



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

Getting Ready and Being Blameless The First Reading and the Gospel both talk about a time when the Lord comes—for justice, as the First Reading says; and for judgment, as the Gospel implies. In the Gospel, Jesus warns people not to be overcome with the pleasures and anxieties of the world but to be ready for his coming. Those who are not ready will practically die of fright when they see him.

Well, then, what do we need to do to get ready?

The Second Reading in effect answers that question. At Christ's coming again, we are to be blameless in holiness.

And what is that?

Something more than having a great record for keeping the laws is necessary to be ready for the Lord. That more is love.

If you are blameless under law, then no one can blame you for any violation of the law of the land. You weren't speeding, for example, or cheating on your income tax, or violating any other law of the city or country in which you are. If you are morally blameless, then no one can blame you for any violation of the moral law. You weren't lying, for example, or cheating on your spouse, or violating any other command of the universal moral law that applies to all people no matter where they are.

But what is it to be blameless in holiness? The answer is in the Second Reading: in order to be ready for Christ at his coming, Christians need to increase in love and abound in it.

So here's the thing to see. You can keep all the laws of your land and still be a real jerk. And the same truth holds for the moral law. You can be a priggishly righteous jerk too. Something more than having a great record for keeping the laws is necessary to be ready for the Lord. That more is love.

If you want what is bad for your neighbor, if you curse him in public or even in your heart, if you wish he would just go away, if you tell him in your thoughts or to his face to go to hell—you do NOT love him. And you are blameworthy with regard to holiness if you don't. It doesn't matter how moral or legal your conduct is otherwise.

To be blameless in holiness, then, takes being loving. And being loving is what makes us ready for the return of the Lord.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 19 # 46 First Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2018

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Dec 2	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Rosemarie Zawacki
Tue	Dec 4	9am, 11am	DOC Mass	Shawnee, Vienna
Wed	Dec 5	11:30am, 1 pm	Marion Penitentiary	
		6:30 pm	SP	Philip & Leola Barrett
Fri	Dec 7	7:00 pm	SFD	Parishioners
Sat	Dec 8	6:30 pm	SP	Parishioners
Sun	Dec 9	10:00 am	SP	Kayla Elliott
		12:00 pm	SFD	For Parishioners

Birthdays
 Dec 5 Kyle Givens
 Dec 7 Derek Trovillion

St Paul, Vienna

Sun, Dec 2, 10 am
Server: M Bergmann, L Slife
Lector: Steve Pobst
Gifts: Children Liturgy
Usher:*D Zmuda,R Stoerger
 P Kalicki, D Bishop
E. Minister S Belske
 L Stoerger, Md Slife
Greeter H & X Gruszczyk

Sun, Dec 9, 10 am
Server:R Slife, C Bergmann
Lector: Joan Galey
Gifts: Steve, Katie Pobst
Ushers*J Nelson, G Tesina
 J Slife, M McMahan
E. Minister A Dueker
 S Widowski, F Dueker
Greeter Bill, Billie Porter

Sun, Dec 16, 10 am
Server:L Slife, C Bergmann
Lector: Steve Widowski
Gifts: Children Liturgy
Ushers*M Slife, S Pobst
 P Widowski, J Bergmann
E. Minister B Palmer
 Z Garrett, D Bishop
Greet Monica, Chuck Querrey

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

Sun, Dec 2: 8:00 am
Server: Christine Deaton
Lector: Cecilia Parks
Gifts: M Moore, L Herbert
Usher: David Parks
E. Min: Mary Treat

Sun, Dec 9: 8:00 pm
Server: Mary Treat
Lector: Marietta Moore
Gifts: D Parks, M Cole
Usher Fred Deaton
E. Min: Cecilia Parks

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Dec 2 First Sunday of Advent
 - St Francis DeSales Mass 8:00am
 - St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word.....10:00 am
 - First Sunday Social..SP.....11:00 am
 - PSR Class.....11:00 am
 - Parish Reconciliation Service at SP.....6:00 pm
- Tues Dec 4 Mass at Shawnee & Vienna..DOC.....9am, 11 am
- Wed Dec 5 Marion Penitentiary Masses.....11:30am,1 pm
- Weekday Mass at SP.....6:30 pm
- Thr-Sat Faith Alive volunteer Thrift Store staffing..9am-3pm
- Fri Dec 7 Immaculate Conception Holyday mass at SFD..7 pm
- Sat Dec 8 Immaculate Conception Holyday mass at SP.6:30 pm
- Sun Dec 9 St Paul Mass10:00 am
- St Francis DeSales Mass & Potluck.....12:00 pm
- PSR Class.....11:00 am
- Liturgy Committee Mt..SP.....11:00 am



CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES This weekend, candidates for Confirmation in April will express their commitment to preparation and seek the support of the faith community. Candidates are Talon Bishop, Gabe Ross and Riley Slife.

CHILDREN LITURGY OF WORD will be offered at this Sunday's mass

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE for Dec and Jan are available in bulletin rack.

ANGEL TREE GIFT ORNAMENTS are available for parishioners on the tree in the foyer. Help provide Christmas gifts for children who won't otherwise receive gifts. Gifts wrapped with ornament attached need to be returned by December 9.

ADVENT PREPARATION RESOURCE is inserted into today's bulletin encouraging to take time for reason of the season..

FIRST SUNDAY SOCIAL will be hosted in the parish hall following the Sunday mass today.

PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE is be offered Sunday, December 2, 6 pm at St Paul. Fr Beatty will assist. Begin Advent with celebration of Jesus forgiving presence.

FAITH ALIVE THRIFT STORE VOLUNTEERS St Paul Church is scheduled to operate the Thrift Store Thursday-Saturday, Dec 6-8th. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board inviting your participation.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HOLYDAY will be celebrated December 8. It is always a holyday of obligation. Mass at St Paul will be 6:30 pm Saturday, Dec 8th.

ECHARISTIC ADORATION will be offered Thursday, Dec 13, 4-7:30 pm. If you are able to participate, you're encouraged to check a time listing on the schedule on BB.

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

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to next Sunday's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

ST FRANCIS DESALES NOON MASS AND ADVENT PARTY will be celebrated next Sunday, Dec 9th beginning with mass at noon at the church. A potluck meal (meat provided) will be shared at the Stonefort Community Center following mass. A covered dish sign-up is posted on the bulletin board. Participants are encouraged to reflect on parish history questions and join in the sharing for an oral history following the meal. All are encouraged to join in caroling at the Carrier Mills Nursing home about 3 pm.

UPCOMING... Distribution of 2019 Catholic Calendars and Contribution Envelopes 12-9
...SFD Advent Mass, potluck and caroling on Dec 9, beginning 12 noon.
...SP Christmas Pageant, Christmas Potluck will follow Dec 16th Sunday mass.

Liturgy - General Intercessions

Management consultants, had they existed at the time, would have questioned Jesus' selection of disciples. Modern management values qualifications such as education, motivation, ambition, resourcefulness, and responsibility. Not many of the twelve apostles would have been invited for an interview.

Jesus did not require business degrees. Common interests and backgrounds did not concern him. His selections were as diverse as they could be. Isn't it interesting how we are able to see ourselves so clearly in those Jesus called to organize his Church? We are a faith community open to all!

The Liturgy of the Eucharist joins us together in Christ who is the cornerstone. The prayers of the faithful make us one in mind and heart as we voice our innumerable needs. This part of the Mass enables us to glory in the wide range of personalities and experiences that surround us in the pews. Sometimes this patchwork quilt of believers disturbs us; forming community can be a challenge. In God's eyes, however, this "one out of many" is precisely the beauty of the Body of Christ.

The general intercessions are introduced by the presider and read by one of the ministers. The petition statements are not prayers in themselves; they are needs announced to the people. The real prayer happens when the assembly responds to the concern or need with "Lord, hear our prayer." This litany should reach out to embrace the universal Church, joining the local parish to the world of believers in concern and action. The final concluding prayer is offered again by the presider.

Our petitions fashion an exquisite mosaic of trust and confidence in a caring and listening God. This moment in the Mass is a celebration of both our individuality and our connectedness. These are the same gifts the disciples must have celebrated with Jesus at the Last Supper, the first Eucharist.

Copyright 1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

“The days are coming, says the Lord.” We welcome a new year of grace. What do the coming days of Advent awaken in you? How will you prepare?

Pope Francis says that St. Paul's prayer, “May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all” presents the Christian life as a journey of growth in love. Why is this reading used in Advent? Will your journey this Advent be a growth in love?

Could much of this gospel have been written today? (roaring sea, drowsy hearts, dying of fright, anxieties, carousing, tribulations) Jesus tells us to pray for strength. Do you believe that if you pray for strength you will receive it? Could God send it through other people? Could you be a source of strength for others?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Second Sunday of Advent Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 126; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6