



Pastor : Rev Thomas Barrett
Phone (618) 658 – 4501
E-mail: spccil@frontier.com
Web: www.stpaulvienna.org



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

Not Far From the Kingdom of God In the [Gospel](#) Reading, a scribe asks Jesus, “Which is the first of all the commandments?”

Maybe the point of asking this question is like the point of asking, “what are the most important requirements for this course?” A student who wants that information is trying to figure out what is crucial for passing the course. In his view, if he does the most important thing, maybe he doesn't have to do everything.

Jesus is the Savior who came to rescue people from their failures to obey the most important commandments.

In response to the scribe's question, Jesus tells him not only the commandment that is the first of all but also the one that is second: taken together the two commandments cover the ground.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. ... [And] you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

So if the scribe does just the most important things, he will have done pretty close to everything, won't he? If he was hoping for a way to get through—without doing everything required for the kingdom of heaven—these two commandments will show him that he hasn't got a chance. If he doesn't do everything, he will have done virtually nothing, because he will have failed at the most important stuff.

There is something that the scribe likes about the answer of Jesus: it privileges morality above ritual. And so the scribe thinks that he has found *something* that isn't crucial for getting into heaven. *Yes*, the scribe says to Jesus affirmingly, *obeying these two commandments is better than sacrifice*.

Jesus doesn't disagree. But what he says to the scribe is “You are not far from the kingdom of God.”

Not far?! How can the scribe be distant in *any* way if he understands these commandments and accepts them as most important for the kingdom of heaven?

But here is the thing to see. What person among us loves God with all his heart? Who loves his neighbor as himself? If obeying these commandments is the most important thing for getting into heaven, what hope is there for anybody?

The answer is—Jesus. He is the Savior who came to rescue people from their failures to obey the most important commandments. All hope of the kingdom of heaven lies in him.

And so the scribe, who is next to Jesus, is not far from the kingdom of heaven in more than one sense.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 42 **Thiry-first Sunday of Year, November 4, 2018**

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Nov 4	8:00 am	SFD	Mary Ann Conners
		10:00 am	SP	Kayla Elliott
Tue	Nov 6	9am	DOC Mass	Shawnee
Wed	Nov 7	6:30 pm	SP	Fr Federico Higuera
Fri	Nov 9	12:00 pm	SP	Leola Barrett
Sun	Nov 11	8:00 am	SFD	Mary Ann Conners
		10:00 am	SP	Clyde Taylor

St Paul, Vienna

Birthdays
Nov 4 Janet Hacker
Nov 5 Mitch Garrett
Nov 7 Nolan Zmuda
Nov 11 Jerry Cecchi Girard Cole

<p>Sun, Nov 4, 10 am Server: C Bergmann Lector: Rhi Slife Gifts: Children Liturgy Ushers*A Stachowiak, S Pobst R Stoerger, L. Stoerger E. Minister F Dueker Z Garrett, S Widowski Greeter Marc & Beth Palmer</p>	<p>Sun, Nov 11, 10 am Server:L Slife,M Bergmann, Lector: Madonna Slife Gifts: Joe, Marsha Nelson Usher:*P Kalicki,Mt Slife J Slife, G. Tesina E. Minister D Hopkins B Palmer, Greeter S & P Widowski</p>	<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>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Nov 4: 8:00 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: LaVonne Herber Gifts: R Drone, D Parks Usher: Stan Treat E. Min: Myron Cole</p>	<p>Sun, Oct 28: 8:00 pm Server: Mary Treat Lector: Marietta Moore Gifts:A Morse/ R Drone Usher Fred Deaton E. Min: Cecilia Parks</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Nov 4 Time Falls back 1 hr
- St Francis DeSales Mass 8:00am
 - St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy.....10:00 am
 - Outbound Presentation at end of mass.....SP
 - PSR Class.....11:00 am
 - First Sunday Social at SP.....11:00 am
- Mon Nov 5 St Francis DeSales Parish Council Mt.....4:00 pm
- Tues Nov 6 Mass at Shawnee DOC.....9am
- Election Day – Use privilege of voting
 - Adult Bible Study – Acts at SFD.....4 pm
- Wed Nov 7 Weekday Mass at SP.....6:30 pm
- Thur Nov 8 Eucharistic Adoration at SP.....4-7:30 pm
- Fri Nov 9 Weekday Mass at SP.....12 pm
- Sun Nov11 St Francis DeSales Mass 8:00am
- St Paul Mass & Heavenly Babies10:00 am
 - PSR Class.....11:00 am
 - Council of Catholic Women Mt.....11:00 am



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.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE You are encouraged to remember in prayer deceased family or friends during the month of November. A book to record names of people will be available in the foyer and then brought to the altar during masses in November.

FOOD COLLECTION during the month of November will assist the local Food Pantry. Container is in church foyer.

HEAVEN'S BABIES SERVICE The Wellness Committee is planning a service of remembrance for children lost through miscarriage on Sunday, November 11 during mass. All who have lost a child, grandchild or sibling through miscarriage are invited to participate. After Communion prayer, participants will gather in the back of church and receive a white flower. All will then process to the altar for a prayer of remembrance. Each will then place the flower in a vase at the statue of Mary. A sign-up list is posted in the back of church for all who want to participate

ADULT SCRIPTURE STUDY Six weeks with Acts of the Apostles will be offered on Tuesdays, 4 pm beginning at St Francis DeSales.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will be offered at St Paul Church this Thursday, Nov 8, 4 – 7:30 pm. If you can participate, add your name to the schedule on the bulletin board.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN will have meeting next Sunday, 11am following the Sunday mass. All women of the parish are encouraged to participate. An offering will be taken after mass for supporting their ministry.

PARISH HISTORY A group of the 125th Anniversary committee is working on updating and expanding the history of the parish. 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.

LAY LEADERS OF PRAYER IN ABSENCE OF PRIEST At an October meeting with parish representatives, Bishop Braxton requested that at least three Lay Leaders of Prayer be prepared to provide Sunday services in anticipation of priest shortage. Only one person is currently trained for this role. The diocese will offer a training program Feb 1 & 2, 2019 in the Carbondale area. Potential people are encouraged to consider taking part.

THANK YOU...to Cathy Kruep and grandchildren, Steve and Katie Pobst and children, and Madonna Slife for representing our parish at the Trunk & Treat Halloween Event at the City Park Oct 30th.

This Sunday starts **NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK**. National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promote vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations. Please pray each day this week for an increase of vocations and for young people to hear their call to Holiness.

Liturgy Our Response -- The Psalms of Jesus

New is always fascinating. Everyone is attracted by the newest car, the latest fashions, the most up-to-date appliances. The reality is that new, by itself, will never totally satisfy.

A plant can flourish only if it has roots. A child can grow only when secure in love and care. Whatever our vision may be for a new world, that vision becomes real when rooted in the old. There is a thread that runs from our past into the present, this seemingly fragile thread will secure every tomorrow.

The life of Jesus illustrates this truth. Jesus came to make things new, but he did not come from nowhere. Born of Mary, Christ came out of a Jewish heritage that had for centuries sought just such a birth. The thread that runs from the Jewish race through the life of Jesus and into our life is the Book of Psalms. The Psalms express an ageless human longing for God.

The Responsorial Psalm, after the first reading, overcomes our natural distrust of the old and offers a newness coming only from the life of Jesus Christ.

The Psalms were composed over many centuries. Some of them were written by David, Israel's greatest king, who lived a thousand years before Christ. They reflect the joys, the confidences, and the laments of a nation with fluctuating fortunes. There is no person more able to pray the Psalms than Jesus.

The personality of Jesus, formed by these 150 songs of praise that he prayed daily, overflowed to his disciples. We too are formed into Christ by praying the Psalms. These verses are ancient, but they are not outdated. This beautiful poetry remains vibrant, pulsating prayers that unite us with a Christ who still lives in the cares, the anxieties, and the joys of his members in the Church. The Psalms unite us with the Christ who alone brings new life to the world, indeed making all things new.

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Is there any contradiction between the Ten Commandments and the commandment to love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength?

Explain why Jesus' sacrifice takes place now and always, as for instance in the Eucharist, as well as throughout history. Compare the love Jesus has for you with the love he had for his disciples.

Did Jesus add the words, "And love your neighbor as yourself" to the commandment to love God with our whole heart or was it found throughout the Hebrew culture?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: 1Kings 17:10-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44