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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: Lee Givens
 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

The Law of Love The focus of today’s liturgy is “obedience to God’s word.” We are challenged to “keep the commandments, to walk in the law of the Lord.”

In order to keep the commandments, we must first know what they are and then we must understand them correctly. Jesus deals with this problem in the [Gospel](#). The Jews had a law about murder, but they had misread it to mean that one was in the clear as long as one was not actually, personally killing someone. Jesus challenged his Jewish followers to follow the correct interpretation of the law, which meant that they were not to be the kind of people who would kill or would do anything that leads to someone else’s death.

We Christians believe that God’s “command of perfect love” obliges us to do what is just and right. It is not good enough to stay out of trouble; we must work at setting things right in the world. It is not good enough to give food to the hungry; we must work at making ours a society in which people do not go hungry.

“Give me discernment, that I may observe your law and keep it with all my heart.”

The responsibility for alleviating the plight of the poor falls upon all members of society. As individuals, all citizens have a duty to assist the poor through acts of charity and personal commitment. But private charity and voluntary action are not sufficient. We also carry out our moral responsibility to assist and empower the poor by working collectively through government to establish just and effective public policies.

U.S. Bishops, [Economic Justice for All](#), 1986: 189.

- Gerald Darring

Vol 21 #7 Sixth Sunday of Year, February 16, 2019

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Feb 16	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	General Intention
Tue	Feb 18	9am, 11am	Shawnee, Vienna DOC masses	
Wed	Feb 19	5:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Feb 21	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Feb 23	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Irene Kojder

Birthdays
 Feb 16 Doug Jones
 Feb 18 Lynn Stoerger
 Jared Bergmann

<p>Sun, Feb 16, 10 am Server: M Bergmann E Zmuda Lector: Leslie Miller Gifts: Children liturgy Usher: *D Zmuda Sr, S Pobst S Widowski, G Tesina E Minister: A Dueker L Stoerger, Z Garrett Greeter: Geri Tesina</p>	<p>Sun, Feb 23, 10 am Server: C Bergmann M Palmer Lector: Zach Garrett Gifts: Rick, Lynn Stoerger Usher: *Joe Nelson, J Nelson J Bergmann F Dueker E Minister: V Anderson D Hopkins L Givens Greeter: Joan Galey</p>
<p>Sun, Feb 16, 8 am Server: Mary Treat Lector: Cecilia Parks Gifts: Myron Cole, L Herbert Usher: Fred Deaton E. Minister: Christine Deaton</p>	<p>Sun, Feb 23, 8 am Server: Christine Deaton Lector: Mary Treat Gifts: L Herbert, S Treat Usher: Myron Cole E. Minister: Cecilia Parks</p>

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Feb 16	St Francis DeSales Mass	8:00 am
	St Paul Mass and Children Liturgy of Word	10:00 am
	Liturgy Committee Mtg	11:00 am
	PSR Classes.....	11:00 am
Tue Feb 18	Shawnee, Vienna DOC masses.....	9:00 am, 11 am
	R.C.I.A session.....	5:00 pm
Wed Feb 19	Ministerial Alliance Mtg.....	12:00 pm
	Weekday mass at SP.....	5:30 pm
	Merged Parish Council.....	6:00 pm
Fri Feb 21	Weekday mass at SP.....	12:00 pm
Sun Feb 23	Burning of Palms after Mass	
	St Francis DeSales Mass.....	8:00 am
	St Paul Mass	10:00 am
	PSR Classes.....	11:00 am
	125 th Anniversary Committee Mtg.....	11:00 am



THANK YOU'S to all the parishioners who participated in our annual Chili-Dessert Cookoff. 1st place chili goes to Steve Widowski, 2nd place to Steve Pobst and 3rd place to Vickie Anderson. 1st place dessert goes to Monica Querrey, 2nd place to Pat Kalicki, 3rd place to Joe Nelson. Thank you to Frank and Arlene for the setups; Pat Kalicki, Geri Tessina and Vickie Anderson for event support, Cathy Kruep for Hillview valentine making station and Harry Gruszcyk for Bingo calling. Thank you to our St. Paul CCW for funding the medals, cash prizes and bingo prizes. Thanks to Madonna for her valentine table decorations.

LITURGY COMMITTEE will be meeting Sunday Feb 16 after Mass in the Parish Hall.

HISTORICAL QUIZ ANSWER from Feb. 9 bulletin: Who was the first resident pastor to serve the parish of St. Paul and St. Francis DeSales? The answer is Fr. Duffy

MERGED PARISH COUNCIL meets this Wednesday Feb.19. Agendas for council members are in the church foyer.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN DINNER MEETING SIGN-UP is now available on the church foyer bulletin board. Meeting and dinner is March 17, 2020 at 4:30. Jamie Starratt will be catering at her restaurant The Kitchen on Lafayette, Anna II. Dinner cost is \$15. Carpooling is available

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE FOR THE MESSENGER this week. Be informed about your Catholic Diocese, by subscribing to The Messenger! Support your Catholic faith in southern Illinois by subscribing to The Messenger. Subscribe by calling **The Messenger at 618-233-8670**. To subscribe online go to www.bellevillemessenger.org

PROJECT RACHAEL (Healing after abortion) The Diocesan Respect Life Office is seeking parish ambassadors for communication and publicity of this program. For more information contact Wendy Fink at Wfink@diobelle.org

NEEDED: HOSTS FOR 1ST SUNDAY PARISH SOCIALS. Please volunteer by signing up on the form posted in the bulletin board of the church foyer.

125th ANNIVERSARY MEETING is next Sunday after Mass

UPCOMING MASS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY. Feb. 26 at St. Francis DeSales, 5 p.m. St. Paul at 7:00 p.m.

VOCATION CORNER “Life is about saying “yes” to the things that help you to grow in holiness and no to the things that don’t. Life is about searching for the best version of yourself. Today’s culture doesn’t have a vision for the human person. The goal of today’s culture is consumption as we no longer are the consumers---we are being consumed. It is time for us to start thinking about where our lives are leading and to where God is calling us. The ways of the world lead to confusion. God’s way leads to clarity, order and to a meaningful living with joy. Life is a choice we all have to make. So, fulfill God’s vision for you and answer his call with a “yes”.”

THE FOUR SIGNS OF A DYNAMIC CATHOLIC. PG. 79-81.

Sixth Sunday of the Year

Law is often regarded as impersonal. Law is a massive structure that becomes clear only when we break it; then there are fines and penalties to be paid. But what about the person or persons behind the laws?

God's law is the focus of today's readings. The biblical view admits that law is part of human life. But more than that, law is a relationship between the individual, the community, and God. If we are to experience the divine and human enterprise fully, we must seek the heart of the law.

The Sirach passage takes up the theme of free will. The personal dimensions of rules and regulations are stressed: "To act faithfully is a matter of your own choice" (Sirach 15:15). The believer chooses between life (dialogue and community with God) and death (monologue and disruption of community).

Psalm 119 is the longest of all the psalms. Basically it provides a meditation on God's law. A number of synonyms are used for law: precepts, statutes, and words. Response to law is personal allegiance to God. Obedience to law demands all the energy and loyalty of the believer.

Matthew, in this section of the Sermon on the Mount, establishes the relationship of the Mosaic law to Jesus. The heart of religious obedience is not some lifeless statute but Jesus. Righteousness means the moral living out of God's will. The disciple surpasses the legalism of the Pharisees to devote self to God and neighbor. In Matthew 5:21-48 the embrace of law is expanded: Not only is murder prohibited, so too is anger toward neighbor; adultery is wrong and so is the regarding of women as sex objects.

Legislation comes from every direction: local ordinances, state and federal laws, Church law. The Christian discerns the values inherent in law. Our biblical heritage urges us to do more by raising the question: What is at the heart of the law?

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION. The eyes of God are on those who fear him; he understands (our) every deed." If so, should we be frightened? Or is God the one who not only understands, but forgives and loves sinners?

How is it that the Spirit can scrutinize the depths of God? Discuss ways in which the Spirit scrutinizes you.

Jesus is critical of the Pharisees' type of righteousness, which focuses on externals. They make sure everyone sees them when they fast, pray on street corners, wash hands, etc. How do these things relate to the inner Spirit of the law? How do they relate to loving God and neighbor?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 23 February 2020

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18. Psalm 103. 1 Corinthians 3:16-23. Matthew 5:38-48.