



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
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

The Wedding Banquet

The kingdom has been prepared, and it is coming. Jesus likened it to a wedding banquet to which the invited guests are summoned.

Of course, there are some who refuse to come. They prefer to remain mired in their oppressive attitudes, their discriminatory relationships with others, their violent approach to solving social problems. They prefer revenge to forgiveness. They prefer the superiority of some to the equality of all. They see victimization and blame the victims. They are the invited guests who are unfit to come.

There are those others, however, whose love for God expresses itself in eagerness to do good for others. They are the ones who “live in the house of the Lord,” preferring love, forgiveness and equality. They will welcome the coming of the kingdom with the cry: “let us rejoice and be glad that God has saved us!”

Christians cannot yearn for anything more ardently than to serve the men of the modern world ever more generously and effectively.

Therefore, holding faithfully to the gospel and benefiting from its resources, and united with every man who loves and practices justice, Christians have shouldered a gigantic task demanding fulfillment in this world.

Concerning this task they must give a reckoning to him who will judge every [person] on the last day.

Vatican II, Constitution on the Church
in the Modern World, 1965: paragraph 93

Gerald Darring

COMMUNAL ROSARY will be offered 20 minutes before Sunday masses during the month of October. Leaders are encouraged to sign up for a particular Sunday. Guide sheets with the mysteries are available in the church foyer. We remember Respect Life in October.

BOX OF JOY season is fast approaching and is inviting our church family to participate in the Box of Joy Ministry. It is to benefit the poorest of the poor in developing countries. In 2019, over 75,000 children in five countries received a Box of Joy. There is information in the foyer and if you have any questions you can call Beth Palmer at 618-771-6711

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE. 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 sheet by liturgical aids.

DRAWDOWN FUNDRAISER Thank you to Madonna Slife who coordinated the project, to all who made or obtained gift certificates or donations for prizes, and all who sold or purchased tickets. Grand prize winners will be included next week.

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>

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).

COLLECTION OF UNUSED RELIGIOUS ARTICLES St. Mary Mission in Lancaster, PA would like to collect your old religious articles to pass on to needy parishes and missions. They will take just about any religious item even if they are broken because their staff can repair many of them. So bring your rosaries, statues, crucifixes, paintings, Holy Cards, rosary cases/boxes, medals, altar ware, etc. by Oct 19 to the hall prayer room. **IMPORTANT: Unless it is a prayer book, PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANY BOOKS OR HYMNALS!** This is your best opportunity to get rid of religious clutter in your home while helping the needy faithful who will appreciate them very much.

HALLOWEEN PARTY The social committee is planning an outdoor Hot Dog Roast, Costume Contest, coloring activity, and Trunk 'n Treat at St Paul on Sat, Oct 24th, beginning 5:30 pm. A sign-up sheet is on the church bulletin board to determine supplies.

FAITH ALIVE THRIFT STORE will be operated by St Paul parish Oct 29,30, 9am-3 pm and Oct 31, 9am-12 noon. Volunteers are needed. If you can assist, see schedule on Bulletin board in church foyer.

MASS OF HOPE AND HEALING October 18, 2020 5 pm at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Fairview Heights will be offered by Bishop Michael McGovern, celebrant and homilist as well as the Project Rachel Ministry priests. This Mass is being offered for parents who have lost a child for any reason. It is a chance to pray in faith for your loved one with the Bishop and priests immediately after Mass. This Mass also marks Project Rachel Ministry in our diocese, a vital ministry to help those spiritually who suffered an abortion loss. Holy Trinity is handling the reservations online, You may also email me at wfink@diobelle.org with the number in your party.

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 25:6-10; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:12-14,19-20; Matthew 22:1-14

At those times when we most need others, we are often tempted to shut ourselves away in isolation. Pain causes us to erect barriers. We imagine distance to be safety. We may even portray God like this -- as aloof and apathetic as we are. The Scriptures we review here speak of a God who refuses to be left alone. This God nourishes and seats people at the table so that union becomes communion. Banquets and parties express this God's love.

The Isaiah passage, written perhaps in the fourth century B.C., reflects a period of confusion. Yahweh is shown to be a participant in the chaotic world of Israel. Paradoxically, God enters into the community's grief by giving a banquet! Yahweh defeats death and mourning, tears are wiped away in singing.

In the gospel, Jesus portrays God as a king who gives a wedding banquet for his son. Matthew develops the parable to create a view of God's involvement with people. The servants who urged the invited to come to the celebration are the prophets, the second group are Christian missionaries to the Jews. The Gentiles, brought in from outside the city, are worthy of the kingdom. The God of the Jews is the God of the Gentiles as well. The wedding feast symbolizes God's union and communion with all.

Parties force us to think of relationships and so are an apt image for Christian involvement. The atmosphere of festivity recalls the essential nature of community. Whom do we invite to the party? Today's readings suggest we are called to invite those who are in tears, those who are afflicted, those outside the walls.

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

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Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 11 October 2020

Isaiah 25:6-10a. Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6. Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20. Matthew 22:1-14.

Don't Kill the Messenger. We have another Kingdom of God/Heaven parable today. It is about being gracious and prepared. Who, in a right mind, would snub a gracious invitation to a feast? Who, in a right mind, would kill the messenger? It happened to Jesus. We should not be surprised when it happens to us in little or big ways. Still, we must announce: "Come to the feast, come to the Kingdom." The required wedding garment in this gospel feast reminds us, who live in this Kingdom of God, to always imagine we wear our baptismal cloths; and, thus, always remember to act as faithful disciples.

- What Good News will I proclaim this week?
- What good deed will I do?
- Whom will I invite to do some baptism-inspired activity with me?

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 18 October 2020

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6. Psalm 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10. 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b. Matthew 22:15-21.