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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 Treat

Trustees: Myron Cole, Stan Treat

True Humility and Talents Some people think that humility is a matter of taking yourself to be small, unworthy, not up for much. But, in the Gospel parable, the servant who thinks he is too little to do much with his talent is dismissed as wicked and useless, and his talent is taken away from him. The Lord doesn't praise him for humility.

So what is humility? It is the opposite of pride—but what is pride? Pride isn't thinking that there is some excellence, some talent, in yourself when there really is. Rather, pride is a failure to recognize that talent as given by the Lord.

Everything is gift, and everything is meant to be given back in service of love for the Lord. And so, of course, we are small and unworthy. What else would we be? Our talents are not a function of what we are and can do. Every excellence in us is a gift of the Lord's. We can acknowledge the excellence that is truly in us without danger of pride, provided we remember that such excellence comes from the Lord.

Not only that, but in the [Gospel Reading](#) our Lord announces a funny distribution principle: to him who has, more will be given. So here is the idea. A person who does not refuse a gift of the Lord's receives it and consequently has more. Then, because he has more, the Lord will offer him another gift. If he does not refuse that new gift, it will be given—and so he will have more. And then more will be given to him. And so on and on, till a person blazes in glory for the Lord.

Unlike the useless servant in the parable, then, we can aim as high as we like, with true humility, provided we recognize as gift every excellence we have. Everything is gift, and everything is meant to be given back in service of love for the Lord.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 45 **33rd** Sunday of the Year, November 19, 2017

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Nov	19	8:00 am	SFD	Leola Barrett
			10:00 am	SP	Raymond Nelson
Tue	Nov	21	9, 11 am	DOC Masses, Shawnee, Vienna	
Wed	Nov	22	6:30 pm	SP	For the Parishioners
Thr	Nov	23	8:30 am	SFD	For the Parishioners
Fri	Nov	24	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Nov	26	8:00 am	SFD	Wm T Skaggs
			10:00 am	SP	Michael Joe Carmody

Birthdays:
 Nov 24 David Zmuda jr
 Nov 25 Jailyn Bayles
 Nov 26 Peter Garrett

St Paul, Vienna

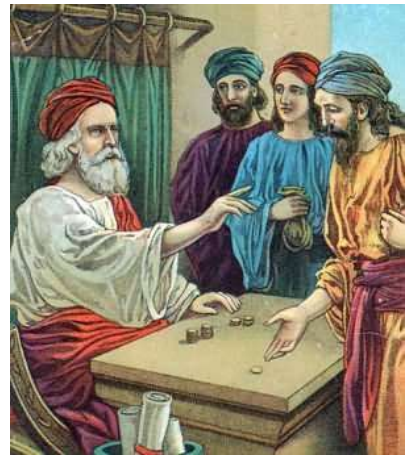
<p>Sun, Nov 19, 10 am Server: B Bertran, A Webb Lector: Keith Felcyn Gifts: Children Liturgy Ushers: S Hupe, J Nelson P Kalicki, R Stoerger E. Minister M Nelson S Black, L Stoerger Greeter Monica Querrey</p>	<p>Sun, Nov 26, 10 am Server: R Slife , B Bertran Lector: Joan Galey Gifts: E Speletich, P Shallenberger Ushers: S Widowski, D Zmuda Sr C Zmuda, Mt Slife E. Minister S Moore B Palmer, P Widowski Greeter: Geri Tesina</p>	<p>Sun, Dec 3, 10 am Server: R Slife A Webb Lector: Arlene Dueker Gifts: Children Liturgy Ushers: P Widowski, J Slife, M Palmer, K Felcyn E. Minister P Kalicki C Webb, M Slife Greeter: Mike McMahan</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Nov 19: 8 am Server: Brenda Morse Lector: Cecilia Parks Gifts: L Herbert, M Moore, Usher: Myron Cole E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>	<p>Sun, Nov 26: 8:00 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Marietta Moore Gifts: M Cole, R Drone Usher David Parks E. Min: Brenda Morse</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Nov19 Collection for Campaign for Human Development
- St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word.....10:00 am
- PSR Classes.....11:00 am
- Community Thanksgiving Service.Gilead Church.6 pm
- Mon Nov 20 Blood Drive at Fellowship Baptist Hall.....12- 6 pm
- Tue Nov 21 DOC Masses.....9 & 11 am
- December calendar info deadline
- Rite of Christian Initiation Session....7 pm
- Wed Nov22 SP Thanksgiving Mass.....6:30 pm
- Thr Nov 23 SFD Thanksgiving Mass.....8:30 am
- Fri Nov 24 Weekday Mass.....12 pm
- Sun Nov26 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass Christ the King Commemoration..10 am
- Advent Angel Tree – gift tags for area youth



CCHD Please be generous in this week's second collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. With this collection you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE is available during the month of November to include names of deceased. It will be placed by the altar as a means of remembering in prayer those who have died.

PARISH COUNCILS MINUTES from Nov 15th meeting are available on bulletin rack.

FOOD COLLECTION A container is available in the foyer during the month of November for food donations to support the local food pantry.

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATION FORM There are three positions on the Parish Council that will be open January 2018. Parishioners are asked to submit names (another or your own) of eligible people whom you consider good candidates to serve the parish. Please use the form (extra copies on the bulletin rack) and return to the marked canister by November 26th.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE will be hosted by the ministerial alliance on Sunday, Nov 19, 6 pm at Gilead Cumberland Church (mile N of SR 147 on Gilead Church Rd). Light refreshments will follow prayer service.

SCRIPTURE STUDY OF LUKE will be offered at St Paul and St Francis beginning Dec 5th, 5 pm at SF and Dec 6th, 3 pm and Dec 7th, 7 pm at SP. Sign up sheet on bulletin board

THANKSGIVING MASS will be offered at St Paul, Wed, Nov 22, 6:30 pm, and at St Francis DeSales, Thr, Nov 23, 8:30 am.

THANKSGIVING DAY MEAL will be hosted by Eagle House Ministries on Nov 23. Volunteers are needed to make desserts ahead of time, prepare food and deliver meals. To place an order for a meal or to volunteer, please contact 658-8116 or 658-1700.

WAY OF LIGHTS AT SHRINE A parish trip to the Way of Lights and other attractions at Our Lady of Snows Shrine, Belleville, is planned for Saturday, December 2. Plan to leave from parish 12:30-1 pm, or meet at Shrine 3 pm. Enjoy a meal, visit displays and conclude with drive through the Way of Lights. A sign-up list is on bulletin board.

ANGEL GIFTS TREE for youth of the area will be available next weekend.

PERMANENT DIACONATE An informational workshop for anyone who might consider the becoming a permanent deacon will be offered Dec 9 at the Pastoral Center in Belleville. Info on bulletin boards or at pwarnar@diobelle.org

ADVENT PREPARATION For a free e-mail daily advent meditation and video option, sign up at BestAdventEver.com/YoureInvited.

UPCOMING EVENTS

..... Angel Tree with tags for Christmas gifts for youth available by Nov 26

..... SF Parish Council Mt, December 4th, 4 pm

..... SF Noon mass and Advent Party with caroling at Care Home..Dec 10th..

33rd Sunday of the Year

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31; Psalm 128; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30

Today's first reading, responsorial psalm, and gospel address the tension between self and community. They show an understanding of individuals only within the context of the common good. To live a full human life is to make the lives of others more human. Hence, talents and graces, by definition, embrace the needs of others. In the liturgy, personal gifts are common property.

The first reading is a classical passage from Proverbs. Written from a decidedly male perspective, the author shows how the abilities of a beautiful woman increase the good of her husband, her family, and her community.

Psalm 28 is a wisdom psalm. As such, it reflects the correct manner of living. It sees fear of God as that all-encompassing value that has an impact on the whole of life. Thus, to fear God is to walk in God's ways, which is to be blessed. One should note, however, that the psalm does not portray prosperity and success as purely personal attainments. Rather, the psalm sees them as directly related to the community.

Matthew provides an insightful parable on the use of abilities and gifts. He recognizes that abilities and gifts presuppose action and even involve some risk. He teaches that, paradoxically, to use the gift for others is to improve the gift.

We all have gifts. Our ability to console must be shared with those who are distraught. Our ability to encourage should touch the despairing. Our leadership may give direction to the aimless. Our positive actions reaffirm that personal gifts are common property.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

“The woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.” Do you see a connection between this woman and the wise servant portrayed in the Gospel? How does fear of the Lord (awe and wonder in the presence of God) help make a person wise?

Apparently “The Day of the Lord” can overtake you “like a thief at night.” Are you always ready? Almost ready? Dozing a little?

Are you willing to take risks, or are you paralyzed by fear? If you were a leader in the Church, what kind of risks would you take to insure growth of the faithful? Is there a person whom you observe taking risks for such growth?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Feast of Christ the King Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23; 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28 Matthew 25:31-46