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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

Grieving Tasting In Order To See The readings this week highlight the importance of wisdom. But what is wisdom? And how do you get it?

In the world of Nazi Germany everyone in the Nazi party got a party badge. Hitler's own party badge was made of gold. To the Nazis, Hitler's badge symbolized all the things in the world most worth having. At the end of his life, Hitler gave that gold badge as a gift to Magda Goebbels and she said that it was the proudest moment of her life when he did.

Wisdom is the ability to see the goodness of God wherever it is to be found in the world.

But he gave her that gold badge in the bunker under Berlin as Germany was losing the war. In that bunker in the last days of the war, Magda killed all six of her children and herself in an appallingly misguided act of loyalty to Hitler. When the invading soldiers of the Allied armies conquered Berlin and found her body, one of them took that little bit of a gold badge from her dress and pocketed it as a souvenir.

Magda shows us what folly is, doesn't she? She couldn't tell the real goods, the real gold, from the fake goods, the things that glitter but are worthless. The gold badge that symbolized what Magda Goebbels lived and died for is a fitting symbol of the terrible foolishness of her life.

Wisdom is the very opposite. It is the ability to discern between the real goods and the shiny fakes. But among the very best of the really good things is the goodness of God. And so wisdom is the ability to see the goodness of God wherever it is to be found in the world.

The [Psalm](#) tells us how we get the capacity for seeing the goodness of God, so important for us if we are to live our lives wisely, and not foolishly like Magda Goebbels. We get this capacity by tasting! Taste and see that the Lord is good, the Psalm says.

Taste *what*?

The [Gospel](#) gives us the answer: Christ is the bread from heaven, and every person who tastes this bread will live. He will have the real goods, not the worthless fake goods; and he will see the difference between the two, because he will see God's goodness in Christ.

Here is the end of the story then: taste the bread from heaven and see the goodness of the Lord. Wisdom lies in this!

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 32 Twentieth Sunday of Year, August 19, 2018

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Aug 19	8:00 am	SFD	Mary Ann Connor
		10:00 am	SP	Janet Schaefer
Tue	Aug 21	9am, 11 am		Shawnee, Vienna DOC
Wed	Aug 22	6:30 pm	SP	For the Parish
Thr	Aug 23	11:30 am, 1 pm		BOP at Marion
Fri	Aug 24	12:00 pm	SP	Leola Barrett
Sat	Aug 25	5:30 pm	SP	For the Parishioners
Sun	Aug 26	8:00 am	SFD	Mary Ann Connor
		10:00 am	SP	Loretta Petges

Birthdays

Aug 21 Myron Cole
 Aug 22 Natalie Hooven
 Wyatt Ashford
 Marilyn Beanland
 Aug 23 Michael McMahan
 Aug 24 Amanda Widowski
 Rita Fifer

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Aug 19, 10 am Server: L Slife, C Bergmann Lector: Zach Garrett Gifts: D Hopkins, N Janett Ushers:* S Widowski, L Hinton J Bergmann, R Stoerger E. Minister D Bishop B. Bishop, P Shallenberger Greeter: Katie Pobst</p>	<p>Sun, Aug 26, 10 am Server:M Bergmann, B Bertram Lector: Steve Widowski Gifts: Steve, Kathy Hupe Usher:*M Palmer, Joe Nelson P Widowski, M McMahan E. Minister F Dueker D Hopkins, A Dueker GreeterChuck, Monica Querrey</p>	<p>Sun, Sept 2, 10 am Server:R Slife, C Bergmann Lector: Arlene Dueker Gifts: Bill, Tracy Johnson Ushers:* S Pobst, P Kalicki A Stachowiak, D Bishop E. Minister S Black B Palmer, V Anderson Greeter H & X Gruszczyk</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Aug 19: 8:00 pm Server: Brenda Morse Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: D. Parks , R Drone Usher Fred Deaton E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>	<p>Sun, Aug 26: 8:00 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: Marietta Moore Gifts: Treat Family Usher: Myron Cole E. Min: Brenda Morse</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sat Aug 18 Saturday mass5:30 pm
 Sun Aug 19 St Francis DeSales Mass 8:00am
 St Paul Mass10:00 am
 Mon Aug 20 Joint Parish Steering Committee Mt.....6:00 pm
 Tues Aug 21 DOC Masses at Shawnee and Vienna..9am & 11am
 September Calendar Info deadline
 Wed Aug 22 Weekday Mass at SP.....6:30 pm
 Thr Aug 23 Mass at Marion Penitentiary.....11:30 am, 1:00 pm
 Fri Aug 24 Weekday Mass.....12 pm
 Sat Aug 25 Saturday mass5:30 pm
 Sun Aug 26 St Francis DeSales Mass 8:00am
 St Paul Mass10:00 am



50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY Our parish extends its support and prayer as we offer a blessing on Jon and Madonna Slife recognizing their fifty years of marriage at the end of today's mass.

INTO FUTURE MINISTRY SURVEY The parish council is reviewing the parishioner response given on the ministry survey. You are being welcomed to offer constructive comments and suggestions for addressing those areas identified as needing improvement. Some last week expressed a confusion of what was being requested. A comments table is set up by the entrance to church this Sunday and will be staffed by someone able answer your questions.

MINUTES OF AUG 15 PARISH COUNCIL MT are available in bulletin rack.

JOINT PARISH STEERING COMMITTEE Representatives of St Francis DeSales and St Paul will meet this Monday, 6 pm to continue refining the timeline for merging of parishes.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR) is in need of catechists to provide weekly sessions on Sunday mornings for pre-school through Jr high students at St Paul for this class year beginning in September. Teacher manuals that provide information for sessions enable laypersons without degrees to lead classes. Please contact Fr Tom or Steve Widowski if willing to assist or for more information.

DRAW-DOWN PARTY October 20th Tickets are available for \$100.00 that may be shared by up to ten people. Early Bird Drawing for \$100 will be Sept 16th. Tickets available from Dolly Hopkins, Madonna Slife, Matt Slife, Marsha Nelson or after mass. Consolation prizes are needed. Parishioners are encouraged to solicit Gift cards and certificates for services of various businesses. Ideas and donations for Theme baskets are welcome.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN FALL VICARIATE MEETING will be hosted by St Mary Parish, Eldorado on Saturday, Sept 8th, 9 am – 1 pm. All ladies of the parish are invited. Transportation is available. See flyer on bulletin board for more information.

NEW CDs IN KIOS IN CHURCH FOYER Check out new titles of CDs in the stand in the church foyer. Title highlight... Protecting Innocence: Parenting, Your Kids, and the Internet - **MATT FRADD** - Matt Fradd, a best-selling Catholic author, presents new data to show how the changes in the types and accessibility of pornography being promoted today make it far more dangerous and harmful than ever before. Matt draws from a wealth of experience to guide parents in taking decisive action to protect their children, and he empowers adults with specific wording to effectively address this sensitive topic with children of all ages before they encounter pornography or after they've been exposed to it.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS An information session about RCIA will be offered at St Paul on Wed, Aug 29, 7 pm. Contact Fr Tom 658-4501 about any questions or interest.

UPCOMING EVENT- JOINT PARISH PICNIC hosted at St Paul will be held Sunday, September 9th, 11am. Meat will be provided. Side dishes needed. See sign-up list on church bulletin boards.

THANK YOU...to all Faith Alive Store workers who assisted during last week.

RCIA - Christian Initiation

When Sheila became a Catholic some years ago, she felt very lonely. She had received the usual course of instruction from the priest and was convinced of the truth of the Catholic faith. She found it hard, however, to make friends in her parish.

Until the 1970's, "becoming Catholic" was often a private affair. Other Catholics were pleased if they heard about it, but they did not necessarily feel that it concerned them.

It wasn't this way in the early Church. People interested in Christianity entered a process called the catechumenate that could last three years or more. This helped the Church discern whether the candidates were sincere about the Christian faith.

The formation of catechumens was a community responsibility. The local community prayed for the catechumens and instructed them in gospel values and in the Church's faith. Stages were celebrated with rituals of initiation and welcome. Candidates were gradually formed in the faith and mission of the Christian community. In an age of persecution, becoming a Christian was a commitment not to be entered into lightly.

When Christianity became the religion of the Roman Empire, infant baptism became the norm and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults was lost -- until this century.

After World War II, the emerging Church in Africa revived the ancient catechumenate process to initiate new members from highly ritualized, pagan religions. Its good results caused the Second Vatican Council to call for a study, and the revised Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults was published in 1972.

The catechumenate process recognizes that conversion to Jesus Christ and membership in the Church is still a radical step. It demands courage to "die" to old ways, and it sometimes causes pain and bewilderment to family and friends of other faiths. The entry of a new member into the Church is a cause of rejoicing, however, for the whole community.

The catechumenate emphasizes the need of those preparing to be received to go beyond knowledge to a living experience of the Church. Today, people like Sheila are able to tell their stories and listen to the experiences of others as they grow with the whole parish family.

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Our food becomes part of us and helps us grow and repair our cells. This reading talks about a meal that brings us to the fullness of life. If we eat at Wisdom's table will we know the things of God?

The reading tells us to give thanks always and everywhere. If giving thanks for painful situations is too difficult, what might be some other ways to handle them?

When people love each other they want to be together. Explain "Whoever eats my flesh remains in me and I in him" in this light. Stating it many different ways, how many times did Jesus suggest that the crowd "eat this bread" in Sunday's Gospel? If we eat at the table of the Lord will he give himself to us and give us eternal life?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Twenty-first Sunday of the Year Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17; 18b; Ps 34; Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69