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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

Engulfment and Abandonment The opening line of the Psalm for this Sunday is electrifying. How could Christ, how could the Psalmist or anyone, cry out, “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”

Well, think about the vacillation between the fear of engulfment and the fear of abandonment. In brokenness, a person can fear that if he draws near to others they will take him over. That fear of engulfment is one side of a pendulum swing that winds up on the other side in a sense of abandonment. If in brokenness you move away from others because you fear engulfment by them, you will make those others distant from you. And then you can feel the distance you have put between you and them as their abandonment of you.

When you sense that others are getting close, you have a fear of engulfment; and when you feel the distance from them which you have introduced, you fear that they have abandoned you.

God is love, and love never abandons anyone.

It is possible to waver in this way where God is concerned too. We can fluctuate between fear of engulfment by God and fear of abandonment by him. We can long for God; but we can be afraid of his goodness at the same time. The beauty of his holiness highlights for us our own sins, which we hate and cling to anyway. And so our fear of being engulfed by God leads us to flee into our own darkness; our sins cause us to turn away from God. Then, finding ourselves distant from God, we conclude that God has abandoned us. And so in our hearts we cry the Psalmist's line.

But God is love, and love never abandons anyone. On the contrary, God's love is so great that he takes on our human nature, and on the cross he bears our sins. Our sins borne for us by Christ on the cross fill him with our blindness to the presence of God. Under the weight of our sins, he shares our sense of abandonment by God too.

And so it is the ever-present love of God in Christ for us that leaves Christ to cry out on the cross, “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”

Eleonore Stump

Vol 20 # 15 **Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019**

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Apr 14	8:00 am	SFD	Marietta Moore
		10:00 am	SP	Mary Ann, Jim Mudd
Tue	Apr 16	11:30 am	Chrism Mass - Cathedral	
Wed	Apr 17	5:30 pm	SP	Fr Steve Humphrey
Thr	Apr 18	5:00 pm SFD	7:00pm SP	For the Parishioners
Fri	Apr 19	3:00 pm SFD	7:00 pm SP	Good Friday Services
Sat	Apr 20	8:00 pm	SP	For the Parishioners
Sun	Apr 21	8:00 am	SFD	Marietta Moore
		10:00 am	SP	Bill Kinkead

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Apr 14, 10 am Server: M Bergmann, L Slife Lector: J Nelson, Z Garrett Gifts: Rick, Lynn Stoerger Usher:*D Zmuda, D Bishop, J. Slife, G Tesina E. Minister M Nelson B Bishop, D Hopkins Greeter Katie Pobst</p>	<p>Sun, Apr 21, 10 am Server: Riley Slife Lector: Joan Galey Gifts: Chuck, Lynn Stone Usher:*J Nelson S Pobst P Widowski, J Bergmann E. Minister V Anderson P Kalicki, S Widowski Greeter H & X Gruszczuk</p>	<p>Thr, Apr 18, 7 pm Server:L Slife, M Bergmann Lector: Madonna Slife E. Minister D Bishop, M Nelson, P Kalicki, A Dueker</p>
		<p>Fri, Apr 19, 7 pm Server: R. Slife, L Slife, Lector: S Pobst, S Widowski E. Minister Peggy Widowski Usher:*F Dueker, Mt Slife J Nelson, R Stoerger</p>
		<p>Sat, Apr 20, 8 pm Server: Frank Dueker Lector: Arlene Dueker E. Minister Md Slife Usher: J Slife, L Hinton</p>

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Apr 14: 8:00 am Server: Mary Treat Lector: C Deaton, C Parks Gifts: M Hustedde family Usher Fred Deaton E. Min: Myron Cole</p>	<p>Sun, Apr 21: 8:00 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Laverne Herbert Gifts: Hustedde Family Usher: David Parks E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Apr14 Procession with Palm before weekend masses
 - Stations of Cross.....20 minutes before Masses
 - St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
 - St Paul Mass10:00 am
 - Seder Meal & Potluck.....11:00 am
- Tues Apr 16 Chrism Mass...Belleville.....11:30 am
- Wed Apr17 Ministerial Alliance Mt.....12:00 pm
 - Weekday mass.....5:30 pm
 - Joined Parish Council Mt...SP hall.....6:00 pm
- Thr Apr 18 Holy Thursday Masses.....SFD 5 pm....SP..7:00 pm
- Fri Apr 19 Community Good Friday Service. Gilead.12:10 pm
 - Good Friday Services.....SFD 3 pm....SP...7:00 pm
- Sat Apr 20 Easter Vigil Service and Mass.....8:00 pm
- Sun Apr21 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
 - St Paul Mass10:00 am
 - Easter Egg Hunt...after mass.....11:00 am



PALM SUNDAY MASS will begin with blessing and procession of palm before Mass. The palm is a sacramental and should be used with reverence and respect to remind ourselves of the Lord's presence as messiah and Lord..

SEDER MEAL The traditional Passover meal as an understanding of the background of the Eucharistic Liturgy will be celebrated this Sunday following the 10 am Mass. PSR will be involved and all parishioners are encouraged to participate. A potluck meal will follow the ritual with meat being provided by the parish.

LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION for DayStar in Cairo will conclude with Easter Sunday.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES RICEBOWLS invite our support of those in need by contributing from our Lenten fasts. Rice bowls should be returned by Easter to the designated basket in the church entrance..

MEMORIAL FLOWERS Names of those for whom Memorial Flower donations are made must be received in the office by Tuesday of this week to be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin insert.

JOINED PARISH COUNCIL MEETING will be held at St Paul hall this Wednesday, 6 pm. All Council members are asked to pick up agenda at weekend mass.

GOOD FRIDAY/HOLY LAND COLLECTION will be taken up on Friday for the support of the shrines in the Holy Land and to support the Church in the area.

COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE will be hosted this year at Gilead Cumberland Presbyterian Church (Gilead Church Rd, off SR 147) on Fri, Apr 19, 12:10 pm. All are welcome.

EASTER EGG HUNT will be provided for children following the Easter Sunday Mass at St Paul on the parish center lawn, weather permitting.

LADIES LUNCHEON will be hosted at St Paul Parish Hall on Sat, April 27th, 11 am – 1 pm. All ladies of St Paul and St Francis DeSales and guest (14 yrs & older) are welcome. Meal, special fashion show, and scarf decorating on agenda. RSVP to Madonna Slife, 967-5164 by Apr 22.

SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES Bishop Braxton wishes to invite all married couples celebrating 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 and above anniversaries to a special mass on June 2. To assure that all potential couples are invited, please notify Fr Tom of your anniversary.

PASCHAL TRIDUUM including Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil is truly a single liturgical event with three parts that commemorate the Easter Event. It begins with the commemoration of the institution of the Eucharist at Lord's Supper and the mandate of service to others in imitation of Jesus. Good Friday continues with the sacrifice of the Lamb of God which achieved our salvation. In the Easter Vigil, Christians commemorate our salvation history, celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus, welcome new members into Church and renew our own baptismal promises as we prepare and await the final coming of Jesus. Please join in celebrating this high point of the liturgical year.

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22; Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14--23:56

Today's second reading and Passion narrative focus on Jesus, history's ultimate player. On Calvary the world must have judged him defeated. In fact, he had won both the battle and the war against sin and death for all ages to come.

The Philippians passage describes Jesus exchanging the mantle of divinity for the mantle of suffering, even to death on a cross. The drama does not end in defeat; God intervenes to make this cross the tree of victory. The entire universe must proclaim to God's glory that Jesus Christ is Lord. The slave had set humanity free.

Luke's account of Jesus' Passion and death focuses not on historical detail but on the portrait of a martyr. A clear example of Jesus the martyr is his forgiveness prayer for the executioners, a prayer not found in Matthew and Mark. Luke also relates how Jesus granted forgiveness to the Good Thief. Jesus' final words in Matthew and Mark were, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" In Luke they were, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" (see Luke 23:46).

Paul and Luke show that victory is not always measured according to worldly criteria. Generosity and truth will win out because they are preserved in the living memory of a loving God and the Christian community. Whenever that community sings or recites the story of such heroes and heroines, they solemnly announce the ultimate victory of genuine good, but not always in the fashion the world would expect.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

If Jesus hadn't challenged the status quo, would he have gone to the cross? Are you slow to stand up for justice if it brings some discomfort to you? Does this story of the passion make you feel at one with the suffering world? Is there any action you could take to make it better?

"Agape" love (pronounced ah-gah-pay) is selfless and free from self-concern and self-preoccupation. Explain Jesus' love for us in terms of agape. Does this ever describe your love? Or is your love sometimes characterized by self-interest?

Luke says that the marginalized or the neglected went with Jesus on the way to his death. These included the women, and Simon, and the good thief. Does this tell you about Jesus and those who went with him? What does it tell you about Luke?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Easter Sunay Acts 10: 34a, 37-43; Psalm 118; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9.