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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
Parish Council Chair: Steve Pobst
Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

Sundays – 10:00 am
Weekdays – Tue 11 am, Wed
6:30 pm & Friday, 12 pm

Speaking in parables In the Gospel Reading, Christ explains why he speaks to the crowds in parables. The knowledge of these things has been granted to you, Christ tells his disciples, but it hasn't been granted to the people in the crowds.

But if God can give the gift of knowledge, why wouldn't he give it to everyone? Why would a loving God hide knowledge from some people?

To those who come to Christ ready to receive him and willing to be counted as his disciples, he can give the gift of knowledge straightforwardly.

To see the answer, think about gifts. If you give a gift to someone you love, then what you give is intended to do that person good. It isn't a gift if what you are giving will harm him or hurt him, and you know that it will.

But knowledge can hurt rather than help if the recipient isn't ready to receive it. Good counselors are skilled in knowing the times when their clients are able to bear some knowledge, some insight into their situation and themselves. Till their clients are ready, good counselors hesitate to impart such insight for fear of making their clients more stressed or more troubled, rather than more healed and grounded. To force knowledge on a person not ready for it is stupid or cruel or both. It isn't loving.

And that is why Christ speaks in parables. Among those who come to him, there are some people who want to hear him but are not willing to be counted among his disciples, at least not yet. Christ's parables offers those people what they can receive, given that they are not yet ready to receive him. They can learn something from the parables even so.

But to those who come to Christ ready to receive him and willing to be counted as his disciples, he can give the gift of knowledge straightforwardly. In receiving him, those people are also ready to receive the knowledge Christ can give.

And here it is worth noticing that Christ speaks in parables to everybody who comes to him. But some people care enough about him and his words to want more than they can get from those parables alone. They take him as their teacher and want to learn from him. That is why they come to him to ask him to explain the parables he was telling them as well as all the others. The people who want more understanding are the people who count as his disciples.

As Christ says, to them who have more, more will be given because they want more.

Eleonore Stump

Schedule of Masses

Sun	July 12	10:00 am	SP	David Hannan
Tues	July 14	11:00 am	SP	No Mass
Wed	July 15	6:30 pm	SP	No Mass
Fri	July 17	12:00 pm	SP	No Mass
Sun	July 19	10:00 am	SP	Caryn Zmuda

Birthdays

Jul 13	Theo Widowski Zach Kolb
Jul 14	Joseph Bowers Cathy Kruep
Jul 15	Edna Goddard

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

St Paul..... July 12 – Lector: Madonna Slife **July 19 – Lector:** tba

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING July 5, 2020

SP: Envelope \$ 1145.00 (16), Loose 20.00, Peter’s Pence 15.00,
Total....\$1180.00

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

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun July 12 St Paul Mass10:00 am
125th Anniversary & Liturgy Committee Mt..11 am
(Mass will be recorded and uploaded to Youtube by 5 pm)
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh6kIQloQxLwZfOXW9DlqBQ>
No weekday Masses
For non-standing reservations at July 19 mass, contact
Cathy Kruep 618-304-4841 (message or text)

Sun July 19 St Paul Mass10:00 am
Welcome Msgr Joseph Lawler, mass celebrant

Remember in Prayer the sick and hospitalized and recovering.
Msgr Ken Schaefer, pastor of OLMC, Herrin who is on hospice.
Liam Lynch, brother of Harry & Xenia Gruszczyk’s inlaw who
passed away suddenly last week.



COMBINED 125TH ANNIVERSARY AND LITURGY COMMITTEES will meet on July 12, 11 am following the Sunday Mass. Plans for the Sept 13, 2 pm Mass and dinner will be undertaken.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF BISHOP McGOVERN will be held July 22, 2 pm at the Cathedral in Belleville. Because of Covid-19 restrictions, seating will be limited. Zach Garrett and Craig Levesque will be our parish representatives. The mass will also be broadcast live on EWTN television or on web at <https://www.ewtn.com/> A personal welcome card from St Paul Parishioners is in church foyer this weekend for people to sign that will be sent to him.

LAKE GLENDALE PARISH PICNIC is planned for Sat, July 25, beginning 11 am at Pine Point Picnic Area (East of Swimming beach). Lunch at 12 noon with Hot dogs, sausage, chips and water. Other foods welcome. Optional activities include swimming, boating, fishing, hiking and socializing. Please notify Cathy Kruep (618-304-4841) message or text by July 22 with number of participants (see insert flyer)

FR BARRETT will be out of town July 13-23. If there is an emergency need of priest, contact 618-759-1707 or surrounding pastors. Msgr Joe Lawler will be celebrant for Mass Sun, July 19, 10 am

MISPLACED FLOWER VASE IN WHITE CAR If you found a vase in the back seat of your white car, it was accidentally put in the wrong vehicle. It can be left in the foyer.

COVID 19 REQUIREMENTS Illinois Phase 4 directives don't change church gatherings, since exception had been granted earlier for 50 or fewer people to gather indoors with proper social distancing. Reservations for Sunday are still required to assure no more than maximum limit is permitted, but also to implement contact notification in case of exposure to a positive case. Standing reservations may be made at the church office for those intending to participate weekly in mass.

VOCATION CORNER When I was 8, I penned a rhyme that listed 12 things I liked. Reading it as an adult, I was delighted that "people" had made the list - and disappointed that "ice cream" had not. The verse ended, "I like God the best." Even then, the Lord was inviting me to be exclusively his own.

•I was grateful to my family for giving me the gift of faith. After graduating from college, I served the Church full time for 11 years. I thought I had found my mission to active ministry..." But gradually, in the quiet intimacy of adoring Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, he revealed the difference between doing God's work and fulfilling his will. Gently, he invited me to embrace a contemplative vocation. "

Sr. John Mark Maria of St. Peter the Apostle; Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration, Tonopab,AZ. Columbia Dec. 2019

HOPE UNLIMITED VIRTUAL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN The annual Baby Bottle collection from Mothers Day to Fathers Day wasn't permitted this year. In its place a Virtual Baby Bottle Campaign is initiated to sustain operation of Hope Unlimited in Metropolis and Paducah providing pregnancy care and family support. They are requesting \$30 donation. You may text 'Bottle' to 270-398-9995 or donate on line at www.hopeunlimitedfec.org or mail check to Hope Unlimited, 1101 Jefferson St, Paducah, KY 42001.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 65; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23

We may prefer to speak of our God as omnipotent. We may focus on titles such as Creator and Redeemer. But have we ever considered ourselves as the daughters and sons of God the Farmer? Today's readings speak of the divine farmer. This image challenges us to exhibit the qualities of fidelity, involvement, and perseverance. This God is concerned and interested.

Concluding his message of consolation to the despairing exiles, Second Isaiah takes up the theme of God's Word again. To demonstrate the fidelity of God, the author describes God as a farmer, the giver of fertility. God sends the rain and the snow from the heavens. Thereafter they reach back to the heavens in the form of bushes, trees, and crops. This God is faithful even in the face of Israel's infidelity.

Psalm 65 presents three images of the God of Israel. God is the God of Zion, the one who resides in the Jerusalem Temple. God is the Lord of the universe and history. Finally God is the Farmer. The valleys decked with grain eloquently testify to the concern of this farmer for the day to day needs of the people.

The parable in today's gospel suggests a period in the ministry of Jesus when he meets with lack of response. The impasse raises the question of loss and gain in the kingdom. Jesus adopts the stance of the farmer: In sowing there will be failure and loss. Jesus offers three stages of loss: immediate (the footpath), the gradual (the rocky ground), and ultimate (the thorns). He offers three stages of growth: a hundred-, sixty-, or thirty-fold. Jesus perseveres in accomplishing his mission.

God is faithful, challenging our fidelity. God does not hesitate to become involved, motivating our willingness to invest. God perseveres even in the face of significant loss. Do we persevere in faith by not dwelling on our mistakes?

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

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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 12 July 2020

Isaiah 55:10-11. Psalm 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14. Romans 8:18-23. Matthew 13:1-23.

Bearing Fruit. The plantings in our gardens weeks ago are already bearing fruit. We have vegetables aplenty (we hope), enough to share (we are urged). All because of the goodness and bounty of God.

- How is my life rooted in “rich soil”, tilled and nourished by God?
- What are the “fruits” of my life, of my very self that I can share?
- How can I nourish life (God’s goodness) in my family, in my neighborhood, in my place at work?

Next Sunday Readings: Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19 July 2020

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19. Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16. Romans 8:26-27. Matthew 13:24-43.