

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

Trustees: Myron Cole, Stan Treat

**Good or Bad Stewards** In the Gospel Reading, Jesus tells parables about servants and stewards. In the parable, he mentions a reward for the good servants, and he describes a punishment for the bad stewards.

The bad steward will be assigned a place with the unfaithful. The unfaithful are those who don't have what faith alone will get you—and that is union with the Lord. So when the Lord says to some people, "Go away!" the bad steward will be in that group.

This is truly a dreadful punishment.

It doesn't take much, then, to meet the condition for being a steward of the Lord's. So what is a steward, and what does it take to be a bad one?

Well, a steward is a person who has servants under him. In the parable, those who are under the steward are the Lord's servants. So to be a steward of the Lord's is to have in your power other people who are servants of the Lord. Every human being is the Lord's servant.

So if you are the president of a company, you are a steward of the Lord, because there are human beings who are in your power. But you don't have to have a lot of people under you to be a steward of the Lord. If you are the mother of small children, you are a steward of the Lord's too because these small human beings are in your charge.

It doesn't take much, then, to meet the condition for being a steward of the Lord's. If you sit at the dinner table with other people who can't easily get away from you, you are a steward of the Lord as far as those people are concerned. To some small extent, they are in your power until you leave the table and them.

Two things mark out the bad steward. First, he considers his own needs and desires as the most important things. He does not care enough about the needs and desires of those who are in his power. Second, when he deals with those in his power, he treats them unjustly. A president of a company who assigns raises not to reward merit but to get revenge on his political enemies in the company is a bad steward. But so too is a mother who watches TV instead of caring for her children or who lets the older child tyrannize the younger one.

So having other people in your power is a fearsome responsibility. Do it badly, and you get a place among the faithless, who are outside, looking in at the joy the Lord gives his faithful servants, who served him well.

Eleonore Stump

## Vol 20 # 31 Nineteenth Sunday of the Year, August 11, 2019

| Sched | ule of Masses |          |                  |                        |
|-------|---------------|----------|------------------|------------------------|
| Sun   | Aug 11        | 8:00 am  | SFD              | For Parishioners       |
|       |               | 10:00 am | SP               | Bill Fry               |
| Tue   | Aug 13        | 9, 11 am | Shawnee DOC Mass |                        |
| Wed   | Aug 14        | 7 :00 pm | SFD              | For the Parish         |
| Thr   | Aug 15        | 6:30 pm  | SP               | For the Parish         |
| Fri   | Aug 16        | 12:00 pm | SP               | General Intention      |
| Sat   | Aug 17        | 5:30 pm  | SP               | For Parishioners       |
| Sun   | Aug 18        | 8:00 am  | SFD              | For Parishioners       |
|       |               | 10:00 am | SP               | Philip & Leola Barrett |

**Birthdays** Aug 13 Emily Taylor

# St Paul, Vienna

Sun, Aug 11, 10 am
Server: L Slife, M Bergmann
Lector: Madonna Slife
Gifts:Zach Garrett, Erin Medvecz
Usher:\* F Dueker, R Stoerger
L Givens, M McMahan
E. Minister Z Garrett
M Nelson, D Bishop
Greeter P & A Widowski

Sun, Aug 18, 10 am
Server: Frank Dueker
Lector: Steve Pobst
Gifts: Lee, Taylor Givens
Usher:\*S Widowski, D Zmuda
Mt Slife, S Pobst
E. Minister B Bishop,

B Palmer, L.Givens

Gifts: J Galey, J Hacker Usher:\* J Nelson, G Tesina J Nelson, J Bergmann E. Minister L Miller S Belske, L Stoerger Greeter Matt, Rhi Slife

Server: Curtner Bergmann

Sun, Aug 25, 10 am

Lector: Mitch Miller

#### St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

Sun, Aug 11: 8:00 am
Server: Christine Deaton
Lector: Mary Treat
Gifts: L Herbert, M Cole
Usher: Stan Treat
Lector: LaVonne Herbert
Gifts: Hustedde Family
Usher Fred Deaton
E. Min: Christine Deaton

#### **THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

| Sun Aug 11 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 ar                  |
|--|
| St Paul Mass10:00 ar                                       |
| Liturgy Committee Mt at SP11:00 an                         |
| Tue Aug 13 Mass at Shawnee & Vienna DOC9.& 11 and          |
| Wed Aug 14 South Vicariate Pastoral Mt at Carterville12 pm |
| Assumption of BVM Holyday mass at SFD7 pm                  |
| Thr Aug 15 Assumption of BVM Holyday mass at SP6:30 pm     |
| Fri Aug 16 Weekday Mass atSP12:00 pm                       |
| Sat Aug 17 Saturday mass at St Paul5:30 pm                 |
| Sun Aug 18 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am                  |
| St Paul Mass10:00 am                                       |

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for.

<u>LITURGY COMMITTEE</u> will meet in the parish hall on Sunday, Aug 11 at 11 am. Meeting open to any parishioners willing to enrich our communal liturgies.

THE ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER WALK will be Sunday, August 11th. People will meet at 3pm at the Vienna Grade School gym, and 3:30pm at the Vienna High School Commons. Adam & Julie Hook are organizing this for our community.

<u>OBLIGATORY HOLYDAY OF ASSUMPTION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</u> will be celebrated at St Francis DeSales on Wed, Aug 14, 7 pm and at St Paul on Thurs, Aug 15, 6:30 pm. No assignments for liturgical ministries have been made. Please volunteer.

**LADIES TOUR AND LUNCH** St. Paul CCW invites all ladies of the parish to join a tour of the Paducah counseling restoration home of Victory Through Grace Ministries on Tuesday, August 20. Afterward, we'll enjoy lunch at Artisan Kitchen. We will leave from the St. Paul parking lot at 9:15 a.m. There is more information and a sign-up sheet on bulletin board.

<u>DRAW-DOWN PARTY</u> October 19<sup>th</sup> Tickets are available for \$100.00 that may be shared by up to ten people. Early Bird Drawing for \$100 will be Sept 15<sup>th</sup>. Tickets available from Dolly Hopkins, Madonna Slife, Matt Slife, Marsha Nelson or after mass. Consolation prizes are needed. Parishioners are encouraged to solicit Gift cards and certificates for services of various businesses. Ideas and donations for Theme baskets are welcome.

<u>PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION TEACHERS NEEDED</u> St Paul Religious Education program is seeking adults to be a part of preparing today's youth to be tomorrow's active adult participants. The PSR classes will begin in 1 month. If you would like to find out more about opportunities, please contact Fr Tom at rectory.

**THANK YOU**....To Vickie Anderson for hosting the August first Sunday social ...to musicians and liturgical ministers for sustaining our Sunday liturgies

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Discover more about yourself and your spouse as you grow more deeply in love on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The Weekend is a great boost for awareness and communication techniques that bring back the closeness of your dating days. The next weekends are Aug. 9-11 or Sep. 27-29, 2019 at the Courtyard Marriot in St. Peters, MO. If you would like to apply or get more information, go to https://stl-wwme.org/schedule.php or call 314.649.7317.

**STEWARDING GOD'S GOOD GIFTS.** This is stunning! For those who live by faith, God is not ashamed to be called their God. What is this living by faith? It is living within the Kingdom of God that is already begun, though not yet complete. Saint Luke gets specific today: give alms, build up your treasure in heaven, be ready servants, look to the needs of others. These are the actions of faithful and prudent stewards. Gospel stewards understand this: everything they have, really belongs to God. We do not own. We only oversee. How will I fill up my "money bags" with heavenly treasure? How will I faithfully oversee tasks, duties, possessions? Whom will I serve this week?

### **Nineteenth Sunday of the Year**

Wisdom 18:6-9; Psalm 33; Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19; Luke 12:32-48

Our Christian tradition teaches us about priorities in living: God, love of neighbor as yourself, justice and truth, and so forth. We all know, however, that in the practical realm of everyday life, values are rarely ordered with such precision and clarity. Actually living the values we know to be right requires a harmony of mind and heart, spirit and flesh. Today's readings challenge our priorities, our hierarchy of values.

The gospel passage from Luke clearly identifies the kingdom of God as our ultimate concern. The kingdom does not result from human ingenuity; it is a pure gift of God. The classic measure of priorities is stated by Jesus, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Luke 12:34).

"Thy kingdom come" is an unrelenting prayer and desire for those who choose the kingdom in mind and heart. The true believer is constantly prepared with belt fastened and lamp burning. To doze off is to abandon the ultimate quest.

Jesus speaks of priorities in the lives of Church leaders. People in roles of leadership sometime choose power over justice as their ultimate concern. The leader is first of all servant. Jesus states the leader's responsibility in this way, "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded" (Luke 12:48).

The Hebrews passage today, the second reading, presents Abraham and Sarah as examples of responsible servant-leaders who are uncompromising in their values. The lesson we learn from these giants of faith is that God's promises will always be fulfilled, but perhaps not in our time for our viewing. "Faith is assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

The world focuses priorities and values around power, success, popularity, and pleasure. Today's Scriptures help us to measure these priorities and values against the ultimate concerns of the kingdom.

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

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

#### **QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION**

Are you certain enough of God's covenant with us that you can carry out a "leap of faith"? What gave the Israelites the courage to begin their journey into the unknown desert land? How do you make smaller leaps, maybe a hop or two, of faith in your everyday life? God promised Abraham that he would have many descendants. What allowed Abraham to offer his only child? Can you relate to this story in any way? How is your trust? When you look for what Jesus here calls the "inexhaustible treasure," he suggests: "Sell your belongings and give alms" ... for where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Twentieth Sunday of Year Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10; Psalm 40; Hebrews 12:1-4; Luke 12:49-53