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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

One Heart, One Mind Here is what the Readings for this week claim. By his cross, Christ conquered sin; by his resurrection, he destroyed death. At Easter, we celebrate his victory with joy.

The [Second Reading](#) affirms that Christ's victory is ours. If we have faith that Jesus is the Christ, then we are begotten by God. If we are, then we conquer the world. And if we do, then we love God, we love the children of God, and we keep God's commandments obediently. In that condition, we are victorious with Christ.

As long as we believe that Christ won the victory for us, the victory of Christ is ours. But these lines in the Second Reading look like joy-destroyers, don't they? If we don't keep God's commandments, if we don't love God's children, we don't conquer the world. And if we don't conquer the world, then we aren't begotten of God. And in that case we don't really have faith. How do we have victory then?

And it gets worse.

In another place, the same Epistle says that anyone who says he doesn't have sin is a liar ([1 John 1:8](#)). So it seems that there is a Catch-22 here. If you sin, you aren't victorious. You are a loser. But if you try claiming that you don't sin, you are guilty of lying, which is a sin; and so you aren't victorious in that case either.

It seems that whether you think you sin or think you don't sin, you lose. So what happened to our victory? Where is joy?

The solution is to notice what faith is. Faith is the belief that Jesus is the Christ, the one who—the one who *what*? Well, the one who conquers sin and death.

So here is the message from the Readings. For our part, we are saved from sin and death by *believing* that we are saved from sin and death—by Christ. There is no Catch-22. Even in our sinful state, where truth forces us to confess our disobedience and our failures in love, we are victorious—over the sin and death in ourselves—as long as we believe that Christ won the victory for us.

This faith is what God requires of us, and the Second Reading is right: this requirement isn't burdensome.

So here is our joy: as long as we believe that Christ won the victory for us, the victory of Christ is ours.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 14 **Second Sunday of Easter, April 8, 2018**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Apr 8	8:00 am	SFD	For parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Charles & Mary Querrey
Tue	Apr 10	9am, 11 am	Shawnee, Vienna	DOC
Wed	Apr 11	5:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Thr	Apr 12	11:30am, 1 pm	BOP	Masses-Marion
Fri	Apr 13	12:00 pm	SP	Leola Barrett
Sun	Apr 15	8:00 am	SFD	Vincent Seidler
		10:00 am	SP	Bill Kinkead

St Paul, Vienna

Birthdays

Apr 8 Kenneth Speletich
Apr 9 Rhi Slife

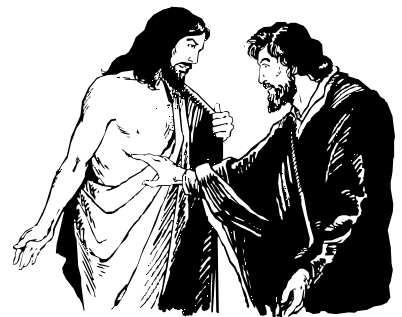
<p>Sun, Apr 8, 10 am Server: A Webb, C Bergmann Lector: Rhi Slife Gifts: David Zmuda Family Ushers P Widowski, Mt Slife G Tesina, S Widowski E. Minister D Bishop, S. Black, L Stoerger Greeter: Michael McMahan</p>	<p>Sun, Apr 15, 10 am Server: R Slife, M Bergmann Lector: Steve Pobst Gifts: Carlos, Cindy Baker Ushers J Bergmann, S Hupe P Kalicki, M Palmer E. Minister B Palmer F Dueker, M Nelson Greeter: H & X Gruszczyk</p>	<p>Sun, Apr 22, 10 am Server: B Bertram Lector: Madonna Slife Gifts: Bill & V Anderson Ushers:R Stoerger, L Stoerger J Slife, Mt Slife E. Minister S Moore P Widowski, P Kalicki Greeter: Monica Querrey</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Apr 8: 8:00 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: M Cole, M Moore Usher: Fred Deaton E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>	<p>Sun, Apr 15: 8:00 am Server: Brenda Morse Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: Treat Family Usher Arnold Morse E. Min: Myron Cole</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Apr 8 Anointing of Sick at Sunday masses
 - St Francis DeSales Mass.....8:00 am
 - St Paul Mass & Blood Pressure cks.....10 am
 - Liturgy Planning Mt.....11 am
- Tues Apr 10 DOC Masses at Shawnee and Vienna...9am & 11am
 - RCIA Session.....7 pm
- Wed Apr 11 Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
- Thr Apr 12 USP Marion Masses.....11:30am, 1 pm
 - Eucharistic Adoration.....4 pm – 7:30 pm
- Fri Apr 13 Weekday Mass.....12:00 pm
 - Kings House Retreat -- Fri through Sun
- Sun Apr 15 St Francis DeSales Mass.....8:00 am
 - St Paul Mass10 am
 - Usher training for Emergency Plan Mt.....11 am
 - PSR Classes.....11 am



COMMUNAL ANOINTING OF THE SICK will be offered at the parish masses this Sunday. Anyone who has difficulty standing is encouraged to sit in the front pew so the celebrant can come to you.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS will be provided by the Wellness Committee before and after mass this Sunday at St Paul.

LIVING GRACE daily scripture reflection booklets for April-June are available in the foyer this weekend for anyone willing to use them.

PARTNERSHIP JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES are available today in bulletin rack.

LITURGY COMMITTEE will have their next meeting this Sunday, Apr 8, in the hall following Sunday mass.

SPRING FARM BLESSING All are welcome to the Keasler Farms, Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at 1:00 PM, located at 4300 Eldorado Blacktop Road, Ridgway, Illinois 62879. Canned food for food pantry will be collected. Blessing of seed. Refreshments to follow.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will be offered Thursday of this week, 4-7:30 pm. If you can participate, you are encouraged to put your name on the schedule on the bulletin board.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANS for severe weather, earthquake, fire and active intruder will be implemented beginning with training for ushers 11 am on April 15 and April 22 (choice of weekend). Guidelines for parishioners response will follow.

SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER POSITION will become available beginning July 2018 at St Paul with projected 16 hrs per week. Basic computer (word processing, spreadsheet and database) and bookkeeping skills required. Inquiries for job description, pay rate, and application should be directed to parish office.

FLOWER MEMORIALS A memorial that missed the flower insert- Slife Family

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER **Loretta Petges**, mother of Pam Shallenberger, who died on Thursday; and **Valrey Coleman**, sister in law to Laurie Coleman, who also died on Thursday.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BDCCW South Vicariate Ladies program and Mt Apr 21, 9am-12 at St Joseph, Marion
World Day of Prayer for Vocations, April 22. Holy Hour at St Paul Church, 12 pm
Ladies Luncheon at St Paul Hall, Sat, Apr 28, 11am – 1 pm. Ladies of parish and guests
SIU K of C Golf Scramble, Apr 28, at Red Hawk Golf Club, Tamaroa. 12 lunch, 1 pm start

STILL IN OUR MIDST-Two thousand years ago “on the evening of the first day of the week,” when the disciples hid behind locked doors, Jesus did three things. He stood in their midst. He gave gifts of peace and Holy Spirit. He sent them out. Jesus is still in our midst, still doing the same. Every Sunday Mass makes it so. In our midst in Word and Eucharist. Gifting us with peace and Spirit. Telling us to “Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.” · Who am I and who are we locking in or locking out? · Because peace is a gift given and shared, what will I do this week? To whom will I go; what will I do?.

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 118; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31

We usually put down the doubting Thomas. For him and his followers, seeing is believing. On the contrary, we like to think that we believe without seeing the evidence. But do we perhaps fail in another direction? Is our believing such that it impels us to act on behalf of others?

Today's readings remind us that faith involves movement from the world of God into the world of God's people. Here, doing is believing.

In Acts, Luke brings together two different but interrelated notions: He states that the earliest Christians owned all things in common; and he depicts individuals selling their property and making the proceeds available to the needy of the community. Here the basis for giving is faith. It is such faith-filled charity that Luke suggests as the ideal Christian response.

The author of First John, writing about A.D. 100, addresses the members of his community. There has been serious disagreement within the community, and some have broken away. Today's epistle passage is linked to 1 John 4:20-21, where we are told that to love God means to love one's brothers and sisters. Such love is a corollary of faith. In today's reading, the believer who loves God must also love God's children.

Jesus then makes his relationship with God the model for the disciples' mission. Jesus' life-giving breath is the gift of the Spirit of Pentecost that jump-starts that mission. The disciples are to continue Jesus' mission, offering life to all believers.

Today's readings remind us that we must carry our professions of faith and signs of peace into settings outside of church. The messages insist that we see our gift of faith as precisely that -- a gift -- and thus something to be shared in wider community. They also make clear that sharing our faith (mission) means more than merely religious instruction or a theology lecture. Sharing our faith means seeing the image of God in all those persons who make up the fabric of our lives. Seeing the image of God means revering and imitating God in our words and works -- whether at work or at play, whether at home or away. Doing is believing.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

In this reading, the community's treatment of possessions is the early Church's response to Christ's life, death and resurrection. How does your treatment of possessions compare with theirs?

Does what you have done make you a Christian, or what Christ has done? Which is more important, belief in Jesus or performance of good deeds? If you believe deeply and personally in Jesus will good deeds spring from that belief and love?

What is the significance of Jesus' breath when he gave the disciples the Holy Spirit? Is it the same Holy Spirit you receive in Baptism and Confirmation? Jesus empowered his disciples with his Spirit so they could pass the gift of peace on to others. He said to them, "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven." How is peace related to forgiveness of sins?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Third Sunday of Easter: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4; 1John 2:1-5a; John 24:35-48