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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 – 8:00 am, 10:00 am
Weekdays – Tue 11 am, Wed
6:30 pm & Friday, 12 pm

Entering the Kingdom of Heaven The parable in the Gospel Reading, Jesus says, is about entering the kingdom of heaven. In the parable, a father says to one of his sons, “go to work in my vineyard, Son!”; and that son says, “NO!” Then the father says to his other son, “go to work in my vineyard, Son!” And that son says, “YES!”

Which of these sons is the good son? Which one enters the kingdom of heaven? You might sensibly enough think that it is the son who says “yes” to his father.

It is the NO-saying son who actually goes to work in his father’s vineyard.

After all, what could be worse than saying “NO!” to God the father? NO-sayers could be pleasing to God? Who would suppose that they could enter the kingdom of heaven?

And so it seems clear that the YES-sayers are the ones who will enter the kingdom of heaven and those wretched NO-sayers will wind up in the other place.

But this is not what Jesus says. He says that the NO-saying son is the one who did the will of his father. He is the one who entered the kingdom of heaven, and not the YES-saying son.

Why would Jesus say this?

Well, the son who says “YES” to his father doesn’t actually do what his father wants him to do. It is the NO-saying son who actually goes to work in his father’s vineyard.

And so here is the thing for us to notice. What the NO-saying son says is contrary to God’s will. But what he does is in accordance with it.

It is just the other way around with the YES-saying son. The words of the YES-saying son are obedient to God’s will, but his life is lived in opposition to it.

The words of the YES-saying son are empty. His life, not his words, tell the real truth about his relationship to his father. The truth is that the YES-saying son rejects God’s will, however much acceptance there is in his words.

And so the Psalm gives us the right prayer to go with this parable: “Lord, teach us your ways!” Our ways need to be God’s ways. It is good if our words say YES to God. But what is crucial is that our lives say YES to God. Unless they do, our words are worthless.

Eleonore Stump

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Sept 27	8:00am	SP	Ken Dennison
		10:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners
Tues	Sept 29	11:00 am	SP	General Intention
Wed	Sept 30	5:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Oct 2	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sat	Oct 3	8:30 am	SP	Reparation of Sin
Sun	Oct 4	8:00am	SP	For the Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Delmar Schwartz

Birthdays

Sept 28	Midge Bigler
Sept 29	Tracey Johnson
Sept 30	Frank Tesina
Oct 1	Sabra Moore

Liturgical Ministry Schedule - Lector

St Paul.....	Sept 27 8 am	Mitch Miller	Oct 4, 8 am	Joe Nelson
	10 am	Steve Pobst	10 am	tba

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Sept 20, 2020

SP: Envelope \$ 1006.00 (19), Loose 26.00, Dio Priest Retirement 70.00 Bld & Maint 45.00
 History books 5.00 Funeral & Mass stipends \$140.00 **Total....\$1292.00**

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

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Sept 27	Sunday Mass at SP.....	8:00 am
	St Paul CCW Ladies Mt.....	9:15 am
	Sunday Mass at SP.....	10:00 am
	Parish School of Religion.....	11:00 am

(Recorded Mass available on facebook, St Paul Youtube channel by 5 pm)

Tue Sept 29	Weekday Mass.....	11:00 am
Wed Sept30	Weekday Mass.....	6:30 pm
Fri Oct 2	Weekday Mass.....	12 pm
Sat Oct 3	First Saturday Mass & Devotion.....	8:30 am

For reservations at Oct 4 masses, contact
 the rectory by phone or e-mail

Sun Oct 4	Sunday Mass at SP.....	8:00 am
	First Sunday Social.....	after mass
	Rosary 20 min before Sunday mass in October	
	Sunday Mass at SP.....	10:00 am
	Concluding day for Stonefort Pantry Food Collection	
	Parish School of Religion.....	11:00 am

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



ST PAUL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN MT will be held in the parish hall at 9:15 am following this Sunday's mass. Business items include Drawdown, Diocesan BDCCW Conference (by way of internet), Box of Joy Project, and collection of service hours. A collection will be taken after mass for the support of their ministries.

FOOD COLLECTION FOR THE STONEFORT FOOD PANTRY will be collected during the month of September. Items may be placed in the tub in church foyer. Last date will be Oct 4th.

DRAWDOWN TICKETS The Drawdown fund raiser for Oct 10 has been modified this year to be held without a physical gathering for meal. Tickets that may be shared with up to ten people are \$100 and are available after mass, or from Dolly Hopkins, Steve & Peggy Widowski, and Joe & Marsha Nelson. Gift cards are needed for prizes to replace baskets and should be given to Peggy Widowski. Ticket proceeds can be turned in to Steve Widowski. Gift card check list on bulletin board.

BOX OF JOY Children and families are encouraged to participate in a service project titled Box of Joy. Items for children in the third world are being collected for shipment by Nov 7th to be delivered at Christmas. Beth Palmer will coordinate collection of items donated by children. See suggested items list on bulletin board.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE Subject to review, both 8 am and 10 am Sunday mass is being offered at St Paul to accommodate all who wish to attend mass. Additional helpers with liturgical ministries and Covid-19 procedures (hand sanitizing, seating, disinfecting church after each service) are needed. You are encouraged to volunteer on bulletin board.

CPR AND AED TRAINING Thursday, October 15 from 5-7 PM has been set for the CPR/AED training class for the Parish. There is no fee for the class unless you want a certification card from the American Heart Association (AHA). The certification card requires a fee of \$20 to the AHA. Those who want the card will have to remain approx. 20 minutes after the class to complete a check list for the card. To ask questions on the class or register, please contact Peggy Widowski (618-771-2077).

BDCCW VIRTUAL CONVENTION Due to restrictions of large group gatherings, the Annual BDCCW Conference will be virtual on the internet. Presentations including prayer service, educational presentation on BDCCW/NCCW, message from Spiritual Moderator, presentation on Catholic meditation, a commercial for Box of Joy service project, and a live streamed mass with Bishop McGovern. All presentations will be recorded and made available for access beginning Oct 14 at <https://dps.diobelle.org/2020-convention-info>

REMEMBER IN PRAYER **Kenneth Speletich**, husband of Esther of St Paul who died Sept 22. A private funeral service was held.

VOCATION CORNER Priesthood Sunday, Sept. 27, 2020, is a special day set aside to honor priesthood in the United States. It is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the Church as a central one. Catholics are invited to observe Vatican-backed worldwide events, namely, World Day of Prayer for Vocations and World Day for Consecrated Life. In the United States, we also have National Vocation Awareness Week and National Catholic Sisters Week. Priesthood Sunday, however, specifically honors priests, without whom the Holy Sacraments could not be conferred, for a single day out of the 365 days of the year during which they tirelessly serve their parishes.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 18:25-28; Psalm 25; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32

Good intentions don't always translate into promises fulfilled. Determination to do our best on the job and actual job performance may be two different measures. Vows taken to love and cherish spouse and family will sound hollow if selfishness is a daily pattern. How can discrimination be practiced by one claiming to be free of all prejudice? Today's readings illustrate the strain between intention and performance.

Ezekiel faced a despondent exiled community in the aftermath of the destruction of Jerusalem, around 585 B.C. The people argued that they were not responsible for the catastrophe. Why should they incur the guilt of their forefathers? "The way of the Lord is unfair" (vs. 25) was their lament. The prophet reminded his listeners that they too had been unfaithful.

Paul reminds the Philippian community that Christ is the model of service and love. Jesus is authentic humanity, an example to us all by his self-emptying. We imitate this model by replacing rivalry and deceit with unity in spirit and ideals.

The tension between saying and doing is a favorite theme in Matthew. The tax collectors and prostitutes had reacted positively to the message of John the Baptist while the Jewish leadership did not. The talkers but nondoers were the Jewish community, while the nontalkers but doers were the Gentiles.

Modern believers are called upon to discover those areas where they promise a specific course of action: marriage vows, business contracts, oaths of office. We know when we are keeping to our word in these obvious matters.

But other external actions should also be considered -- the sign of peace at Mass is an example. How does our sign of peace motivate us upon leaving the church? Our everyday handshake expresses a regard and concern for others. How do we respond to gossip or slander about these persons? Do we focus on the good in those people because we have already extended the sign of friendship? Doing is the name of the game.

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

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Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 27 September 2020

Ezekiel 18:25-28. Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9. Philippians 2:1-11. Matthew 21:28-32.

I Don't Want To! Sometimes we bristle at being told what to do. We may say a yes or a no, then do something else. The demands of Christian living are not easy. But we look to Jesus for guidance, for encouragement, for example. Reread Philippians all week. It is a longer version of what we heard on Palm Sunday. It urges us to be like Christ.

- What attitude-adjustment do I need to be more like Christ?
- What will I do to be more compassionate and merciful?
- What interest of another will be important to me this week?

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 4 October 2020

Isaiah 5:1-7. Psalm 80. Philippians 4:6-9. Matthew 21:33-43.