



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

What is Owed the Laborers? In the parable in the [Gospel Reading](#), the laborers who work all day receive the same wage as those who work just one hour, and so they complain. You can see their point. Justice is giving a person what is owed to him. A person who works many hours deserves a bigger wage than a person who does the same work but for only one hour. Or so it seems.

But think about how Jesus might have unpacked this parable if he had explained it to his disciples in the way he showed some of his other parables to them.

Here's one possibility. The vineyard owner is God. The laborers are human beings who are doing God's work in this life. The wage given is eternal life in union of love with God in heaven.

If we think about the parable this way, the laborers' complaint looks a lot less reasonable. When it comes to eternal life, what is justice? What does any human person deserve? What, actually, does God owe him?

God's people are meant to work for God, and not for what they can get from God for themselves. Well, here is the first thing to see: No one—that is, absolutely no one—is owed eternal life in union with God.

To think otherwise is to suppose that you can work your way to heaven. And you can't. Salvation is God's free gift. He gives it generously to anyone who will receive it, but it is still God's free gift.

The problem with the laborers who complain, then, is that they think the vineyard owner owes them something. In their eyes, their work deserves a reward, a really big reward, more than the vineyard owner gives them. And so here is what we can see about them: they were working for themselves, to get that big reward for themselves.

And that is why they are last, not first, in the final distribution of God's rewards. God's people are meant to work for God, and not for what they can get from God for themselves.

What God gives to people who work for God in this way is gift. It isn't deserved payment. What's more, the gift is God himself. There is no greater reward than this, and joy is the only right response to the gift.

Those who understand their work and God's wage in this way may have come late to their labor, but they are the ones who are first in God's eyes.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 39 **25th Sunday of the Year, September 24, 2017**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Sept	24	8:00 am	SFD	James M McCabe Family
			10:00 am	SP	Leola Barrett
Tue	Sept	26	9, 11 am	DOC	Masses, Shawnee, Vienna
Wed	Sept	27	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Sept	29	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Oct	1	8:00 am	SFD	Rev Vito Lopardo
			10:00 am	SP	Charles & Mary Querrey

Birthdays: Sep 28 Midge Bigler Sep 29 Tracey Johnson Sep 30 Frank Tesina
--

St Paul, Vienna

<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>	<p>Sun, Oct 1, 10 am Server: R Slife, A Webb Lector: Joan Galey Gifts: Children Liturgy Ushers: F Dueker, Mt Slife M Palmer, S Widowski E. Minister K Felcyn S Belske, S. Black Greeter: Jon & Madonna Slife</p>
--	--	---

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Sept 24: 8 am Server: Mary Treat Lector: Marietta Moore Gifts: L Herbert, R Drone Usher: Myron Cole E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>	<p>Sun, Oct 1: 8:00 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: Myron Cole Gifts: Morse Family Usher Stan Treat E. Min: Cecilia Parks</p>
---	--

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Sept 24 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass.....10:00 am
- PSR Classes.....11:00 am
- South Vicariate Fall CCW Mt, Elizabethtown.1:00pm
- Tue Sept 26 DOC Masses.....9 & 11 am
- October Calendar info deadline
- RCIA7 pm
- Wed Sept 27 Weekday mass.....6:30 pm
- Fri Sept 29 Weekday Mass.....12 pm
- Sat Sept 30 Faith Alive Board Mt.....10 am
- Sun Oct 1 Rosary prayed before weekend masses in October
- St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word...10:00 am
- PSR Classes.....11:00 am
- After mass Social in hall, Liturgy Committee Mt11am



PSR CLASSES PSR class will meet this Sunday following the 10 am mass. Class will begin with a large group assembly of all students with catechists in the pavilion behind the hall. Students will be in the classrooms for the conclusion of the meeting time. Our gratitude to this year's catechists, Amanda Widowski (Pre-School), Rhi Slife (K-1st), Beth Palmer (2-4th), and Marsha Nelson (7th-8th). An important emphasis this year will be the role parents play in their children's religious formation. Online information allows parents to be aware of class content and to share in activities that make it a part of daily living. Parents are also to make up missed classes by covering the information and sending review tests on the material to the next class.

SP PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES from last Wednesday are available in bulletin rack..

FALL VICARIATE CCW MT All ladies are invited to the Fall South Vicariate Council of Catholic Women Meeting at St Joseph Parish, Elizabethtown on September 24th. Registration begins at 1:00 pm (\$3.00) with light refreshments included. Speaker will be from the Victory ministries/ Victory House, Paducah. Also sharing about local activities by parish groups. Rosary will be recited to end the meeting. Info Pat Chantos 618-314-0363.

ROSARY PRAYED BEFORE WEEKEND MASS IN OCTOBER Parishioners are urged to sign up to lead the rosary one of the Sundays on the bulletin board list. Guide sheets with the prayers and mysteries are available in the bulletin rack.

CALENDAR INFO The October calendar will inserted in next Sunday's bulletin. Event dates or missing birthdays should be sent to the parish office by Wednesday of this week.

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULES for October are on the back of Sept copy.

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.

FIRST SUNDAY SOCIAL AND LITURGY COMMITTEE MT will be offered next Sunday following the 10 am mass.

CONGRATULATIONS Nickalaus Black and Sarah Nelson who celebrated their marriage on Saturday, Sept 23 at St Paul Church. They will continue to live in the Vienna Area.

DO NOT BE RESENTFUL. The Gospel story of the landowner hiring workers throughout the day tells us that it does not matter who is last and who is first. Though we may resent this behavior, though we may say "unfair" – it does not matter. Astonishing! In the kingdom of heaven – and we live in it already today – God is generous. Always. Each of us is given much more than we could ever earn. Always. We must be grateful. Always. · What resentment(s) must I give up? How can I be even more generous? · Who needs my generosity today?

VOCATIONS CORNER "Each of you has a personal vocation which He has given you for your own joy and sanctity. When a person is conquered by the fire of His gaze, no sacrifice seems too great to follow Him and give Him the best of ourselves. This is what the saints have always done, spreading the light of the Lord ... and transforming the world into a welcoming home for everyone." – Pope Benedict, April 3, 2012.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST FRANCIS DESALES

Oct 2, 4 pm - SF Parish Council Mt

Oct 5, 6:30 pm – Beginning Adult Education Sessions, 'Grab Your Catechism'

Oct 28, 4 pm - St Francis hosts joint Halloween Hayride, Hot Dog roast

25th Sunday of the Year

Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm 145; Philippians 1:20-24,27; Matthew 20:1-16

Freedom generally implies the ability to provide for ourselves, to move about at will, to be independent. Freedom is a basking in self-sufficiency, free of all debt -- financial or otherwise. Today's readings suggest another concept of freedom. They speak of a God who chooses to give to the most unlikely and undeserving because that is the nature of God.

Isaiah urges the people to repent, to have a change of heart, to return to Yahweh. Israel is slow to accept God's plan, they are skeptical that God can create something new out of the chaos of exile. How can the depressed break into song? Isaiah must teach a new way of thinking, a vision of God that gives new meaning to success and failure.

Jesus' original parable appears to have included only verses 1-13 of this passage from Matthew. This embraces the hiring of the five groups (vs. 1-7) and the paying of the same wage to each group, starting with the last (vs. 8-13). Verses 14-16 are perhaps the work of Matthew himself. He reminds his audience that God is free to reward merely on the basis of God's own goodness.

God's generous giving of surprises is a divine paradox that invites all believers to participate in the same adventure. Today's biblical passages suggest that this invitation is a sure path to sanctity. We are called to focus on those who seem to have no demand on our generosity, our compassion, and our love. The surprise is that we are most generous to those least able to claim our kindness.

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

Copyright (c) Liguori Publications, All Rights Reserved.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

“Seek the Lord while he may be found, call on him while he is near.” Can God always be near? Name some times in your day when it is easier to find God than at others. What helps you in your life to “find God in all things”?

Is there someone who “magnifies” the Lord for you? Every time you are around him or her, do you feel Christ somehow present? Why is that? What about them clears your eyesight?

This Gospel reading is not about strict justice but outrageous generosity. Are any of us, first hour worker or eleventh, ever worthy of grace, no matter what? What is the message of this parable? What is the message for you in your everyday life?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 26th SUNDAY OF YEAR Ezekiel 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Ps 25; Philippians 2:1-11 Matthew 21: 28-32