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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

Trustees: Myron Cole, Stan Treat

Love your enemies - In the Gospel Reading, Jesus commands us to love our enemies. Everyone is commanded to love each person who counts as his enemy.

Many people suppose that no one except a saint could fulfill this command. Other people think that this command is only an encouragement to connive with evil, because if you love your enemy instead of clobbering him, you enable him to continue his wrongdoing.

If you want union with your enemy, you won't want him to go to hell because he has hurt you.

But consider what love is. As Aquinas explains it, it consists in two desires: (1) a desire for the good for the beloved person, and (2) a desire for union with that person. So a person Paula loves her enemy Jerome only if she desires the good for Jerome and union with Jerome.

Now notice that what the good for Jerome is will depend on Jerome. Desiring Jerome's good requires Paula's foregoing punishment for him if that would be for his good—or insisting on punishment for him if that would be for his good. What is best for Jerome is whatever it takes to bring him to a morally good condition in mind and will; and that might include Paula's calling the police to arrest him.

For this same reason, Paula's desire for union with Jerome need not include a desire for companionship with him. If Jerome is entirely unrepentant, then Paula's desire for union with him should not involve a willingness to be in his company. In that worst case, Paula's desire for union with Jerome can appropriately come to no more than the desire that Jerome will repent and reform, so that companionship becomes a possibility for them.

To love your enemy then is not to enable him to continue to do morally wrong acts against you or anybody else either. If you want what is good for your enemy, you will want for him what you want for yourself: to be a person who has love for the Lord and obedience to him. And if you want union with your enemy, you won't want him to go to hell because he has hurt you. You will be glad if in love and obedience to the Lord, he finds his way to heaven too.

So that is what it is to love your enemy. Each one of us can do this, can't we?

Eleonore Stump

Vol 20 # 8 Seventh Sunday of Year, February 24, 2019

CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST

Sun	Feb 24	8:00 am 10:00 am	SFD SP	For the Parishioners Philip & Leola Barrett	Birthdays
Tue	Feb 26	9:00, 11 am		Shawnee , Vienna DOC	Feb 25 Vanessa Hopkins
Wed	Feb 27	11:30am, 1 pm	Mario	on Penitentiary	Diane Pruemer
		6:30 pm	SP	Rev James Blazine	Feb 26 Becky Bowers
Fri	Mar 1	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention	Will Ashford
Sat	Mar 2	8:30 am	SFD	Reparation for Sin	Feb 27 Monica Querrey
Sun	Mar 3	8:00 am	SFD	For the Parishioners	Mar 1 Geri Tesina
		10:00 am	SP	Mary & Charles Querrey	Mar 3 Marsha Nelson
St Paul, Vienna				Jeremy Nelson	

St Paul, Vienna

Sun, Feb 24, 10 am	Sun, Mar 3, 10 am	Sun, Mar 10, 10 am
Server: M & C Bergmann	Server: Riley Slife	Server: L Slife, M Bergmann
Lector: Zach Garrett	Lector: Joe Nelson	Lector: Arlene Dueker
Gifts: Jon, Madonna Slife	Gifts: Children Lit of Word	Gifts: Matt & Rhi Slife
Ushers*Mt Slife, R Beanland	Usher:*M McMahan,L Givens	Usher:*F Dueker, D Bishop
S Widowski, M Palmer	L Hinton, P Kalicki	L Stoerger, R Stoerger
E. Minister P Kalicki	E. Minister D Bishop	E. Minister L Stoerger
V Anderson, F Dueker	S Widowski, D Hopkins	P Widowski, B Palmer
Greeter Chuck, Monica Querrey	Greeter Bill & Billie Porter	Greeter Matt & Rhi Slife

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

Sun, Feb 24: 8:00 am	Sun, Mar 3: 8:00 am	
Server: Cecilia Parks	Server: Mary Treat	
Lector: Marietta Moore	Lector: LaVonne Herbert	
Gifts: L Herbert/ M Cole	Gifts: M Moore, C Parks Usher	
Usher: David Parks	Fred Deaton	
E. Min: Christine Deaon	E. Min: Myron Cole	

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE



<u>125th COMMEMORATION/HISTORY MEETING</u> will be held in St Paul hall beginning 11 am this Sunday. Sharing historical pictures and celebration ideas still welcomed. Subcommittee leaders are asked to attend. You may also share your ideas with Frank Dueker, chairperson.

FUNERAL DINNER LIST An updated list of those willing to assist with food or serving for parish funeral lunches is being undertaken. If you are willing to help, please put your name on the list on the bulletin board.

<u>COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN</u> ask ladies of the parish to turn in ministry kind and time sheets. They can be deposited in an envelope posted on the bulletin board. Circle the date of March 16 when St Paul hosts South Vicariate CCW Spring mt 9am to 1 pm

<u>SIGNIFICANT BILLS BEFORE ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE</u> deal with changes that affect human life and dignity. An information sheet is posted on the bulletin board and also on the parish website homepage.

<u>ASHES FROM LAST YEAR PALM</u> Gather up your palm from last year and return to church by next Sunday. A container is provided to deposit them in church entrance.

CATHOLIC SERVICES AND MINISTRY APPEAL Next weekend, every parish in the diocese will be participating in the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. This annual collection supports the ministries and agencies in our diocese whose scope of service could not be duplicated by an individual parish. Our parish participation goal for the appeal every family taking part as able and the financial target is \$2900.00. You will have the opportunity to make your pledge at Mass next weekend. No gift is too great or too small. If you do not receive a pledge card in the mail or forget to bring it, please use one of the in-pew envelopes available in the foyer. If you write a check, please make it to St Paul and include CS&MA in the note line.

<u>USHERS</u> of St Paul parish will have meeting on March 10 in church following mass. All current ushers and anyone interested in becoming an usher are encouraged to attend.

LADIES RETREAT Ladies retreat at King's House in Belleville -the program this year is <u>Christ Be</u> <u>Our Light</u> (Out of darkness into God's Marvelous Light). This is truly a wonderful experience. Participants leave Friday, March 29th, and return on Sunday, March 31. If interested, please call Vickie Anderson 658-1576.

OUR PARISH FAMILY MINISTRY This ministry provides meals during time of family illness and assists with transportation to doctor appointments. Contact Frank Dueker (618-559-1405) or Pat Kalicki (618-658-1500).

<u>CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMING</u> is available on 88.1 FM (Harrisburg) and transmits programs offered by Eternal Word Television Network.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE). "Give to everyone ... Do to others ... Love your enemies ... Be merciful ... Stop judging ... Stop condemning ... Give in good measure." This recalls the Jewish sense of mitzvah – both the doing of the commandments and the doing of acts and deeds beyond duty that connect us to GOD.

Seventh Sunday of Year

1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23; Psalm 103; 1 Corinthians 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-38

In the first reading David spares Saul's life. The royal spear is symbolic of a divine power, a sacred object not to be tampered with. God protects the anointed. This theme of a divine shield is echoed in the psalm: God "redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy" (Psalm 103:4).

First Corinthians 15:45-49 describes the risen body of Christ as a model for the spiritual body. The first Adam is the source and model of the natural life, while the risen Christ -- the new Adam -- is the source and model for the spiritual life. Humankind inherited from Adam a mortal and corruptible body; from the glorified Christ the baptized inherit a glorified body.

Luke says that followers of Jesus must love others generously in order to manifest the life of God. This love is to be shown even to one's enemies; Christ's own example of care for the merciless takes the golden rule to new heights. In the Hebrew Scriptures, "mercy" is a divine attribute rarely used to describe human action. When Jesus tells his disciples to be merciful, he is in effect challenging all of us to perfection.

All three readings this weekend speak about mercy -- choosing not to raise the spear, accepting the eternal life won for us by the Lord's dying and rising, and imitating Christ's infinite forgiveness. Christ's light shines in our world when we forgive one another without condition.

-- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L.

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

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Saul was mean and insane but David showed respect for him because Saul was anointed. How about you? Can you show respect for someone yet disagree with him/her? What do you think the outcome is when neither side respects the other?

The theologian von Balthasar said that Christ cut a path for us by being grace ascending and grace descending. Jesus is just as much creation's highest response to the Father as he is the Father's Word to creation. How does this "heavenly Adam," coming together with the "earthly Adam" cut a path for us? What does bearing the image of the heavenly Adam allow us to do? Jesus goes a step farther than David's "don't kill" your enemies. He says, "love" them. Don't expect anything back when you lend, and if someone takes something of yours, give that person more. Who practices absolute generosity like this? Who do you know besides God who comes close?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES:

Eighth Sunday of Year Sirach 27:4-7; Psalm 92; 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45