector: Steve Widowski Gifts: Childen Lit of Word Ushers: J. Nelson, Mt Mlife C. Zmuda, D Zmuda Sr E. Minister M. Nelson Dolly Hopkins, Md. Slife Greeter: Bill & Billie Porter</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<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>	<p>Sun, Feb 26: 8 am Server: Volunteer Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: R. Drone, D. Parks Usher: Myron Cole E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Feb 19 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy.....10 am
- Parish School of Religion11 am
- Tue Feb 21 Shawnee and Vienna DOC Mass.....9,11am
- March calendar info deadline
- Wed Feb 22 Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
- Thr Feb 23 Masses at Marion Penitentiary.....11:30 am, 1 pm
- Fri Feb 24 Weekday Mass.....12 noon
- Sun Feb 26 Burning of Palm for Ash Wednesday after masses
- Lay presenters speak on Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal
- St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- Resisting Happiness Book Discussion SP.....8:30 am
- St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word.....10 am
- Parish School of Religion11 am
- Set up church for Lent – following mass



SP PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES of the Feb 15th mt are available on the bulletin board

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR MARCH & APRIL are available on the 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.

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

CHILI & DESSERT COOK-OFF Thank you to all who provided their favorite recipes of chili and desserts last Sunday. Those voted best for Chili were Steve Pobst, Marsha Nelson, and Geri Tesina. The dessert prizes went to Madonna Slife and Katie Pobst (tie), and Joan Galey. Thanks especially to Arlene Dueker and Geri Tesina for coordinating event and to all who donated and participated.

RESISTING HAPPINESS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP will be offered at St Paul hall on Sunday mornings 8:30-9:45 am (with coffee and snack) beginning Feb 26th and on Wednesdays, 5:30-6:15 (with soup and sandwich) beginning March 1. Discussion Group will meet at St Francis DeSales on Tuesdays 6:30-7:45pm beginning March 7th. If you need an extra book, call the office.

LENTEN CHURCH DECORATION St Paul Liturgy Committee will be preparing the church environment for the season of Lent after the Sunday Mass, Feb 26th. They invite parishioners to participate.

MARDI GRAS PARTY Following last Sunday's poll of interest, two more households had to cancel due to injuries and medical treatment. Due to the small remaining number, the event has been cancelled for this year. The mass on Feb 26th will remain at 8:00 am.

Prayer Intention: Mr. Gary Mueller, whom the Bishop will ordain a Permanent Deacon Feb 26th at St. Nicholas Church, that the Holy Spirit will strengthen his devotion to the Word of God and his dedication to serving those in need.

VOCATION CORNER "I learned about my faith at a young age and attended Catholic schools. I worked in the Philippines and China and it was there that I sensed a calling to the priesthood entrusting my vocation to God. I made my consecration to Jesus through Mary as taught by St Louis de Montfort. I joined a religious order on Aug 15, the feast of the Assumption of Mary." Father Kenneth Lao, C.C., Associate pastor, St Timothy Catholic Church, North York, Ontario (Columbia, Nov 2015, p 34)

BE PERFECT LOVERS What a challenge! What an invitation! What a duty! The true identity of those loved by God is to be lovers. The duty is not to waste time and energy on cherishing hatred, vengeance, grudges, and retaliation. Since we belong to Christ (Baptism makes this so), we are already holy (set apart) like God, we are on the way to being perfect (devoted to divine instruction) like God. · How will I place no limits on love of neighbor – even if he or she does _____ to me? · How will I imitate God in being perfect?.

Seventh Sunday of the Year

Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18; Psalm 103; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23; Matthew 5:38-48

Sometimes our interaction with people becomes more business than charity. We do for others only what they have done for us. If we have been wronged then revenge is sought. It is a challenge to give love without IOUs. Today's readings are a call to act out of love and respect because that is the manner of our God.

The first reading is from a document known as the Holiness Code (Leviticus, Chapters 17-26). The name comes from the repetition of phrases like "You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy" (Leviticus 19:2). The theme of this document is that Israel, as Yahweh's covenant people, is to distinguish itself from all the other nations by reflecting Yahweh's holiness. This means correcting a wayward member when necessary but avoiding grudges and revenge.

The responsorial, Psalm 103, is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving that announces God's goodness to the psalmist and God's ongoing concern for Israel. Compassion is the hallmark of God's covenantal loyalty. The root for "compassion" and "merciful" is the Hebrew word for "womb." Thus it is Mother Yahweh who provides for her children.

In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus rejects behavior that is based solely on IOUs. Human legal systems (going to court) and checks and balances (a slap for a slap) are no longer acceptable. Jesus urges renouncing one's right to demand strict claims; he encourages walking the extra mile. Limits on love are not in keeping with the unconditional love of God who sends sun and rain on both the just and the unjust.

At home, on the job, and in our circle of friends we constantly experience the challenge of the Christian life. To show love when love is not returned, to practice justice when everyone else acts dishonestly, and to be compassionate when compassion does not well up automatically -- these are all occasions when the theory is truly tested.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION If we all "loved our neighbors as ourselves" do you think there would be wars, prisons, hunger and poverty? One way the Lord says to love your neighbor is, "You shall not bear hatred for your brother or sister in your heart. ... Cherish no grudge against any of your people." Is this an easy thing to do? Have you tried it? Will you try again?

St Paul says "... for the temple of God, which is you, is holy." And is your neighbor holy too? If this is so, do you treat all the people in your life as though they are holy temples? Why would Jesus tell you to "Love your enemies?" Who lives like that? Did Jesus show us a new revolutionary kind of acting when he showed us how to love our enemies? How far was he willing to go for them with his radical self-emptying? How far was the Father willing to go for his children?

Turning the Other Cheek - In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Christ commands us to turn the other cheek. How are we to make sense of this command?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 8th Sunday of Year Isaiah 49:14-15; Ps 62; 1Corinthians 4:1-5; Matthew 6:24-34