



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 Destruction of Ninevah The First Reading poses a puzzle that has bedeviled philosophers and theologians.

God tells Jonah to tell the people of Nineveh this line from the Lord: Forty days more and Ninevah shall be destroyed.

When God intervenes dramatically in your life, he puts your whole life immediately at a major cross-road.

God is announcing his own intention here, and God does not lie. Furthermore, the people of Nineveh believe this line to be true. That is why they fast and repent. And God is pleased with them for doing so.

BUT here is the problem: the line seems to be false. At any rate, forty days after Jonah's announcement, the city is still standing.

And so here is the puzzle: could God say a lie and approve people for believing a line that is false?

Philosophers and theologians have had a lot to say about this puzzle. But here is a simple thought.

When God intervenes dramatically in your life, he puts your whole life immediately at a major cross-road. You can either ignore him and continue stubbornly with your old life, as if God didn't really matter, or didn't really care what you did, or maybe didn't really exist at all. Or you can open yourself to God. You can respond to him with trust and a willingness to obey. But if you do this, you will be leaving your old life aside, for a new life that might well have been unimaginable to you beforehand. You won't be who you were before. You will be a new person, in him and for him.

The people of Nineveh respond to God's call in this second way. When they hear God's voice through Jonah and repent, their whole lives change. Because they repent, they become very different people from the people they had been. And so the whole city becomes a very different city from the one it had been.

There are, then, two ways in which the Lord's line can be true. Ninevah can be destroyed either because God destroys the city or because the people cease to be the Ninevah that they were. Either way, the old Ninevah will no longer exist.

And so God's line is never false. The people of Ninevah make it true in the best way by believing it to be true. When they respond with repentance, with trust and obedience, they cease to be what they were. And then, in that best way, Ninevah is destroyed.

Eleonore Stump

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Jan 24	8:00am	SP	For the Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Anna O'Neil
Tues	Jan 26	11:00 am	SP	General Intention
Wed	Jan 27	6:30 pm	SP	Duane J Bowman
Fri	Jan 29	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Jan 31	8:00am	SP	For the Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Shawn T Bowman

Birthdays

Jan 25 Chuck Stone
 Jan 29 Anthony Kolb
 Arnold Morse
 Jan 30 Ryan Weeks

Liturgical Ministry Schedule - Lector

St Paul..... Jan 24, 8 am Open Jan 24, 8 am open
 10am Arlene Dueker 10 am open

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING January 17, 2021

Envelope \$ 1082.00 (21), Loose 55.00, Candles 2.00

Total \$1139.00

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 Jan 24 Emergency Preparedness talk

Sunday Mass at SP.....8:00 am

Sunday Mass at SP.....10:00 am

PSR Class.....11:00 am

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

Tue Jan 26 Weekday Mass.....11:00 am

Wed Jan 27 Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm

Fri Jan 29 Weekday Mass.....12:00 pm

For reservations at Jan 31st masses,

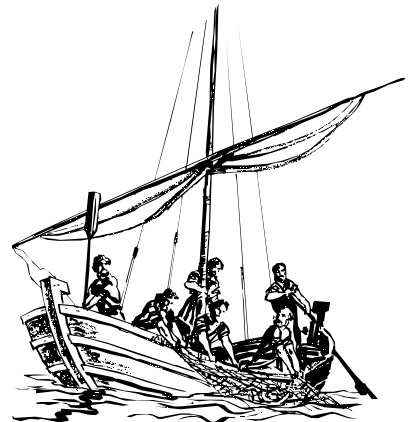
contact the rectory by phone or e-mail

Sun Jan 31 Sunday Mass at SP.....8:00 am

Liturgy Committee Mt...hall.....9:00 am

Sunday Mass at SP.....10:00 am

PSR Class.....11:00 am



CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2020 are available in foyer. The 2nd Qtr Finance Report is included with statements.

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES of January 20th meeting are available in the foyer this weekend. They will also be attached to those on parish e-mail list. Also an updated list of parish council members with contact information is posted on the bulletin board. Council members are also displayed on parish council tab in parish website www.stpaulvienna.org

BE INFORMED about your Catholic Diocese, by subscribing to The Messenger! Support your Catholic faith in southern Illinois by subscribing to The Messenger. Subscription envelopes are in boxed set or you may subscribe by calling **The Messenger at 618-233-8670**. To subscribe online go to www.bellevillemessenger.org

LITURGY COMMITTEE will meet following the 8 am Mass on January 31 in the parish hall. Plans for the upcoming season of Lent will be discussed.

WELCOME newly registered parishioner, Brian Bailey.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 2 First Reconciliation 6 pm Feb 7 Messenger Renewal Sunday
Feb 17 Ash Wednesday

VOCATION CORNER Today we hear about Jonah and his call to address the people of Nineveh. By selflessly following God's call, Jonah is able to save those souls from being destroyed. This same selflessness is also evident in Mark's account of the calls of Peter, Andrew, James and John. "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Mark 1, 17). They left their careers and family to do greater work. Are you called to follow in their footsteps?

In Part One of **I Heard God Laugh**, Matthew Kelly observes how much of modern American life is lived in the "danger zone". This is neither a place of joy or misery, but comfort. This comfort leads to a complacency that tempts us to accept mediocrity, and nowhere in Scripture or Church teaching does God call us to either comfort or mediocrity. One cure is a habit of daily prayer, where we attend to our spiritual needs with the same regularity with which we care for our bodies. When hungry or thirsty, our bodies call out with a loud alarm. On the other hand, our soul, without sustenance, will shrink with a subtle whisper that something is missing; this whisper can be easily muffled by the shrill clang of a culture that seeks instant gratification. Through prayer, however, we can begin to send down roots that will anchor and nourish us through the inevitable setbacks of life. Kelly knows that to merely give us examples like St. James - who, in early Christian sources, was said to be so steeped in prayer that his knees were calloused from frequent kneeling – would merely serve to discourage us as daily prayer beginners. Instead, this book provides small, manageable steps toward building a habit of prayer that can grow as much we will allow it.

...Join the reflection, read or read sections from the Christmas Book – I Heard God Laugh

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Jonah 3:1-5,10; Psalm 25; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

Today's passages deal with both reception and communication of God's Word. Believers are partners with God in the joint venture of spreading the message. Believers are leaven to the world. The Word will have great impact.

In the fifth century B.C., the author of Jonah addressed an audience who demanded that God act according to human standards. To make his point, the author writes of a reluctant prophet who prefers to go west when commanded to go northeast. Jonah finally gives in and the entire populace is converted.

Convinced that the Second Coming of Jesus was imminent, Paul exhorted his Corinthian Christians not to get involved in a change of marital status. The married were becoming single, the single were marrying. Paul was wrong about the Second Coming timetable, but he is still a good example of a believer seeking to elaborate the meaning of the Word to others.

Mark's Jesus is in touch with God's plan. The expression "reign of God" connotes the royal program to provide for the needs of the people, especially the poor. Jesus calls for a radical change in thinking and acting and a trusting acceptance of the Good News. Mark then describes the call of the first four disciples and their total dedication to the Master. Their call is not a private enterprise. To hear the Word is to share the Word.

The barometer of our Christian values is our manner toward one another. If our first thought after Sunday Mass is being first out of the parking lot, then the Word has not had much impact on us. The gospel opens us to community.

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

1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time –January 24, 2021

- ◆ **We devote this day to the celebration, study, and spread of the Word of God.**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10. Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9. 1 Corinthians 7:29-31. Mark 1:14-20.

Proclaiming the Gospel of God. Jesus is very busy in the beginning of Mark's gospel – proclaiming, teaching, healing. And calling others to come and follow. The responses of Simon and Andrew, of James and John were immediate: stopping what they were doing, leaving it all behind without hesitation – they followed him. Stay tuned to this whole liturgical year to see where that leads.

- ◆ What of the good news of God is Jesus proclaiming to me today?
- ◆ How am I hesitating in giving Jesus Christ my immediate attention and response?
- ◆ What am I leaving behind, stopping doing in order to follow Jesus in more faithful ways?

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time –January 31, 2021

Deuteronomy 18:15-20. Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9. 1 Corinthians 7:32-35. Mark 1:21-28.