

## Fifth Sunday of Lent–April 3, 2022

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11

Knowing the right answers sometimes is not as important as knowing the right questions. The Scripture readings for this weekend urge us to reassess our questions. We must think the thoughts of God.

Isaiah, in the first reading, challenges the people to let go of old questions: Could God forgive us? Isaiah poses daring new questions: How much greater will be our destiny? A new exodus is envisioned, the miracles of the desert wanderings will reappear.

The gospel story of the adulterous woman is the perfect example of asking the right question. The story demonstrates both Jesus' wisdom and his forgiveness. He rejects the legalistic question and asks: What is the extent of mercy?

Today we learn that our lives are richer as we expand our horizons. One method is leaving the one way path of right answers and pursuing also the path of right questions. Don't review past failures, ask about future possibilities; don't measure how little but rather how much; focus not on what others might do for you but what you might do for others and hence for God.

Correct answers matter, but they are born of right questions.

-- John Craghan, Th.D., S.S.L. Copyright 1997, Liguori Publications / Liguori, MO 63057-9999

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**Reflecting on Shameful Acts.** She is caught in adultery. They drag her before Jesus and the crowd, more to trip him up than mete out the law. What does Jesus do? He asks, who is without sin? A great Lenten question.

- ◆ What stone will I put down and not pound against someone else?
- ◆ What sin will I admit and find a way to resolve it?
- ◆ Because of God's mercy to me, what mercy work will I do for another?

## Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022

Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22; Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14--23:56



**Pastor: Rev Christian Iwuagwu**

**Phone (618) 658 – 4501**

**E-mail: [spccil@frontier.com](mailto:spccil@frontier.com)**

**Website:**

**[www.stpaulvienna.org](http://www.stpaulvienna.org)**



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: Becky Bowers

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

Sundays – 8:00 am  
Weekdays – Fri 6:00 pm

## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR BISHOP**

Dear Friends,

Two years ago, when there was great uncertainty about the spread of the coronavirus, many bishops dispensed the faithful in their dioceses from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass as a temporary means for promoting the health, safety and wellbeing of everyone. My predecessor, Bishop Edward Braxton, dispensed the faithful from this obligation in the Diocese of Belleville in March 2020. Now twenty-four months later, as our society and the Church have taken many measures to promote the health of the public, we have reached a point where we believe that we can reintroduce the obligation to attend Sunday Mass in a way that balances our health and safety concerns with the deep desire to meet the Lord Jesus and our sisters and brothers during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist in our churches, chapels and institutions.

Therefore, on Sunday April 10, Palm Sunday, I will lift the dispensation and reintroduce the obligation to attend Sunday Mass for our Catholic community in southern Illinois. For many people who have continued to participate at Mass via social communication, I encourage you to see this step as an invitation to return to our parishes as we begin Holy Week. How fitting it is that we should gather around the altar of the Lord in church as we celebrate the mysteries of our salvation in Christ.

For those who are sick, homebound, or gravely concerned about their health, the dispensation from the obligation to participate at Mass remains, as it has in the past during normal times. No one is morally obligated to attend Mass when doing so presents a grave risk to their health or the health of others.

Please share this information with your family members and friends; I hope this is a moment when we can each offer a personal invitation to our families and neighbors to re-engage in the Eucharist at our parishes. When Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper in Jerusalem two thousand years ago, he declared to his apostles: "Do this in memory of me." May the Lord's words resonate in our hearts as we move toward the holiest of weeks and our celebration of the saving mysteries of Christ.

In our Lord,

Most Reverend Michael McGovern  
Bishop of Belleville

Vol. 23 # 14, Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 3, 2022

Schedule of Masses

Sun Apr 3 8:00 am Mass Martina Battreal  
Fri Apr 8 6:00 pm Reconciliation Service  
Sun Apr 10 8:00 am Palm Sunday Billie Anderson

Birthdays  
Apr 3 Josh Starrett  
Apr 9 Rhi Slife

Liturgical Ministers

Apr 3	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
	E Garrett	J Hacker	S Widowski <u>Cantor</u>	M & C Bergmann J Starrett	*S Widowski, P Widowski
Apr 10	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
	Z Garrett	B Bowers	M Slife <u>Cantor</u>	M Palmer J Starrett	* J Slife, J Bergmann

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING March 27, 2022

Envelope (20) \$1325.00  
Loose \$147.00  
Flowers \$20.00  
CRS (7) \$645.00  
Donation for flags \$250  
CSMA (1) \$15.00  
**Total: \$2402**  
Building & Maint. (1) \$30.00 **Total \$30.00**

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun Apr 3 8:00 am Mass  
9:00 am 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Social  
& Synodality Listening Session  
9:00 am PSR  
Thu Apr 7 9:00 am -3:00 pm Faith Alive Work day  
Fri Apr 8 9:00 am -3:00 pm Faith Alive Work day  
6:00 pm Lenten Reconciliation Service  
Sat Apr 9 9:00 am-noon Faith Alive Work day  
Sun Apr 10 8:00 am Palm Sunday  
9:00 am Adult Bible Study

ST. PAUL CHURCH IS HOSTING A SYNOD LISTENING SESSION DURING THE 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY SOCIAL GATHERING IN THE HALL AFTER MASS TODAY. PLEASE JOIN US.

Synod is a Greek word (synodos) meaning a meeting or assembly. The two Greek words that make up Synod are *syn* meaning together, and *hodos* meaning way or journey. The entire Catholic Church is called to participate in the upcoming Synod of Bishops! The upcoming Synod is entitled: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission. Each parish is asked to host a session. Refreshments will be provided.

OUR TRI PARISH DIRECTORY IS NOW AVAILABLE.

Our new parish directory is combined of members from our parish, St. Mary, Harrisburg and St. Mary Eldorado. (Separate sections for each parish) Look for the directory with your name on it in the church foyer. Our separate St. Paul photo directory (with pictures of parishioners who posed or sent pictures) will soon be available. Phone numbers will be listed with these pictures. Special thanks to Fr. Tom Barrett who coordinated this directory.

FAITH ALIVE WORK DAYS FOR OUR PARISH IS APRIL 7-9. A SIGN UP SHEET FOR WORKER VOLUNTEERS IS POSTED ON THE CHURCH FOYER. Also stop by and shop. All things spring and Easter are now in the store.

CPR CLASS BEING OFFERED AT ST. PAUL ON APRIL 21 AT 5 P.M. Please let Peggy Widowski know if you can attend. 618 771-2077

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE THREE DAY LENTEN RETREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR US ON MARCH 27, 28, 29 Special thanks to Pam Shallenberger for hosting and Frank Dueker for church preparation on Tuesday.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THE PARISH FISH FRY ON APRIL 1.

SPECIAL THANKS TO JARED BERGMANN FOR COORDINATING OUR PARISH WORK DAY, and to all who lent a helping hand.

SAVE THESE DATES:

April 8 Reconciliation Service (no Friday Mass)  
April 10 Palm Sunday Mass at 8:00 am  
April 12 Wellness Committee meeting 6:00 pm in Parish Hall  
April 14 Holy Thursday 7:00 pm  
April 15 Good Friday 7:00 pm  
Apr 16 Easter Vigil Service at 8:00 pm  
April 17 Easter Sunday Mass **at 10:00 am**  
Easter Egg Hunt weather permitting following Mass  
April 21 CPR class at 5:00 pm in Parish Hall