

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 13, 2022

Jeremiah 17:5-8. Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6. 1 Corinthians 5:12, 16-20. Luke 6:7, 20-26.

Today's readings teach us the real heart of true religion: God is our sole refuge. The prophet Jeremiah says that the just person is like a green tree because strength is found in the Lord. The passage from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians states very clearly that if Christ is not risen from the dead then the apostolic preaching is meaningless and the Christian faith is fruitless. The Resurrection is the culmination of all salvation history and the ultimate victory over sin and death. The faithful will rise on the last day, joining in the eternal life that has been won by Christ.

Luke's version of the Sermon on the Mount (which he calls the Sermon on the Plain) has many similarities to Matthew's version (Matthew 5-7), but also many differences. Matthew has nine beatitudes and no woes, Luke has four of each. Luke compares the blessedness of the poor, the hungry, the weeping, and the persecuted to the sadness of the popular, the smug, the full, and the rich. "Woe" is Luke's way of describing what befalls those who fail to recognize God as sole source of true meaning and lasting joy.

Our growth in faith, from the moment of baptism to the moment of dying, is a discovery of the Lord at the center of all genuine meaning. How centered are we in the Lord?
.-- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L. Copyright 1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

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Believing Justice and Mercy. In Luke’s Sermon on the Plain, Jesus speaks to more than just his own people. We hear four blessings and four related woes. He first calls all those in the crowd, and now calls us to rejoice and leap for joy at the blessed activities dealing with justice and mercy. The implication: do the blessings; avoid the woes.

- How will I be just in dealing with others all week long?
- How will I be merciful to everyone just as God is merciful?
- What mercy work will I do? It will be _____ for _____.

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time –February 20, 2022

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23. Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13. 1 Corinthians 15:45-49. Luke 6:27-38.



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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

The Advantage of the Poor

“Blest are you poor. ... but woe to you rich.” These powerful words, recorded for us by Luke, offer many avenues for thought. Today’s liturgy places them in the context of Jeremiah 17 and Psalms 1, and thus connects them with the search for happiness.

Poverty is wretched. It means physical suffering, psychological anguish, financial insecurity, cultural disparagement, political powerlessness, and social scorn. Affluence is wonderful. It means physical comfort, financial security, political power, social and cultural acceptability, and at least the possibility of psychological health.

Yet Jesus used the word *blest* when speaking of the poor, and he used the word *woe* when speaking of the rich. Obviously he saw some kind advantage to being poor, and some kind of disadvantage to being rich.

What truth was he expressing? That poverty keeps one open to one’s need for God? That riches turn one’s heart away from God? That happiness is found closer to poverty than to wealth?

From a Christian perspective, who is to be pitied, the poor or the rich?

All of us must examine our way of living in light of the needs of the poor. Christian faith and the norms of justice impose distinct limits on what we consume and how we view material goods. The great wealth of the United States can easily blind us to the poverty that exists in this nation and the destitution of hundreds of millions of people in other parts of the world. Americans are challenged today as never before to develop the inner freedom to resist the temptation constantly to seek more.

U.S. Bishops, Economic Justice for All, 1986: 75.

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Schedule of Masses

Sun Feb 13 8:00 am Mass Victoria Koval
Wed Feb 16 5:30 Mass
Fri Feb 18 6:00 pm Mass
Sun Feb 20 8:00 am Mass Billie Anderson

Birthdays

Feb 13 Edlein Dillow
Feb 16 Doug Jones
Feb 18 Lynne Stoeger

Liturgical Ministers

Feb 13	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
	J Galey	J Hacker	V Anderson	Vol	*M McMahan, F Dueker
		<u>Cantor</u> J Starrett			
Feb 20	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
	E Garrett	B Bowers	P Widowski	M Palmer M Bergmann	*S Widowski, D Zmuda
		<u>Cantor</u> Z Garrett			

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Feb 6, 2022

Envelope (18) \$1140.00
Loose \$25.00
Messenger subscrip. (6)\$150.00
Total: \$ 1315.00

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun Feb 13 8:00 am Mass
9:00 am PSR
9:00 am Adult Bible Study
Wed Feb 16 5:30 pm Mass
6:00 pm Parish Council Mtg
Fri Feb 18 6:00 pm Mass
Sun Feb 20 8:00 am Mass
9:00 am PSR



THANK YOU NICK AND SARAH BLACK for allowing us to welcome Maycie, your daughter to our parish family at this Mass as she receives the sacrament of Baptism.

WITH SADNESS we report that Pat Kinhead died on Feb. 2. Her family is planning to have a funeral rite and burial for Pat and her husband’s cremated remains sometime in the spring.

STILL TIME TO RENEW YOUR MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

Please stay connected with your Diocese through a subscription to The Messenger Catholic Newspaper. Payments can be made via your Messenger envelope or on-line at www.bellevillemessenger.org Please make checks payable to the Messenger. The cost is still only \$25 for print or digital and \$30 for both!

PARISH COUNCIL WILL MEET THIS WEDNESDAY.

FREE FEDERAL AND STATE TAX PREPARATION by certified Volunteer IRS preparers will be available every Thursday and Friday mornings at St. Paul parish Hall Feb. 17, 18, 24 and 25. For more information and appointments contact Pat Kalicki at 618 658 1500.

THE ADULT BIBLE STUDY WILL START TODAY AFTER MASS.

FEBRUARY 2022 HEALTH FOCUS PART 2

What is your risk for heart disease? You are at a higher risk if you have high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, smoke, are overweight, don’t exercise and do not eat a healthy diet. Family risk factors include a woman over age 55, man over 45, father or brother heart disease before age 55, mother or sister heart disease before age 65. The good news is that there is a lot you can do to prevent heart disease. Talk to your doctor about your risk factors and how to treat them.

VOCATION CORNER February 13:

A sage once wrote that a good marriage is like a fire around which others come to warm themselves. So, as we celebrate **World Marriage Day on this Sunday**, we realize that no matter our station in life - married, single or religious - we have benefited from this sacred covenant relationship whether through the example of our parents, grandparents, and other role models or through our own stewardship of the marriage covenant. For the Catholic steward, marriage goes far beyond the legal or societal agreement that our culture might define. Marriage brings us countless blessings but is met with many obstacles. Busy schedules, the challenges of parenthood, the strains of finances, mortgages, issues of health, and aging – all of these test the bonds of even the finest unions.