

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time– 12 September 2021

Isaiah 50:4c-9a. Psalm 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9. James 2:14-18. Mark 8:27-35.

The modern believer has many opportunities for Christian discipleship. For example, husbands and wives must share mutual concerns. Parents are constantly challenged to embrace the problems of their children. Citizens and parishioners must involve themselves in the community, both civic and church. All of these arenas provide a gospel-like barometer of our search for personal identity. The real me emerges to the extent that I am involved in the world of concerns. To find oneself is to lose oneself.

The speaker in today's Isaiah passage is described as a disciple open to God's word as the Babylonian exile comes to an end. Unlike his audience, this person trusts in Yahweh. His loyalty to God brings rejection and humiliation. Yet he gives all of himself in order to identify with God's suffering people.

The author of James contrasts living faith and dead faith. He believes that everyday life is the arena for living faith. The acceptance of divine revelation requires an openness to God's world of concerns. To simply wish our brothers or sisters good luck without addressing their real needs is lifeless faith. Faith is the basis of good works; they are not two distinct expressions.

The gospel passage today endorses again Mark's consistent message -- that Jesus is the Messiah. At the same time, this reading prepares us for Jesus' passion and death by showing us that Jesus is a suffering Messiah. Peter cannot accept this qualification of suffering as the road to glory. Thus Peter becomes a prosecuting attorney (a "Satan" or devil's advocate).

Mark uses Peter's confusion to teach about Christian discipleship. To be a disciple means to deny oneself and take up the cross. In order to save one's life it is necessary to lose that life.

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

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Deny. Take. Follow. On the long journey to Jerusalem, Jesus clarifies that following the Christ (Peter's response to Who am I?) requires denying self, taking up the cross, and following. Saint James helps make this clear with the need for mercy activity. Reread the Second Reading each day this week.

1. Clothe the naked. What will I do?
2. Feed the hungry. What will I do?
3. Shelter the homeless. What will I do?



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary

Time – 19 September 2021

Wisdom 2:12,17-20; Psalm 54;
James 3:16--4:3; Mark 9:30-37



Pastor: Rev Christian Iwuagwu

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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

Weekdays – Fri 6:00 pm

A message from Bishop McGovern
August 22, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you may have seen in the media report, the people of Haiti experienced both an earthquake and a tropical storm earlier this month. Already an impoverished nation, Haitians are attempting to cope with both human loss and the loss of so many homes and buildings, including structures the Church relies on for worship, education, and charitable works.

The bishops of the United States are inviting the faithful to respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters through a special collection. I have asked the pastors of the Diocese of Belleville to invite your support in the month of September. All funds donated for Haiti will be distributed by the Emergency Disaster Fund of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to various charities which will provide immediate aid to those who are hurting as a result of the two disasters.

As thousands of poor people in Haiti pray to God for help, I invite you to join me in being part of God's loving response through your generous donation to this special collection.

May Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Patroness of Haiti, intercede for all who died or were injured in these disasters, along with their families. May Our Lady intercede for all of us and keep us close to Jesus her Son.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael McGovern, Bishop of Belleville.

Vol. 22 #37 24st Sunday in Ordinary Time—September 12, 2021

Schedule of Masses

Sun	Sep 12	11:00 am	SP	Victoria Koval
Fri	Sep 17	6:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun	Sep 19	8:00 am	SP	Virgil Arado

Birthdays
Sep 16 Carolyn Johnson
Sep 17 Bill Johnson

Liturgical Ministers

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Sep 12 11 am	E Garrett	V Anderson	L Miller	Vol.	*S Pobst, Z Garrett
		<u>Cantor</u> J Starrett			
Sep 19 8 an	M Miller	L Coleman	S Widowski	Vol	*M Slife, P Widowski
		<u>Cantor</u> Z Garrett			

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Sep 5 , 2021

Envelope \$ 1,581.00 (21), Loose 85.00 Bld. & Maint.
Total \$ 1666.00 (collection counters are needed to continue this church ministry – see Laurie Coleman)

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun Sep 12	Sunday Mass at SP.....	11:00 am
	Fr. Christian’s Jubilee at St. Mary Harrisburg	
	St. Paul Annual Parish Picnic following Mass	
	Retired Belleville Diocesan Priests	
Wed Sep 15	Mass	5:30 pm
	Parish Council.....	6:00 pm
Fri Sep 17	Mass.....	6:00 pm
Sun Sep 19	Mass.....	8:00 am
	Catechetical Sunday/Opening PSR	
	CCW Meeting	9:00 am
	Drawdown “Early Bird Drawing”	



Annual Parish Picnic is today after Mass. Come and enjoy fellowship with us.

FOOD DRIVE FOR STONEFORT FOOD PANTRY CONTINUES. A collection box for donations will be in the church foyer. Your donations are appreciated.

Catholic Women’s Council meets next Sunday September 19, following 8 am Mass. Every woman in the parish is considered a member and we appreciate any and all talents. We will be promoting our Diocesan Women’s Conference at Camp Ondessonk October 13th, and finalize our Draw Down event

CONGRATULATIONS FATHER CHRISTIAN ON YOUR 25TH JUBILEE to be celebrated at St. Mary’s Harrisburg on September 12

DRAWDOWN RAFFLE TICKETS Early Bird Drawing is today following Mass.

GIFT CARDS OR THEME BASKETS FOR DRAWDOWN ARE NEEDED. A sign up sheet is on the church foyer bulletin board.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- September 15 Parish Council meeting
- September 19- Catechetical Sunday -Opening PSR
 - Early Bird Drawdown ticket
 - CCW meeting 9 am in parish Hall

“CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME” WOMEN’S CONFERENCE sponsored by the Belleville Diocese CCW is Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at Camp Ondessonk. Speakers, programs, exhibits, a mass by Bishop McGovern raffle and silent auction are all part of a great day. Registration includes early morning social and lunch and is \$18 if registered by September 27. Registration after or at door is \$20.00. For more information contact, Pam, Vickie, Madonna or Arlene. They will have registration forms. Carpooling from St. Paul can also be arranged.

SACRISTAN VOLUNTEERS FOR A MONTH to open and close church and set up for Mass are urgently needed. Training can be provided. We need only 12 volunteers. Please contact Arlene Dueker at 618 559-7803. We are covered thru September 2021 only.

VOCATION CORNER – – In St. James letter, he asks “What good is it... if someone says he has faith but does not have works?” In today’s Gospel, Jesus gives us instruction on how to get to heaven –“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” Those are emphatic words underlining our call in life. What is your cross to take up? What is your vocation? Should you be asking someone about considering a call to the religious life? Should you be considering that call?