



Pastor : Rev Thomas Barrett
Phone (618) 658 – 4501
E-mail: sppcil@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

Witnessing for the Lord In the [First Reading](#), God appoints Ezekiel as a watchman for his people, and he adds a threat. If Ezekiel does not warn sinners to mend their ways, God will hold Ezekiel responsible for their fate.

Does God say this to Ezekiel only? Or does he say it also to all of us? Many of the great people in the Christian tradition—Augustine, Aquinas, Francis of Assisi, to name just a few—thought that God's command to Ezekiel is meant to apply to every one of the faithful now too. It is a duty for every Christian to watch out for each one of God's people in the way God spelled out to Ezekiel.

But this can look like a dreadful idea. Could it really be the case that a Christian is supposed to be a kind of busybody, continually nagging other people about their sins?

Your life can bear witness to the goodness of the Lord and the holiness of his commandments. And what about the Gospel instruction (cf. [Matthew 7:5](#)) to pay more attention to the beam in your own eye than to the speck of dust in somebody else's?

Here we need to remember that there is more than one way to communicate with others. If you are concentrated in love and service to the Lord, your life will tell a story to everyone who crosses your path. When Francis of Assisi was asked about this very passage in the [First Reading](#), he said,

If that passage is supposed to be understood in a universal sense, then I understand it to mean that a servant of God should be burning with life and holiness so brightly that by the light of his example and the tongue of his conduct, he will rebuke all the wicked.*

Your life can bear witness to the goodness of the Lord and the holiness of his commandments. You don't have to use words to do so.

So a Christian can and should concentrate on the beam in his own eye, just as the Gospel injunction says. But if he really does so, then the duty to witness to others, God's command to Ezekiel, will be beautifully fulfilled. Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 37 **23rd Sunday of the Year, September 10, 2017**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Sept	10	8:00 am	SFD	Leola Barrett
			10:00 am	SP	Nancy Truedson
Tue	Sept	12	9, 11 am		No Masses
Wed	Sept	13	6:30 pm	SP	No Mass
Thr	Sept	14	11:30am, 1 pm		No Masses
Fri	Sept	15	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Sept	17	8 :00 am	SFD	James Murray
			10:00 am	SP	Jim & Mary Anne Mudd

Birthdays:
 Sep 14 Kaden Shaw
 Sep 16 Carolyn Johnson
 Sep 17 Bill Johnson

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Sept 10, 10 am Server: B Bertran, J Bayles Lector: Keith Felcyn Gifts: Bill, Billie Porter Ushers: M Palmer, Jon Slife J. Bergmann, Joe Nelson E. Minister P Kalicki L Stoerger, Madonna Slife Greeter: H, X Gruszczyk</p>	<p>Sun, Sept 17, 10 am Server: B Bertran, R Slife Lector: Joe Nelson Gifts: Children Liturgy Ushers:S Hupe, P Kalicki G Tesina, R Stoerger E. Minister P Shallenberger D Bishop, M. Nelson Greeter: Bill & Billie Porter</p>	<p>Sun, Sept 24, 10 am Server: A Webb, J Bayles Lector: Steve Widowski Gifts:Chuck, Monica Querrey Ushers: D Zmuda, C Zmuda, P Widowski, M. McMahan E. Minister D Hopkins B Palmer, P Widowski Greeter: Keith Felcyn</p>
---	---	---

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Sept 10: 8 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Christine Deaton Gifts: L Herbert, M Moore Usher: David Parks E. Min: Brenda Morse</p>	<p>Sun, Sept 17: 8:00 am Server: Brenda Morse Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: D Parks, M Cole Usher: Fred Deaton E. Min: Mary Treat</p>
---	---

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MARRIAGE

Nicholas Black & Sarah Nelson, Sept 23, 2017

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Sept 10 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass.....10:00 am
- Joint Parish Picnic & Activity at SP.....11:00 am
- Mon-Thr Fr Tom at Clergy Study Week
- Tue Sept 12 SF Church cleaning 9 am
- Thr-Sat St Paul volunteers at Faith Alive Thrift Store.9am-3pm
- Thr Sept 14 Eucharistic Adoration at SP.....4 – 7:30 pm
- Fri Sept 15 Weekday Mass.....12 pm
- Sun Sept 17 Retired Diocesan Priest Collection at weekend mass
- St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word...10:00 am
- Parish School of Religion beginning class....11:00 am
- CCW/Altar Sodality Mt in hall.....11:00am



SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF If you didn't participate last weekend, another opportunity is offered this weekend. The funds collected in this one-time special appeal for Hurricane Harvey Relief will be used to support the efforts of Catholic Charities USA, the official domestic relief agency of the U.S. Catholic Church, as they and their member agencies respond to immediate emergency needs for necessities such as water, food, shelter, and medical care as well as to the long term needs to rebuild and recover after widespread destruction, and of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for pastoral and reconstruction aid to the Church.

PARISH PICNIC FOR ST PAUL AND ST FRANCIS DESALES The annual Parish Picnic is set for Sun, Sept 10, beginning 11 am. Grilled Pork Steaks with option of chicken or hot dog will be provided. Attendance prizes and various activities for adults and children will be offered following the dinner. With perfect picnic weather, we will gather at the pavilion.

PARISH ADDRESS DIRECTORY AND EMERGENCY CONTACT UPDATES Everyone is asked to review your address and contact information on the sheets in the church entrance, putting a check mark if no change is needed, or updating information if it has changed. If you are not included on the list, please complete info in a blank space.

DRAW DOWN TICKETS for the October 14 fundraiser are available after masses Cost \$100 (may be shared by up six people). Early bird drawing for \$100 is September 17th. Grand prize of \$4,000. All 110 ticket owners win a prize.

CLERGY STUDY WEEK Fr Tom will be with other priests on the Clergy Study Week. In case of emergency he may be reached at 618-759-0246.

FAITH ALIVE THRIFT STORE VOLUNTEERS are needed for Sept 14-16th, 9am-3 pm. If you can offer assistance please sign up on the church bulletin board or contact Arlene 559-7803 or Madonna 967-5164..

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will be offered Thr, Sept 14, 4-7:30 pm. Share in a time of prayer for the Church and have some time of meditation before the Blessed Sacrament. A sheet to assure that someone is present all the time is available on the bulletin board.

RETIRED DIOCESAN PRIESTS COLLECTION Our Belleville Diocese currently has 55 diocesan priests of retirement age – 35 who are currently retired and 20 who remain in active ministry; in five years that number will increase to 64! With this large number of retirement-age priests and escalating health care costs, the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection on September 16-17 will help provide the resources needed for their care now and in the future. All monies will be used only for long-term nursing care, Medicare supplemental insurance and prescription medications for our retired diocesan priests.

CHILDREN LITURGY OF WORD for youth age 3 through 4th grade will be offered following the opening prayer at next Sunday's Eucharist at St Paul..

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION for Pre-School through 8th grade will begin Sunday, Sept 17th at 11 am in the Education wing of the Parish Center.

23rd Sunday of the Year

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Psalm 95; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

We're in this together. As difficult as it might be to embrace the idiosyncrasies of all our brother and sister believers, that is our mandate. Salvation is not "me" but "us."

Ezekiel entered upon a new phase in his prophetic career around the year 585 B.C. Earlier he was the scolder (see Ezekiel 3:26); now he is sentry for God's people in exile. In this passage he dramatizes the tension between individual and community.

Paul considers the obligations of charity. The focus is duties, not rights. Charity is the very center of Christian life. Paul sees love as the fulfillment of the Mosaic law. All the commandments are summarized under one: "Love your neighbor as yourself" (vs. 9).

Chapter 18 is one of the five great sermons recorded by Matthew. He deals in this passage with problems affecting the local Christian community. The community has a course of action when dealing with the sinner: First, there is private correction. If this fails, then witnesses are called upon to help make the point. As a last resort, the person is excommunicated. Justice is a communal experience.

How do we react to bad news? A natural reaction at times is to shield ourselves, to become oblivious to people in pain. Ezekiel would urge us to energize ourselves through involvement with the downtrodden. What about people we don't like? Rather than expel them from our world of concern, Paul demands that we incorporate them into our arena of responsibility. Do we allow sinners to continue in their wrong or do we support them in conversion? Matthew's view of community calls for embracing.

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

.Liguori Publications, All Rights Reserved.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Does God still send watchmen or watch-women or prophets to address injustice in the world today? Who are they? Are they always successful and do they live long, happy lives?

Which ranks highest: How much you love? How much you do? How smart or powerful you are? According to Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan ([Luke 10: 29-37](#)), who is your neighbor?

Pope Francis thought it was important enough to send out an urgent request for all Catholics to join him in prayer when he met with leaders from Israel and Palestine to pray for world peace. Do you always remember that "if two or you agree on earth about anything for which they (you) are to pray, it shall be granted to them (you)"?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 24th SUNDAY OF YEAR Sirach 27:30-28:7; Ps 103; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35