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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

Turning the Other Cheek In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Christ commands us to turn the other cheek. How are we to make sense of this command?

If a schoolyard bully beats up your child, are you supposed to instruct her to turn the other cheek and let him do it again? Or should you alert the principal of the school and get the bully stopped?

Christ's command to turn the other cheek seems to insist on that first alternative. And so it looks as if Christ is commanding us to help people do bad things with impunity.

But to think this is way is to be focused only on yourself and what you take to be your virtue. It is to forget entirely about the wellbeing of the bully or of any person engaged in evil.

Think about the matter this way. In the [Gospel](#) Reading for last Sunday, Christ says that anyone who hates his brother is shut out of heaven. If mere hatred is enough to get a person excluded from heaven, how about hatred in action, like physical attack? A schoolyard bully has hate in his heart and hate in action, too. If you enable him to keep attacking, you are helping him to hell. But in the [Gospel](#) Reading for this week Christ is asking us to *love* those who hurt us. How is love shown to a person by helping him towards hell?

So in exhorting us to turn the other cheek Christ is not commanding us to be an enabler of people doing bad things. He is exhorting us to love even our enemies *as ourselves*. If we love our enemies in this way, we will want to help them be what we ourselves want to be: people trying to love and obey Christ.

So think of Christ's command to turn the other cheek this way.

Ordinarily, a person given to evil will become worse and worse if he thinks he can hurt others with impunity. That is why to threaten him with reprisal is to tug him back from his own moral destruction. But sometimes a person is so sunk in evil that no threat of punishment would deter him. And then your best bet is to let him hit you again. If he does, he may finally understand the evil in himself and hate it.

So turning the other cheek might make a schoolyard bully worse; but this attitude of turning the other cheek, expressed in large-scale non-violent resistance, did help get the British out of India. Christ's command, then, is to do whatever it takes to *love* our enemies.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 21 #8 Seventh Sunday of Year, February 23, 2019

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Feb 23	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Irene Kojder
Tue	Feb 25	9am, 11am	Shawnee, Vienna DOC masses	
Wed	Feb 26	11:30 am, 1 pm	BOP, Marion	
		5:00 pm	SF	For Parishioners
		7:00 pm	SP	For Parishioners
Fri	Feb 28	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Mar 1	8:00 am	SFD	For Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	For Parishioners

Birthdays

Feb 25 Vanessa Hopkins
Diane Pruemer
Feb 26 Will Ashford
Becky Bowers
Feb 27 Monica Querrey
Mar 1 Geri Tesina

Sun, Feb 23, 10 am

Server: C Bergmann M Palmer
Lector: Zach Garrett
Gifts: Rick, Lynne Stoerger
Usher: *Joe Nelson, J Nelson
J Bergmann F Dueker
E Minister: V Anderson
D Hopkins L Givens
Greeter: Joan Galev

Sun, Mar 1, 10 am

Server: E Zmuda, M Palmer
Lector: Steve Widowski
Gifts: Children liturgy
Usher: *M McMahan, L Given
R Beanland, P Kalicki
E Minister: B Bishop
S Belske, L Miller
Greeter: Katie Pobst

Sun, Mar 8, 10 am

Server: C & M Bergmann
Lector: Mitch Miller
Gifts: Chuck, Lynn Stone
Usher: *F Dueker, D Bishop
R Stoerger, P Widowski
E Minister: M Nelson,
P Widowski, P Kalicki
Greeter: Cathy Kruep

Sun, Feb 23, 8 am

Server: Christine Deaton
Lector: Mary Treat
Gifts: L Herbert, S Treat
Usher: Myron Cole
E. Minister: Cecilia Parks

Sun, Mar 1 8 am

Server: Cecilia Parks
Lector: LaVonne Herbert
Gifts: Myron Cole, F Deaton
Usher: Stan Treat
E. Minister: Mary Treat

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Feb 23	Burning of Palms	after Sunday masses
	St Francis DeSales Mass	8:00 am
	St Paul Mass.....	10:00 am
	Emergency Presentation-Fire	
	PSR Classes.....	11:00 am
	125 th Anniversary Committee Mtg.....	11:00 am
Tue Feb 25	Shawnee, Vienna DOC masses.....	9:00 am, 11 am
	R.C.I.A session.....	5:00 pm
Wed Feb 26	First Day of Lent - Day of Fast and Abstinence	
	BOP Masses, Marion.....	11:30, 1 pm
	Ash Wednesday Mass SF at 5:00 pm ; SP at 7:00 pm	
Fri Feb 28	Lenten Abstinence	
	Weekday mass at SP.....	12:00 pm
Sun Mar 1	Black & Indian Mission Collection	
	Lay presenter CS&MA	
	St Francis DeSales Mass.....	8:00 am
	St Paul Mass.....	10:00 am
	1 st Sunday Parish Social.....	11:00 am
	PSR Classes.....	11:00 am
	Lenten Food Drive for Daystar Cairo begins	



BURNING OF PALM for ashes to begin Lent on Ash Wednesday will be after Masses.

125TH ANNIVERSARY/HISTORY COMMITTEE meets in the Parish Hall after Mass

THEOLOGY OF BODY BOOK DISCUSSION with Zach Garrett – select availability for Sunday, 11 am or Wednesday 5 pm on bulletin board sheet.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES are 5:00 pm at St. Francis DeSales and 7 pm at St. Paul

LENTEN MATERIALS including Rice Bowls and are available on a table in the back of the foyer.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be every Sunday of Lent 20 minutes prior to Mass. If you would be willing to lead the Stations there is a sign up sheet for leaders posted on the Bulletin board.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION will be offered every Saturday during Lent from 5-5:30 pm at St. Paul. Father has printed some Examination of Conscience reflection material and placed this on the table with other Lenten materials.

HOSTS FOR 1ST SUNDAY SOCIALS are needed. The church has an account for donuts and milk/juice at Miles grocery. Cathy Kruep will be happy to walk any volunteers thru what is needed. Please contact her at 618 304-4841

FOOD DRIVE DONATIONS FOR CAIRO DAYSTAR will run through Lent. Your donations are very much appreciated.

136TH ANNUAL NATIONAL BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION is next week. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

FAITH ALIVE THRIFT STORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED MARCH 5,6 &7

Please commit to a morning or afternoon to volunteer. The store will be offering \$1 bag sales Friday and Saturday and lots of customers are expected.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 8.....CATHOLIC SERVICE & MINISTRY APPEAL Pledge Weekend

March 13...First Fish Fry at St Paul Hall, 5-7 pm (worker schedule on BB)

March 14...St Paul Parish Workday begins 8:30 am...repair, clean, organize

VOCATION “After I completed university and settled into a job as a computer programmer, I started asking my friends, “Do you ever feel like you should be doing something more?” To my surprise, most of them said no, or maybe – but I wasn’t satisfied. I moved on to teaching in a rather impoverished high school, where I realized that what my students needed more than a stable home, quality education, or even steady diet, was hope. When I looked at where I found lasting hope in my own life, I saw that it was in the Church, which made Jesus known to me. Around this time, I met the Basilian Fathers at the University of St. Thomas in Houston. I kept discerning the next step, and they helped me to be the who I was called to be.”*Fr. Chris Valka, CSB; Congregation of St. Basil, Houst.*

Seventh Sunday of the Year

Sometimes our interaction with people becomes more business than charity. We do for others only what they have done for us. If we have been wronged then revenge is sought. It is a challenge to give love without IOUs. Today's readings are a call to act out of love and respect because that is the manner of our God.

The first reading is from a document known as the Holiness Code (Leviticus, Chapters 17-26). The name comes from the repetition of phrases like "You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy" (Leviticus 19:2). The theme of this document is that Israel, as Yahweh's covenant people, is to distinguish itself from all the other nations by reflecting Yahweh's holiness. This means correcting a wayward member when necessary but avoiding grudges and revenge.

The responsorial, Psalm 103, is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving that announces God's goodness to the psalmist and God's ongoing concern for Israel. Compassion is the hallmark of God's covenantal loyalty. The root for "compassion" and "merciful" is the Hebrew word for "womb." Thus it is Mother Yahweh who provides for her children.

In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus rejects behavior that is based solely on IOUs. Human legal systems (going to court) and checks and balances (a slap for a slap) are no longer acceptable. Jesus urges renouncing one's right to demand strict claims; he encourages walking the extra mile. Limits on love are not in keeping with the unconditional love of God who sends sun and rain on both the just and the unjust.

At home, on the job, and in our circle of friends we constantly experience the challenge of the Christian life. To show love when love is not returned, to practice justice when everyone else acts dishonestly, and to be compassionate when compassion does not well up automatically -- these are all occasions when the theory is truly tested.

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

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QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION“The Lord is kind and merciful” [Psalm 103]. Jesus still teaches on the mount today. He moves from the “blessed are” to the “I say to you.” He says today: Do not hate. Do not get even. Do not retaliate. Do not insult. Love your neighbor, domestic and foreign. He ends with this: “So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Clear. To the point. Hard but doable with God’s help.

- ◆ How will I be kind, be merciful today?
- ◆ Whom shall I stop hating?
- ◆ How can I shape my less-than-perfect behavior in the perfection of God?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES: First Sunday of Lent– March 1, 2020 Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7. Psalm 51. Romans 4:12-19. Matthew 4:1-11