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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

THE ROCK OF THE CHURCH In the Gospel Reading, Christ tells Peter that the rock on which he will found his church is exactly, Peter. The gates of hell will not prevail against him or against the church which is built on this rock. This seems a deeply comforting thought.

The Church is not a collection of the sinless, and it was not meant to be.

The problem is that it so often looks as if the gates of hell have prevailed against Christ's church. The problem actually begins with Peter. The apostle who is the rock of the Church betrayed the Lord he loved in Jesus' worst need. A betrayal like that seems to have something hellish about it, doesn't it?

In fact, wasn't Peter's betrayal of Christ just like the betrayal of Judas? But the Gospels say that Satan entered into Judas before Judas betrayed Christ (John 13:27). There is something hellish about the betrayal of Judas, then. Why not think that the gates of hell prevailed against Peter too?

What is left of that deeply comforting thought about Christ's Church and the rock that it is founded on being safe from Hell?

But there is a difference between Judas and Peter. It is not that Peter repented and Judas didn't. The Gospels say that Judas repented, too (Matthew 27:3). Rather, the difference is this. When Judas saw the sin of his betrayal for what it was, he killed himself. He threw himself away as irredeemable. Peter came back to Christ. He cleaved to the Lord he loved even in the face of his own brokenness.

And that is why Peter is the rock on which the Church is founded. The Church is not a collection of the sinless, and it was not meant to be. The Church was founded on Peter, who loved, and sinned, and held on to the Lord anyway.

The gates of Hell cannot prevail against this kind of love. This is a deeply comforting thought.

Eleonore Stump

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Aug 23	10:00 am	SP	Butch Balchunas
Tues	Aug 25	11:00 am	SP	General Intention
Wed	Aug 26	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Aug 28	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Aug 30	10:00 am	SP	Charles Hupe

Birthdays

Aug 23 Michael McMahan
Aug 24 Amanda Zmuda
Aug 27 Michael Retz

Liturgical Ministry Schedule - Lector

St Paul..... Aug 23: Mitch Miller **Aug 30:** Joe Nelson

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING August 16, 2020

SP: Envelope \$ 900.00 (16), Loose 78.00, Mass 20.00, Assumption HD 140.00, Bld & Maint 60.00

Total....\$1198.00

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

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Aug 23 St Paul Mass10:00 am

125th Anniversary Committee Mt.....11:00 am

(Recorded Mass available on facebook or St Paul Youtube channel by 4pm)

Tue Aug 25 Weekday Mass.....11:00 am

Baptism Preparation..... 6:00 pm

Wed Aug 26 Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm

Fri Aug 28 Weekday Mass.....12 pm

For non-standing reservations at Aug 30 mass, contact
the rectory by phone or e-mail

Sun Aug 30 St Paul Mass10:00 am

Remember in Prayer: All who are hospitalized and ill. Those asked to be remembered in prayer.

If anyone has been unable to attend mass and desires to receive communion, please contact Fr Tom for an arrangement



125TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING COMMITTEE MT will be held in the hall following Mass this Sunday, August 23. Final review of plans for Sept 13 mass and reception.

DRAWDOWN TICKETS The Drawdown fund raiser for Oct 10 will be modified this year to be held without a physical gathering for meal and drawing. There will be no baskets, but gift certificates and merchandise certificate are requested as prizes. A drawing will be aired over social media and prizes will be readily deliverable by pick-up and mail. Other aspects will remain the same with \$4,000 grand prize, 10 \$100 drawings and a prize for every participant. Tickets that may be shared with up to ten people will be \$100 and are available after mass this weekend, or from Madonna Slife, Dolly Hopkins, Steve & Peggy Widowski, and Joe & Marsha Nelson.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – CCW MT MINUTES are available for pick up in the church foyer this weekend..

SAVE THE DATE – 125TH MASS AND RECEPTION On Sept 13, 2 pm a mass with Bishop McGovern will be celebrated at St Paul. A reception with light refreshments, slide show, bookmark, historical displays, and availability of History Book will follow mass. Beside parishioners, former pastors, staff, parishioners and families will be welcomed. Due to Covid 19 requirements, we will be asking for reservations. Please pass word onto anyone you think might be interested. A reservation sheet is posted for parishioners on the bulletin board or you may call or e-mail the rectory. History books will go on sale beginning August 30th (\$5.00 per book)

AED POLICY Once the AED is installed in church, the assumption will be that anyone who suffers a heart attack will be resuscitated if possible. If anyone desires not to be resuscitated, you're asked to provide a written notice to that effect and return it to the parish office where the Wellness Committee will keep it on file to honor your wishes.

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. Individual Sunday or Standing reservations may be made at the church office for those intending to participate weekly in mass.

ANNUAL ADULT CHILD PROTECTION REFRESHER COURSE for 2020-21 is now available at <https://safeandsacred-diobelle.org> Anyone with regular contact with children in ministry who seeks to be certified may now participate in the initial Child Protection training online. Please contact Fr Tom for details.

SAVE THE DATE – Photography for new pictorial directory will be Oct 27, 28, & 29, 2-9 pm at St Paul Parish Center. Schedule for appointments will be held in Sept.

VOCATION CORNER – Jesus asks His apostles today about what his vocation is, and Simon Peter points to Him as Lord. His vocation isn't an occupation. It isn't what keeps him busy or what He does day-to-day but it's about who He *is*. In the same way we are called, not simply to have careers or to occupy our days, but to be saints in our vocation for others. “

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:15,19-23; Psalm 138; Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20

Today's readings remind us that power exists for the good of the powerless.

The first reading contrasts the use and abuse of power. In the eighth century B.C., Isaiah is sent to inform Shebna, the prime minister, of his removal from office. Shebna has been a "disgrace to [his] master's house" (Isaiah 22:18). The prophet also speaks of Eliakim, one truly worthy of authority. Eliakim will discharge the duties of office as a "father" and will support King Hezekiah and his kingdom by paternal service.

Psalm 138 praises God for living up to God's name and covenant loyalty. "On the day I called, you answered me" (Psalm 138:3) captures this divine commitment. The most high Yahweh responds to the needs of the lowly.

Matthew combines the scene of Peter's confession with a post-Resurrection appearance of Jesus to Peter. The Lord calls Peter blessed because he perceives that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Because this faith comes from God, Jesus confers the grace of leadership on Peter. This impetuous disciple will be "Rock", an unshakable foundation for the Church (see Matthew 7:24-27). The keys (as in Isaiah) suggest power, the power of one who will focus not on self but on community.

All of us exercise some kind of power. Are we more Shebna or Eliakim? Are we intent upon making our power felt or making our power a service? Isaiah, the psalmist, and Matthew agree that to be in charge means to protect our charges.

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

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Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 23 August 2020

Isaiah 22:19-23. Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8. Romans 11:33-36. Matthew 16:13-20.

My Experience. Jesus asks today: Who am I? Peter blurts out: The Christ. In that response, he means the Messiah, the Promised One, the Son of God, the One who saves, redeems, and binds us to God. Quite a mouthful. Profound belief. He is the very foundation of the Church, the People of God.

- What is my experience of Jesus? He is....
- How does my experience bind me to all who believe in him?
- Since I am called to be like him, whom will I save in some small way today?

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 30 August 2020

Jeremiah 20:7-9. Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9. Romans 12:1-2. Matthew 16:21-27.