



**Pastor: Rev Thomas Barrett**

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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

### **Content with Insult, Persecution, and Weakness**

In the Second Reading, Paul says that he is content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, and persecutions. Why would any rational person be content with these things? All of them look like the very things to avoid if you possibly can.

Well, what *would* anyone be content with? How about beatitude? That would be worthy of contentment, wouldn't it?

But in the Sermon on the Mount, Christ connects beatitude to persecution: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness's sake (cf. Mt. 5:9). Actually, in the very next verse, Christ connects beatitude to being insulted, too.

And now it is easy to see why anyone would be content with persecutions and insults, and so with hardships, too. Beatitude goes together with them.

Christianity turns the ordinary standards of the world up-side down. When we follow Christ and suffer persecution, insults, and hardships with him, we are not among the world's losers. We are the prize-winners. Beatitude is ours!

But that still leaves weakness. Paul says his own weakness comes from Satan. And, of course, one kind of weakness that comes from Satan is sin. Could anyone—*should* anyone—be content with his own sin?

Of course, a person shouldn't accept his sins! Out with them! Out with them NOW!

Just expressing the thought this way explains Paul's point, doesn't it?

Hardship, insult, persecution, and most especially the wretched sin that besets us—these things are not our final state. Beauty and love in life with the Lord are our final state. They are our home.

But we do not get home by ourselves. Only God has the wisdom and the power to get us there. And so we have to wait for him, even for the removal of those sins that we would so dearly love to be rid of—and, of course, would also so dearly love to keep.

And that is why Paul can be content even with weakness. That is why we can be patient even with our own sins. God's grace is sufficient for each one of us, not just where insults and hardships are concerned, but even when it comes to our sins. If only we do not stop waiting for him with trust, with peace and contentment in him, he will rid us of our sins in his own time. He will get us home.

Eleonore Stump

# Vol 22 #27 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time— July 4th, 2021

## Schedule of Masses

Sun Jul 4	8:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners
	10:00 am	SP	Richard Stone
Tue Jul 6	11:00 am	SP	General Intention
Wed Jul 7	6:30 pm	SP	General Intentions
Fri Jul 9	12:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun Jul 11	8:00 am	SP	For the Parishioners
	10:00 am	SP	Special Intention

## Birthdays

Jul 4 Sheila Maier  
Karen Cole  
Jul 5 Mitch Miller  
Jul 7 Maddie Palmer

<b>Liturgical Ministers</b>		<b><u>Lector</u></b>	<b><u>Greeter</u></b>	<b><u>EM</u></b>	<b><u>Servers</u></b>	<b><u>Ushers</u></b>
<b>July 4</b>	<b>8 am</b>	C Cain	B Bowers	vol	vol	M McMahan, R Weeks
	<b>10 am</b>	S Widowski	J Hacker	P Widowski	vol	P Widowski, S Pobst
<b>July 11</b>	<b>8 am</b>	C Deaton	J Galey	vol	vol	J Bergmann, M Miller
	<b>10 am</b>	A Dueker	X Gruszezyck	M Nelson	vol	Je Nelson, Jo Nelson

## STEWARDSHIP OFFERING June 27, 2021

Envelope \$ 550.00 (16), Loose 95.00 Bld & Maint 5.00 Mass 10.00 Peter Pence 300.00

**Total \$ 960.00** (Now that Social distancing is not required, collection counters are needed to continue this church ministry – see Fr Tom)

## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Jul 4 Sunday Mass at SP..... 8:00 am  
 Sunday Mass at SP.....10:00 am  
 First Sunday Social – following weekend masses  
 (Recorded Mass available on facebook, St Paul Youtube channel)  
 Tue Jul 6 Shawnee DOC Service ..... 9 am  
 Weekday Mass.....11:00 am  
 Wed Jul 7 Weekday Mass..... 6:30 pm  
 Thr Jul 8 Shawnee DOC Service.....9:00 am  
 Eucharistic Adoration.....4:00-7:30 pm  
 Fri Jul 9 Weekday Mass.....12:00 pm  
 Finance Council Mtg..... 5:30 pm  
 Sat Jul 10 CCW Ladies Outing Starview..... 11:00 am  
 Sun Jul 11 Emergency Talk-Armed Intruder  
 Sunday Mass at SP.....8:00 am  
 Sunday Mass at SP.....10:00 am  
 Liturgy Committee Mtg.....9:00 am  
 Council of Catholic Women Ladies Mt...11:00 am



**COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (CCW) LADIES LUNCHEON/WINE TASTING** is Saturday July 10. We will be meeting at the Starview Winery in Cobden, IL. at 11 AM. Carpooling from St. Paul parking lot is at 10 am. Please sign up for this event on the church foyer bulletin board or RSVP to Vickie Anderson at 618 579 3748 by Thursday, Jul 8.

**WORDS OF GRACE** Daily scripture booklets for Jul-Sept are available in foyer.

**FIRST SUNDAY SOCIAL** today will be hosted by the Parish Council. Members will be present to address questions about new pastoral leadership for St Paul. Please stop by and enjoy fellowship and food. Hosts for following months Parish Socials are needed. Please see bulletin board.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** is available this Thursday, July 8. A sign up sheet is available on the church foyer bulletin board.

**LAKE GLENDALE PARISH OUTTING** Circle the date Sat, July 31, beginning 11 am for outdoor parishioner enjoyment of time together over picnic meal and variety of options (swimming, canoeing and boating, and walking trails). See sign up on bulletin board

**NEW PASTORAL APPOINTMENT** Fr Christian Iwaugwu will become the pastoral leader at St Paul (with St Mary, Eldorado and St Mary, Harrisburg) on July 20<sup>th</sup>. To assist him in getting to know St Paul parishioners, photos are being taken to make it easier for Fr Christian to connect faces with names in the parish address directory. If you would like to submit a recent family picture, please e-mail or drop off at the parish office.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A PRIEST** Bishop Michael McGovern will host a St. Andrew Dinner for young men interested in learning more about the Catholic priesthood on Sunday, July 18, 2021. The St. Andrew Dinner will be held at St. Mary Parish in Carlyle. All young men ages 14-32 are invited to attend; parents or guardians are also welcome to join us. The event will begin at 5:00 pm with Evening Prayer and will be followed by dinner and conversation. This is a terrific opportunity for hearing some of our seminarians speak about preparing for the priesthood; there will also be time for questions and conversation with Fr. Steven Beatty, Vocation Director. For more information, or to RSVP, contact Patti Warner in the Vocations Office at (618) 722.5043, or email to: [pwarner@diobelle.org](mailto:pwarner@diobelle.org). St. Mary Parish is located at 1171 Jefferson Street in Carlyle, IL.

**THANK YOU.....**to volunteers operating Faith Alive Thrift Store on St Paul turn  
....to Cathy Kruep for organizing the parish Miner Baseball outing event and providing patriotic 'Thinking of you cards' for Hillview Care Home and Autumn Ridge Residents  
....to all who supported the Baby Bottle Campaign to support Hope Unlimited  
...to Arlene Dueker for bulletin preparation.  
...to Matt Slife for having fire extinguishers serviced and installation of CO detectors

**VOCATION CORNER** Today we mark another anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. "On the 51st anniversary, Charles Carroll, the only Catholic to have signed the Declaration and the last surviving signer, said, "God grant that this religious liberty may be preserved in these States to the end of time, and that all believing in the religion of Christ may practice the leading principle of charity, the basis of every virtue." Today is a time for choosing how we will keep faith with the great accomplishments of our Catholic forebears as we seek to make our own contributions. If we or someone in your family is called by the Holy Spirit to a religious vocation we should encourage and accept this challenge as we are all endowed by our Creator with life and liberty. " COLUMBIA, "CULTURE OF LIFE", OCT. 2015, PG. 47.

## **Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time –July 4, 2021**

Ezekiel 2:2-5. Psalm 123:1-2, 2, 3-4. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Mark 6:1-6.

We all admire strength. The discovery that even our role models have weaknesses throws us for a loss. We value strength so greatly that we cope very poorly with weakness. Today's readings present three individuals who experienced significant weakness in the exercise of their mission. Ironically their achievements become a basis for hope. In weakness there can be strength.

The first reading is part of Ezekiel's vocation scene. In the year 593 B.C. God appeared to this priest and called him to be a prophet in Babylon, the land of the Israelites' exile. Ezekiel felt the Lord's power but was also keenly aware of the hardheartedness of those around him. Nevertheless he accepted. Ezekiel was often distraught, but he was also resilient -- weak yet strong.

Paul says he was given "a messenger of Satan to torment me," to keep him from getting proud (2 Corinthians 12:7). Paul asks God to remove the affliction, "but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me" (2 Corinthians 12:9). This experience helped Paul recognize the interrelatedness of weakness and strength. The weaker the person, the greater the display of God's power.

When Jesus returns to his hometown, the people reject him. They sense a glaring discrepancy between his family tree and his teaching and miracles. Jesus reacts with discouragement and astonishment. Apart from curing a few sick he works no miracles since the lack of faith is too distressing. In this synagogue scene Mark is probably foreshadowing the final rejection on Good Friday (see Mark 15:11-15). However, the last word is not defeat, as the empty tomb testifies.

God is able to use our faults as well as our virtues. Weakness need not be the final word.

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

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**Home Town and Country.** In the gospel today, Jesus astonishes the home town folks who then poke fun at him. But Jesus still did what he could by preaching and healing a few. Even when things seem not to go right, we still embrace our town folk and our country.

- ◆ What astonishes me about my own town and country members?
- ◆ How can I still converse with them even if we disagree on some issues?
- ◆ In what good and right ways will I behave toward them because it is good and right?

## **Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time –July 11, 2021**

Amos 7:12-15. Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14. Ephesians 1:3-14. Mark 6:7-13.