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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

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah In the Gospel, some Greeks ask to see Jesus. Jesus responds by saying that anyone who loves his life will lose it. To gain your life, you have to be like a grain of wheat: it brings forth much fruit only by falling into the earth and dying.

God honors those who seek to honor him.

The Greeks must have been baffled. What has this speech of Jesus' got to do with their request to see him?

But consider those Greeks. They accord Jesus rock star status. They don't even ask to talk to the great man. They want only to see him. And they don't dare come to Jesus directly. They just approach one of his friends, Philip, and they call Philip "Kyrie," that is to say, "Lord." Even Lady Gaga's groupies wouldn't call one of her friends, "Lord," would they?

Jesus' response helps those Greeks to see him—the true Lord, not the rock star the Greeks were looking for. The true Lord did not come to get status and power. He came to lose his life, to fall and die, like a grain of wheat.

The point is made emphatically at the end of Jesus' response to the Greeks. He ends with a prayer: "Father," he prays, "glorify your name." Jesus, the true Lord and not the rock star, came to seek God's glory. He did not come to seek not his own.

The final part of the lesson for the Greeks, and for us, comes in God's response to Jesus' prayer. God honors Jesus by answering his prayer out loud: "I have glorified My name, and I will glorify it again!"

"This voice didn't come for my sake, but for yours," Jesus tells the awed bystanders. God's voice came to finish the lesson: God honors those who seek to honor him.

True glory lies not in rock star status, then, but, on the contrary, in being willing to fall and die like a grain of wheat. It lies in being willing to let go, to lose one's life in this world in love for the glory of God's name.

And so the Greeks do get what they asked for. In the response of Jesus to them, they, and we, see the true Lord, and with the true Lord the pattern for racing for glory in our lives, too. Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Eleonore Stump

Vol 22 #12 **Fifth Sunday of Lent** March 21, 2021

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Mar 21	8:00am	SP	For the Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Diana Pruemmer
Tues	Mar 23	11:00 am	SP	General Intention
Wed	Mar 24	6:30 pm	SP	Fr Joseph Trapp
Fri	Mar 26	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Mar 28	8:00am	SP	For the Parishioners
		10:00 am	SP	Billie Anderson

Birthdays

Mar 28 Lynn McMahan

Liturgical Ministry Schedule - Lector

St Paul..... Mar 21, 8 am Mar 28, 8 am
10 am Arlene Dueker 10 am

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING March 14, 2021

Envelope \$ 1105.00 (25), Loose 105.00, Bld & Maint 255.00 Memorial Flowers 85.00

Messenger 25.00, Catholic Relief Services 95.00

Total \$ 1670.00

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 Mar 21 Stations of the Cross 20 min. before Mass

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

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

PSR Class.....11:00 am

CCW meeting.....11:00 am

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

Mon Mar 22 Parish Reconciliation Service...Marion...6:00 pm

Tue Mar 23 Weekday Mass.....11:00 am

Wed Mar 24 Weekday Mass.....6:30 pm

Fri Mar 26 Weekday Mass.....12:00 pm

Day of Abstinence

Sat Mar 27 Sacrament of Reconciliation..St Paul....5-6:00 pm

Sun Mar 28 Stations of the Cross 20 min. before Mass

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

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

PSR Class.....11:00 am



COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN will meet in Parish Hall following 10 am mass today. All ladies of the parish invited to attend. An offering will be taken for their work.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES Thank you to those who supported the collection last Sunday and helped Jesus in disguise. Your support makes a difference for the poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give. You may also donate directly at www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.

CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL. Some parishioners have reported they did not receive information on agencies supported by CSMA or an accompanying pledge card in the mail. Extra sheets will be available by the bulletins. St Paul has reached 62 % of the parish goal with the assistance of fifteen households. Please assist with reaching our goal if you have not participated. Extra pledge envelopes are in church foyer.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION A Parish Reconciliation Service will be offered at St Joseph, Marion on Monday, March 22, 6 pm. Time for individual reconciliation is scheduled Sat, March 27, 5-6 pm at St Paul or any time by appointment.

REMINDER OF LENTEN INITIATIVES: Food Collection for Daystar will continue through Easter Sunday; Rice Bowls to share our sacrifices with providing food for others will also continue through Easter. Stations of Cross will publically end on Palm Sunday.

PALM SUNDAY & HOLY WEEK We are being required to make adaptations to this year's celebrations. The traditional procession with palm will be replaced with receiving palm without procession as you enter church on Palm Sunday. Washing of feet and transfer of Eucharist on Holy Thursday is suppressed. Reverence of cross on Good Friday will be limited to communal act from pews. An outdoor Easter Sunday egg hunt is planned.

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION ACT of minors seeking an abortion is being challenged in state legislature by House Bill 1797 and Senate Bill 2190. People are being urged to contact elected representatives and senators to oppose revocation. More information can be obtained at www.ilcatholic.org

CHURCH WEEK, Supporting Christian Organizations. Rural King will donate 10% of purchases made there between March 14 and March 27^m to the Christian Organization of your choice (consider St Paul). Receipts must be uploaded to www.ruralking.com/churchweek by April 1, 2021. St Paul received \$110 last year.

I Heart God Laugh Reflection # 6 The "Prayer Process" in Matthew Kelly's I Heard God Laugh begins with gratitude. There are reasons to begin prayer with gratitude that involve orienting ourselves rightly toward God and resisting unhelpful attitudes in ourselves. First, to begin with gratitude gives what is due to God. It is easy to forget in the hum of daily life that all things in creation – including ourselves – depend for their existence on God. Every experience we have and every relationship we enjoy is ultimately initiated and sustained by God. For this reason, Scripture provides abundant models for the expression of gratitude; from the Psalms (songs of thanksgiving make up one of the major genres of psalms) to the letters of Paul, who exhorted his readers repeatedly to be grateful. Additionally, humans have what psychologists describe as a negativity bias: negative events or thoughts tend to have a more significant impact on us than positive ones. To begin with gratitude, then, orients our prayer from the start so that our relationship with God does not turn into another opportunity to dwell on the negative. We begin with thankfulness before we turn our prayer toward introspection.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33

It's so easy to remain aloof, unattached, and uninvolved. We see problems and needs on all sides, but too often we do not see them as our problems and our needs. We rationalize these as God's concern, not ours.

Today's readings speak of covenant relationships. People relate to God by relating to one another. To worship God is to meet the needs of God's people. God's concern is our concern.

Jeremiah's message of hope in today's first reading was originally addressed to the northern kingdom of Israel during the time of national revival -- around 624 B.C. The prophet believed things had gotten so bad that only Yahweh's intervention could save the day. Yahweh would bring about a profound interior change among the people. The change would result from God's intention to forgive and forget human sinfulness. Jeremiah announced people's sinfulness and God's willingness to forgive. Jeremiah made God's problem his problem.

The author of Hebrews discusses the high priesthood of Jesus. As high priest, Jesus represents people before God and intercedes for them. Jesus makes God's problem (salvation) his problem, despite pain, frustration, and death.

For John, the word "hour" embraces the entire process of crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension. Jesus is willing to lay down his life. This moment, however, is also a temptation for Jesus to do his own will rather than God's. Jesus learns in suffering that accepting the hour will result in exaltation, making God's concern that of the Son, also.

Response to these readings means examining our relationships in our families, neighborhoods, parishes, and at work. If we are on good terms with these people, we are on good terms with God. If those around us are hurting, then God is concerned and so must we be. Like Jesus and Jeremiah, we are tempted to run from this pain. Like them we must reject temptation and embrace the needs and hurts of all, being one then with God and the Church.

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

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Fifth Sunday of Lent – 21 March 2021

Jeremiah 31:31-34. Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15. Hebrews 5:7-9. John 12:20-33.

Outsiders Seeking Jesus. Today, visitors from Greece (outsiders to the Jews) want to see Jesus who is in the holy city Jerusalem for Passover. This reminds us that everyone, really, looks for God, wants to be good, hopes for salvation. This is the impact of the new covenant of which Jeremiah speaks today.

- How can I be like Philip and Andrew, and bring others to Jesus?
- How will I serve Jesus and follow him today?
- What of my life am I willing to lose for the benefit of eternal life?

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion – 28 March 2021

MASS: Isaiah 50:4-7. Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24. Philippians 2:6-11. Mark 14:1–15:47.