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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

Failure The [First Reading](#) gives us something rare in Scripture: a dialogue between God the Father and the Messiah he sent. But if you look at the verse numbers of our First Reading, you will see that Verse 4 has been omitted.

The preceding [Verse 3](#) is God’s line to the Messiah. my way of phrasing it would be, “you are my servant, and you will be a spectacular success; people will be able to see the glory of God by looking at you.”

This is a powerful expression of praise and affirmation, isn’t it?

But guess how the Messiah responds to God in the omitted [Verse 4](#)?

In the first of his two lines in [Verse 4](#), the Messiah says (in my way of phrasing it), “I have labored in vain. I have used all my strength, and it has all been for nothing.”

This line is a powerful expression of failure, isn’t it?

You can see why someone might have thought Christ’s mission was a failure. The people passing by Christ on the cross certainly didn’t see the glory of God in him then! And by the time of his death, the work of Christ’s life had come only to this: he had a handful of disciples and a few women as hangers- on. If the goal was to bring salvation to the world, you can see that this result would look like total failure.

But here is the gist of what God says in [Verses 5-6](#), in response to the Messiah’s expression of failure in Verse 4:

You *are* glorious in the sight of the Lord, and God is your strength. Just saving Israel is too small a success for you; you will bring salvation to all the ends of the earth.

The first communities of Christians and all the apostles were Jewish. By now there are Christian communities in every non-Jewish part of the earth, too. And so Christ’s mission to bring salvation to the Jews and the Gentiles *was* a glorious success, as in the [First Reading](#) God predicted it would be.

But all that success came only after the death of the Messiah.

Our success, like our glory, needs to be through God’s strength, in God’s sight, and in God’s time.

And that is why, in the second of his two lines in the omitted Verse 4, the Messiah says, “my judgment is with the Lord, and my work is with my God.”

Eleonore Stump

Vol 21 #3 **Second Sunday of Year, January 19, 2019**

Schedule of Masses

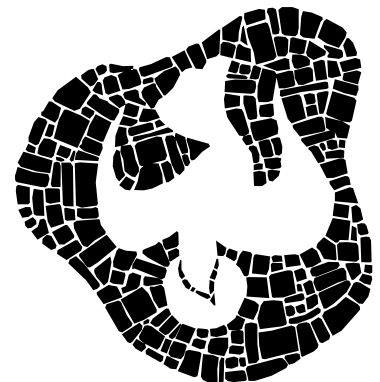
Sun	Jan 19	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Robert Jones
Tue	Jan 21	9am, 11am	Shawnee, Vienna DOC masses	
Wed	Jan 22	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Jan 23	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Jan 26	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Philip & Leola Barrett

Birthdays
Jan 19 Preston Brown
Jan 22 Macie Zmuda Joe Nelson
Jan 23 Ann Stachowiak Julie Kolb

<p>Sun, Jan 19, 10 am Server: E Zmuda, M Bergmann Lector: Steve Pobst Gifts: Children Liturgy Usher: *L Hinton, R Stoerger J Bergmann, D Zmuda E Minister: C Kruep V Anderson, L Givens Greeter: C & M Ouerrev</p>	<p>Sun, Jan 26, 10 am Server: C & M Bergmann Lector: Arlene Dueker Gifts: Jon, Madonna Slife Usher: *S Widowski, S Pobst Joe Nelson, Jeremy Nelson E Minister: M Nelson Peg Widowski, M Slife Greeter: M & L Miller</p>	<p>Sun, Feb 2, 10 am Server: M Bergmann E Zmuda Lector: Joe Nelson Gifts: Children liturgy Usher: *P Widowski, Pat Kalicki, R Beanland L Givens E Minister: D Bishop Steve Widowski, Pat Kalicki Greeter: H & X Gruszczzyk</p>
<p>Sun, Jan 19, 8 am Server: Cecilia Parks Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: L Herbert/ M Cole Usher: Fred Deaton E. Minister: Christine Deaton</p>	<p>Sun, Jan 26, 8 am Server: Mary Treat Lector: Christine Deaton Gifts: S Treat -F Deaton Usher: David Parks E Minister: Myron Cole</p>	

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Jan 19	St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
	St Paul Mass & Childrens liturgy.....10:00 am
	PSR Classes.....11:00 am
Mon Jan 20	Blood Drive at Fellowship Baptist Hall.....12-6:00 pm
Tues Jan 21	February Calendar info deadline
	Shawnee, Vienna DOC masses.....9:00 am, 11 am
	R.C.I.A session.....5:00 pm
Wed Jan 22	Day of Prayer & Reparation for Abortions
	Catholic Service & Ministry Board Mt.....11:00 am
	Weekday mass at SP.....6:30 pm
Fri Jan 24	Patronal feastday – St Francis DeSales
	Weekday mass at SP.....12:00 pm
Sat Jan 25	Patronal feastday – St Paul
Sun Jan 26	St Francis DeSales Mass8:00 am
	St Paul Opening Mass of 125 th Anniversary 10:00 am
	PSR Classes.....11:00 am



2019 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are available this Sunday.. You're encouraged to pick up your household record envelope.

PARISH COUNCIL Newly elected officers of the Parish Council are Lee Givens, chairperson; Steve Pobst, Vice-Chairperson; and Frank Dueker, secretary. The list of parish council members is posted on the bulletin board. You're encouraged to share ideas and suggestions with any member to be brought to the attention of the council. Summary of the standing committees' undertakings during 2019 are posted on the bulletin board. Minutes of the January 15th meeting are available in the bulletin rack. Also a corrected copy of the biography of new council members is posted on the bulletin board.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN MINUTES of January 12th meeting are available in bulletin rack.

BLOOD DRIVE is scheduled this Monday, Jan 20, Noon to 6 pm at the Fellowship Baptist Hall on Senior Drive in Vienna. Consider giving a gift that preserves life. _

DAY OF PRAYER January 22 will be observed throughout the US as a day of prayer for full restoration of legal guarantee for the right to life, and penance for violations to the dignity of human persons committee through acts of abortion.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY Jan 18-25 reminds us of unity desired by Jesus in the Christian Community. Division must be overcome by knowledge and respect and we try to learn from Jesus example of welcoming all.

SAVE THE DATE The opening Liturgy of St Paul Parish 125th Anniversary will be January 26, 10 am at St Paul church..

LADIES RETREAT for women is scheduled at Kings House in Belleville April 17-19. Get included before reservations fill up. For information or registration contact Vickie Anderson, 579-3748

THANK YOU....to parishioners who took down church Christmas Decorations
....to all the volunteers who operated the Faith Alive Thrift Store on St Paul's turn.
....to those who hold in respect the Eucharistic Presence and pray on behalf of the needs of the Church and our parish community at Eucharistic Adoration
....to those who shared in prayer, participated in services or provided for the funeral lunch for the Family of Irene Kojder who was buried on Saturday.
.....to singers and musicians who are preparing music for the 125th mass on Jan 26th.

WHAT BAPTISM MAKES OF US. We begin Ordinary Times this liturgical year full of baptismal reminders. Jesus ranks ahead of John the Baptist and all of us. But though greater, he, in his good Spirit, remains with all of us. In Baptism, we are God's servants, ordained to show God's glory (and not our own), and be about God's saving plan. And like Saint Paul and the Corinthians, we are called to be holy. How will I cherish Baptism today and rest in Christ loving me? How will I manifest God's glory in some simple word or work? How will I be holier today than I was yesterday?

Second Sunday of Year

Isaiah 49:3,5-6; Psalm 40; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34

A witness testifies to facts, not only to their existence but also to their significance. How often do we reflect on the implications of the facts that are observed? We see an act of kindness and almost take it for granted, failing to appreciate the goodness of that kind person. Today's readings talk about the importance of being God's witness. They stress the importance of being a witness to God and, in turn, revealing God to others.

Isaiah discusses the witness role of Israel. The exiles returning to their homeland will be a clear sign of Yahweh's power. Even in moments of exhaustion, their discouragement must be cast aside so that God's glory might be displayed. Yahweh will be the strength the people require.

In Psalm 40, the psalmist sings of release from death -- the "death" of serious illness and of attacks from enemies. Aware of Yahweh's intervention, the psalmist breaks out into a new song -- one calculated to influence others. The author then notes that Yahweh's generosity did not go unnoticed. Instead, the author shared the divine intervention with others.

The fourth gospel never mentions Jesus' baptism by John. In this gospel, rather, John the Baptist is John the Witness. In today's reading, he identifies Jesus as the Lamb of God, as the Preexistent One, and as the Giver of the Spirit. The final verse of the gospel reading notes, "And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God" (John 1:34).

There are abundant signs of human goodness in our world. Today's readings challenge us to observe human goodness and to see it as rooted in the Divine. Bad news will dominate the front pages until we overwhelm evil with our witness to good.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION This reading contains a reference to "the servant." What in it will Jesus proclaim throughout his ministry? Can we be a light for the world?

We are "called to be holy." What does "holy" mean to you? How is John the Baptist a model of holiness? Who is holy in your world? What does s/he do that makes you think that?

. "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world," the Baptist says. But, "I did not know him." Why did he identify an ordinary human being in this way? After John pointed Jesus out to the crowds, they wanted to know more about him, e.g., where did he live. If you had been in the crowd, would you have wanted to follow Jesus?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Third Sunday of the Year Isaiah 8::23-9:3,
Psalm 2,1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17, Matthew 4:12-23

