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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

One and the Many

In the [Gospel](#) Reading, Jesus heals a man who was possessed. But notice that when the demon-possessed man first talks to Jesus, he uses the first-person *plural* pronoun to refer to himself. He says, “What have you to do with *us*, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy *us*?”

Why does he say “us”? Why doesn’t he say “me”?

The answer, I think, is that although there is only one human body giving voice to these words, there is more than one mind behind the words. That is why that one man’s voice says “us” to refer to himself. When Jesus heals the man, he does so by ridding him of all minds but one, the man’s own. In healing him, Jesus makes him single-minded. And so the [Gospel](#) Reading calls to our attention what an affliction it is to be double-minded.

Even just dealing with the double-mindedness of long bad habit can be miserable and devilishly difficult. Someone says to you when you are trying to diet and not doing particularly well, “Do you want another helping of pasta?” And what is the answer? *Do* you want more pasta? You do, you know you do, don’t you? And yet somehow you really don’t either.

And so, as we know from our own painful experience, being double-minded is a kind of slavery to our worst selves.

Real freedom is being able to do what *you* want to do. But if you have two minds about something, which mind is the real you? How can there be one real *you* when you are in two minds about something?

That’s why you aren’t free when you are double-minded. No matter what you do, you aren’t doing what *you* want to do because there isn’t just one you.

Like the demon-possessed man in the [Gospel](#) Reading, you will be free only when you are single-minded. But the demon-possessed man in the Gospel Reading was single-minded only after Jesus had healed him.

And so here is the lesson for us. In another Gospel text ([John 8:32](#)), Jesus tells his disciples that they will know the truth, and the truth will make them free. For those who will come to Jesus to be freed from their demons, he himself is that healing Truth that will make them free.

Eleonore Stump

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Jan 31	8:00am	SP	For the Parishioners
	10:00 am		SP	Shawn T Bowman
Tues	Feb 2	11:00 am	SP	General Intention
Wed	Feb 3	6:30 pm	SP	Barrett-Waltz Fam
Fri	Feb 5	12:00 pm	SP	Fr Joseph Trapp
Sat	Feb 6	8:30 am	SP	Thomas H Bowman
Sun	Feb 7	8:00am	SP	For the Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Jacob Overby

Birthdays

Feb 2	Susan Ward
	Cathy Hinton
Feb 3	Deborah Retz
	Paul Widowski
Feb 5	Ron Beanland
Feb 7	Kenneth Retz

Liturgical Ministry Schedule - Lector

St Paul.....	Jan 31, 8 am	open	Feb 7, 8 am	open
	10am	Arlene Dueker	10 am	open

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING January 24, 2021

Envelope \$ 1040.00.00 (22), Loose 30.00, Mary, holyday 25.00 . Bld & Maint 25.00

Total \$1120.00

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 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
(Recorded Mass available on facebook, St Paul Youtube channel)			
Tue	Feb 2	Weekday Mass.....	11:00 am
		First Reconciliation Celebration.....	6:00 pm
Wed	Feb 3	Weekday Mass.....	6:30 pm
Fri	Feb 5	Weekday Mass.....	12:00 pm
Sat	Feb 6	First Saturday Mass & Devotions.....	8:30 am
		Faith Alive Thrift Store Board Mt.....	10:00 am
		For reservations at Feb 7 th masses, contact the rectory by phone or e-mail	
Sun	Feb 7	Messenger Subscription Renewal Sunday	
		Sunday Mass at SP.....	8:00 am
		Sunday Mass at SP.....	10:00 am
		PSR Class.....	11:00 am



POINSETTIAS FOR ADOPTION Christmas flowers have been removed from the altar. They are now available for anyone who wishes to extend their life by ‘adopting’ them and giving them a new home. Pick them up from the church foyer.

MONTHLY CALENDAR INSERT is being reestablished to assist parishioners to plan for events farther in advance. It is also uploaded to the parish website for reference anytime.

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. Meeting is open to any parishioners.

WELCOME to the healing sacrament of First Reconciliation to three young members of our parish, Peter Garrett, Aiden Nelson and Nolan Zmuda. They will be joined by parents and parishioners for the celebration on Tuesday, Feb 2, 6 pm at St Paul Church.

FIRST SATURDAY MASS AND DEVOTION will be offered this Saturday, Feb 6th, 8:30 am at St Paul Church.

BE INFORMED about your Catholic Diocese, by subscribing to **The Messenger!** Issues contain articles on weekend scriptures, column by Bishop McGovern, answers to questions people ask, feature articles of undertakings by parishes and agencies throughout the diocese, movie reviews and schedules of prayer events, retreats, study sessions, etc. 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**. Cost is \$25 yr for mailed paper or on line edition, or \$30 for both. To subscribe online go to www.bellevillemessenger.org

LENTEN PREPARATIONS It's not too early to make plans for Lent. The parish will offer Rice Bowls, copies of The Word Among Us, opportunity for Stations of Cross before Sunday masses, and copy of Book – I Heard God Laugh. Dynamic Catholic will offer Best Lent Ever by daily e-mail if you sign up at dynamiccatholic.com. Recorded retreats are available from Creighton University website <https://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>

YOUR PRAYER for family members of parishioners will be appreciated. Stan Treat's dad has been hospitalized with a medical resistant form of staph; Vickie Anderson's husband, Bill, was coma induced to treat Covid. Also remember Fr Joe Trapp living in Benton who passed away on Tuesday.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 17 Ash Wednesday Mass 7:00 pm at St Paul.

Season of Lent – Food Collection for Daystar in Cairo

Feb 24, 6 pm – Bishop McGovern meeting with parish council and parishioners on pastoral leadership at St Paul after July

VOCATION CORNER ““It was only through an informational brochure that I first heard God’s call. At first, my parents were not supportive, but let me go to the convent for a year with the promise that I would return if I were ever unhappy. That never happened. I knew I wanted to be a Sister and I took my final vows in 1997. My parents were very supportive because they knew my vocation had truly come from God.” SISTER JOSSY JACOB, SISTERS OF MARY IMMACULATE, LEECHBURG, PA.,

COLUMBIA, DEC. 2015, PG.34.

Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 95; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28

When we read the help-wanted ads, we usually look at the background, experience, and qualifications being sought. When it is a question of God's or the Church's calling, we may tend to disqualify ourselves. Today's readings show us that to respond to the help wanted ad for prophecy is to look beyond oneself to the problems of the community.

The author of the first reading lacks a direct commission from Yahweh to establish the prophetic office in Israel, so he reinterprets the divine manifestation on Mount Sinai (see Exodus 20:19-21). God uses intermediaries; Moses was the first. The author pictures the prophet not as self-trained but as one into whose mouth God places the words. The common good, rather than personal distinction, is emphasized.

Although Paul refers to himself as an apostle, he exercises a prophetic role as well. He does not place his own restrictions. Believing the Second Coming to be imminent, he attempts to achieve the good of the Corinthians, not his own good. Seeing himself as a go-between, he promotes the best interests of the community.

Mark sees Jesus as God's final spokesperson. In today's reading, Jesus teaches in the synagogue. The teaching style, however, differs greatly from that of the scribes, the "lay experts." He speaks prophetically. He does not quote the authorities, he teaches with authority. Jesus links his prophetic office with alleviating all that oppresses and depresses the human spirit. Jesus seeks not personal gain but comfort for the hurting.

Baptism empowers Christian spokespersons to address the community for the common good. Our God endorses comforting the depressed, helping the lonely, and visiting the shut-ins. Whenever we reach out to these and similar people, we communicate in a most realistic way the message of God. To share God's Word in action is nothing less than prophetic ministry.

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

1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

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.

Teaching with Authority. Jesus begins his ministry with us this liturgical year doing two things. He is teaching with authority – like no other. And his teaching spills into action for the benefit of another – mercy at work.

- ◆ How is Jesus astonishing me by what he teaches?
- ◆ How am I listening for his words, his call, his teaching?
- ◆ How is my listening spilling out into mercy thoughts, mercy action, mercy works?

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time –February 7, 2021

Job 7:1-4, 6-7. Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6. 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23. Mark 1:29-39.