



Pastor : Rev Thomas Barrett
Phone (618) 658 – 4501
E-mail: spccil@frontier.com
Web: www.stpaulvienna.org



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

ST. PAUL 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

All Scripture is Inspired by God The Second Reading says that “all Scripture is inspired by God and useful” for training in righteousness. And this line sounds wonderful until it bumps up against the First Reading. In the First Reading, Moses avails himself of the special power of God to help Joshua destroy the Amalekites in a war.

This story about the Amalekites is a good example of Scriptural stories that prompt outrage in many contemporary readers. It presents God as helping the Israelites to slaughter their enemies. Why shouldn't we reject this story as morally repellant? And if we do, then what happens to the line that all Scripture is inspired of God.

Well, here is one way to accept the story of the Amalekites as part of God's inspired revelation.

The process of dying can be an important part of the journey of spiritual healing,

Human beings are meant to live in everlasting joyful union with their Creator, who loves them. But it is possible for human beings instead to become seriously spiritually sick. If that sickness is bad enough, it is possible for people to become the living dead, still functioning in some sense but spiritually dead, lost to love and union forever.

To ward off this worst thing for human beings, a loving God will go to great lengths.

So will we. Just think about what we will let our children suffer in hospitals in the hope of healing them, and you will see the point. God will endure even appalling suffering on the part of the human beings he loves if that suffering holds a chance of a spiritual cure.

In fact, the process of dying can be an important part of the journey of spiritual healing, as anyone knows who has worked with the dying in hospitals.

Maybe the terrible things that happen when a people loses a war are like this too. Think about it this way: would Germany have been better off if it had won the Second World War? Wasn't it a blessing for the Germans that they lost it?

And so we can think about the First Reading this way. God's love encompasses the Amalekites, too. His great love for them, his hope for their salvation, underlies his willingness to let them suffer even the terrible devastation that comes to them in the loss of the war with the Israelites.

And that is the beginning of an explanation for why it is possible to accept even the First Reading as divinely inspired Scripture.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 20 # 41 **Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year, October 20, 2019**

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Oct 20	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Peter Warner
Tue	Oct 22	9am, 11am	Shawnee, Vienna DOC masses	
Wed	Oct 23	11:30, 1 pm	Marion BOP Masses	
		6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Oct 25	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Oct 27	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
	St Paul, Vienna	10:00 am	SP	Sandy Biver

<p>Sun, Oct 20, 10 am Server: E Zmuda, M Bergmann Lector: Madonna Slife Gifts: Children Liturgy Usher:* J Slife, D Zmuda S Widowski, Mt Slife E. Minister L Miller M Nelson, P Kalicki Greeter Vickie Anderson</p>	<p>Sun, Oct 27, 10 am Server: Mady Bergmann Lector: Leslie Miller Gifts: Steve, Kathy Hupe Usher:* Joe Nelson, Jm Nelson J Bergmann, P Widowski E. Minister B Bishop D Bishop, F Dueker Greeter H & X Gruszczyk</p>
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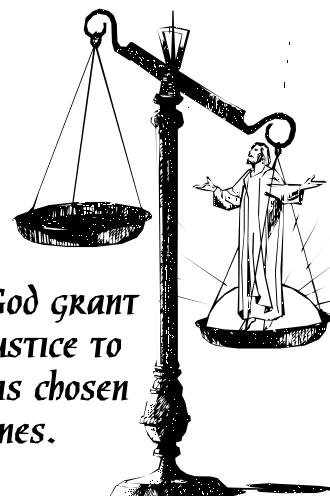
Birthdays	
Oct 22	Sandy Belske Zach Garrett
Oct 25	LaVonne Herbert Billy Porter Kevin Retz

St Francis DeSales, Stonefort

<p>Sun, Oct 20 8:00 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: LaVonne Herbert Gifts: R Drone, M Cole Usher: David Parks E. Min: Cecilia Parks</p>	<p>Sun, Oct 27 8:00 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: D Parks, R Drone Usher: Stan Treat E. Min: Christine Deaton</p>
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THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun	Oct 20	Rosary 20 minutes before Sunday Masses
		St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
		St Paul Mass & Children Liturgy of Word....10:00 am
		PSR Classes.....11:00 am
Tue	Oct 22	Mass at Shawnee & Vienna DOC.....9 & 11:00 am
		Deadline for November calendar info
Wed	Oct 23	USP Marion Masses..... 11:30am & 1 pm
		Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
Fri	Oct 25	Weekday Mass at...SP.....12:00 pm
Sat	Oct 26	Halloween Hayride-Party at SFD DeSales...4:00 p.m.
Sun	Oct 27	Rosary 20 minutes before Sunday Masses
		St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
		Blood Pressure Checks before and after mass SP
		St Paul Mass & Emergency Plan review.....10:00 am
		PSR Classes.....11:00 am
		125 th Anniversary Committee Mt. hall.....11:00 am



*God GRANT
 JUSTICE TO
 his chosen
 ones.*

LEADERS OF ROSARY Rosary will be prayed before the Sunday mass in October. Leaders are encouraged to sign the schedule on the bulletin board. Guides for leading the rosary are also available in the bulletin rack.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY This week, we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Each year, the entire Church is invited to support the young mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America, where priests, religious, and lay leaders serve the poorest of the poor.

MERGED PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES from last Wednesday's meeting are available in the bulletin rack of church..

CARE ITEMS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL DAR Project Patriot-The local Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution(DAR) is inviting the local communities to participate in providing personal care items (identified on lists in the Church lobby) for active duty military personnel who are overseas. Boxes of items will be packed and shipped by the DAR. There is a container in the lobby to collect the donated items. The container will be picked up on 10/21/19. Your help for our service men and women would be greatly appreciated.

K of C Raffle for Vocation Ministry Tickets for raffle are available from Lee Givens after mass this weekend or you may contact him 618-313-3019

JOINT PARISH HALLOWEEN HAYRIDE & HOT DOG ROAST hosted by St Francis DeSales begins 4 pm, Saturday, Oct 26th at the church pavilion. Participants are asked to bring chips or cookies and lawn chair.

UPCOMING EVENTS....

...**Faith Alive Thrift Store** will be staffed by St Paul volunteers Oct 31-Nov 2

...**All Saints Obligatory Holyday Masses** Thr, Oct 31, 7 pm at St Francis DeSales, Fri, Nov 1, 6:30 pm at St Paul

...**Recognition of Veterans** at First Sunday Social, Sun, Nov 3rd, 11 am

...**Holy hour for Vocations** at St Paul, 12 pm on Sun, Nov 3rd

THANK YOU....To Madonna Slife for Chairing the Draw-Down Party, all who donated baskets and prizes, those brought food, all who purchased tickets, all helpers.

HAUNTED HAYRIDE and trick or treat offered at Camp Ondessonk at Ozark, Fri, Oct 25, 6-10pm, Sat, Oct 26, 5-10pm. \$5 per person, 3yrs and younger, free.

FREELANCE WRITER WANTED The Messenger Catholic Newspaper is seeking a talented freelance reporter to contribute feature stories and photographs. Good writing ability a must. The freelancer would be expected to contribute at least one feature story/photograph per week. He or she can reside anywhere in the diocese. Interested persons should email their resume, three sample feature stories (or links) to editor@bellevillemessenger.org

DON'T WEARY PRAYING. In the Exodus story, Moses needs help to be constant in prayer. Throughout Saint Luke's gospel, Jesus prays early and often, alone and with others. Like Moses on the hill and like the persistent widow in today's parable, no weary praying is faithful praying. With whom will I pray for the benefit of others? If I don't, how and when will I pray every day? If I do, how will I continue? What help do I need to be persistent in prayer?

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year

Exodus 17:8-13; Psalm 121; 2 Timothy 3:14--4:2; Luke 18:1-8

Perseverance is the price of victory. Human growth and success are not instantly accessible like information from our computers. The readings today recall the need for unceasing human diligence, even in the face of frequent failure.

The Exodus passage pits a heroic Moses against Israel's implacable enemy, the Amalekites. In a book filled with divine exploits, we see here the significant difference made by the human accomplishments of Moses. The hero's steadfastness wins the day. The steady hands in Exodus 17:12 demonstrate Moses' faithfulness in carrying out an official task.

Psalm 121 says that we are able to trust in God's divine care but also admits that sometimes our human trust crumbles under tensions and pressures. The psalmist, for example, worries about the danger of one's foot slipping and the possibility that Yahweh might fall asleep (verse 3). The psalm does finally affirm that the Lord is a constantly vigilant guardian and that believers must be persistent in calling out to Yahweh.

The psalmist's theme is found also in Luke's parable of the dishonest judge: Pray always and never give up. If a dishonest judge eventually yields to the pressure of a persistent widow, then naturally God will act upon the prayer of his persevering people. Even better, God does not procrastinate like the judge; if we cry out day and night, the Lord will act promptly. Luke concludes that God expects this pleading from us; at the time of the Second Coming, Christ will examine our persistence in prayer.

The Exodus account of Moses' greatness and Luke's parable on persistent prayer clearly define our human neediness. We need to begin anew each day, to work hard every day at building loving and trusting relationships with one another and with God. We need persevering prayer as our source of strength and hope. We need to admit that perseverance is the price of success.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION Could Moses have kept his hands raised (or “prayed constantly”) without the help of his companions? Can you relate to this story in any way? Can you let friends help you when you can’t manage it by yourself? And whom do you support spiritually? Is proclaiming the Word of God central to all the activities of the Church? To your parish? To your life? How do you proclaim the Word of God in your work? In your life? What does Jesus’ injunction, “Pray always ... ” mean to you? Do you think Jesus means only prayers of petition? What does Jesus want to make clear to you about petitioning God? Discuss this statement: “When you pray for rain, take an umbrella.”

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Thirtieth Sunday of Year Sirach 35:12-14,16-18 Psalm 34; 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18; Luke 18:9-14