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ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Sat – 5:30 pm 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

Lightening the Load In the [Gospel](#) Christ says that his yoke is easy and his burden is light. But how can this be true? Doesn't each Christian among us have a heavy burden to carry?

Nobody needs me to say what makes a burden heavy. Everyone can look at his own life and make the list. And even if there is some person who has no worries or sadness for himself, he must be a very lonely person, if he is not carrying a burden for someone else whom he loves.

So, in what sense is Christ's yoke easy and his burden light?

One can offer one's life as gift to Christ. To see why Christ's saying really is true after all, consider the condition Christ sets for getting the gift he offers to us, the easy yoke and the light burden: "Come to me," he says.

To come to someone is to let that person come into you. It is to be open to him, to let his will make a difference to what you yourself will and do. This isn't safe, generally speaking.

But when the person to whom you come is Christ himself, the vulnerability which openness brings with it is more than matched by the love Christ gives. In the gift of that love, everything that might be loss is turned into gift given and gift received, to be returned again in love.

Even death is like this. One does not have to face death as if it were a depredation. Within the love of Christ, what might be only irrevocable loss of one's life can become a sharing with Christ too. One can offer one's life as gift to Christ, with Christ, for Christ, as one goes through death to arrive at life in love in Christ.

And if the heavy load of death can be lightened in this way, then what Christ says is true about every other heavy burden, too: in coming to him, in shared love with him, we will find that his yoke is easy and his burden is light.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 28 **14th Sunday of the Year, July 9, 2017**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	July	9	8:00 am	SFD	Rev Vito Lepardo
			10:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners
Tue	July	11	9, 11 am	DOC	Masses No Service
Wed	July	12	6:30 pm	SP	No Service
Fri	July	14	12:00 pm	SP	No Service
Sat	July	15	5:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	July	16	8:00 am	SFD	Mary Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners

St Paul, Vienna

Birthdays:
Jul 9 Logan Shaw
Jul 12 Justus Bayles
Jul 13 Zach Kolb
Jul 14 Cathy Kruep
Jul 15 Edna Goddard

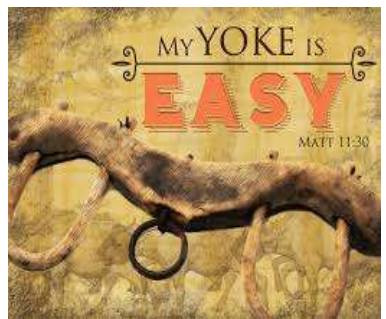
<p>Sun, Jul 9, 10 am Server: R. Slife, J. Bayles Lector: Sarah Nelson Gifts: J. Hacker, D Hopkins Ushers: M Palmer, Mt Slife J. Bergmann, F. Dueker E. Minister S. Belske D. Hopkins, S. Moore Greeter: Carolyn Johnson</p>	<p>Sun, July 16, 10 am Server: B. Bertran, A Webb Lector: Steve Widowski Gifts: Steve, Kathy Hupe Ushers:S. Hupe, J Nelson G Tesina, K. Felcyn E. Minister L Stoerger P Widowski, S Nelson Greeter: Marc, Beth Palmer</p>	<p>Sun, Jul 23, 10 am Server: B Bertran, R. Slife Lector: Arlene Dueker Gifts: C. Johnson, C Kruep Ushers: D Zmuda , C Zmuda P. Widowski, Mt Slife E. Minister M Nelson A.Dueker, Z. Garrett Greeter: Vickie Anderson</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, July 9: 8:00 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Marietta Moore Gifts: M. Cole, R. Drone Usher Fred Deaton E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>	<p>Sun, July 16: 8 am Server: Brenda Morse Lector: Myron Cole Gifts: Parks Family Usher: Arnold Morse E. Min: Mary Treat</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sat	Jul	8	Carmelite Mission Appeal for Madagascar at masses
			St Paul Mass.....5:30 pm
Sun	Jul	9	St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
			St Paul Mass.....10:00 am
Tue	Jul	11	SF Church cleaning.....10:00 am
Wed	Jul	12	No Weekday Mass...6:30 pm
Fri	Jul	14	No Weekday Mass.....12 pm
Sat	Jul	15	CCW Lunch & Outing at Cobden.....11 am
			St Paul Mass.....5:30 pm
Sun	Jul	16	St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
			St Paul Mass.....10:00 am
			Altar Sodality/CCW Meeting in hall....11:00 am



MISSION COOP APPEAL We welcome Fr. Thekkudan Johnson, C.M.I., a Carmelite missionary Priest, to our parish this weekend of July 8 and 9. He is preaching at all the Masses and will make an appeal on behalf of Carmelites Mission in Madagascar. They need our special support for the training of seminarians and other social projects. There will be a second collection to help the missionary activities of the Carmelites. Please keep Fr. Johnson and Carmelite missionaries in your prayers. An envelope is included in this weekend's bulletin. Make out checks to St Paul Church with notation Madagascar Mission.

MISSION APPEAL HOMILY A copy of Fr. Johnson's homily is available on the table by the prayer request sheet.

ATTENTION ALL LADIES OF PARISH! We are planning a Saturday afternoon outing on July 15 to Cobden, IL. We'll begin with an 11:00 am lunch at the Yellow Moon. Then you're on your own to explore Cobden's unique shops and/or the Union County Historical Museum within walking distance from the restaurant. We need a head count for lunch, so please sign up in the foyer and indicate if you would like to carpool from St Paul church at 10:15 am.

The Altar Sodality/CCW will meet next Sunday following the 10 am mass in the Parish Hall. An offering will be taken up at the end of mass to support their ministry.

FOR EMERGENCY NEEDS you may contact 618-759-1707.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Due to scheduling conflicts, the July Eucharistic Adoration has been moved to the third Thursday, July 20th, 4-7:30 pm. Please consider indicating on the bulletin board schedule if you can be present for a 30 minute period.

INTO MY VINEYARD formation for Lay Ecclesial (Church) Ministers in the Belleville Diocese will begin in September 2017. **NOW is a time of inquiry for both *interested parishioners and individuals identified by Parish and Partnership leaders.***

The shortage of priests means that each parish must raise up men and women who will assist their Pastors in parish ministry -- as servant/leaders. Your parish needs YOU to step forward! For more information, contact your Pastor and go to the *INTO MY VINEYARD* info / application page at the diocesan website: <http://www.diobelle.org/offices/into-my-vineyard>. Check the bulletin board for a FAQ sheet with more details. An interview with Bishop Braxton in the June 29th Messenger also provides information and goals.

VOCATION CORNER Today Jesus invites us to take up his yoke for it "is easy and my burden light." (Mt 11:30). This is for each and every one of us. We are to follow our vocation -- married, single, ordained or consecrated. We are ALL the Church and must contribute in our prescribed way. Are we ready to answer His call?

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ". . . and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light." Find out how Love and communication can ease your burdens by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. The next weekend is on August 4 - 6, 2017. To register or for more information call 314-649-7317 or go online to www.stl-wwme.org.

14th Sunday of the Year

Zechariah 9:9-10; Psalm 145; Romans 8:9,11-13; Matthew 11:25-30

How often we live by "production is the name of the game" and "business is business." This ethic means that only those who meet our standards, goals, and expectations are worth our time and energy; others are expendable. This mind-set attaches very little value to compassion. Today's readings contrast pragmatic business mentality with God's goals.

The excerpt from Zechariah is often dated after the arrival of Alexander the Great in Palestine in 332 B.C. The author offers a message of consolation now that Israel is subject to yet another conqueror. The author longs for a return of the Davidic kingdom, but in the form of a humble king riding an ass (an animal linked to the anointing of kings) rather than a horse (an animal linked to warfare). Now will be a time of peace during which North and South will be unified and Israel's borders will extend to all the civilized world.

The responsorial psalm extols God for God's ongoing care. The psalmist announces that this God "is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" (Psalm 145:8). The words "merciful" and "compassionate" derive from the Hebrew word for womb. Divine maternal compassion lifts up the bowed down.

Matthew develops the image of Jesus after the manner of Lady Wisdom (see Proverbs 8-9). Like Lady Wisdom, Jesus invites the disciple to learn his message by accepting his person. He directs that message to the religious outcasts of his day. Jesus speaks of "rest," that is, the peace associated with the Messiah.

The opportunity for compassion is everywhere. Zechariah suggests that we break into joy only when we give over and above the minimum to the indigent. The psalmist recommends that we show maternal concern by not counting the extra cost. The Matthean Jesus urges us to make the yoke of suffering lighter by becoming involved. Compassion is the hallmark of the Christian.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What ideas do you associate with the word *king*? Is "meek king" an oxymoron? What idea do you associate with *meek*? could meekness be a strength? Can it win wars or put a stop to fighting?

"The Spirit of God dwells in you." What does this imply about the wonder and holiness of your spirit? Could it help you reverence your neighbor?

A carpenter hand-made the yoke to fit the animal that wore it. Is your yoke handmade for you? If yes, who "makes" it? How does Jesus speak about his yoke in Sunday's Gospel?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 15th SUNDAY OF YEAR Isaiah 55:10-11; Ps 65; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23