



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

A Mothering God In the [Psalm](#), the Psalmist compares God to a mother, and he compares himself to a weaned child at peace on its mother's lap. This is a striking image, and worth reflecting on.

How can a child who is being weaned and is also on his mother's lap understand the suffering of the weaning? What he wants is right there; there is nothing bad about his having it—it costs his mother nothing to satisfy him; the pain of doing without it is sharp and urgent. And so for a while the child will be overwhelmed by the misery of his situation.

Tasting the goodness of God makes seeing the world's evils and our own compatible with joy in the Lord. But sooner or later in his affliction he will also see his mother, and that makes all the difference. His desire for what she will not give him is still urgent, and the pain of the deprivation remains sharp. But in seeing her, he feels her love of him. He senses her goodness, and he comes to trust her. As Isaiah puts it, he sucks consolation to the full in another way ([Is 66:11](#)).

And that is how he can be both weaned and also resting peacefully by her side.

If a truly good God rules the world, then the world has a good mother, and life is under the mothering guidance of God. Even the most loathsome evils and the most horrendous sufferings are in the hand of a God who is truly good.

Nothing in this thought makes evil less evil. Suffering remains painful; violence and greed are still execrable. We still have an obligation to lessen the misery of others and our own troubles retain their power to torment us. But it makes a great difference to suppose that the sufferers of evil, maybe ourselves included, are in the arms of a mothering God. Tasting the goodness of God makes seeing the world's evils and our own compatible with joy in the Lord.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 18 # 45 **31st Sunday of the Year, November 5, 2017**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|----|----------------|-----|-------------------------|
| Sun | Nov | 5 | 8:00 am | SFD | Leola Barrett |
| | | | 10:00 am | SP | For the Parishioners |
| Tue | Nov | 7 | 9, 11 am | DOC | Masses, Shawnee, Vienna |
| Wed | Nov | 8 | 5:30 pm | SP | For the Parishioners |
| Thr | Nov | 9 | 11:30 am, 1 pm | | Marion Penitentiary |
| Fri | Nov | 10 | 12:00 pm | SP | General Intention |
| Sun | Nov | 12 | 8:00 am | SFD | Sarah Skaggs |
| | | | 10:00 am | SP | Leola Barrett |

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| Birthdays: Nov 5 Mitch Garrett Nov 7 Nolan Zmuda Nov 11 Girard Cole Jerry Cecchi |
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St Paul, Vienna IL

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| <p>Sun, Nov 5, 10 am Server: R Slife , B Bertran Lector: Steve Widowski Gifts: Children Liturgy Ushers:F Dueker, M Palmer P. Widowski, D Bishop E. Minister D Hopkins P Shallenberger, K Felcyn GreeterMarc & Beth Palmer</p> | <p>Sun, Nov 12, 10 am Server: A Webb, R Slife Lector: Sabra Moore Gifts: Christine, Gabe Ross Ushers:J Slife, J Bergmann M McMahan, G. Tesina E. Minister B Bishop D. Bishop, S. Belske Greeter: S & P Widowski</p> | <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> |
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

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| <p>Sun, Nov 5: 8 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: R Drone, M Cole, Usher: Stan Treat E. Min: Brenda Morse</p> | <p>Sun, Nov 12: 8:00 am Server: Mary Treat Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: Deaton Family Usher Arnold Morse E. Min: Cecilia Parks</p> |
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Nov 5 Time falls back 1 hour
 - St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
 - St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word....10:00 am
 - PSR Classes.....11:00 am
 - First Sunday after mass social at St Paul.....11:00 am
- Tue Nov 7 DOC Masses.....9 & 11 am
- Rite of Christian Initiation Session....7 pm
- Wed Nov 8 Ministerial Alliance Mt.....12 pm
- Weekday Mass.....5:30 pm
- Joint Parish Council Mt..at SP.....6:00 pm
- Thr Nov 9 Marion Penitentiary Masses.....11:30, 1 pm
- Eucharistic Adoration at SP.....4 – 7:30 pm
- Grab Your Catechist – Adult Ed at SFD.....6:30 pm
- Fri Nov 10 Weekday Mass.....12 pm
- Sun Nov12 Anointing of the Sick at weekend masses
 - St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
 - St Paul Mass10:00 am
 - PSR Classes.....11:00 am
 - Council of Catholic Women/Altar Sodality Mt...11:am



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.

VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK – Beginning with the vocation prayer, all are encouraged to promote and support vocations to Church ministry. Names, addresses and e-mail for a note of support or encouragement are provided for seminarians in the entrance of church.

FIRST SUNDAY SOCIAL will be held in hall following this Sunday mass. Members of the Liturgy Committee will meet following the social.

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE for the months of November and December are available in the bulletin rack. Please note when you are scheduled and seek a sub if you cannot attend that day.

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

JOINT PARISH COUNCILS MEETING will be this Wednesday, 6 pm at St Paul. Council members are asked to pick up agenda at weekend mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will be offered on Thursday, Nov 9th, 4 – 7:30 pm at St Paul church. You're encouraged to spend some time in our Lord's Eucharistic presence. If you'll sign a time on the bulletin board, it will assure that someone is present at all times.

GRAB YOUR CATECHIST, a video/discussion series based on the Catholic Catechism will be offered at St Francis DeSales parish this Thursday, 6:30 pm. This will be the sixth and final session for the fall. All welcome!

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK will be offered to parishioners during the mass next Sunday. Those who have difficulty standing are encouraged to sit in the front pew, and the celebrant will come to you.

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.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER **Wendy Bowman**, of St Paul parish who passed away Nov 1. Her funeral will be celebrated at family's parish, St George in Tinley Park, IL on Tues, Nov 7th. Also remember Matt Siegel, a nephew to Wendy, whose funeral is this Friday. Tom Bowman's brother, Dwayne Bowman, also passed away and his funeral is Monday. And remember **Raymond Nelson**, brother to Joe Nelson, who was buried last week.

UPCOMING EVENTS

....Faith Alive Store Volunteers by St Paul Church, Thr-Sat, Nov 16-18th. See BB schedule

31st Sunday of the Year

Malachi 1:14--2:2,8-10; Psalm 131; 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13; Matthew 23:1-12

We sometimes imagine ideal Christians to be esoteric types. We imagine them to be divorced from our "real" world. Today's readings show us that people who wish to follow God are people who decide upon a course of action and pursue it relentlessly. Since they opt for God's vision, they refuse to be tied down by any force or power opposed to that vision.

The book of Malachi more than likely represents the preaching of a prophet who spoke sometime before the reforms of Ezra and Nehemiah, around 460 B.C., for he seems to condemn what those two leaders were to correct. Malachi is a word which means "my messenger." More than likely the person was a very staunch Jew with little tolerance for anyone or anything that would blemish the purest Judaic traditions. The style of the book is catechetical: Nearly every section begins with a statement by either God or the prophet and is challenged with a question from the people.

Thessalonica was an important port city on the Thermaic Gulf in northern Greece. It was founded around 316 B.C. by Cassander, a general under Alexander the Great. In the first century A.D., it was a large cosmopolitan city with many Jewish inhabitants. Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy arrived there in the year A.D. 50 and began to preach the gospel in the Jewish synagogue. The intensity with which Paul gave himself to this community is shown in today's passage.

The scribes and the Pharisees do not practice what they preach. In the passage from Malachi, we heard of similar so-called "leaders" who actually took the people away from God. As opposed to Paul, who gives heart and soul to the mission, the scribes and Pharisees seek only their own increase. Jesus gives us the vision we must pursue if we are to be Christian leaders: "The greatest among you will be your servant" (Matthew 23:11).

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

The priests in this reading neglected their duty and are responsible for the erosion of faith among the people. In general what do you think are some contemporary issues that erode people's faith? In particular what erodes your faith? What increases your faith?

Think of people about whom you can say, "I see God at work in that person." What is it that you "see" in them? How is the word of God at work in you?

Jesus instituted an office of service. "Wide belts," places of honor and titles helped the scribes and Pharisees increase their social status but did those things help them serve others better? What does help you serve?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 32nd SUNDAY OF YEAR Wisdom 6:12-16; Ps 63; 1Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25: 1-13