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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

Traveling Mercies In the [Gospel Reading](#), before his ascension Christ gives his disciples a last command. Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel. And he adds a list of things that will characterize those of his followers who obey this command: they will drive out demons, speak new languages, handle snakes safely, drink deadly things without harm, and heal the sick by the laying on of hands.

Why *this* list? Isn't it supposed to be just *love* that characterizes Christ's followers?

Well, think of it this way.

Once when one of my children was traveling to Bangladesh, I made a list of dos and don'ts for him. It was a list intended to help keep him safe.

Finding housing with English speakers was on the list, so that there wouldn't be language problems. "Don't drink the water!" was definitely on the list, and so was "Stay away from people who are obviously sick!" The list finished with this prohibition: "Whatever you do, don't come into contact with the ground!" I know it sounds ridiculous; but hookworm is endemic in that part of the world, and you can get full of worms if you let a body part with an open wound come into contact with infected ground.

You can see that what was on my list of things to worry about are on Christ's list of things not to worry about: language problems, deadly drinks, sicknesses, even snakes—well, hookworms, anyway. (Demons weren't on my list, but maybe they would have been if I could have thought of anything to say about them.)

So the things on Christ's list are the things that you (or your mother) might worry about if you were traveling in dangerous places. Since Christ is commanding his followers to head out to all the world, maybe it is only fair of him to tell those who obey him that they don't need to worry about any of these things. Like a good mother, Christ has already thought about all these things for his traveling people, and in his mercy he has made provision for them all.

So here is one way to understand Christ's list of the things that characterize those who believe in Christ and obey him. Whatever roads the journey of their lives takes them on, the care of the Lord encompasses those who travel in his name.

Eleonore Stump

Vol 22 #20 The Ascension of the Lord – 16 May 2021

Schedule of Masses

Sun May 16	8:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners
	10:00 am	SP	Edward Zmuda
Tue May 18	11:00 am	SP	General Intention
Wed May 19	5:30 pm	SP	Barrett-Waltz Families
Fri May 14	12:00 pm	SP	Patrick Woytych
Sun May 23	8:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners
	10:00 am	SP	Kenneth Speletich

Birthdays

May 17 Rose Lewis

Liturgical Ministry Schedule – Lector

May 23, 8 am

10 am

J Galej

M Slife

Greeter

B Bowers

C Kruep

Servers

C Bergmann

M Palmer

Ushers

Joe Nelson

S Pobst

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING May 9, 2021

Envelope \$ 1265.00 (21), Loose 85.00, Building & Maint 190.00

Total \$ 1540.00

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 May 16 Catholic Communication Campaign

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

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

CCW Ladies Mtg.....11:00 am

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

Mon May 17 Blood Drive at Fellowship Bapt Hall.12:00-6:00 pm

Tue May 18 Shawnee DOC Mass.....9:00 am

Weekday Mass.....11:00 am

Wed May 19 Weekday Mass.....5:30 pm

Parish Council Mtg.....6:00 pm

Fri May 21 Weekday Mass.....12:00 pm

Sat May 22 Diaconate Ordination- Thomas Lugge.....10:30 am

Sun May 23 Pentecost Sunday

Seminarian Education Collection

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

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



CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN This Sunday our special collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Belleville Diocese to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the Gosepl message. To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/ccc.

CCW(COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN) MEETING will meet in the Parish Hall at 11:00 today. All St. Paul women are automatically members and are always welcome. Final preparations for Fr. Tom's forthcoming Jubilee and Retirement reception will be discussed. As is custom, an offering for the works of the CCW will be taken up after mass.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN to support Hope Unlimited, an agency that provides alternates to abortion, and support for pregnant mothers and husbands, officially begins this weekend and will conclude on Fathers' Day. A suggested donation is \$30.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA for this Wednesday's meeting is available for members in the foyer.

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION COLLECTION: Our diocesan-wide Seminarian Education Collection is scheduled for the weekend of Saturday, May 22, and Sunday, May 23. This collection will directly support the education and formation of men who are discerning a call to ordained priesthood. We are all aware of the priest shortage in our diocese. More than ever, we must continue efforts to invite young people to consider the priesthood and religious life. With more seminarians, we incur more costs. A gift to this collection is an investment in the future of our Church. Please support these efforts as generously as you can.

SAVE THE DATE June 6, 2021 we will celebrate Father Tom's Jubilee celebration of his 50th anniversary as an ordained priest, and his retirement. The Mass will be celebrated outside (weather permitting) and followed by a luncheon reception. Every parish member/family is invited. If you need a ride contact Frank Dueker at 618 559 1405

INTO MY VINEYARD The Belleville Diocese will be offering a six session course in Parish Administration and Management on Saturdays in fall and spring of upcoming year. Its purpose will be to prepare more people in parishes to learn to manage temporalities. Applications will be available by mid-May, but deadline is July. If you are interested or have questions, contact Fr Tom..

MOTHERS' FLOWERS For those mothers who were unable to be present to pick up a flower last weekend, your flower was planted in the rose bed in front of the hall. You can be remembered during the season without having to replant or water your flower.

VOCATION CORNER "There was never a dull moment growing up with seven siblings. Little did I know that this experience would prepare me well for Benedictine life, a life of stability in community lived in the enclosure of the monastery. Would I have become a monk if my grandmother had not prayed that one of her grandsons would become a priest; if my dad had not told me, ""It doesn't hurt to give God the first option""; Nothing is more beautiful than encountering Christ. I didn't lose my family when I entered the monastery; I joined a family much larger than 10. I belong to God's family." *Fr. Caesarius Marple, OSB; Westminster Abbey, Mission, British Columbia; Columbia Magazine April 2020*

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11. Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9. Ephesians 1:17-23. Mark 16:15-20.

Imagine you are at the Ascension (Acts 1:1-11). How does it feel to watch Jesus leave?

It was probably difficult for the disciples to see Jesus go. Yet, if he stayed, they would not receive the promised baptism with the Holy Spirit. We must surrender our "treasures" to God before we can open ourselves to faith and trust.

Here is a meditation on letting go from "Nine Ways to Reach God" by Bridget Meehan, SSC, D.Min.:

If you see life and people as being on loan to you, you can see all as gifts. It is not good to cling tightly to relationships or to hoard earthly treasures. Revere all that you have with deep gratitude, and hold everything in open hands.

Reflect on the symbol of open hands. During your prayer time, open your hands and surrender all the important treasures and relationships of your life to God. Do you experience any obstacles in letting go and giving everyone and everything to God? Be aware of your feelings. Are you joyful?

Anxious? Sad? Afraid? Share these feelings with God. Spend time expressing your gratitude to God for each gift and relationship.

What does the perspective of "all is on loan" say to you in your present relationships and in your present circumstances? Find concrete ways to express your love and gratitude to people you often take for granted, including Jesus.

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

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The Ascension of the Lord – 16 May 2021

Acts 1:1-11. Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9. Ephesians 1:17-23. Mark 16:15-20.

Go. Proclaim. Jesus going to heaven did not give the disciples permission to go home, put up their feet, and dream about the good old days. Jesus said: Go everywhere! Proclaim the gospel! I will work with you.

- ◆ Where will I go to do mercy work?
- ◆ What good news of Jesus making a difference in the world can I speak?
- ◆ How will I trust in Jesus that I am not alone by these words and works _____?
- ◆

Pentecost Sunday– 23 May 2021

Acts 2:1-11. Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34. 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13. John 20:19-23