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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

Trust After Heartbreak - In the [Gospel](#) Reading, the risen Jesus appears to ten of his apostles. Thomas is missing. The ten are convinced that Jesus is risen; but when Thomas rejoins them after Jesus has vanished, Thomas is highly skeptical.

A week later, Jesus appears to all eleven of them and invites Thomas to make good on his skeptical challenge: Put your finger in my wounds and believe, Jesus tells him. Augustine thinks that, without touching Jesus, Thomas believes. The Gospel does not say that Thomas did touch Jesus, Augustine says; and Jesus says that Thomas *saw* and believed, not that Thomas *touched* and believed.

The bigness of Thomas's heart and the greatness of his trust in Jesus can be seen by how hard Thomas fell when he thought his trust was betrayed. But, of course, this is just what the other ten apostles did in the first appearance of Christ, when Thomas was absent: They saw and believed.

Thomas had trusted Jesus and believed he was the Messiah—and then the Romans killed Jesus and, with Jesus, the hope in Jesus that Thomas had. How much Thomas trusted before the crucifixion can be understood by the way Thomas hardened his heart against trust in the aftermath. “The bigger they are, the harder they fall,” we say. And the bigness of Thomas's heart and the greatness of his trust in Jesus can be seen by how hard Thomas fell when he thought his trust was betrayed.

Thomas thought he had made a fool of himself by believing in Jesus, and he was not going to let his heart be broken again. And so when he heard the other apostles express their belief, he scoffed. In scoffing, Thomas protected himself against further heartbreak by turning his back on Jesus and all that Jesus meant to him.

And maybe that is why Jesus left Thomas out of his first appearance to the apostles. When heartbreak is so powerful, it can need space to breathe, to let its pain come out fully. Maybe if Thomas had not been able to move all the way from heartbreak to skepticism, he would not have been able to move back to Jesus so powerfully either. Without any more evidence than any of the other apostles had, Thomas says to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!”

Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 17 **Second Sunday of Easter, April 23, 2017**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Apr	23	8:00 am	SFD	Angela Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	Bill, Mary Anne Mudd
Tue	Apr	25	9, 11 am	DOC	Masses Shawnee, Vienna
Wed	Apr	26	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Apr	28	12:00 pm	SP	Fr Vito Lepardo
Sun	Apr	30	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Fam
			10:00 am	SP	Clement Kubian

<p>Birthdays: Apr 23 Dolly Hopkins Apr 24 Dale Bishop Tom Kruep Apr 28 Laura Bayles Xennia Gruszcyk</p>

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Apr 23, 10 am Server: A. Webb, B Bertran Lector:Joan Galey Gifts: Children Lit of Word Ushers: J. Slife, K. Felcyn G. Tesina, S. Hupe E. Minister S. Nelson B. Palmer, F. Dueker Greeter: Mike McMahan</p>

<p>Sun, Apr 30, 10 am Server: R. Slife, L. Slife Lector: PSR Students Gifts: PSR Students Ushers:C Brown D Zmuda C Zmuda, PI Widowski, E. Minister P. Widowski M. Nelson, Md Slife Greeter: Carolyn Johnson</p>
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<p>Sun, May 7, 10 am Server: J. Bayles, A. Webb Lector: tba Gifts: 1st Communicants Ushers:J Nelson,M McMahan, S Widowski, F Dueker E. Minister C. Webb B. Palmer, P Shallenberger Greeter: Sandy Belske</p>
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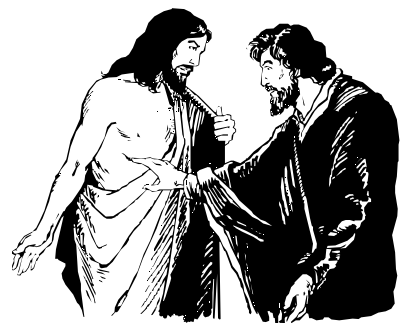
St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, April 23: 8 am Server: Logan Shaw Lector: Cecilia Parks Gifts: L Herbert, R Drone Usher: Myron Cole E. Min: Mary Treat</p>

<p>Sun, April 30: 8:00 am Server: Mary Treat Lector: Marietta Moore Gifts: Deaton Family Usher: Arnold Morse E. Min: Brenda Morse</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Apr 23 Divine Mercy Sunday
 - St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
 - St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word.....10 am
 - PSR Classes.....classrooms.....11 am
 - Liturgical Ministry Fair...hall.....11 am
- Tue Apr 25 Masses at Shawnee, Vienna DOC.....9 am, 11 am
 - May calendar info deadline
- Wed Apr 19 Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
- Fri Apr 21 Weekday Mass.....12 pm
- Sat Apr 29 Ladies Luncheon..SP Hall.....11am-1 pm
- Sun Apr 30 Catholic Home Missions Collection
 - St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
 - St Paul Mass & PSR Ministries.....10 am
 - Parish & PSR Closing Picnic.....11 am



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY The first Sunday after Easter was designated by Pope John Paul II as Divine Mercy Sunday, celebrating God's unfathomable love and its constant yearning to forgive us for the ways in which we fail our obligations of covenant life.

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES from the April 19th meeting are available in the foyer by bulletin board.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FAIR A special invitation to all parishioners to attend a Ministry Fair in the parish hall on Sunday, April 23rd, following the 10 am mass. Tables will be set up giving information and explanation of what is involved in serving in various liturgical ministries. Opportunity given to ask questions of those involved in that ministry.

FISH FRIES REPORT Profit on the March 17th Fish Fry was \$802.39. and on the March 31 Fish Fry, \$879.25. Proceeds from the first Fish Fry are to be divided between Vienna's Food Pantry (at First Baptist Church) and Daystar (at Cairo, IL) and proceeds from the second Fish Fry are to be divided between the David Hannan Family medical expenses and the Heather-Treat Cancer Fund.

MAY CALENDAR INFO Information for the May calendar is due at the parish office by Tuesday of this week.

LADIES LUNCHEON St Paul Altar Sodality/Council of Catholic Women will host a Ladies Luncheon in the parish hall on Saturday, April 29, 11am – 1 pm. Invitation has been extended to all ladies of the parish and guests.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS Next week we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Right now over 40 percent of dioceses in the US are considered home missions because they are unable to fund essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Your support of this appeal helps ease the struggle of these dioceses. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. Info can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

CLOSING PSR MASS AND PARISH PICNIC St Paul Youth will celebrate the journey of learning during the PSR classes with a closing Eucharist at the 10 am mass next Sunday, which will be followed with a parish and PSR picnic following. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Side dishes welcome.

TIME AND TALENT SURVEY Parishioners are asked to review their giftedness and indicate ways they are open to serving the parish community and beyond on the annual Time and Talent Survey that will be presented at next weekend mass.

TREASURING OUR ANCIENT HISTORY Continue to treasure all week the First Reading – Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47 [www.usccb.org/bible/readings/042317.cfm]. It lays out the four pillars of the Christian life, the four treasured ways of being Christ in the world: (1) absorbing the teaching of the apostles and catechesis, (2) being community, (3) praying and celebrating the sacramental life, and (4) doing the works of charity and mercy. This is the beloved method of training and formation in the Christian life. We do it with catechumens because we do it with ourselves week by week, season by season, year by liturgical year. This is how we stay faithful. · What do I want to learn or relearn? · Who needs me to be with them? · What can I take to prayer? · Who can I serve?.

Second of Sunday Easter

Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 118; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

Easter morning images are vivid in the Christian imagination. We recall the visit of the women, the discovery of the empty tomb, and the subsequent appearance of the risen Lord. The problem with this comfortable familiarity is that we might become Easter spectators rather than Easter participants. Today's readings show that Easter is a call to action.

Luke, in this section from Acts, paints a picture of the Christian community in the aftermath of Easter. He reveals to his audience some of those basic elements that make the community specifically Christian. He shows that such a community finds its source of unity in the apostolic teaching. He also speaks of the breaking of the bread, which has clear Eucharistic overtones. In addition, he mentions prayer and attendance at the temple.

Luke, author of Acts, elaborates on the communal life, that fellowship by which one's goods are placed at the service of the needy. The basis for such sharing is Easter faith: Those who believe share all things in common. For Luke's audience, faith in the Resurrection means faith in action.

Writing from Rome some eighty years after Christ's death, the author of First Peter addresses himself to rural gentile Christians living in what is now northern Turkey. He sets out to strengthen their Christian lives in a pagan atmosphere. He assures them that they "are being protected by the power of God through faith" (vs. 5). This tried faith will result in the joy of Christ's Second Coming.

In the gospel reading, Jesus' Easter appearance to the disciples links faithful acceptance of the risen Jesus with the command to forgive. When Christian disciples act upon Easter faith by communicating forgiveness either to individuals or communities, they represent the Jesus who greeted the disciples with "peace."

To share with the less fortunate, to reject conformity with the world, to undo the shackles of pride in forgiving is to show that faith in the Resurrection means faith in action.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION Can you describe this early Christian community in a short sentence? Are there other groups that fit your description? How is your faith strengthened by the faith of others? Why did they "eat their meals with exultation"? What fills you with "awe"? Resurrections weren't an everyday occurrence at the time this Gospel was written. Was it unusual for Thomas to be skeptical? Does John's Gospel story of Thomas help those through the ages, who may have doubts about Jesus' resurrection?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 2nd Sunday of Easter Acts 2:14,22-33; Ps 16; 1Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35