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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

What's To Hate? In the Gospel Reading, Jesus recommends hatred—of your mother and father, of your wife (or husband), in fact, of your very life.

What’s to hate about these people? How can Jesus say that unless you hate them, you can’t be his disciple? Didn’t Jesus command us to love our neighbors as ourselves? How can you hate your life if you love yourself?

More was true to the Lord he loved and to himself.

Well, think of St. Thomas More. Henry VIII of England wanted his own marriage to his wife annulled so that he could marry another woman, Anne. (Anglicans and Catholics both have troublesome characters in their history!) When the Pope wouldn’t agree to what Henry wanted, Henry declared himself supreme head of the Church in England. Thomas More was Chancellor of England then, and Henry wanted More to support him in all this. Henry wanted More to sign the Oath of Supremacy declaring Henry the Supreme Head of the Church in England.

More saw that Henry’s passion for Anne was moving Henry to betray his wife and bring scandal on the Church. And More wouldn’t support him. He wouldn’t sign the Oath.

So More resigned his chancellorship and went home. But Henry pursued him. First, he stripped More of his income and property, and then he imprisoned him. More’s wife was frantic. More’s children were heart-broken. They thought that More’s life hung in the balance, and they were right. Couldn’t More have just signed that Oath? His wife would have had him home. His children would have rejoiced at his return. He would have kept his property. He would have kept his life.

But he would have lost his life in keeping it. He would have betrayed the Lord he loved if he had signed that Oath.

So More lost all his possessions. He left his wife and children behind and went to prison. And finally he went to his death, for love of the Lord. This is the kind of hatred of life and loved ones that the Lord is talking about. More loved his family and his life, but he let go of everything for love of Christ.

Because he maintained his integrity and did not let Henry push him into evil, More was true to the Lord he loved and to himself. He could not have loved himself or his wife or his children or his neighbors better than he did. Eleonore Stump

Vol 20 # 35 **Twenty-third Sunday of the Year, September 8, 2019**

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Sept 8	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Jim & Mary Mudd
Tue	Sept 10			No Mass
Wed	Sept 11			No Mass
Fri	Sept 13	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Sept 15	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Philip & Leola Barrett

<p>Birthdays Sept 9 Steve Hupe</p>

St Paul, Vienna

<p>Sun, Sept 8, 10 am Server: Mady Bergmann Lector: Zach Garrett Gifts: H & X Gruszczyk Usher:* D Zmuda Sr, L Givens R Stoerger, J Slife E. Minister P Widowski, F Dueker, Md Slife Greeter Cathy Kruep</p>	<p>Sun, Sept 15, 10 am Server: C & M Bergmann Lector: Steve Widowski Gifts: Children Liturgy Usher:* M McMahan, M Palmer, D Bishop, S Widowski E. Minister M Nelson, P Kalicki, L Miller Greeter Dolly Hopkins</p>	<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>
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St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Sept 8: 8:00 am Server: Mary Treat Lector: Christine Deaton Gifts: Morse Family Usher: Stan Treat E. Min: Myron Cole</p>	<p>Sun, Sept 15: 8:00 am Server: Brenda Morse Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: Hustedde Family Usher Fred Deaton E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

- Sun Sept 8 St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass10:00 am
- Blood Pressure checks before and after mass
- Joint Parish Annual Picnic at SP.....11:00 am
- Mon-Thr Fr Tom participating in Diocesan Clergy Convocation
- Wed Sept No Mass
- Thr Sept 12 Eucharistic Adoration.....4:00-7:30 pm
- Fri Sept 13 Weekday Mass at...SP.....12:00 pm
- Sun Sept 15 Retired Diocesan Priest Collection
- St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
- St Paul Mass and Children Liturgy of Word..10:00 am
- Early Bird Drawing for Draw-Down..after mass
- Council of Catholic Women Mt.hall.....11:00 am
- PSR Meeting.....11:00 am



**Carry the cross
and follow me.**

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS will be offered before and after mass this Sunday at St Paul by the Wellness Committee.

PARISH PICNIC The annual joint parish picnic is this Sunday, following the 10 am mass at St Paul. Grilled Pork Steaks, chicken and hot dogs will be provided. Games for youth and adults following dinner. Attendance Prizes also offered. Everyone encouraged to participate .

PARISH ADDRESS DIRECTORY/EMERGENCY CONTACT Each parish household is ask to review your household information on the parish directory sheets in the entrance of church. If correct, just initial; otherwise make changes. Also please indicate how you wish to be contacted with emergency information ie phone, e-mail or text message.

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

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. Sign-up sheet on bulletin board

CLERGY CONVOCATION Fr Tom will participate in the diocesan Clergy Convocation this week. If there is an emergency, he may be contacted at 618-759-1707.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will be offered this Thursday, 4 pm – 7:30 pm at St Paul Church.

COLLECTION FOR DIOCESAN RETIRED PRIEST will be taken up next Sunday, Sept 15th . Proceeds help meet needs of priests nursing home care, insurance and special medical events.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION TEACHERS NEEDED St Paul Religious Education program needs adults to be a part of preparing today's youth to be tomorrow's active adult participants. The PSR classes will begin Sept 15th. If you would like to find out more about opportunities, please contact Fr Tom at rectory.

SOUTH VICARIATE CCW FALL MT Save date of Sept 22, 1 pm. St Kateri, Ridgway will host meeting. Contact Pam Shallenberger or details or ride sharing 217-714-4568

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.

BEING A DISCIPLE. Jesus is relentless. One more time he tells the great crowd: carry your cross, renounce possessions, be my disciple. Following him requires relentless behavior. We are to have an unwavering preference for Jesus above parents and family. But we cannot forget that care for them and all others is also attention to Jesus Christ. It is both-and. Always. How will I behave to assure myself I am following Jesus? What must I do to carry my cross one more day, one more week? What possession(s) can I give away for someone else to use?

Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year

Wisdom 9:13-18; Psalm 90; Philemon 9-10,12-17; Luke 14:25-33

"The good life" is an expression used to describe those who seem to have it all, at least in terms of material possessions. While there is nothing intrinsically wrong with having nice things, we know there's more to genuine living than interest rates and credit cards. Today's Scriptures teach the fullness of life in the light of God's wisdom.

The Wisdom passage shows how the human condition, by its very nature, requires divine assistance. If we are to learn the art of genuine living, God must communicate the spirit of wisdom. "Spirit" is actually a biblical category that connotes life, vitality, and closeness to God (see Ezekiel 37:9-14). Spirit-filled wisdom saves people; being wise means being alive in God.

Psalm 90 pleads for wisdom of heart as a way to combat human sinfulness and failure. This wisdom is the art of correct living, of adapting to life's problems, and of interacting with the God of Israel. God's presence makes life not a burden to be endured but a gift to be celebrated.

Luke has Jesus speak about the demands of discipleship. He gathers three sayings (Luke 14:26-27,33) and two parables (Luke 14:28-32). The second parable is a commentary on wisdom and life, explaining that to enjoy life in the kingdom the disciple must be wise enough to see the implications of his or her choices.

Both parables highlight the need to use wisdom in assessing the cost of discipleship. The tower builder and the warring king both must calculate the costs and study the risks before making a final decision. The disciple must know that following Christ requires an allegiance that will always be the highest priority. To accept the person of Christ is to accept his cross as well.

The Christian need not oppose human progress nor reject comforts and pleasures. The believer must assess these within the delicate balance of wisdom and life. Wisdom challenges: Does our happiness come from the mere acquisition of possessions or from sharing and interacting with God and neighbor?

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Does God give you help when you are unclear? Which do you think God prefers in you, perfect certainty— or your best guess, trusting in God?

Slavery was an accepted institution in Paul's time but he states a revolutionary idea anyway: there are no divisions in Christ. What causes social divisions in the world today? Can you do anything to change that?

Is following Jesus a one-time choice or do you have to make it daily? Which would you rather have, all the possessions you could ever want, without Christ, or Christ with no possessions? Can you name some people who lived/live in Christ and have possessed nothing? What does this freedom allow them to do?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Year Exodus 31:7-11, 13-14; Psalm 51; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-32