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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

**The Glory of Christ** On the cross, Christ is humiliated, shamed, and suffering. To ordinary people passing by, he looks more like a loser than a winner in life. And yet we treasure the crucifix because it is the symbol of God's love made manifest to us. God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son that we should not die but have everlasting life ([John 3:16](#)). Could anything be more glorious than this love? The glory of Christ is shown on the cross!

But in the Gospel reading for this Sunday, we see Christ glorious in a more obvious and ordinary way. Up on a mountain, Christ is transfigured. His clothes are radiant, and so is he. Moses and Elijah come to talk to him. And a voice from heaven proclaims that Jesus is God's beloved Son, in whom God is well-pleased. In this transfiguration, Christ looks both lovely and powerful, a winner rather than a loser on anybody's view. And Christ takes just Peter, James, and John up to the mountain to see his transfiguration.

If Christ had not been resurrected, we might have supposed that suffering is all there is to glory. Why would Christ allow himself to be transfigured in this way before his passion? And why would Christ want to show himself transfigured to his followers? Shouldn't his suffering be for us the right way to understand true glory?

Maybe the reason for his transfiguration shares something with the reason for his resurrection. If Christ had not been resurrected, we might have supposed that suffering (or at least, suffering for the Lord) is all there is to glory. And then we might have gotten confused and thought that there is something specially good about suffering taken all by itself. Maybe Christ allows himself to be transfigured so that his followers will understand even before the grieving events of the crucifixion that suffering is not the end of the story, not for Christ and not for his followers either.

But then why do only Peter, James, and John witness Christ in glory in this way?

Well, these three apostles went on to suffer greatly for Christ. James and Peter were among the first martyrs, and John shepherded the church through severe persecutions. Christ helped them get ready for those trials by strengthening them with the vision of his transfiguration.

Consolation increases with affliction, the apostle Paul says ([2 Cor 1:5](#)). That is a consoling thought for us, isn't it?

Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 32 **Feast of Transfiguration, August 6, 2017**

**CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST**

Sun	Aug	6	8:00 am	SFD	Paul Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	Jeanette Smolinski
Tue	Aug	8	9, 11 am	DOC Masses	
Wed	Aug	9	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Thr	Aug	10	11:30 am, 1 pm		Marion Penitentiary Masses
Fri	Aug	11	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sat	Aug	12	5:30 pm	SP	For the Parishioners
Sun	Aug	6	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Fam
			10:00 am	SP	Leola Barrett

<b>Birthdays:</b> Aug 7 Emma Hustedde Aug 8 Patsy Bishop Aug 10 Joan Galey Aug 12 Emily Taylor
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**St Paul, Vienna**

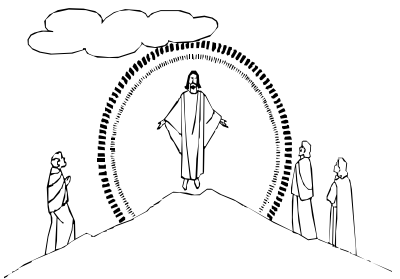
<p><b>Sun, Aug 6, 10 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> B. Bertran, A Webb  <b>Lector:</b> Sabra Moore  <b>Gifts:</b> M McMahan, S Moore  <b>Ushers:</b> P Kalicki, J Nelson                    M Palmer, S Widowski  <b>E. Minister</b> V Anderson                    P Shallenberger, D Bishop  <b>Greeter:</b> Geri Tesina</p>	<p><b>Sun, Aug 13, 10 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> J. Bayles, R Slife  <b>Lector:</b> Joan Galey  <b>Gifts:</b> Mitch, Leslie Miller  <b>Ushers:</b> M Slife, J Bergmann                    S Hupe, D Bishop  <b>E. Minister</b> K Felcyn                    D Hopkins, F Dueker  <b>Greeter:</b> Monica Querrey</p>	<p><b>Sun, Aug 20, 10 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> R. Slife, B Bertran  <b>Lector:</b> Rhi Slife  <b>Gifts:</b> Joe, Marsha Nelson  <b>Ushers:</b> G Tesina, K Felcyn                    R. Stoerger, L Stoerger  <b>E. Minister</b> S Belske                    P Widowski, M Nelson  <b>Greeter:</b> Mike McMahan</p>
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**St Francis DeSales, Stonefort**

<p><b>Sun, Aug 6: 8:00 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> Cecilia Parks  <b>Lector:</b> Marietta Moore  <b>Gifts:</b> R Drone, D Parks  <b>Usher</b> Fred Deaton  <b>E. Min:</b> Mary Treat</p>	<p><b>Sun, Aug 13: 8 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> Mary Treat  <b>Lector:</b> Myron Cole  <b>Gifts:</b> M Moore/L Herbert  <b>Usher:</b> David Parks  <b>E. Min:</b> Cecilia Parks</p>
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**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

Sat	Aug 5	St Paul Mass.....	5:30 pm
Sun	Aug 6	St Francis DeSales Mass .....	8:00 am
		St Paul Mass.....	10:00 am
		First Sunday Social, Liturgy Committee Mt	11:00 am
Mon	Aug 7	SF Parish Council Mt.....	4:00 pm
Tue	Aug 8	DOC Masses at Shawnee, Vienna...9 am, 11 am	
		SF Church Cleaning	
Wed	Aug 9	Weekday Mass... ..	6:30 pm
		Parish Partnership Mt at SP-Bishop Mt review.	7 pm
Thr	Aug 10	Mass at Marion Penitentiary.....	11:30, 1 pm
		Eucharistic Adoration at SP.....	4 pm-7:30 pm
Fri	Aug 11	Weekday Mass.....	12 pm
Sat	Aug 12	St Paul Mass.....	5:30 pm
Sun	Aug 13	St Francis DeSales Mass .....	8:00 am
		St Paul Mass.....	10:00 am



**FIRST SUNDAY SOCIAL** will be hosted in the hall following this Sunday's mass. Members of the Liturgy Committee are asked to participate in a meeting following the social.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** will be on Monday, 4 pm at church. Members are reminded to pick up agenda at weekend mass.

**CHURCH CLEANING** at St Francis this Tuesday, 10 am. Anyone welcome to assist.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT SP** – This Thursday, 4 – 7:30 pm. The schedule is on the bulletin board, encouraging anyone who can participate to sign to assure all times are covered.

**INTO MY VINEYARD** Your Pastor (and your future Pastors) will need the help of well-trained LAY men and women to serve alongside the priest in your Parish and Partnership. *INTO MY VINEYARD* is a two-year, once-a-month program for "Lay Ecclesial (Church) Ministers" in the Diocese of Belleville. It begins in September 2017. The Lord needs you to help nourish the Catholic Faith here in southern Illinois. If interested, talk with your Pastor -- and for more information, schedule and application, go to the diocesan website:

<http://www.diobelle.org/offices/into-my-vineyard>. **Deadline for registration - Aug 15**

**DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN OF RENEWAL AND RESTRUCTING** Our partnership review meeting with Bishop Braxton is Aug 11<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm. Representatives will meet on Wednesday, 7 pm to review the agenda and our presentation.

**VOCATION CORNER** Today Jesus reveals his own vocation as the Beloved Son and points to His future as Lord of heaven and earth. In a similar way, He calls us to follow Him, in our vocation, as beloved sons and daughters of the Father and to partake in the divine life He offers in His transfigured body. Although this seems foreign to us sometimes, we are called to 'Rise and not be afraid' as Jesus commanded the apostles.

**TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD** — Hold fast. Listen. Do not be afraid. We, too, are eyewitnesses of mystery. By holding fast to faith in Jesus, **everything** we see bares his imprint, shows his glory. Looking always with faith-eyes, we see mystery all around us. This helps us attend to his voice, follow him, be his disciples. Nothing holds us back. As disciples-in-training, we see, we listen, we do not fear. · Of what am I afraid? · What might Jesus be saying to me? · What mystery of God in Christ do I see today? Each day?

**WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** ""This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." Improve your listening skills by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with your spouse. The next weekend on September 22 -24, 2017. To register or for more information call 314-649-7317 or go online to [www.stl-wwme.org](http://www.stl-wwme.org).

**UPCOMING EVENTS** Assumption of BVM Holyday..SF Aug 14, 7 pm; SP Aug 15 6:30 pm.  
**Joint Parish Council Meeting, SF & SP** – Aug 16, 6 pm at St Paul.

# Feast of Transfiguration

Matthew 17:1-9

Pain + service = blessing. We prefer to isolate ourselves from others' needs. We count it a blessing if we can be left alone, left out of suffering. How difficult it is to see the union of our pain and our call to service as the way to real blessing. Yet this is the view taken in today's readings!

The author of Second Timothy presents Paul as a model of apostolic devotion in the preaching of the gospel. He exhorts the recipients of the letter to "join with me in suffering for the gospel" (1:8). He adds that God's call is a free gift that should benefit others. There is pain associated with preaching the Good News. Paul suffers as a criminal in chains "but the word of God is not chained" (2:9).

The Transfiguration of Jesus captured a moment of very intense prayer. Matthew, by describing Jesus' face and clothes, makes him a part of the heavenly realm. Jesus is acknowledged as the Son of God, and so Peter addresses him not as rabbi but as Lord. The descent from the mountain links the glorified Son of God with the suffering Son of Man. The transfigured One of the heavenly realm is also the humiliated One of the earthly sphere.

Each day we seek our identity by interacting with others and by becoming partners with them, especially with their pain and frustration. By accepting baptism we accept the cross of others. We are not isolated; rather we are involved, and so the words spoken to Abram are also applicable to us. "In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 12:3). Pain + service = blessing.

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

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## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What things have power over you in your life? Would you like to see them lose some of their hold?

Peter's letter suggests that his readers will "do well to be attentive to" the "prophetic message" that he, James and John received at the transfiguration. Were these three disciples able to be attentive and to listen when they were receiving that message?

In the Transfiguration the disciples were invited to behold Jesus in his glory—to stop talking and listen to him. Do you ever ask yourself when you saw or heard Jesus during the day?

**NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 19th SUNDAY OF YEAR** 1Kings 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85; Romans 9L1-5; Matthew 14:22-33