



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

Loving the Lord and Keeping Your Conscience Clear - The Second Reading commands Christians to keep their conscience clear. But this commandment is hard to hear, isn't it? If we are honest with ourselves, we know how unclear our consciences are.

Of course, we might think confusedly, we do not need to be too worried about our unclear consciences, because, after all, no one is saved by doing good works or keeping one's conscience clear. Our contribution to our salvation is not to try to do the works of the law. Our contribution to our salvation is just to love the Lord.

The first and great commandment is to love the Lord.

And this thought might be comforting to us when our unclear conscience hurts us, except for this uncomfortable, nagging question: what is love of the Lord?

In the Gospel Reading, the Lord himself explains the answer to this question: "Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me."

And now, unfortunately, we have come full circle. Christians are commanded to keep their consciences clear. To do so, they need to love the Lord. To love the Lord they need to keep his commandments. And to keep his commandments they apparently need to keep their consciences clear. What sense can be made of this?

Here it helps to consider Peter himself, who is the author of the Second Reading. Peter betrayed the Lord in the Lord's great hour of need. Is this keeping one's conscience clear? Is this keeping the commandments of the Lord?

But when, in the days after his Resurrection, the Lord asks Peter, "do you love me?" what does Peter answer? He says, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you."

In spite of his betrayal of the Lord, Peter does not let go of Christ. He is willing to affirm his commitment to Christ in spite of his own failings.

So here is the thing to notice. In saying that he loves Christ, Peter is keeping the commandment of the Lord. The first and great commandment is to love the Lord.

And this is why Peter, the rock on which the church is founded, is the pattern for all Christians. The way to keep one's conscience clear is to cleave to the Lord in love when one's conscience is not clear.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 21 #20 Sixth Sunday of Easter May 17, 2020

Schedule of Masses

Sun	May 17	8:00 am	SFD	No Service
		10:00 am	SP	For Parishioners
Tues	May 19	11:00 am	SP	Fr Don Blaes
Wed	May 20	5:30 pm	SP	For Parishioners
Fri	May 22	12:00 pm	SP	For Parishioners
Sun	May 24	8:00 am	SFD	No Service
		10:00 am	SP	For Parishioners

Birthdays
May 17 Rose Lewis

Liturgical Ministry Schedule is suspended until public mass is resumed.

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING May 10, 2020

SP: Envelope \$1210.00 (11), Seminarian Education 25.00, Bld & Maint 45.00 **Total...\$1280.00**

SF: No report

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

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

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

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

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

Tue May 19 Weekday mass SP.....11:00 am

R.C.I.A session.....5:00 pm

Wed May 20 Weekday Mass SP.....5:30 pm

Parish Council Mt.....6:00 pm

Fri May 22 Weekday Mass SP.....12:00 pm

Sun May 24 St Paul Mass(private).....10:00 am

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 Updated directives from the Province and diocese make provision for celebrating Baptism, Marriage, Reconciliation, funeral services and Eucharistic Adoration after confirmation of training of ministers. Gathering in large numbers will be conditioned by assurances that the safety of all people can be provided for. The detailed directives can be viewed on the parish website or at diobelle.org

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

LENTEN RICE BOWL Though the Lenten season seemed sidetracked by the shelter-in-place directives, it also seems to have affected the Rice Bowl Appeal. Some returns have been made, but if you are still holding onto your Rice Bowl, please turn it in (drop it off at the office or give Fr Tom a call for pick-up).

PARISH COUNCIL will have outdoor meeting with social distancing this Wednesday, 6 pm at St Paul. Agenda and minutes will be mailed and e-mailed.

THANK YOU....to ladies of St Paul who operated the Faith Alive Thrift Store this week.

CATHOLIC SERVICES AND MINISTRY APPEAL Thank you to the 23 households who have already pledged to support the mission of the Church to teach, preach, minister and serve in the name of Jesus through their financial support of the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. So far (18) \$2774.00 has been pledged of SP goal of \$4430.00 and(5) \$500 of SF goal of \$918.00. If you have not yet responded, please make every effort to do so. Additional pledge envelopes are in the church entrance. You may also make an online pledge at diobelle.org under Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal.

VOCATION CORNER“When I began to seriously consider entering the seminary during my first year in college at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, I remember being a little afraid of what the seminary would be like. Would the men be normal? Did entering the seminary mean that I would necessarily become a priest? Now after having been in the seminary seven years, I can say what a blessing it has been. Being together with men who desire to serve Christ and His Church is edifying, and the opportunities it has given me for experiencing the national and universal Catholic Church have been irreplaceable. Whether or not seminary ends in a man’s ordination to the priesthood - - there is always the freedom to discern that God has a different call for him - - being in seminary teaches him how to be a good Catholic man.” (As submitted by Father Tobias Letak, ordained to the Priesthood on June 4, 2016 at St. Cecilia’s Cathedral in Omaha, NE.)

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
Also remember **Fr Don Blaes**, retired priest of the diocese who died on Thursday.

HISTORY QUIZ- How many parishes were the pastors who served St Francis DeSales and St Paul during 1930-1945 caring for? Five (St Joseph, Equality; St Francis DeSales, Stonefort; St John, New Burnside; St Paul, Vienna; St Rose, Metropolis.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8,14-17; Psalm 66; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21

Christianity is more than Sunday Mass and an envelope for the collection basket. The follower of Jesus is present to the world in many ways other than just on Sunday morning. Today's readings broaden our vision about Christian presence.

In Acts, Luke speaks of Christianity's spread from the confines of Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria. The Samaritans accepted the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures and believed in a messiah, but they were nonetheless regarded as non-Jews. Luke has Philip proclaim the Messiah and perform miracles for these outsiders. Since missionary expansion must be rooted in the mother church of Jerusalem, Peter and John incorporate the Samaritans into that community by conferring the Holy Spirit. For Luke, such missionary activity is a dramatic example of Christian presence.

The author of First Peter takes up the issue of persecution. Christians may at times have to suffer for the presence they seek to establish. If suffering is the price, then the persecutors will be ashamed because the good deeds of Jesus' followers are so clear. Gentleness and respect, not brute force, are the Christian response. Jesus is the ultimate example of the just suffering for the unjust; his death means for us a new relationship with God.

John brings up the logical question: What is our relationship with Jesus once he has returned to the Father? The answer is equally logical: Keeping Jesus' commands binds the believer to him. The Spirit also sustains Christ's presence; the Paraclete is not only with but also within the disciple. The believer must release the Spirit so that consolation, teaching, and witnessing will occur.

All of us are missionaries. Each day we meet those who need to hear good news about themselves and their basic human dignity. When we bring consolation, teaching, and direction then we are releasers of the Spirit. The exercise of our God-given gifts and talents creates an infinite variety of Christian presence around the world.

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

Copyright 1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

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.

Not Orphaned! Because the risen Lord and the Spirit of Truth are always with us, we are not abandoned. Because we are not abandoned, we must exhibit both love and obedience. Saint Peter proclaims in the Second Reading, “Always be ready to give an explanation...for the reason of your hope.” Act accordingly.

- ◆ How will my every action proclaim Christ’s presence in my life and in the life of the world?
- ◆ How can I advocate, aid another’s need this week?
- ◆ Whom will I love, how will I love as Jesus Christ loves me?

The Ascension of the Lord – Sunday 24 May 2020

Acts 1:1-11. Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9. Ephesians 1:17-23. Matthew 28:16-20.