



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

Wandering Off In this Reading from Isaiah the prophet is longing for the love of God. But what he finds instead is what he cannot bear: God angry, God gone.

The experience the prophet gives voice to is familiar to all of us. God is angry and has hidden his face; he is somewhere above the heavens, and we cannot find him there.

Only God's grace can make a person lovely in holiness.

How can this be? How can this be? Doesn't God love us? Where is he? Why isn't he here?

The prophet answers these questions, and in the saddest way. The reason lies in our sinfulness, the prophet says. God is not gone from us because he has forsaken us. Our sins—our weaknesses, our willfulness, our pride, our failure to love, our failure even to accept the love of others—all these things have made us wither. Desiccated and unclean, we have been blown away from God by the winds of life.

But how are we supposed to be holy—clean and good—for the Lord, except by the Lord's own doing? We reject as Pelagian the thought that any one of us can make himself holy by his own efforts. Only God's grace can make a person lovely in holiness.

And so the prophet cries out to God, "Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways?" (First Reading)

There is an answer in the Responsorial Psalm. The Psalmist says, "Lord, make us turn to you!" This is a cry from a person who wanders from the Lord. He wanders because he wants to—that is the sad truth. But when he can't find God in his wandering, he cries to God, "make me turn to you!" Then he wants fervently not to want the very wandering he is so prone to want.

It may be then that God lets us do what we want to do, including wandering from him, so that finally we at least want to want him. Maybe we will find God when we cry with the Psalmist, "Lord, make me turn to you!"

Eleonore Stump

Vol 21 #47 **First Sunday of Advent** , Nov 29, 2020

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Nov 29	8:00am	SP	For the Parishioners
	10:00 am		SP	John O'Keefe
Tues	Dec 1	11:00 am	SP	General Intention
Wed	Dec 2	6:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri	Dec 4	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sat	Dec 5	8:30 am	SP	Reparation for Sin
Sun	Dec 6	8:00am	SP	For the Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Bill Kinkead

<p>Birthdays Nov 30 Craig Levesque</p>

Liturgical Ministry Schedule - Lector

St Paul.....	Nov 29	8 am	Mary Treat	Dec 6	8 am	Open
		10 am	Arlene Dueker		10 am	Open

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Nov 22, 2020

SP: Envelope \$ 805.00 (17), Loose 125.00, Mass Int 20.00, Funeral 100.00, Candles 5.00
Thanksgiving 70.00, CCHD 215.00

Total 1340.00

Note: No offering basket is passed around at masses due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Instead a canister marked 'Envelopes' is on the gifts table for the collection or envelopes may be delivered through the mail. Thank you to all who have faithfully continued your envelope contributions.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun	Nov 29	First Sunday of Advent – preparation aids available
		Sunday Mass at SP.....8:00 am
		Sunday Mass at SP.....10:00 am
		Conclusion of Food collection for Vienna Pantry
		(Recorded Mass available on facebook, St Paul Youtube channel)
Tue	Dec 1	Weekday Mass.....11:00 am
Wed	Dec 2	Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm
Fri	Dec 4	Weekday Mass.....12 pm
		For reservations at Dec 6 masses, contact the rectory by phone or e-mail
Sat	Dec 5	First Saturday Mass & Devotion.....8:30 am
		Faith Alive Board Mt.....10:00 am
Sun	Dec 6	Sunday Mass at SP.....8:00 am
		Sunday Mass at SP.....10:00 am



ADVENT SEASON begins Nov 29th. Booklets to prepare for the season are available this Sunday. The Sunday Scripture readings will be taken from the Cycle B selections. Dynamic Catholic is again offering **Best Advent Ever**, a daily e-mail video reflection. There is no charge. Available at DynamicCatholic.com

ADVENT ANGEL GIFT TREE is available to take an ornament and return a gift for children and families in the area. Please return the gift with the ornament attached. Deadline for all gifts is December 13th.

FOOD COLLECTION FOR VIENNA FOOD PANTRY. Will conclude on November 29th. A container for donations is in the church foyer.

ADOPT A SEMINARIAN photo cards (new supply) are on brochure table. Suggested ways of offering support to seminarians are listed on back of card.

PARISH ADDRESS & EMERGENCY CONTACT DIRECTORY is available.. Check the box in the church foyer for a copy with your household name on it.

MASS & DEVOTIONS FOR FIRST SATURDAY will be offered this coming Saturday at St Paul at 8:30 am.

FLOWER MEMORIALS FOR CHRISTMAS may be made through the envelope in your contribution box. If no special intention is recorded, it will be listed as family.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will next be offered December 10th. Please consider signing up on the schedule on the bulletin board.

NEW CHURCH CALENDARS AND CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES will be available next weekend. If you haven't received envelopes and wish to be included, please notify the parish office.

HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 8, 6:30 pm at St Paul

OUR CONDOLENCE AND PRAYER to Tom Pruemer whose wife, Diana of Grantsburg, passed away November 22 and was buried Nov 25.

PRAYER SUPPORT Father Jose Ancheril Mathai, former pastor, is in the Aperion Care Facility in Mascoutah recovering from a stroke he suffered recently. Father Jose, a resident of the Hincke Home, will need regular physical therapy in order to recover his strength and mobility. Please keep Father in your prayers. You may call Father (618 566-2183) or write to him at: Aperion Care, 901 N. 10th Street, Mascoutah, IL 62258

SECRETARY/OFFICE MANAGER POSITION is available at St Paul Church for 12-18 hours a week. Entails use of e-mail, word processing, spreadsheets and database skills. Compensation beginning at \$12 hr. For job description or questions, contact Fr Tom.

VOCATION CORNER We have just celebrated a National day of Thanksgiving. We, Catholics, give even greater thanks for all the gifts God has bestowed on us and for us to share. Each one of us has been given a unique calling to Holiness. Each one is to serve the Lord in her/his own "called" way. A vocational calling is asking us to surrender our talents to God so that they may be sanctified and produce fruit for the Kingdom.

First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 63:16-17,19;64:2-7; Psalm 80; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

The season of Advent focuses on the Parousia, the Second Coming of Jesus. We may be tempted to regard this event as some distant final chapter in the history of salvation. Today's Scripture speaks of God's return, not as fantasy for tomorrow but as a call to action. The Parousia has significance today because the Lord's coming in glory calls us to involvement with all believers. To wait for the Lord is to wait on God's people.

Today's passage from Isaiah was written around 500 B.C. when Jerusalem was in ruins and God seemed all too absent. The author looks forward to the return of Yahweh: "Turn back for the sake of your servants, for the sake of the tribes that are your heritage" (Isaiah 63:17). Waiting implies that the people must look to the needs of others. For example, the leaders are blind watchmen who seek only personal gain (see Isaiah 56:10-12). God's presence means that their efforts should provide for the common good.

Writing around A.D. 57, Paul addresses a divided, self-seeking Corinthian community. Paul links the Christian way of life with the Second Coming. He deliberately refers to fellowship and adds that God will strengthen them to the end "so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 1:8). For Paul, this day of the Lord is not a harmless theological concept but a reality that demands daily concern and interest in the needs of others.

The gospel addresses the age-old question, "When will the Second Coming take place?" Jesus warns that only God knows the exact time. In the time prior to the Parousia, vigilance is required. Mark cites the parable of the Doorkeeper in order to make this point (see Mark 13:33-37). Vigilance is service.

The opportunities for Parousia service are many. Sharing food with the poor identifies with Third Isaiah, sharing talents with the community imitates Paul, exercising authority with kindness and justice echoes Mark's message.

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

1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

First Sunday of Advent – 29 November 2020

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7. Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19. 1 Corinthians 1:3-9. Mark 13:33-37.

Be Alert! Watch! We begin this new liturgical year as the old one ends: alert, on the watch, looking to the end time (that is, the return of Jesus Christ) while still living in this middle time of grace. In our watching, we make the words at the center of the Isaiah reading our own: "Would that you might meet us doing right." Let us be faithful gatekeepers – of our thoughts and of our acts – actively looking for the face of the Lord.

- ◆ How will I maintain hope as I wait for Jesus Christ?
- ◆ What will I say?
- ◆ What will I do? The Works of Mercy can be a start.

Second Sunday of Advent – 06 December 2020

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11. Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14. 2 Peter 3:8-14. Mark 1:1-8.