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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

Washing your hands before dinner - In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus and the Pharisees have a public fight about the Jewish tradition of washing your hands before dinner. Jesus puts the Pharisees and their tradition down with a scathing denunciation. He calls the Pharisees “hypocrites,” who have God on their lips but not in their hearts.

So, what does this story say about tradition?

Well, we might think, if cleaving to tradition gets the Pharisees the denunciation of the Lord, then so much the worse for tradition!

When the Pharisees privilege hand-washing above the true goodness of Christ, they don't transmit what Moses gave them. And yet where would we be without tradition? Our whole religious understanding and practice, even our creeds, are shaped by tradition.

The solution to the perplexity lies in the story. When the Pharisees ask Jesus why his disciples don't keep the tradition of hand-washing, their question isn't a request for information. It is a challenge to his whole ministry. From the point of view of the Pharisees, a person couldn't be from God and not wash his hands before dinner in accordance with the tradition.

A tradition hands on something precious from one generation to another. But the tradition the Pharisees cling to does not in fact convey the God of Moses, does it? What kind of God would make his total acceptance or rejection of a person dependent on whether or not he washed his hands before dinner? Where is the righteous, merciful, loving God of Moses in this view of the Pharisees?

In the [First Reading](#), Moses orders the people to communicate God's commands without adding or subtracting *anything* from them. The Nicene creed, which is part of the tradition that structures our faith, does not violate this order of Moses, because the Nicene creed does not change biblical teachings. It only unfolds them and gives deeper insight into them.

But when the Pharisees privilege hand-washing above the true goodness of Christ, they don't transmit what Moses gave them. They wreck it, in the name of tradition. And that is why Jesus says the tradition of the Pharisees is the tradition *of men*. These defenders of religious tradition have lost their grip on the very thing they were supposed to pass on, God's goodness and love. That is why Jesus calls them ‘hypocrites.’

It is a cautionary tale for all of us, isn't it?

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 34 **Twenty-second Sunday of Year, September 2, 2018**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

| | | | | |
|-----|--------|------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Sun | Aug 26 | 8:00 am | SFD | Mary Ann Connor |
| | | 10:00 am | SP | Loretta Petges |
| Tue | Aug 28 | 9am, 11 am | Shawnee, Vienna DOC | |
| Wed | Aug 29 | 6:30 pm | SP | For the Parish |
| Fri | Aug 31 | 12:00 pm | SP | Leola Barrett |
| Sat | Sept 1 | 5:30 pm | SP | For the Parishioners |
| Sun | Sept 2 | 8:00 am | SFD | Mary Ann Connor |
| | | 10:00 am | SP | Caryn Zmuda |

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| <p>Birthdays Sept 4 Peggy Widowski Lynn Stone Sept 5 Mary Treat Tom Pruemmer Sept 6 Mason Bishop Sept 7 Irene Kojder Sept 9 Steve Hupe</p> |
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| <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> | <p>Sun, Sept 9, 10 am Server:L Slife, M Bergmann Lector: Joan Galey Gifts: P Kalicki, P Kinhead Ushers:* J Slife, Mt Slife R Beanland, G Tesina E. Minister Md Slife L Stoerger, C Kruep Greeter: Dolly Hopkins</p> | <p>Sun, Sept 16, 10 am Server: R Slife, B Bertram Lector: Rhi Slife Gifts: Children Liturgy Usher:*L Hinton, D Zmuda Sr J Bergmann, S Widowski E. Minister M Nelson P Widowski, Z Garrett Greeter Bill & Billie Porter</p> |
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

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|------|--------|--|----------------|
| Sat | Sept 1 | Saturday mass (last one of season)..... | 5:30 pm |
| Sun | Sept 2 | St Francis DeSales Mass | 8:00am |
| | | St Paul Mass | 10:00 am |
| | | First Sunday Social at SP..... | 11:00 am |
| Mon | Sept 3 | SFD Parish Council Mt..... | 4:00 pm |
| Tues | Sept 4 | DOC Masses at Shawnee and Vienna.. | 9am & 11am |
| Wed | Sept 5 | Weekday Mass at SP..... | 6:30 pm |
| Thr | Sept 6 | USP Marion Masses..... | 11:30 am, 1 pm |
| | | Eucharistic Adoration at SP..... | 4 pm – 7:30 pm |
| Fri | Sept 7 | Weekday Mass..... | 12 pm |
| Sat | Sept 8 | Fall Vicariate CCW Mt. Eldorado..... | 9:00 am |
| | | Theo Widowski Baptism at SP..... | 3:30 pm |
| Sun | Sept 9 | St Francis DeSales Mass | 8:00am |
| | | Blood Pressure Cks- before and after mass SP | |
| | | St Paul Mass | 10:00 am |
| | | Our Parish Family Presentation – end of mass | |
| | | Joint Parish Picnic at SP..... | 11:30 am |



AFTER MASS SOCIAL will be offered with light refreshments following the Sunday mass in the parish hall. All parishioners encouraged to take part.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR) Parents are reminded of the registration deadline (Sept 2) . Our gratefulness is expressed to those willing to lead the PSR Classes this year, Amanda Zmuda, Beth Palmer, Arlene Dueker, and Marsha Nelson, along with substitutes, Steve Widowski, Madonna Slife and Rhi Slife.

INITIAL CHILD PROTECTION SESSION is a requirement for adults working with children in the church. The two hour session is being offered Sept 5, 6-8 pm at St Francis hall, Carbondale (register at 618-457-4556). There is no charge for the session.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is offered Thurs, Sept 6th, 4 – 7:30 pm. Representatives are scheduled for all hours, so all are welcome to participate any time in afternoon.

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.

BAPTISM OF THEO GARET WIDOWSKI Baptism as a Sacrament is the gift of life with God and sharing in the life of the Church Community. As this new member is welcomed on Saturday, Sept 8, 3:30 pm, at St Paul, please support him and his family in prayer.

JOINT PARISH PICNIC hosted at St Paul will be held Sunday, September 9th, 11:30 am. Games and activities for youth and adults will be held following the meal. All are encouraged to participate.

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.

HOSPICE OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS is offering a Training Class Sept 14 at Marion office to familiarize volunteers with policies and procedures. For more information call 618-997-3030 or e-mail rspiller@hospice.org

VOCATION CORNER - As our country honors Labor this weekend, we can rejoice in our Labor for the Lord. We reflect on how we are spreading the Word and how we are promoting our Catholic Church. This is the vocation of ALL of us. We have our role in praising our God, in sharing our Faith and in educating our families in the ways of the Lord. We need to encourage our family members to be attentive to their call – maybe even to the priesthood or religious life.

NEW CDs IN KIOS IN CHURCH FOYER Check out new titles of CDs in the stand in the church foyer. Encounter Christ First: Then Set the World on Fire **CURTIS MARTIN** -Curtis Martin, founder of FOCUS and world renowned authority on evangelization, shares how a personal encounter with Jesus is the key to following him with fidelity, gratitude, and joy. With humor and relatable examples, he also shows how experiencing Christ before evangelizing others is the biblical model witnessed to by the Apostles, and one that is certain to bear fruit in the life of any believer..

RCIA - "Come and See"

A recent study of conversion reveals the three most common elements that influence people to become Catholics: a world view of Christianity; a felt need for spiritual life; and, perhaps most important, a bond with someone within the Church.

Sometimes people who are searching for a meaning in life do not need arguments for the existence of God or reasons why it is good to be a churchgoer. Sometimes they just need an invitation to "come and see."

Our approach must be similar to that used by Jesus. His approach was always personal and direct. He accepted people as they were. He never overburdened them, but he invited them to take the next step in their spiritual journey. We must develop that sensitivity to other people's journeys by listening to their questions, sharing our faith, bringing them to God in our own prayers, and knowing when to invite them to take the next step. For some people the next step might be the one that Jesus offered Andrew, "Come and see."

You might ask: "Why should we do this? Why can't we just leave people to make up their own minds?"

As baptized members of the Church, we have received the commission: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). It is vital that we share our Christian faith. Many who are searching for God do not have the confidence to come and knock on the church door. We have to reach out to those who struggle to find meaning in their lives.

There are no one way streets when it comes to human interaction. At first glance, adult Christian initiation seems to focus solely on those seeking admission to the Church, as if they had everything to learn from us and we had little to gain from them. But their initiation challenges all of us to look again at our own commitment. We must be willing to undergo a transformation ourselves, for each new member changes the existing relationship of a group. The initiation process asks us to consider seriously who we are, what we value, who we could become as the people of God.

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

"What great nation has statutes and decrees that are as just as this whole law which I am setting before you today?" Can you answer Moses' question? What makes a law just? Can you state the law in one sentence, as Jesus did?

Are you a hearer of the word or are you also a doer of it? Name some times when you just "talked the talk" but did not want to "walk the walk."

What was missing from the Pharisees' observance of the law? How much is religious observance worth if it is just exterior? On the other hand, what is that worth if what you do comes from the Word living in your heart, whether it's fishing or fasting?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Twenty-third Sunday of the Year Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm, 146; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37