



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

Salt and Light In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus says that Christians are supposed to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. And he has harsh things to say about Christians who are dark and insipid. They're fit for nothing except being trampled under foot, he says. And you know what he means. When the dark wintry streets are dangerous with ice and snow, the city puts salt on the roads, and all the traffic crunches over it.

Given that sort of threat, who wouldn't want to know what it means to be salt and light for the world?

Well, here's something to notice. Salt and light share a funny characteristic. Each of them is discernible by sense perception—we taste salt, and we see light—but neither of them is usually meant to be a direct or main object of perception. Nobody makes salt for dinner. We put salt on the chicken, but the chicken is the dinner. The chicken tastes better if we salt it; and enjoying the chicken, not the salt, is what we are after. Light is like this, too. We turn on a light not in order to look at the light, but in order to look at other things by means of the light.

The earthly people will savor the goodness of *God*. So if a Christian is the light of the world, he is enabling the world to see something other than himself. And what Jesus goes on to say makes it clear that this something else is in fact the Lord. A Christian is to let his light shine in such a way that the people of the world glorify God. The worldly people couldn't glorify God if God were in darkness for them. So a Christian's life is to shine in such a way that what the people of the world see is the Lord.

The image of salt is similar. If a Christian is the salt of the earth, he makes something else appeal to the taste of the people of the earth. And that will be God too. The earthly people will savor the goodness of *God* when *Christians* are the salt of the earth.

So to be light and salt is to live our lives in such a way that the earthly people and the worldly people are drawn to "*Taste and see that the Lord is good.*" ([Psalm 34:8](#)) It's a challenge, isn't it?

Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 6 **Fifth Sunday of the Year, February 5, 2017**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Feb	5	8:00 am	SFD	Larry Haase Sr
			10:00 am	SP	Mary Sherman
Tue	Feb	7	9 & 11 am		Shawnee & Vienna DOC
Wed	Feb	8	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Thr	Feb	9	11:30, 1 pm	USP	Marion
Fri	Feb	10	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Feb	12	8:00 am	SFD	Angela Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	Mary & Charles Querrey

Birthdays
Feb 7 Ken Retz
Feb 9 Madonna Slife
Feb 11 Leslie Miller Patrick Whittington

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Feb 5, 10 am Server: R. Slife, A. Webb Lector: Joe Nelson Gifts: Debby Brown Fam Ushers C Zmuda, D. Zmuda P. Widowski, S. Widowski E. Minister F. Dueker M. Nelson, K. Felcyn Greeter: Sandy Belske</p>	<p>Sun, Feb 12, 10 am Server: B. Bertran, J. Bayles Lector: Joan Galey 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>
--	---	---

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Feb 5: 8:00 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: Marietta Moore Gifts: R. Drone, M Cole Usher David Parks E. Min: Mary Treat</p>	<p>Sun, Feb 12: 8 am Server: Logan Shaw Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: Parks Family Usher: Fred Deaton E. Min: Myron Cole</p>
--	---

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Feb 5	St Francis DeSales Mass	8:00 am
	St Paul Mass	10 am
	Parish School of Religion	11 am
	1 st Sunday Social + Liturgy Committee Mt.....	11am
Mon Feb 6	SFD Parish Council Meeting.....	5:30 pm
Tue Feb 7	Shawnee and Vienna Dept of Correction Mass.....	9,11am
Wed Feb 8	Weekday Mass.....	6:30 pm
Thr Feb 9	USP Marion masses.....	11:30 am, 1 pm
	Eucharistic Adoration at SP.....	4 – 7:30 pm
Fri Feb 10	Weekday Mass.....	12 noon
Sun Feb 12	St Francis DeSales Mass	8:00 am
	St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word.....	10 am
	Parish School of Religion	11 am
	Chili & Dessert Cook-off.....	after 10 am Mass



MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL - Messenger renewal weekend is the first weekend in February (February 5, 2017). Please renew your subscription or become new subscribers 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.

BLESSING OF THROATS through intercession of St Blaise will be offered after masses this weekend.

FIRST SUNDAY SOCIAL will be offered with light refreshments in the hall following this weekend's mass. **Liturgy Committee** members will meet in a corner after initial greetings and refreshments.

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 1 (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.

VOCATION FOCUS We should consider this as a day to say "THANK YOU" to those who serve us in our daily living which certainly includes our religious life. World Day for Consecrated Life is observed February 2nd, Candlemas Day. It is celebrated in our Parishes this weekend. Let us make it a point to begin saying "THANK YOU" to our Sisters and Brothers who have made sacrifices for us by accepting God's call. Let them know how important they are in the life of your church and how they help you to honor and pray to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

SFD PARISH COUNCIL MT St Francis Parish Council will have meeting on this Monday, Feb 6, 5:30 pm. Agenda available at weekend mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will be offered this Thursday, 4 – 7:30 pm at St Paul. Those who can participate are encouraged to sign the schedule on the bulletin board.

CHILI & DESSERT COOK-OFF All parishioners are encouraged to participate as contestants or judges in the Chili cook-off and Dessert Bake-off on 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.

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.

CHURCH GRASS CUTTING A proposal to have church lawn cut by volunteers on a once a month rotation. If you would be willing to participate contact Fr Tom.

GIVE FOOD, SHELTER, AND CLOTHING. Isaiah tells this to God's people. The long captivity in Babylon is ending. They are returning home. They are invited **to do** mercy works. Later, Jesus tells his disciples **to be** salt and light. What Isaiah tells the First People of the Covenant and Jesus tells his followers – is told to us today. How will I be merciful? What do I have that I can give to another? How will I be salt? How will I be a flavorful follower, a zesty disciple of Christ the Lord? How will I act in the light of day? How will those acts give glory to God?

Fifth Sunday of the Year

Isaiah 58:7-10; Psalm 112; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16

Specially trained individuals are often asked to shed light on areas of confusion and uncertainty. Light eliminates our darkness and eases our tension. The metaphor of light goes all the way back to the first chapter of Genesis when the creation of light means the end of chaos. This same imagery is found in today's Scriptures.

Around 500 B.C. the author of Isaiah 56-66 confronted the post-exilic community in Judah. They complained that their fasting did not have any positive results. In response the prophet points out that a genuine fast means someone has benefited. For example, if bread is shared with the hungry "then your light shall break forth like the dawn" (Isaiah 58:8).

Psalm 112 is constructed around this proverb: The righteousness of the just lasts forever but the desire of the wicked is frustrated. The psalmist sees great blessing for the righteous, "They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright" (Psalm 112:4). The image of light clarifies the thrust of graciousness, mercy, and justice.

Matthew sees the persecuted as the world's benefactors. Harassed Christians are commissioned to enlighten humanity, "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14). Matthew develops this dimension of Christian discipleship by comparing Christ's followers to a city perched on a hill, clear and visible. Disciples shed light on darkness; to renege on this task would be to hide a lamp under a bushel basket.

The narrow constraints of ego often focus the spotlight on one's self. Society encourages this kind of individualism. Light is made into a personal commodity. The sacred writers today urge us to reassess our gifts and talents -- our lights -- as property of the community. Our sisters and brothers are truly human subjects within range of our generosity and compassion. To enlighten the path of these fellow humans is to magnify God's presence. Darkness cedes to light, and chaos gives way to order.

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

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

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION "Share your bread. ... Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer ... here I am." Is God there when you are "satisfying the afflicted" and you ask for his help? Can you give examples of this?

Can we see, using human wisdom alone, how crucifixion can triumph over sin and death? If not, then what allows us to see beyond human appearances? Did Paul want our faith to rest on the power of God instead of elaborate arguments?

Jesus asked us to be like light and salt. What determines our degree of saltiness or brightness?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 6th Sunday of Year Sirach 15:15-20; Ps 119; 1Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37