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Mission: Live Catholic teachings,
 Participate in Sacramental and Liturgical Celebrations, Serve our Community

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

Lifting Up the Poor Today’s liturgy contains a double-barreled attack on the rich. The Gospel warns us that “you cannot give yourself to God and money.” We cannot serve two masters, trying to worship at the altars of both God and wealth.

The First Reading is harsher. It contains Amos’ diatribe against the wealthy “who trample upon the needy and destroy the poor of the land!”

Contrasting this image of rich people at war with the poor is the image of God lifting up the poor and of Christ becoming poor to make us rich out of his poverty.

“I am the Savior of all people, says the Lord. Whatever their troubles, I will answer their cry.” God saves both rich and poor and answers the cry of both rich and poor.

The important thing to notice is that in God’s world the poor are heard and they are lifted up, unlike in the world we ourselves have created. In God’s world, it isn’t just the rich who have it all.

If we worship the true God, and if we want to enter the world that God rules, then we will do as God does, listening to the cry of the poor and lifting them up. To ignore and mistreat the poor is to invite God’s justice: “Never will I forget a thing they have done.”

We ought to sharpen the awareness of our duty of solidarity with the poor, to which charity leads us. This solidarity means that we make ours their problems and their struggles, that we know how to speak with them. This has to be concretized in criticism of injustice and oppression, in the struggle against the intolerable situation which a poor person often has to tolerate, in the willingness to dialogue with the groups responsible for that situation in order to make them understand their obligations.”

Latin American Bishops, Medellin Documents,

Poverty of the Church, 1968:10

Gerald Darring

Vol 20 # 37 **Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year, September 22, 2019**

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Sept 22	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Charles & Mary Querrey
Tue	Sept 24	9am, 11am	Shawnee, Vienna DOC masses	
Wed	Sept 25	11:30, 1 pm	Marion Penitentiary	
		6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Sept 27	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Sept 29	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Sandy Biver

Birthdays

Sept 28 Midge Bigler
Sept 29 Tracey Johnson

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Sept 22, 10 am Server: L Slife Lector: Arlene Dueker Gifts: Lonnie, Cathy Hinton Usher:* Mt Slife, S Pobst G Tesina, J Bergmann E. Minister C Kruep, B Bishop, D Bishop Greeter Laurie Coleman</p>	<p>Sun, Sept 29, 10 am Server: C & M Bergmann Lector: Rhi Slife Gifts: Children Liturgy Usher:* F Dueker, Joe Nelson Jmy Nelson, L Hinton E. Minister L Givens Z Garrett, L Stoerger Greeter Chuck, Monica Querrey</p>	<p>Sun, Oct 6, 10 am Server: L Slife, E Zmuda Lector: Joe Nelson Gifts: Children Liturgy Usher:* M Palmer, P Kalicki R Beanland, L Givens E. Minister A Dueker P Widowski, B Palmer Greeter Geri Tesina</p>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Sept 22: 8:00 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: Cecilia Parks Gifts: R Drone, M Cole Usher: David Parks E. Min: Brenda Morse</p>	<p>Sun, Sept 29: 8:00 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Myron Cole Gifts: Hustedde Family Usher Arnold Morse E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Sept 22	Presentation on Parish Merger Timeline
	St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
	St Paul Mass10:00 am
	PSR Classes.....11:00 am
	Council of Catholic Women Mt..Ridgway....12:30 pm
Tue Sept 24	October calendar info deadline
	Mass at Shawnee & Vienna DOC.....9 & 11:00 am
Wed Sept 25	BOP Masses, Marion.....11:30am, 1pm
	Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
Fri Sept 27	Weekday Mass at...SP.....12:00 pm
Sat Sept 28	Evelyn Bergmann Baptism.....5:30 pm
Sun Sept 29	Priesthood Sunday
	St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
	St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word....10:00 am
	PSR Classes.....11:00 am
	125 th Anniversary/History Committee Mt....11:00 am



MERGED PARISH COUNCIL MT MINUTES for Sept 18th Mt are in the bulletin rack.

REVIEW AND UPDATE ON PARISH MERGER TIMELINE will be shared at close of mass this weekend at both parishes.

DRAW-DOWN PARTY Early Bird Drawing for \$100 was won by Jerry Cecchi. 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.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION CATECHISTS We are grateful to the parishioners who have agreed to serve as catechists this year for the Parish School of Religion. They are Amanda Widowski (Pre-K), Marsha Nelson (Gr 1-2), Beth Palmer (Gr 3-4), and Zach Garrett and Lee Givens (Gr 5-7). Also serving as substitute catechists are Arlene Dueker, Madonna Slife and Steve Widowski. Please support catechists in prayer, cooperation and regular attendance.

SOUTH VICARIATE CCW FALL MT Sept 22, 12:30 pm. St Kateri, Ridgway.

BDCCW ANNUAL CONFERENCE will be held October 9 beginning 8:30 am at St Anthony Church, Beckemeyer. Registration forms are available from Pam Shallenberger or Arlene Dueker. Raffle Tickets will be available at St Paul after mass on Sept 22, 29th.

Parishioners with family members are welcome to celebrate the **Baptism of Evelyn Bergmann** at a mass on Saturday, Sept 28, 5:30 pm at St Paul Church.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR ISANDS OF GRAND BAHAMA AND ABACO Hurricane Dorian, a catastrophic Category 5 storm, destroyed churches, schools, homes, and other buildings on the Islands of Grand Bahama and Abaco Sept 1. By estimate, at least 15,000 modest homes have been destroyed as well as numerous churches, schools, convents, and rectories. Even though many Americans think of the Bahamas as a vacation paradise, the majority of the Bahamians live in near poverty in extremely modest homes that were easily destroyed by the fury of the worst hurricane ever to make landfall. We asked to offer whatever assistance we can to help our sisters and brothers in the Catholic Church in the Bahamas to rebuild their community and their lives. A special second collection is to be taken on the weekend of September 28-29, 2019, which will be sent directly to the archdiocese of Nassau for hurricane assistance.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP Lee Givens, member of the Ridgway K of C Council, is welcoming anyone interested in the Knights of Columbus to see him after mass or contact him for more information 618-313-3019

HERITAGE FESTIVAL PARADE FLOAT entry on Sat, October 5th is planned. All who are interested in working with the float are asked to contact Matt Slife 618-534-6978.

SURVIVING. Jesus, this week and last, does not look on us in negative ways. He seeks us out with love and compassion. He urges us to be daring, trustworthy, and resourceful. Quite a challenge! But it is the way we survive among the temptations to seek after more things, misuse or mismanage things of others, trust possessions over God. It is the way we heed Amos' plea to attend fairly to the poor. How will I "survive" this week by trusting God? How will I look after the poor in my town? How can I not be owned by possessions?.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year

Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13

The God of our Sunday liturgy should also be the God of our Monday workplace. Christian tradition maintains that justice is a principal quality of the kingdom. Today's readings see the proper use of material possessions as an essential ingredient in the life of faith. Justice and financial success go hand in hand.

In the first half of the eighth century B.C., the kingdoms of Judah and Israel experienced enormous economic prosperity. Unfortunately, not all of Yahweh's people shared in this wealth. The poor became poorer, oppressed by the powerful minority. Amos attacks the rich who are eager for the end of liturgical celebrations (the new moon and the Sabbath) so that they can return to the business of selling their grain. They defraud the poor by cheating with the scales; they reduce persons to things. Psalm 113 describes God's embrace of the poor: "He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes ... " (verses 7-8).

The gospel tells of an enterprising manager who realizes he is about to be fired. The manager calls in those who owe a debt to his master, telling each to alter the figures on the invoice. The master actually seems to take some delight in his manager's devious methods, admiring the clever way in which he arranges his own employment compensation! The lesson is this: Just as people in business use prudence to secure their passing advantage, so too the followers of Jesus must use prudence to secure lasting advantage with God.

Amos, the psalmist, and Luke touch our everyday lives. Our wealth is not really our own; resources are to be shared with our brothers and sisters. The message of God's kingdom is radical: The needs of all people are our own. Justice is one virtue we must practice in this life if we wish to experience happiness in the life to come.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Israel's covenant mandated love of the neighbor. Was it on a collision course with the people's behavior in this reading? What drives people to be oppressive and exploitive? Is money evil, or is it the love of money that is—to the exclusion of everything else, including love of neighbor?

Paul asks prayers for kings and for those with authority. Do you think the Church should address political, economic and social problems, or just stick to "religion"?

Was the unjust steward dishonest or just clever? How would the kingdom of God benefit if you were more resourceful on its behalf here on earth? Can you think of a way you can be more resourceful or more clever in your spiritual life?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Year Amos 6:1a, 4-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Luke 16:19-31