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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 Trea

Trustees: Myron Cole, Stan Treat

Suffering Today we celebrate Jesus, the suffering Messiah. He is the one of whom Isaiah foretold: “My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. He is the Christ who took the form of a slave, ... obediently accepting even death, death on a cross.” He is the savior who “suffered willingly for sinners” and whose suffering makes us pleasing to God.

We all suffer in our own way. We experience physical pain and hardship. We suffer watching our friends and relatives suffer. We are often offended or abandoned by others, and we add to our suffering by our own sinfulness.

The world around us is filled with suffering: the victims of war and poverty; people living in streets or in shantytowns; starving children; lonely elderly; people dying of AIDS, cancer, or some other disease.

Today's liturgy teaches us “to welcome our suffering,” to bear witness to God by following Christ's example of suffering. We pray that the world “united with him in his suffering on the cross may share his resurrection and new life.”

Had Jesus merely said that his mission was to set people free from sin and all forms of oppression, his words would have fallen on deaf ears. He had to work at this task of liberation. He not only talked about freeing the poor and oppressed but, undeterred by criticism, actually welcomed the poor and sinners to share at his table. Like Jesus, we must be able to accompany others in their suffering and be willing to suffer with them.

U.S. Bishops, [*To the Ends of the Earth*](#), 1986, 48.

Gerald Darring

Vol 18 # 15 **Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Apr	9	8:00 am	SFD	Angela Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	Mary Sherman
Tue	Apr	11	11:30 am	Chrism	Mass-Cathedral
Wed	Apr	12	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Thr	Apr	13	5:00 pm	SFD	For the Parishioners
			7:00 pm	SP	For the Parishioners
Fri	Apr	14	GF Service	SFD	3:00 pm... SP 7:00 pm
Sat	Apr	15	8:00 pm	SP	For the deceased
Sun	Apr	16	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Fa
			10:00 am	SP	Bill Kinkead

Thursday, Apr 13, 7 pm
Server: R. Slife, A. Webb
Lector: Madonna Slife
Gifts: Volunteers
E. Minister C Webb
 P Kalicki, A Dueker

Friday, Apr 14, 7 pm
Server: A. Webb, J. Bayles
Lector: J. Nelson, S Widowski
E. Minister P Widowski
Ushers: J Nelson, Mt Slife
 S Widowski, K Felcyn

Saturday, Apr 15, 8 pm
Server: volunteer
Lector: Keith Felcyn
E. Minister M Nelson, M Slife
Ushers: J Nelson, Mt Slife

St Paul, Vienna

Sun, Apr 9, 10 am
Server: B. Bertran, A. Webb
Lector: S. Widowski, K Felcyn
Gifts: Tom, Wendy Bowman
Ushers: M McMahan, J Nelson
 Mt. Slife, F. Dueker
E. Minister V. Anderson
 Z. Garrett, C. Webb
Greeter: Matt & Rhi Slife

Sun, Apr 16, 10 am
Server: J. Bayles, R. Slife
Lector: Rhi Slife
Gifts: Debby Brown Family
Ushers: M. Palmer, P Kalicki,
 J. Bergmann, D. Bishop
E. Minister A. Dueker
 D. Hopkins, V. Anderson
Greeter: Janet Hacker

**St Francis DeSales,
 Stonefort**

Sun, April 9: 8 am
Server: Logan Shaw
Lector: Christine Deaton
Gifts: M Moore, L Herbert
Usher: Stan Treat
E. Min: Cecilia Parks

Sun, April 16: 8:00 am
Server: Brenda Morse
Lector: Mary Treat
Gifts: M Cole, F Deaton
Usher David Parks
E. Min: Christine Deaton

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Apr 9 Palm Sunday – Blessing of Palm & Procession
 Stations of the Cross.....20 minutes before masses
 Sacrament of Reconciliation at SFD.....7:15 am
 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
 St Paul Mass10 am
 Parish School of Religion11 am
 Seder Meal & Potluck at SP.....11:30 am
- Mon Apr 10 Parish Reconciliation at St Joseph Marion...6:00 pm
- Tue Apr 11 Chrism Mass at Cathedral, Belleville.....11:30 am
 Resisting Happiness Book Discussion SF....6:30 pm
- Wed Apr 12 Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
- Thr Apr 13 Holy Thursday, Lord's Supper. SF 5 pm....SP..7 pm
- Fri Apr 14 Community Good Friday Service.1st
 Methodist.12:10pm
 Day of Fast & Abstinence..Collection for Holy Land
 Good Friday Service.....SFD...3 pm....SP...7 pm
- Sat Apr 15 Easter Vigil Service and Mass.....SP..8:00 pm
- Sun Apr 16 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
 St Paul Mass10 am
 Easter Egg Hunt at SP.....following 10 am Mass



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be prayed a final time beginning 20 minutes before Sunday mass this Lent.

BLESSING AND PROCESSION OF PALM will begin in the parish hall this Sunday. Blessed Palm is a sacramental and should be used with reverence to encourage our faithful recognition and following of Jesus throughout the year.

SEDER MEAL AND POTLUCK to appreciate the background to the Covenant and the Paschal meal from which the Eucharist originated, parishioners are invited to a Seder commemoration followed by potluck meal on Sunday, April 9, following the mass.

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS Deadline to be included in Easter insert is Apr 12.

FOOD COLLECTION FOR DAYSTAR & KITCHEN TABLE in Cairo during Lent. Please consider sharing food items to support the Church's ministry to those seeking assistance. Suggested items include pasta/sauce, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned meats, mac and cheese, pancake mix/syrup, ramen noodles, canned vegetables, fruit, soups, crackers

RICE BOWLS FOR CRS Collection of Rice Bowls will take place during Holy Week and Easter. A marked container will be in the church entrance.

COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE will be held at First United Methodist Church, N 4th St in Vienna over noon hour (12:10-12:50 pm) on Friday, April 14th.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION – Through the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land as a witness of peace, supporting Catholics there in parishes and schools, maintaining Christian shrines and caring for refugees in the Holy Land. Please be generous.

HOLY THURSDAY: EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER – Washing, Dining, and Remembering. We hear proclaimed again this day the story of washing the feet of others. A task so menial, lords and ladies did not do it. But the Lord Jesus did. No task is beneath his doing – nor ours. We also hear of dining on bread and wine irrevocably changed. This repeatable task is for remembering liturgically Jesus the Christ and his Paschal Mystery in Body and Blood.

GOOD FRIDAY: THE PASSION OF THE LORD We hear proclaimed today the story of Jesus and his passion and death. It is a partial remembering of his Paschal Mystery. The ending today, with the empty cross, is glimpse of the complete story. Though dying is an end of sorts, it is not the end of this story. Nor is it the end of our stories. We know it. We believe it. Death leads to new life. Empty cross is sign of everlasting life.

EASTER VIGIL AND SUNDAY Bathing and Dying. We see proclaimed this Easter night (or, at least, hear it proclaimed Easter Day) the elect going into the font for baptismal washing and baptismal dying (our two main images for Baptism). Washing away the old, dying to past life. Then, coming out brand new. And seeing / hearing this, we are renewed. Again. This year. Renewed again to be on baptismal mission. Renewed again to be missionary disciples.

Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14--27:66

In the face of violence, the human tendency is to strike back. If we are put down by stronger opponents, we retaliate; if we are innocent victims of prejudice, we lash out. Today's readings discourage revenge and urge that, even in the face of pain and frustration, we arm ourselves with compassion.

The passage from Isaiah describes the prophet as a servant obedient to God's Word, but not all obeyed the call of Isaiah. This refusal led to frequent humiliations (beating, plucking of the beard, buffets, spitting). Yet the servant did not react with violence. Rather, he continued to hope that God would support him in his trial and utterly vindicate him.

Jesus' attitude toward violence is clear in the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus calls blest those who are insulted and persecuted because of him (Matthew 5:11). At the time of his arrest, Jesus practices what he preached on the mountain. Jesus rejects the use of violence to save himself. He could have called down legions of angels, but he did not. Matthew explains Jesus' strategy for combating violence: the force of truth.

In the scene of the mockery by the soldiers, Matthew highlights the escalating violence. Rather than strike back, Jesus teaches that the purpose of power is to serve others. "Just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28).

The uses of violence are many in our modern society. Some are subtle, such as refusing to speak when we have been hurt by friends or family. In the world, we witness the escalation of violence. We take it for granted that only violence can overcome violence. Bigger and better arms and better planned strategy appear to be the only reasonable response.

Jesus urges us to review our ways of violence. Jesus' way is one of patience, endurance, and even death if necessary. Jesus' message is to arm yourself with compassion, not violence.--

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION "Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear."

What do you think the speaker of this reading hears? Is it about suffering? Are you reluctant to stand up for justice if it involves discomfort to you? Is there any small thing you could do to remedy someone's suffering? Explain.

"Agape" love (pronounced *ah-gah-pay*) is selfless and free from self-concern and self-preoccupation. It includes conversion, vulnerability, suffering, and seeking for justice. Explain Jesus' love for us in terms of agape. How does it help redeem the world?

The Cross of Christ bears the suffering and the sin of mankind, including our own. Jesus accepts all this with open arms, bearing on his shoulders our crosses and saying to us: "Have courage! You do not carry your cross alone! I carry it with you. I have overcome death and I have come to give you hope, to give you life" (cf. [Jn 3:16](#)).

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Easter Sunday Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9