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ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Sat – 5:30 pm; 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 Kingdom of God Within You In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus says that the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. When it is sown in the ground, it is the smallest of seeds; but it can grow to become the largest of plants.

The more a Christian fulfills God's will in her life, the greater the kingdom of God in her is. So, the kingdom of God can be very small, or it can change its size and become very big.

But why wouldn't the kingdom of God always be the same size?

To see the answer, you have to recognize that the kingdom of God isn't a peculiar kind of country. God's kingdom isn't a place at all. It's a condition, the condition of God's ruling as king.

But, we might think, even so, God's kingdom can't shift sizes. God's rule is always the same size: it's everywhere.

And yet this can't be right either. What is ruled by a king is governed by the will of the king. But how much of God's will does any Christian fulfill? Everything is subject to the will of God the King, for sure, but not every Christian who counts as being in the kingdom of God fulfills God's will completely now.

So *this* is the way in which God's kingdom can change size. When a Christian does what is against God's will, to that extent the will of God is not fulfilled in her. And so, to that same extent, the kingdom of God is small in her too. On the other hand, the more a Christian fulfills God's will in her life, the greater the kingdom of God in her is.

This is one way we can understand Christ's parable of the mustard seed, then. When a Christian first opens himself up to receive God as Lord, the Lord rules very little of him. And so the kingdom of God is like the littlest seed in the ground of his heart. But if only he lets that seed grow in him, if only he doesn't give up on himself as fruitless and despair of himself, that littlest seed of God's kingdom will grow and grow in him till it becomes like a great tree in him.

But in the end this is the most important thing to see. If you have even just a mustard seed's worth of faith and obedience, you still have the kingdom of God within you.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 24 Eleventh Sunday of the Year, June 17, 2018

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Jun 17	8:00 am	SFD	For the Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Magdalen Warner
Tue	Jun 19	9am, 11 am	Shawnee, Vienna	DOC
Wed	Jun 20	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Jun 22	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sat	Jun 23	5:30 pm	SP	For the Parishioners
Sun	Jun 24	10:00 am	SP	Caryn Zmuda
		12:00 pm	SFD	For the Parishioners

Birthdays
Jun 20 Jim Goddard
Jun 22 Cyndee Baker

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Jun 17, 10 am Server: B Bertram, C Bergmann Lector: Joe Nelson Gifts: Mary Kate Starrick family Ushers: F Dueker, J Bergmann L Hinton, S Widowski E. Minister D Bishop M Nelson, L Stoerger Greeter: S & P Widowski</p>	<p>Sun, Jun 24, 10 am Server: L Slife, R Slife Lector: Rhi Slife Gifts: Ruth Brown, Teresa Carr Ushers M McMahan, D Zmuda, L Stoerger, R Stoerger E. Minister F Dueker D Hopkins, S Moore Greeter: Cathy Kruep</p>	<p>Sun, Jul 1, 10 am Server: R Slife, C Bergmann Lector: Joan Galey Gifts: J Cecchi, L Coleman Ushers: G Tesina, M Palmer S Hupe, P Widowski E. Minister S Bekske B Palmer, A Dueker Greeter Janet Hacker</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Jun 17: 8:00 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: Myron Cole Gifts: M Moore, L Herbert Usher: Fred Deaton E. Min: Mary Treat</p>	<p>Sun, Jun 24: 12:00 pm Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: Treat Family Usher David Parks E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sat Jun 16	Saturday mass	5:30 pm
Sun Jun 17	St Francis DeSales Mass.....	8am
	St Paul Mass & First Communion.....	10 am
	Fathers' Day Recognition	
	First Communion Reception.....	11 am
Tues Jun 19	DOC Masses at Shawnee and Vienna...	9am & 11am
Wed Jun 20	Ministerial Alliance Mt.....	12:00 pm
	Weekday Mass.....	6:30 pm
	SP Parish Council Mt....hall.....	7:05 pm
Thr-Sat	St Paul volunteers operate Faith Alive Store..	-9-3pm
Fri Jun 22	Weekday Mass.....	12 pm
Sat Jun 23	Saturday mass	5:30 pm
Sun Jun 24	St Paul Mass	10 am
	Blood Pressure cks before and after mass	
	St Francis DeSales Noon Mass and Picnic ..	12:00pm



BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN for Hope Unlimited ends June 17th. Baby bottles for change and sacrifice are available in the foyer. A goal is \$30 per baby bottle by the end of the period. Proceeds supports pregnancy care, parental guidance and family needs

HAPPY FATHERS DAY Someone said Father's Day is like Mother's Day, except the gift is cheaper." Father's Day is a day to remember, acknowledge and appreciate the "World's Greatest Dad," OUR HEAVENLY FATHER and all who reflect his image and example. Blessings on all Fathers of our parishes!

FIRST COMMUNION 1st Communion with Mary Kate Starrick will be celebrated at St Paul this Sunday, Sunday, June 17th at the 10 am mass. A reception will be held in the hall for her following the mass. Please share her joy and our gift of the Eucharist..



Mary Kate

SP PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING will be held on Wednesday, June 20th, 7:05 pm following weekday mass. Council members are asked to pick up agenda this weekend.

FAITH ALIVE THRIFT STORE St Paul is assigned to operate the store June 21-23. Assistance is welcomed for sorting clothes, stocking racks, working at check-out. Hours of operation are 9am to 3 pm Thr and Friday, and 9am to 12 noon on Saturday. Times for volunteers are posted on the church bulletin board or you may call Madonna Slife 967-5164 or Arlene Dueker 559-7803..

ST FRANCIS DESALES PARISH PICNIC will begin with noon mass, June 24, followed by a potluck meal with meat provided. Parishioners of St Paul and St Francis are invited. To anticipate food supply, please sign up on bulletin board sheet if planning to attend.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION July 1 we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

THANK YOU....To CCW/Altar Sodality for purchase of two new communion cups, a Communion paten and new supply of purificators for the church.

ABOUT GOD'S KINGDOM. It is hard to see the kingdom of God all at once. Perhaps it is impossible. It is as if, the parable goes, a single seed does its nurturing and growth, but not alone, with all the others. We can't see the forest for the trees. Each one of us is a small part of a very large kingdom. · How can I, trusting in God, flourish this week? What fruit will I bear? How will mercy shape my behavior?.

Eleventh Sunday of the Year

Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 92; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Mark 4:26-34

Give God a chance. Today's readings see God not as an impersonal, aloof spectator, but as a personal, interested collaborator. They see life, not as a power struggle to attain fame and fortune, but as a challenging enterprise to acknowledge gifts and graces. They urge the worshipping community to give God a chance.

During the exile in the sixth century B.C., a group of Ezekiel's disciples spoke about the issue of despair. The Temple in Jerusalem lay in ruins. No Davidic king occupied the throne. Their solution was a prediction -- the restoration of God's people under a king from David's line. Yahweh would revive the Davidic dynasty. All God required was a chance to triumph.

Psalm 92 is a psalm of declarative praise extolling God's providence. It acquired a significant place in the Jewish sabbath liturgy as the people rested with God on the seventh day. God had conquered the forces of evil and met the needs of the people. Fear is meaningless because Israel's God is the rock of order.

In the parable of the seed growing of itself (see Mark 4:26-34), Mark contrasts the relative inactivity of the farmer with the assurance of the harvest. Jesus reassures the crowd that growth will come; it is only at the harvest that the farmer reappears. Since the harvest symbolizes the last judgment, it is likely that the parable addresses the burning issue of slow progress in the growth of God's kingdom. Patience is called for in the face of humble beginnings. All that is required is giving God a chance.

Today's passages call us to reassess those areas where we like to have total control. If we are able to make God a partner, then we are also able to enroll those around us in our life ventures. This reverence for others will promote hope, growth, and new life.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

The tender shoot becomes a majestic cedar. In the Gospels, Jesus referred to the "least" becoming the "greatest" numerous times. How is Jesus' own life an example of this? Can you think of others who followed or now follow this example?

Do you have confidence all the time, even when the spiritual weather patterns in your life are not? Paul said, "We are always courageous." Is that true? Are you? Always? What helps when you are not?

What is the farmer's job in both these parables? What is God's job? Could you ask yourself the same two questions about your ministry, ... your job and God's job? Can you trust God to do God's job?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Nativity of St John the Baptist Isaiah 49:1-6; Ps 139; Acts 13:22-26; Luke 1:57-66, 80