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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

**Serving the Lord Well** In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus comes to Peter's house and he finds that Peter's mother-in-law is sick. And finding her sick, Jesus heals her. It is a familiar story about Jesus, who heals all kinds of diseases and infirmities.

But then look what happens. The whole town hears of her healing and rushes all their sick to Peter's house. The Gospel says that by the evening the whole city was gathered at the door of Peter's house ([Mark 1:33](#))! Now, all of a sudden, Jesus seems to have become a one-man hospital. The Gospel says that Jesus healed very many of them.

What is needed to serve God well, then, is not endless good things that other people want from you. If the whole city is at the door of Peter's house by the evening, then Jesus must have been healing well into the night. The Gospel says that Jesus left the house well before day and went into a secluded place to pray.\* He was so besieged by those who wanted healing that he couldn't pray in the house.

When his absence was finally detected, his disciples went looking for him. "Hey," they say when they find him, "Everybody is looking for you!" They seem to think that his urgent-care clinic should be open at all hours.

Now, of course, it is a good work to heal the sick. And, of course, those who love the sick are right to want them healed.

And yet how absurd it is to suppose that prayer should take second-place to work, no matter what the work is! And how sadly and understandably absurd it is to suppose that the mission of Jesus is to be a "Doctor Without Borders."

And so maybe it isn't hard to figure out what Jesus was praying about in the early morning in the countryside.

Each healing Jesus does is a good thing. But good things can actually get in the way of serving God well. To serve God well, a person has to do not just any good things that others want him to do. He has to do those good things that God has called him to do. It may take prayer to figure out which good things to turn down.

Jesus' disciples feel that Jesus needs to hurry back to Peter's village to keep practicing medicine. What Jesus tells them, after his prayer, is that he is leaving Peter's village to continue his ministry—not of medicine but of preaching in other towns. Preaching is the purpose for which he came.

What is needed to serve God well, then, is not endless good things that other people want from you. What is needed for the Lord's service is prayer first. And after that comes fidelity to just those few good things that fulfill that particular purpose to which the Lord has called you.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 5 **Fifth Sunday of the Year, February 4, 2018**

**CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST**

Sun	Feb	4	8:00 am	SFD	Tom Laaker
			10:00 am	SP	Gerald Hank
Tue	Feb	6	9, 11 am	DOC	Masses Shawnee & Vienna
Wed	Feb	7	5:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Feb	9	12:00pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Feb	11	8:00 am	SFD	Britney Deaton
			10:00 am	SP	Philip & Leola Barrett

<p><b>Birthdays:</b>                  Feb 7 Ken Retz                  Feb 9 Madonna Slife                  Feb 11 Leslie Miller                  Patrick Whittington</p>
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**St Paul, Vienna**

<p><b>Sun, Feb 4, 10 am</b>  <b>Server:</b>B Bertran, A Webb  <b>Lector:</b> Steve Widowski  <b>Gifts:</b> Children Liturgy  <b>Ushers,</b>D Bishop, L Hinton                  P Widowski, M McMahan  <b>E. Minister</b> A Dueker                  L Stoerger, V Anderson  <b>Greeters</b> Geri Tesina</p>	<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>
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**St Francis DeSales**

<p><b>Sun, Feb 4: 8:00 am</b>  <b>Server:</b> Christine Deaton  <b>Lector:</b> Mary Treat  <b>Gifts:</b> Parks Family  <b>Usher</b> Fred Deaton  <b>E. Min:</b> Myron Cole</p>	<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>
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**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

- Sun Feb 4 Blessing of Throats through intercession St Blaise  
 St Francis DeSales Mass.....8:00 am  
 St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word.....10 am  
 PSR Classes.....11am  
 First Sunday after mass Social in hall.....11am  
 Liturgy Committee Mt.....following social  
 Confirmation Retreat in parish center.11am-3 pm
- Tues Feb 6 DOC Masses Shawnee and Vienna.....9 , 11 am  
 RCIA Session.....7 pm
- Wed Feb 7 Weekday Mass.....5:30 pm  
 Joint Parish Council Mt at St Paul.....6:00 pm
- Thr Feb 8 Eucharistic Adoration at SP.....4 pm – 7:30 pm
- Fri Feb 9 Weekday Mass.....12:00 pm
- Sun Feb 11 Burning of Palm following weekend masses  
 St Francis DeSales Mass.....8:00 am  
 St Paul Mass .....10 am  
 PSR Classes.....11am  
 Chili & Dessert Cook-Off, Valentine Bingo..11 am



**THIS IS MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTION/RENEWAL WEEKEND!** Be sure to subscribe with your envelope or call 618-233-8670. To subscribe online go to, [www.bellevillemessenger.org](http://www.bellevillemessenger.org)

**BLESSING OF THROATS THROUGH INTERCESSION OF ST BLAISE** will be offered following masses this Sunday

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTA** around the altar are available for adoption (and take home) following the mass this Sunday.

**FIRST SUNDAY SOCIAL** will follow the mass this Sunday. The **Liturgy Committee** will hold its meeting in the hall after the social.

**OLD PALM** All are encouraged to bring palm branches from previous years for burning on February 11<sup>th</sup> to become ashes for the beginning of Lent. Marked containers are in the church entrances.

**LADIES RETREAT** Ladies, get away for the weekend for a Ladies Retreat at Kings' House in Belleville IL on April 13-15<sup>th</sup>. Reservation deadline is Feb 4. For more information, call Vickie 658-1576

**JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** of St Francis DeSales and St Paul will be held at St Paul this Wednesday beginning 6 pm. Note the mass has been move to 5:30 pm.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** sign up sheet for Feb 8<sup>th</sup> is on the bulletin board. Parishioners are encouraged to participate. Signing the list will assure all times are covered.

**CHILI AND DESSERT COOK-OFF** entries are welcome for the February 11<sup>th</sup> parish event beginning shortly after 10 am mass. Prizes of \$25, 15, and 10 will be offered for chili and dessert winners. A sign-up list is on the bulletin board.

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

**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.

**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.

**BUSY, BUSY.** All it took was Jesus to cure Simon's mother-in-law for her to cook a meal for a household of guests, and later, for the house to fill with everyone from town for even more healing. When Jesus sneaks off to pray, his disciples track him down and get him back to mercy work. How do I make time to pray in this busy world, in my busy life?.

# Fifth Sunday of the Year

Job 7:1-4,6-7; Psalm 147; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23; Mark 1:29-39

Today's readings show us that people are not defined by their vocation or by their financial success or by their power. People are defined by their willingness to reach out to others. These are the "real" people who put aside preoccupation with self and set out to repair a hurting world.

Paul considers the question of financial aid in preaching the gospel. He is rebutting some Corinthians who maintain that nonacceptance of compensation implied denial of apostleship. In reply, Paul observes that he has no choice but to preach the Good News. God commissioned him to undertake the task. Financial independence enables Paul to be of service without pressure and to identify with the weak. To become all things for all people is another way of saying that service makes the person.

For Mark, Jesus' teaching in the synagogue provides a picture of a typical day in the Lord's early ministry. There is the exorcism of the man with an unclean spirit, the healing of Peter's mother-in-law, and the evening cures. Miracles manifest the advent of the kingdom; through Jesus, God is providing for those who hurt. Jesus' mission is not to show power or to satisfy curiosity, his call is to serve.

Service is a concern of the modern Christian family. Husband and wife support each other. Parents take responsibility as first teachers of their children. Children must respond to family obligations. Service is a concern of the extended family as well. Parishioners, citizens, elected officials, and nations must provide an environment where peace and justice grow and prosper.

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

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## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Sometimes, do you feel like Job in this reading? Why you think God allows suffering?

Can you have faith in God, even if you don't understand why people suffer?

What drove Paul to the point that he would do anything for the sake of the gospel? What drives you to do the things that you do?

Do you think this text was written to tell people about Jesus the miracle worker? Are miracles a confirmation of Jesus' message of salvation? What did he say was the "purpose for which he came"?

**NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES:** 6th Sunday of Year: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32; 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45