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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:

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

Being Small and Being Great in the Service of the Lord The problem reported in the First Reading has to do with food for widows. The Greeks thought that their widows were being neglected and that the widows among the Jews were getting the best of things, and so the Greeks complained to the Apostles. The Apostles said, sensibly enough, that they couldn't be expected to handle food distribution. Their job was to evangelize and spread the Gospel. And so they picked some people to do the small job of supervising food handouts for them. Stephen was one of those picked.

In his witness and his martyrdom, he was not small.

Who would have wanted to be in that group with Stephen? The people in Stephen's group were chosen to do a job that was not nearly as important as the work the Apostles were doing. That's why the Apostles wanted somebody else to do it. By comparison with important things, like spreading the gospel, or anything else great and admirable, watching over food distribution is a very small job.

But Stephen didn't complain that the job was beneath his talents and abilities. He didn't insist on being given a role in the great work of the Apostles. He just took the small job he had been offered, and he served the Lord whole-heartedly in it.

Later in the book of Acts (Acts 7) we learn what came of Stephen's humility. His whole-hearted service of the Lord in food distribution attracted the attention, and the hatred, of those outside the growing Church; and they went after him. In the worst of circumstances, with his life at stake, he gave a powerful witness to the Lord he loved, and the surrounding crowd stoned him to death.

In his witness and his martyrdom, he was not small. He was glorious. His life and work for the Lord became part of Scripture itself, and for over two thousand years all Christians have honored and admired him.

And so his whole-hearted service of the Lord in the little job of food distribution, the job that was not worthy of being compared with the job of the Apostles, made Stephen a participant in the great work the Apostles did. In the witness of his death, he became a partner in the gospel-spreading of the Apostles and more than worthy of being in their company.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 21 #19 Fifth Sunday of Easter May 10, 2020

Schedule of Masses

Sun	May 10	8:00 am	SFD	No Service
		10:00 am	SP	For Parishioners
Tues	May 12	11:00 am	SP	For Parishioners
Wed	May 13	6:30 pm	SP	For Parishioners
Fri	May 15	12:00 pm	SP	For Parishioners
Sun	May 17	8:00 am	SFD	No Service
		10:00 am	SP	For Parishioners

Birthdays

May 12 Steve Pobst
Esther Speletich
May 14 Cody Taylor
May 15 Allen Irby
Ginger Endrizzi
May 17 Rose Lewis

Liturgical Ministry Schedule is suspended until public mass is resumed.

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING May 3, 2020

SP: Envelope \$1385.00 (18), Easter 80.00, Catholic Relief Services 200.00, Catholic Home Mission 120.00, Seminarian Education 60.00, Bld & Maint 130.00 **Total....\$1975.00**

SF: Envelopes \$350.00

Thank you to all who have faithfully continued your envelope contributions.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun May 10 St Paul Mass(private).....10:00 am
Mothers' Day Recognition

(Mass will be recorded and uploaded to Youtube by 2 pm)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh6kIQloQxLwZfOXW9DlqBQ>

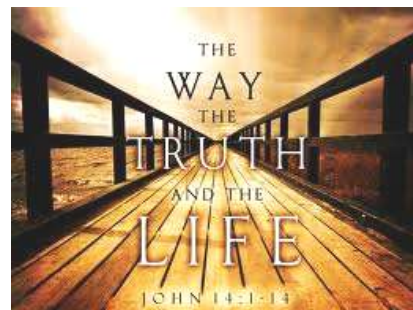
Tue May 12 Weekday mass SP.....11:00 am
R.C.I.A session.....5:00 pm

Wed May 13 Weekday Mass SP.....6:30 pm
Parish Council Zoom mt test run.....7:30 pm

Fri May 15 Weekday Mass SP.....12:00 pm

Sun May 17 St Paul Mass(private).....10:00 am
Seminarian Education Collection

While public gatherings are restricted, spiritual or physical needs may be assisted on an individual basis with proper precautions. Contact the parish office for any requests.



GOVERNMENTAL AND CHURCH DIRECTIVES According to most recent announcement of extending shelter in place through the end of May, public church services and large group meetings will not be permitted through the month of May.

MOTHERS' DAY RECOGNITION –**Blessings for a Mother and her Family**

Bless you and your family as you face each day, Leaping the hurdles life throws your way
Endurance, your strength, when you open your eyes, Smiles of love and warmth, easing their sighs.
Sunshine is what you bring to their lives, Instilling security and strong family ties. Nurturing,
Growing strong, keeping trouble at bay.

So bless you and your family as you face each day. A Book of Blessings and How to Write Your Own
by Ruth Burgess (Iona Community)

THEOLOGY OF BODY, title of the Christmas book presented to parishioners, may have a new life if you benefit from a free online virtual conference (over 73 recorded presentations of women, men, and clergy selectable by your choice at anytime before 11 pm Sunday) that is being offered worldwide May 8, beginning 11am central time through May 10, 11 pm. To register or for more information, <https://www.tobvirtualconference.com/free-registration>

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION COLLECTION to assist in for expenses of educating seminarians incurred by the diocese will be accepted on May 17th in our diocese.

VOCATION CORNER“A priest of my diocese once told me that God speaks in whispers, not in loud clashes. From a young age, I hear a quiet whisper from God to consider becoming a priest. Throughout my years of discernment, that quiet whisper never disappeared. There are many young people in the world today searching for God. Do all you can to help them to listen to his quiet whisper, most especially through your prayers.” Fr. Alan M Guanella - Columbia April 2017 issue

RESPECT LIFE CORNER- In Acts 16, we learn that Paul and Timothy had plans to preach the gospel message to the people of Asia, but they were prevented by the Holy Spirit from doing so. They surely wondered and were not told why. Still, it didn't prevent them from continuing their mission to proclaim the gospel message. They headed to other areas, Phrygia and Galatia. Their experiences remind us how during this time of uncertainty we are called to do what we can with what we are given. It is our job to “bloom where we are planted”-even if it feels as though we have been planted for a while! Learn, Act, Connect and Pray- To nurture our spiritual lives, consider adding a daily online Mass or an extra Mass to spend some extra time with our Lord. It will certainly elevate your at-home experience and is the ultimate form of “self- care.”

REMEMBER IN PRAYER **Bishop elect Michael McGovern.** He will be making a retreat in preparation for ordination June 8-12. If you would wish to send a note of welcome or support, his address is 40000 North US Hwy 45, Old Mill Creek, IL 60046

HISTORY QUIZ- Who are the oldest/youngest members of St Francis DeSales and St Paul? Robert Skaggs is currently the oldest member of St Francis DeSales. He inherited that honor last fall when Anna Haase, who was 98 yrs old, passed away. The oldest registered member of St Paul is Edlein Dillow at 102 yrs. Dolly Hopkins is the continuous longest (56 yrs) oldest (86 yrs) member of St Paul.

The youngest member of St Francis DeSales is Felix Cain, son of Chris and Megan Cain at 5 months. The youngest member of St Paul is Evelyn Bergmann at 1 yr, 2 mo.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-7; Psalm 33; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12

Promises are meaningless unless the assurances are followed by deeds. We've all known people who talk a good game but never produce results. We ourselves must admit to times of making commitments, only to default when payment was due. Today's readings challenge our commitment to Christ. Christianity is a way of life in which actions speak louder than words.

Luke, in the passage from Acts, offers an example of how the painful reality of discrimination can become the occasion for community growth. The discrimination resulted from the unfair distribution of food between the Hellenist widows and the Hebrew widows. The two groups were separated not only by language but also by cultural and religious differences. The apostles, with community approval, chose seven assistants to solve the problem.

The second reading opens with an invitation to come to the Lord, a living stone. The Christians are called "living stones." The community is a temple and, as such, is required to lead a life of service. The result of their holiness must not be their departure to a sacred place but their involvement in action. Verse 9 describes the royal and priestly status of Christians: "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people"

Maturity in faith is much more demanding than simply mouthing the words of our baptismal promises. To reject Satan, to believe in the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting -- these vows demand action. The gospel passage from John provides the course we are to follow: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6).

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

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Fifth Sunday of Easter – 10 May 2020

Acts 6:1-7. Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. 1 Peter 2:4-9. John 14:1-12.

Chosen, Royal, and Holy. Jesus tells the disciples during the Last Supper that they know the way – to God, to new life, to heaven. This astonishing resurrected life, given us in Baptism, makes us chosen, royal, and holy people. We know, because of Jesus, the way to be all three.

- ◆ What mercy work will I do this week that fosters God's loving-kindness?
- ◆ How will this mercy activity make me more the royal and worthy person I am?
- ◆ How will I be holy?

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURES Sixth Sunday of Easter – 17 May 2020

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17. Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20. 1 Peter 3:15-18. John 14:15-21