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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

The Desires of the Heart When Lazarus died, Mary of Bethany must have been heartbroken.

You can see why she would have been. She loved her brother Lazarus, and she trusted and loved Jesus. Like everybody else in her community she knew that Jesus could heal sick people. So when her brother got sick and she knew that Jesus was nearby, she turned to him for help. Then she waited three desperate and increasingly miserable days. During those days Jesus didn't come and Lazarus died.

And so she was devastated. Her beloved brother was dead, and her beloved Jesus seemed to have disregarded her entirely in her time of need. She must have felt sure that she had lost the desires of her heart and lost them irretrievably.

But what the story of the raising of Lazarus shows is that a person can feel sure about such things and still be altogether mistaken.

The story helps us see that the Lord can be trusted even with the deepest distress of the hearts of those who are his own. Mary wasn't entirely wrong. She had this much accurate insight into herself: she was right in thinking that it was her heart's desire to have her brother and to be loved by Jesus.

But she was mistaken about what the fulfillment of those desires would be. She thought that she could have the desires of her heart only in case Jesus came to her to heal her brother before he died. Consequently, when Lazarus did die, Mary thought that she had lost what she wanted most.

What the story makes clear, though, is that the Lord can know better than a human person does what she most wants. We are not surprised if the Lord knows better than we do what is good for us, and we generally expect that good to be something we don't want. But in this story the Lord knows better than Mary what she herself actually wants.

When Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead, Mary has her brother and is loved by Jesus in a way more deeply fulfilling to her and more glorious than the mere healing of her brother in his sickness would have been.

And here is the thing to notice: Jesus was in the process of giving her what she wanted most even as she was firmly persuaded that she had lost it forever.

And so the story helps us see that the Lord can be trusted even with the deepest distress of the hearts of those who are his own. As the Psalmist promises ([Ps 37:4](#)), the Lord will give the desires of their hearts to those who put their trust in him.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 11 **Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 18, 2018**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Mar 18	8:00 am	SFD	For the Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Olga Schwartz
Tue	Mar 20	9, 11 am	DOC	Masses Shawnee & Vienna
Wed	Mar 21	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Thr	Mar 22	11:30am, 1 pm	Marion	Penitentiary
Fri	Mar 23	12:00pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Mar 25	8:00 am	SFD	Britany Deaton
		10:00 am	SP	Philip & Leola Barrett

St Paul, Vienna

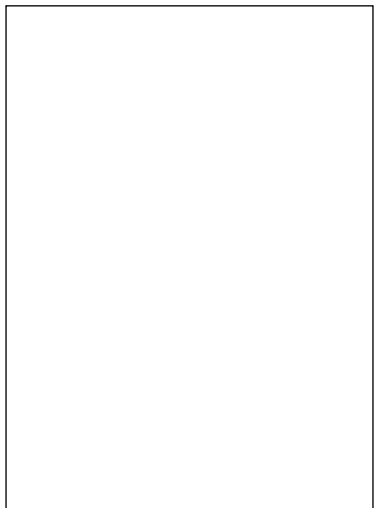
<p>Sun, Mar 18, 10 am Server: B Bertran, M Bergmann Lector: Joan Galej Gifts: Children Liturgy Ushers, P Kalicki, Mt Slife J Bergmann, S Widowski E. Minister D Hopkins, S. Belske, B Bishop Greeters S & P Widowski</p>		<p>Sun, Mar 25, 10 am Server: A Webb, B Bertram Lector: J Nelson, + passion Gifts: D & A Zmuda Family Ushers M Palmer, D Zmuda L Stoerger, R Stoerger E. Minister B Palmer M Nelson, P Kalicki Greeter: Sandy Belske</p>	<p>Sun, Apr 1, 10 am Server: R Slife, B Bertram Lector: Sabra Moore Gifts: P & A Widowski Ushers: J Nelson, D Bishop L Hinton, M McMahan E. Minister S Black V Anderson, L Stoerger Greeter: Janet Hacker</p>
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St Francis DeSales. Stonefort

<p>Sun, Mar 18: 8:00 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Myron Cole Gifts: M Moore/R Drone Usher David Parks E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>	<p>Sun, Mar 25: 8 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: C Parks, L Herbert Gifts: M Moore, M Hustedde Usher: Myron Cole E. Min: Mary Treat</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Mar 18 Stations of the Cross 20 minutes before masses
 - St Francis DeSales Mass.....8:00 am
 - Easter Choir practice at St Paul.....8:45 am
 - St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy.....10 am
 - Oral cancer screening at SP before/following mass
 - PSR Classes.....11am
 - Council of Catholic Women Mt (Altar Sodality).11am
- Mon Mar19 Blood Drive- Fellowship Baptist Hall.....12-6 pm
- Tues Mar20 Election Day
 - DOC Masses Shawnee and Vienna.....9 , 11 am
 - RCIA Session.....7 pm
- Wed Mar21 Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
 - Scripture Study at SP hall.....4:00 pm
 - SP Parish Council Mt.....hall.....7:05 pm
- Thr Mar 22 Masses at Marion Penitentiary.....11:30am, 1 pm
- Fri Mar 23 Weekday Mass.....12:00 pm
- Sat Mar 24 Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Paul..5-6:00 pm
- Sun Mar 25 Stations of the Cross 20 minutes before masses
 - St Francis DeSales Mass.& Palm Procession.8:00 am
 - St Paul Mass & Procession with palm.....10 am
 - Easter Choir practice at St Paul.....11 am
 - PSR Classes.....11am



STATIONS OF THE CROSS Devotion following the Stations of the Cross will be offered on the Sundays of Lent 20 minutes before mass.

THIRD SCRUTINY As a faith community who renew our resolve to follow Jesus through Lenten commitments of prayer, repentance and charity, we support the catechumens who seek to share in full membership in the Catholic Church by the third series of prayer today.

ORAL CANCER SCREENING Dr. Elizabeth Moore DMD will do oral cancer screenings on Sunday March 18th before and after Mass in the cry room at St Paul..

EASTER CHOIR All who interested in participating in an Easter Choir is asked to join practices in church Mar 18, 8:45am; Mar 25, 11am and Apr 1, 8:45am.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN aka Altar Sodality will meet this Sun, March 18, 11 am following mass. A collection for their ministry will be taken up after mass.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE will be hosted at the Fellowship Baptist Hall this Monday, March 19, 12 noon to 6 pm. Share the gift that money can't buy.

SCRIPTURE STUDY on the Gospel of Luke will conclude on Wednesday, 4 pm in the hall at St Paul.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is scheduled on Saturdays of Lent 5-6 pm at SP

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION Next Sunday we begin Holy Week with a blessing and procession with palm branches before the mass from the parish center.

LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION A container is in the foyer to collected non-perishable food items for the DayStar Food Program in Cairo.

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS The deadline for including flower memorials into the bulletin insert on Easter will be March 28th.

RICE BOWLS will be collected in container during Holy Week. Still time to share the fruits of Lenten fasting in a tangible support of those in need of assistance.

THANK YOU....to all who contributed to the success of our second fish fry..workers doing advanced preparation, frying fish, mixing batter, making slaw, serving food, selling tickets, cleaning up, baking or donating desserts and participating in the meal.
Also thanks to volunteers who helped with the parish workday and showed concern for keeping the parish attractive and maintained.

VOCATION CORNER After discerning my vocation to enter the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, at age 18, I wrestled with the unknowns about my future. I found myself gazing up at the sky, walking an unknown path. I trusted that God was calling me to love and serve him as his bride. Since professing....there are still plenty of unknowns in my life. But I learned to trust that as long as I am faithful to his call, God will always be there to guide me. *Sister Marie Jeannette Lewis, O.P. Columbia Magazine Nov. 2017*

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE Mar 25, Palm Sunday 10am; Mar 27, Chrism Mass (at Belleville) 11:30am; Mar 29, Holy Thursday, 5 pm at SFD, 7 pm at SP; Mar 30, Good Friday, Community Good Friday Service at SP, 12 noon, Good Friday Service 3 pm at SFD, 7 pm at SP; Mar 31, Easter Vigil Service + Mass at SP, 8 pm; Apr 1, Easter Sunday Mass, 8 am at SFD, 10 am at SP.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37:12-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

In today's Word of God we deal with the very real problems of anxiety and hopelessness. When life's shocks paralyze us, when self-pity becomes the expression of our misery, then we must call upon the God who becomes involved in human tragedy. This is the God whose concern for the living is a manifestation of life itself.

Preaching in the aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem, Ezekiel personally experienced the frustration of that of an exile. He even quotes their expression of despair: "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost" (Ezekiel 37:11). His response is a vision in which he is transported to a valley littered with dry human bones. At the prophet's word, the breath/spirit/wind brings the bodies to life. For God's despondent people this means that Yahweh will call them back to new life in their own land of Israel.

In Romans 7:19 Paul describes the plight of those who attempt to be totally self-reliant: "For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do." Now in Chapter 8 Paul develops a theme of new hope: God's power enables a genuine moral life, the threat of condemnation is lifted. When the Spirit determines our moral values, we are allied with Christ. Physical death is not removed, but the Spirit brings to human life God's justice leading to resurrection.

John recounts the raising of Lazarus as a sign that transforms the tragedy into hope. Lazarus' illness and death are the occasion for the manifestation of God's glory. Faith goes hand in hand with glory. To accept Jesus is to make oneself open to that whole process of transformation. The disciple glorifies God just as the Son did by his death and resurrection.

To experience the presence of God makes hope possible and life livable. Breathing life into the weary downtrodden is in the tradition of Ezekiel; caring for the elderly and the shut-ins is in the spirit of Paul; alleviating hunger for the world's starving poor follows the Gospel of John. All these deeds manifest the glory of God.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

God said to the Israelites, "I will bring you up from your graves. ... I will put my spirit within you and you shall live." On a scale of one to ten how would you compare these two gifts God promised? Are these promises made to you also?

Hans Urs von Balthazar said that if you are guided by the Spirit rather than by the flesh, "the germ of divine, eternal life already lives in you with this Spirit and you hold a 'down-payment,' as it were, a ticket to God's life."

How do all the elements in the story of the raising of Lazarus point to Jesus' words, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live"?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Palm Sunday: Isaiah 50:4-7; Ps 22; Philipppians 2:6-11; Mark 14: 1 – 15:47