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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

On Fire In the Gospel Reading, Jesus says that he has come to set the world on fire. This fire, he says, will destroy peace. It will produce divisions even within a family. Is this nice? Is this loving? Aren't we supposed to live in peace with everybody? How can Jesus say he came on purpose to set things on fire?

Well, what is peace anyway? If you love the Lord's goodness and your neighbor's, then you will hate the evil your neighbor is doing.

Peace is a kind of order and unity, isn't it? We have peace with other people when we are at one with each other and when our oneness unites us around goodness. That last condition matters. A mother who is at one with her toddler because she does everything he wants does not have peace. She just has capitulation to his baby-will, and her knuckling under to him might be destructive to him. Peace results only when she and her toddler are at one with each other in what is good for both of them, for her as mother and for him as baby.

And, of course, the same point applies to adults. If you hear your neighbor's wife screaming because he is beating her, then there is no peace in your trying to be at one with him. If you try to see things from the point of view of that wife-beater and just accept what he is doing, you are not at peace with him. You are just complicit in his crime. Even if you only try not to get involved, turning up the TV louder so you can't hear her cries, you are not at peace with him. You are only conniving at his evil and adding your own cowardice to the list of your sins.

So there is no peace for you in your failure to confront a wrongdoer. And notice that your failure to confront him doesn't result in peace for him either. We have it on the authority of Scripture that there is no peace for the wicked (Isaiah 48:22, 57:21)

So if you hear your neighbor beating his wife, call 911, or grab your baseball bat and go next door. Do what it takes to stop him. If you love the Lord's goodness and your neighbor's, then you will hate the evil your neighbor is doing.

Here is the lesson for us then: be on fire for goodness. Our God is a consuming fire of love, and there is peace for us only if we are at one with him in that fire.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 20 # 32 Twentieth Sunday of the Year, August 18, 2019

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Aug 18	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Philip & Leola Barrett
Tue	Aug 20	9, 11 am	Shawnee	DOC Mass
Wed	Aug 21	5:30 pm	SP	For the Parish
Fri	Aug 23	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sat	Aug 24	5:30 pm	SP	For Parishioners
Sun	Aug 25	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	For Parishioners

Birthdays
Aug 21 Myron Cole
Aug 22 Marilyn Beanland Wyatt Ashford
Aug 23 Michael McMahan
Aug 24 Amanda Widowski

St Paul, Vienna

<p>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</p>	<p>Sun, Aug 25, 10 am Server: Curtner Bergmann Lector: Mitch Miller 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</p>	<p>Sun, Sept 1, 10 am Server: L Slife Lector: Joan Galey Gifts: Lonnie, Cathy Hinton Usher:* P Widowski, P Kalicki R Beanland, L Hinton E. Minister A Dueker, S Widowski, V Anderson Greeter Sandy Belske</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Aug 18: 8:00 am Server: Brenda Morse Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: Hustedde Family Usher Fred Deaton E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>	<p>Sun, Aug 25: 8:00 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: Cecilia Parks Gifts: Hustedde Family Usher: Myron Cole E. Min: Brenda Morse</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Aug 18 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass10:00 am
- Resch Liturgy Committee Mt at11:00 am
- Tue Aug 20 Mass at Shawnee & Vienna DOC.....9.& 11 am
- CCW Tour Victory Through Grace, lunch.lv 9:15am
- Wed Aug 21 Ministerial Alliance MT.....12 pm
- Weekday mass at SP.....5:30 pm
- Merged Parish Council Mt..at SP.....6:00 pm
- Fri Aug 23 Weekday Mass at...SP.....12:00 pm
- Sat Aug 24 Saturday mass at St Paul.....5:30 pm
- Sun Aug 25 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass10:00 am
- 125th Anniversary /history Mt.....11:00 am



LITURGY COMMITTEE will meet in the parish hall on Sunday, Aug 18 at 11 am. Meeting open to any parishioners willing to enrich our communal liturgies.

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.

MERGED ST PAUL/ST FRANCIS DESALES PARISH COUNCIL MT will be this Wednesday, Aug 21, 6 pm at St Paul hall. Council members are reminded to pick up agenda at weekend mass.

DRAW-DOWN PARTY October 19th Tickets are available for \$100.00 that may be shared by up to ten people. Early Bird Drawing for \$100 will be Sept 15th. Tickets available from Steve Widowski, 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.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION REGISTRATION FORMS are being distributed this weekend to families whose children participated last year. Extra forms are available or call the rectory.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION TEACHERS NEEDED 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.

VOCATION CORNER "I learned from working in summer catechetical programs that I loved sharing the faith and that community prayer was a great source of strength. As I taught children about being open to the different vocations and God's plan for their life, I began to take this advice to heart. I soon visited a Convent and fell in love with the charism: bringing Christ to the young and the young to Christ. Through the generosity of fellow parishioners I was able to pay off my student loans before entering the convent. This is truly a blessing and their prayerful support gives me the courage to keep saying 'YES'." *Sister April Hoffman, Novice, Salesian Sisters, Newton, N.J. Columbia, "Keep the Faith Alive", October 2015, pg. 50*

BEING ON FIRE. In biblical stories, fire draws us to the pillar of fire during Exodus and the tongues of fire at Pentecost. We also recall the new fire that was blessed last Easter Vigil. Next to these blazing fires, we do not stand alone. In standing "surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses", we share in the faith and belief of all those who keep eyes fixed on Jesus. What can be purified in my life by the fire of Pentecost, of Confirmation, of the Holy Spirit? With whom will I stand in faith? How will I keep my eyes fixed on Jesus this day?

Twentieth Sunday of the Year

Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10; Psalm 40; Hebrews 12:1-4; Luke 12:49-53

The prophet is called to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable. This task involves energizing with hope those who have lost the capacity to hope, challenging those who have, unwittingly or not, contributed to a despair that seems irreversible to the downtrodden. Today's readings show both the building up and the tearing down of the prophetic mission.

The political conspiracy to convict Jeremiah the prophet is described in the first reading. Jeremiah attacks the unfaithful King Zedekiah and his entourage. Afflicting the comfortable brings a charge of treason against Jeremiah and finds him thrown in the bottom of a muddy cistern.

Jesus is a prophet as well. God has sent him to "bring good news to the poor ... to proclaim release to the captives ... " (Luke 4:18). Jesus demands a decision either for or against his message. "I came to bring fire to the earth and how I wish it were already kindled" (Luke 12:49).

Jesus, like Jeremiah, will experience the prophet's fate. The baptism referred to is actually Christ's passion and death. He longs for this event to take place (Luke 12:50). Family members are divided against one another; the harsh reality is that the Church's mission of conversion will not be a total success.

The afflicted in our society suffer many ailments. Failure is experienced at work, in relationships, and in society. The modern prophet proclaims that despair does not have the final say. The suffering are drawn up from the muddy cistern; their capacity to dream, to laugh, and to sing is restored.

Disease brings suffering to the comfortable as well. Life is diminished when ego reduces others to mere objects, when reliance on self obscures our dependence on God, when passing wealth has more value than riches that endure. Today's prophet must denounce evil in the human family, afflicting the comfortable as he or she lights a fire on the earth.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Besides Jeremiah, who else is in this reading do you think you could count on if you were in trouble? Why? Do you have friends who will help you when you are in need? Are you such a friend to anyone else?

Pope Francis reflection on second reading: Make [a] prayer of contemplation. "But I have so much to do!" "Well, in your home for fifteen minutes, take the Gospel, a small passage, imagine what happened and speak with Jesus about it. Thus your gaze will be fixed on Jesus, for example, and not on soap operas. Your ears will be fixed on the words of Jesus and not so much on the gossip of the neighbors.

According to this Gospel, what did Jesus come to this world to do? What does he wish? What is the "fire" with which he wants the earth consumed? Will part of that fire consume you?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Twenty-first Sunday of Year Isaiah 66:18-21; Psalm 117; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30