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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

Winning and Losing In the First Reading and also in the Gospel Reading, there is a prophecy about a time to come that will be very bad. The First Reading says that in that bad time God's people will escape the trouble. But Jesus says that in that bad time Christians will be hated in bad times? Do Christians lose and lose and lose, as the Gospel of Matthew says? Or do they win by escaping the trouble, as the First Reading says?

Escaping is managing not to be turned into a horror and a disgrace by your own cooperation with the evil all around you that masquerades as good.

But what is losing? Is it a matter of being hated, afflicted, and killed? Christ was hated, afflicted, and killed, too. And yet Christ did not lose on the cross, did he? He won.

And here we should notice that, in both the First Reading and the Gospel Reading, there are TWO endings of the story of a human life, not just one. There is the end of the story in this world, when Christ's true disciples will be hated and afflicted. And then there is the real and final end of the story, at the last judgment, where each person will see himself as he really is.

At that last chapter of each human story, the First Reading says, some people will be seen as the horror and disgrace that they really are. Others will shine like the splendor of the stars.

The winners in the battle of life, those who shine like stars, are those who have turned many to justice, the First Reading says. Acting with courage and integrity for justice, goodness, and truth can get a person hated, afflicted, and even killed, can't it?

And now we can see what it is to escape bad times. Escaping is not a matter of living at ease in prosperity, honored by the world around you. Escaping is managing not to be turned into a horror and a disgrace by your own cooperation with the evil all around you that masquerades as good.

This is an escape that God will give anyone who is willing to take up his cross daily.

And so the losing of the cross, the willingness to be hated and afflicted for the sake of justice—that is the way to the final winning where God's people shine with the splendor of the stars.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 44 **Thirty-Third Sunday of Year, November 18, 2018**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Nov 18	8:00 am	SFD	Mary Ann Conners
		10:00 am	SP	Tim Reeder
Tue	Nov 20	9am, 11am	DOC Mass	Shawnee, Vienna
Wed	Nov 21	6:30 pm	SP	In Thanksgiving
Thr	Nov 22	8:30 am	SFD	In Thanksgiving
Fri	Nov 23	12:00 pm	SP	Fr Lou Koehr
Sat	Nov 24	11:00 am	SP	Zawacki Memorial Mass
Sun	Nov 25	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Wendy Bowman

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Nov 18, 10 am Server: R Slife, Lector: Joe Nelson Gifts: Children Liturgy Usher:*SWidowski, D Zmuda J Bergmann, L Hinton, E. Minister M Nelson P Widowski, V Anderson Greeter Katie Pobst</p>	<p>Sun, Nov 25, 10 am Server:L Slife, C Bergmann Lector: Arlene Dueker Gifts: Marc, Beth Palmer Ushers*M Palmer, R Beanland P Widowski, F Dueker E. Minister P Kalicki C Kruep, B Bishop Greeter Vickie Anderson</p>
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Birthdays
 Nov 24 David Zmuda jr

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Nov 11: 8:00 am Server: Mary Treat Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: M Moore, R Drone Usher: Stan Treat E. Min: Myron Cole</p>	<p>Sun, Nov 18: 8:00 pm Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Christine Deaton Gifts: R Drone, D Parks Usher Stan Treat E. Min: Mary Treat</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Nov18 Collection-Campaign for Human Development
 - St Francis DeSales Mass 8:00am
 - St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy.....10:00 am
 - Blood Pressure Checks before and after mass
 - PSR Class.....11:00 am
 - Community Thanksgiving Service at 1st UMC....6pm
- Mon Nov19 Blood Drive at Fellowship Baptist Hall...12-6:00pm
- Tues Nov20 Mass at Shawnee & Vienna..DOC.....9am, 11 am
 - Adult Bible Study – Acts at SFD.....4 pm
- Wed Nov21 Ministerial Alliance Mt.....12:00pm
 - Thanksgiving Mass at SP.....6:30 pm
- Thr Nov 22 Thanksgiving Mass at SFD.....8:30 am
- Fri Nov 23 Weekday Mass at SP.....12 pm
- Sat Nov 24 Rosemarie Zawacki Memorial Mass & Lunch.11 am
- Sun Nov25 St Francis DeSales Mass 8:00am
 - St Paul Mass10:00 am
 - Closing of food Collection, Beginning Angel Tree



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT Please be generous in this Sunday's collection for the CCHD. In the United States, one in seven people lives in poverty. With this collection you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support his collection and work on the margins.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR Anyone interested in joining St. Paul Christmas choir call me at 217-714-4568. Pam Shallenberger

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING PRAYER SERVICE offered by the Ministerial Alliance will be hosted at the First United Methodist Church (N 4th St, Vienna) this Sunday evening, 6 pm. An offering for ministries of Alliance will be taken. Light refreshments provided following the service in church hall.

PARISH HISTORY A survey of the 125th Anniversary committee is included in today's bulletin. Consider helping with an updating and expanding the history of the parish. and other preparations for the anniversary. Parishioners with any old photographs or accounts are asked to share them with Lonnie Hinton or the parish office. Photos will be scanned and promptly returned to owners.

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATION FORMS The terms of two positions on the Parish Council will be up for renewal this December. You are encouraged to submit another or your own name on the form enclosed in last week's bulletin. Return to canister in church foyer.

THANKSGIVING MASS will be offered at St Paul on Wednesday, 6:30 pm, and at St Francis DeSales, 8:30 am on Thursday morning.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER Rosemarie Zawacki who died Nov 10. A Memorial Mass for her will be celebrated Sat, Nov 24, 11am at St Paul, followed by lunch.

FOOD COLLECTION during the month of November will assist the local Food Pantry. Container is in church foyer. Collection will be delivered after Nov 25th.

PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE is being planned by the Liturgy Committee for Sunday, December 2, 6 pm at St Paul. Begin Advent with awareness of Jesus presence.

SAVE THE DATE St Francis DeSales Advent Party will be held Dec 9th beginning with noon mass at the church, followed by potluck meal in the Community Center. Closing activity will be Christmas Caroling at the Carrier Mills Care Home. See food sign-up list

VOCATION CORNER This coming week we celebrate a National day of Thanksgiving. We, Catholics, give even greater thanks for all the gifts God has bestowed on us and for us to share. Each one of us has been given a unique calling to Holiness. Each one is to serve the Lord in her/his own "called" way. A vocational calling is asking us to surrender our talents to God so that they may be sanctified and produce fruit for the Kingdom.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION Look at the trees. Unless a pine or live oak, most trees in the northern hemisphere have already dropped their leaves. Though looking dead, they are dormant only. We look ahead to spring and new leaves – and new life. But now is end-time living. Now is end-time praying. When my life passes away in death, I want to be with Jesus. What will I shed now for the benefit of later new life? What path does Jesus lay before me? How am I preparing for death?

Liturgy - The Homily

Saint Paul, one of Christianity's greatest preachers, could not always hold his audience. Acts 20:7,9 recounts how once Paul "continued speaking until midnight A young man named Eutychus, who was sitting in the window, began to sink off into a deep sleep while Paul talked still longer. Overcome by sleep, he fell to the ground three floors below."

All of us have experienced boring homilies, but hopefully we are patient. The proclamation of the gospel is the priest's primary duty, an awesome responsibility. As listeners we sometimes sit there anticipating a marvelous word or action that will turn our world upside down. We imagine a power in this homily that will sweep us off our feet so that life will never be the same again. The communication of the Good News, however, is a two-way street; we share the responsibility!

The door of every Jewish home is opened during the annual Passover celebration meal. The expectation is that one day the great prophet Elijah will return to herald good tidings for Israel. The eyes of the Jewish family are fixed on the open door, each one waiting for something to happen. Good preparation for the homily requires that we open the door of our heart and fix our eyes, not on the preacher, but on Jesus speaking through him.

If all our expectation is invested in the preacher, then we risk overlooking the one person able to change our lives forever. Christ does not barge in and take over. He comes, in his own words, "even as you listen." Jesus doesn't force his entry. He knocks persistently but gently until we open the door.

The liturgy, the Mass, and the homily in particular, may not always seem exciting. Our attitude is essential. We cannot afford to simply stand around waiting for things to happen. Be actively involved in listening to both the gospel and the homily; be hungry for Christ's vision and call. Our eagerness makes life new and exciting.

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Name some people who have led "many to justice" and are now "like stars forever." Since stars are at times used for navigation, how can people like Oscar Romero and Martin Luther King show us the way?

Jesus won redemption for us. Does he just hand it to us? What part do we have in it? Does God ask you for sacrifices? How can your sacrifices help anything?

"The Word of God will not pass away." What do you take along with you when you die? Is there any correlation between love and the Word of God that does not pass away? Is there anything you can do to stretch your capacity to love?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Daniel 7:13-14; Psalm 93; Revelations 1:5-8; John 18:33b-37