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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

**Only Say the Word and My Soul Shall Be Healed!** In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus reaches out to touch a leper; and by touching him, Jesus heals him.

Why should we think that we are in a position to see the healing that the Lord does in our lives? Leprosy is a disease worth fearing. It disfigures and disables a person. The ancient world thought it could be transmitted by touch. For the sake of the health of the community, the law made lepers outcasts; but, even without the law, nobody wanted to touch a leper. The leper healed by Jesus must have lived for a long time without the touch of another human being.

How welcome the touch of Jesus must have been to that leper! And how overjoyed the leper must have been when he found himself healed!

Leprosy is not the only thing that severely disfigures and disables a person. Sin does so too. And the touch of Jesus that heals leprosy heals sin as well. That is why, at Mass, we pray, “Only say the word, and my soul shall be healed.” Forego touch, Lord! We would be so overjoyed if you just said the word! Your healing would be so welcome to us!

But we say those words at every Mass, week after week, year after year. And still we struggle with our sins. Somewhere Nietzsche says unkindly about Christians, “They don’t even look like the redeemed!” That is a painful accusation, isn’t it? Why aren’t we healed, by word or by touch, as the leper was? Why do we have to keep asking for the Lord’s healing touch at every Mass?

But think about it this way: how would Nietzsche know what the redeemed look like? For that matter, how would we? Why should we think that we are in a position to see the healing that the Lord does in our lives? Why would we think that we are in a position to judge how far we have come in conquering the sin in ourselves? The Lord tells us not to judge others ([Mt 7:1](#)). Why should we think we are able to judge ourselves?

So we do not have to see the effects of the healing touch of the Lord in order for it to do its work. The touch of the Word, for whose healing word we pray at every mass, does its healing deep within. Our job is to be open to that touch.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 6 **Sixth Sunday of the Year, February 11, 2018**

**CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST**

Sun	Feb 11	8:00 am	SFD	Britney Deaton
		10:00 am	SP	Philip & Leola Barrett
Tue	Feb 13	9, 11 am	DOC	Masses Shawnee & Vienna
Wed	Feb 14	5:00 pm	SFD	For the Parishioners
		7:00 pm	SP	For the Parishioners
Thr	Feb 15	11:30 am, 1 pm	Marion	Penitentiary
Fri	Feb 16	12:00pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Feb 18	8:00 am	SFD	Britney Deaton
		10:00 am	SP	Wendy Bowman

<b>Birthdays:</b> Feb 11 Leslie Miller Patrick Whittington Feb 13 Edlein Dillow Feb 15 Mary Starrick Feb 16 Doug Jones Feb 18 Jared Bergmann Lynne Stoerger
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**St Paul, Vienna**

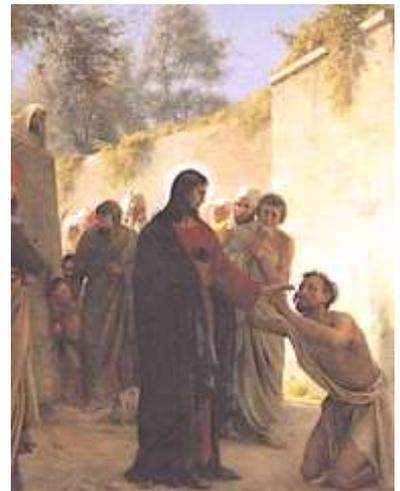
<p><b>Sun, Feb 11, 10 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> R Slife , L Slife,  <b>Lector:</b> Sarah Black  <b>Gifts:</b>Roger, Annabeth Webb  <b>Ushers</b> J Nelson, G Tesina  Mt Slife, S Widowski  <b>E. Minister</b> D Hopkins  S Belske, B Bishop  <b>Greeter:</b> Monica Query</p>	<p><b>Sun, Feb 18, 10 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> B Bertram, A Webb  <b>Lector:</b> Steve Pobst  <b>Gifts:</b> Children Liturgy  <b>Ushers:</b>,P Kalicki, M Palmer  M McMahan,J Bergmann,  <b>E. Minister</b> P Shallenberger  F Dueker, M Nelson  <b>Greeter</b>Marc &amp; Beth Palmer</p>	<p><b>Sun, Feb 25, 10 am</b>  <b>Server:</b>R Slife, B Bertran  <b>Lector:</b> Joe Nelson  <b>Gifts:</b> L Lance, G Tesina  <b>Ushers</b>,R Stoerger, Mt Slife  D Zmuda Sr, F Dueker  <b>E. Minister</b> B Palmer  P Widowski, P Kalicki  <b>Greeters</b> Carolyn Johnson</p>
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**St Francis DeSales, Stonefort**

<p><b>Sun, Feb 11: 8 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> Mary Treat  <b>Lector:</b> LaVonne Herbert  <b>Gifts:</b> R Drone, M Cole  <b>Usher:</b> David Parks  <b>E. Min:</b> Cecilia Parks</p>	<p><b>Sun, Feb 18: 8:00 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> Cecilia Parks  <b>Lector:</b> Marietta Moore  <b>Gifts:</b> L Herbert/ R Drone  <b>Usher</b> Myron Cole  <b>E. Min:</b> Christine Deaton</p>
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**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

- Sun Feb 11 Burning of Palm following weekend masses
  - St Francis DeSales Mass.....8:00 am
  - St Paul Mass & Rite of Sending (RCIA).....10 am
  - PSR Classes.....11am
  - Chili & Dessert Cook-Off, Valentine Bingo...11 am
- Tues Feb13 DOC Masses Shawnee and Vienna.....9 , 11 am
  - Scripture Study at SFD church.....4:30 pm
  - RCIA Session.....7 pm
- Wed Feb 14 Scripture Study at SP hall.....4:00 pm
  - Ash Wednesday Mass..SFD..5:00 pm..SP...7:00 pm
- Thr Feb 15 USP Marion masses.....11:30 am, 1 pm
- Fri Feb 16 Weekday Mass.....12:00 pm
- Sun Feb 18 Black & Indian Mission Collection
  - Stations of the Cross..20 minutes before mass
  - St Francis DeSales Mass.....8:00 am
  - St Paul Mass and Children Liturgy of Word.10 am
  - PSR Classes.....11am
  - Rite of Election at Cathedral in Belleville.....2 pm



**RITE OF SENDING CATECHUMENS FOR ELECTION** Those seeking to celebrate Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) as adults are welcomed and recognized for final preparations during Lent by Bishop Braxton at a diocesan ceremony at the cathedral on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Our parish expresses our support for Carlos Baker and Katie Pobst in the Rite of Sending during the mass this Sunday at St Paul.

**JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES** from Feb 7<sup>th</sup> mt are available in the bulletin rack.

**LENTEN INSERT** A guide to Lenten Regulations and opportunities during the season of lent are available in today's bulletin. Booklets for personal study and reflections are available on the table in the foyer.

**CHILI AND DESSERT COOK-OFF** will begin shortly after 10 am mass today in the hall of St Paul. Prizes of \$25, 15, and 10 will be offered for chili and dessert winners. A Valentine Bingo will follow the meal of Chili and Desserts. All are welcome to enjoy and vote on the best Chili and Desserts.

**SUPPORT OF SEMINARIANS** In addition to prayer, this weekend valentine cards will be available to sign to send to seminarians at the cook-off.

**VALENTINES FOR HILLVIEW HOME RESIDENTS** A table will be set up during the Chili & Dessert Cook-off for youth and other interested adults to make valentines to be shared with the residents of Hillview Care Home in Vienna.

**LEADERS FOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS** Devotion following the Stations of the Cross will be offered on the Sundays of Lent 20 minutes before mass. A leader sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

**SCRIPTURE STUDY** A group study/reflection on the Gospel of Luke will be held at St Francis DeSales Church beginning this Tuesday, 4:30 pm and also at St Paul Parish Hall on Wednesday, 4 pm. Participants are asked to bring a bible. The sessions will be led by Arlene Dueker.

**BEST LENT EVER** is a free daily e-mail reflection with video links for each day of Lent from Dynamic Catholic. Reflections will follow topics in the Christmas book, Perfectly Yourself. You may sign up for the e-mails at [dynamiccatholic.com/Lent](http://dynamiccatholic.com/Lent). Program begins Feb 14<sup>th</sup> with Ash Wednesday.

**ASH WEDNESDAY**, the beginning of the Lenten Season, will be celebrated with Eucharist and distribution of ashes on this Wednesday. Mass at St Francis DeSales is 5:00 pm, and at St Paul at 7 pm. The ritual of attaching a note to the cross indicating a fault you will seek to overcome or virtue you choose to undertake during Lenten renewal will be held after receiving ashes.

**NATIONAL BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION** will be taken up next Sunday. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ

# Sixth Sunday of the Year

Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46; Psalm 32; 1 Corinthians 10:31--11:1; Mark 1:40-45

We seem happy with the status quo. We resist the impulse to share our religious heritage with outsiders. In so doing, we espouse the position that outsiders should remain outsiders. Today's readings challenge us to see community as a reality that seeks to welcome, not reject, outsiders.

Leviticus 13 is a collection of originally distinct laws that now come under the general rubric of malignant skin diseases, not actual leprosy. A person diagnosed with such a disease was prevented from worshiping and was cut off from the community. In cases where the disease was healed, Leviticus 14 provides for the reintroduction of the outcast into the community.

In the second reading, Paul says that whatever Christians do they should do it for the glory of God. By "glory" Paul means that Christians are to manifest God's presence in all their activities. Paul extends this manifestation to the point of bringing about the conversion of outsiders. Christians are to build up the Church, the body of believers.

In the gospel, the cure of the leper clearly shows that the kingdom of God is open to all. This in turn implies the rejection of everything that prevents true community. The reaction of the cured leper is a proclamation. Like the leper we have been cleansed, in baptism. Hence we too are called upon to proclaim the Word to outsiders.

Our first reaction to outsiders is to be defensive or to crusade against them. Perhaps it is more practical to heed Paul's advice. No matter what Christians do, they are to manifest the glory of God. Justice in the marketplace, politeness on the road, charity in neighborhood conversation, concern for community needs, and a contagious smile are but a few of the myriad ways of manifesting God's glory to make outsiders insiders.

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

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## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

In these days ritual demanded that if you had the sore of leprosy you had to "tear your clothes, be excluded, live apart from those you loved, and announce your presence by shouting 'unclean'?" Are some people treated in a similar way today? Give examples. In Paul's time, when Christians sat down to share meals, there were a lot of problems, caused by different religious backgrounds and practices. How does the statement, "do everything for the glory of God," work for you as a solution when there is a decision about how to act?

"Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him and said to him, 'I do will it. Be made clean.'" If you come to Jesus with a problem, do you think he will be moved with pity and touch you in some healing way? Can you help heal those who are ailing around you? How can your scars help in healing others?

**NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES:** First Sunday of Lent: Genesis 9:8-15; Ps 25; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15