

Sixth Sunday of Easter –May 22, 2022

Acts 15:1-2,22-29; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10-14,22-23;
John 14:23-29

Life contains a promise of problems. The experience of difficulties is a matter of attitude; they can be stumbling blocks or stepping stones. The Scriptures today remind us that challenges are opportunities -- springboards for growth.

Problems abound in the Jerusalem community described today in Chapter 15 of Acts of the Apostles. If the Gentiles are to become Christian, does that mean they must observe the customs of the Jewish converts to Christianity? This would mean imposing circumcision, dietary restrictions, and marriage regulations. Paul's Letters, as well as Luke's account here in Acts, show that the resolution of this question was a long and painful process. Finally the Gentiles were admitted, free of Jewish rituals, and growth resulted.

Jesus' pending departure, communicated in today's passage from John, represents severe testing. Will this departure be a faith crisis or a faith opportunity? The author of John presents two pathways to growth in this critical moment: first, the presence of the Spirit who will unfold the teaching of Christ, as long as the disciples remain open to that grace; second, a willingness to allow the Messiah's return to the Father, and thus the completion of his mission.

Pain and anguish are always apparent in the shouldering of life's problems. Crosses may be personal, family, career, parish, and lots of others. In each moment our God of love is offering support and promising growth. We need only say YES.

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

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Keeping the Lord's Word. Love me. Keep my words. Will teach you everything. Be not afraid. What an Easter message! From the other side of death, the living Jesus still embraces us, still teaches us, still wants the best of everything for us.

- ◆ How will I love God today? What impact will that have on someone else?
- ◆ How can I be at peace and trust in the Lord's care for me?
- ◆ How will I shed fear and not let my heart be troubled?

Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 29, 2022

Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20;
John 17:20-26



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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: Becky Bowers

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

Sundays – 8:00 am

Weekdays –Fri 6:00 pm

A Better World

No celebration of Easter would be complete without a reference to the peace brought to us by the Paschal mystery. Today's liturgy provides us with that reference: 'Peace' is my farewell to you, my peace is my gift to you.

Peace is what Jesus gave us in his redemptive acts of dying and rising.

The early Christian communities experienced dissension and controversy. The reading from Acts documents the manner in which the leaders of the church resolved those conflicts and brought peace to the Church.

There is a lesson for us in the elements of their peaceful settlement: the exercise of responsible leadership, respect for all the members of the community, and the decision "not to lay on you any burden beyond that which is strictly necessary."

"O God, let all the nations praise you!" for you have rescued them from death and offered them the gift of peace through your resurrection.

The perfect world, we Christians believe, is beyond the horizon, in an endless eternity where God will be all in all. But a better world is here for human hands and hearts and minds to make.

For the community of faith the risen Christ is the beginning and end of all things. For all things were created through him and all things will return to the Father through him.

It is our belief in the risen Christ which sustains us in confronting the awesome challenge of the nuclear arms race.

--U.S. Bishops, [The Challenge of Peace](#), 1983: 337-39.

, 1971:75

by Gerald Darring, SLU Sunday Site

Vol. 23 # 21, Sixth Sunday of Easter

Schedule of Masses

Sun May 22 Seminarian Education Collection
8:00 am Mass Martina Battreall
Fri May 27 6:00 pm Mass Anna Mae Street
Sun May 29 8:00 am Mass Martina Battreall

Birthdays
May 26 Jenny Bergmann
May 27 Mike Ross
May 27 Fr. Christian

Liturgical Ministers

May 22	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
	S Widowski	B Bowers	P Widowski	M&C Bergmann	*M Slife, D Zmuda Sr.
		<u>Cantor</u>	Z Garrett		
May 29	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
	L Miller	V Anderson	Z Garrett	M Palmer,E Zmuda	*M McMahan, R Weels
		<u>Cantor</u>	J Starrett		

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING May 15, 2022

Envelope (20) \$1165.00
Loose \$115.00

Total: \$1280

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun May 22 8:00 am Mass
9:00 am Adult Bible Study
Fri May 27 6:00 pm Mass
Sat May 21 1:00 pm Mass
Sun May 29 8:00 am Mass

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION COLLECTION TODAY

Our diocese is currently blessed with 7 seminarians and we are asking for your help in meeting the needs of their Formation. The cost for tuition, books, room and board is over \$48,000 per year for each seminarian. Please join these young men on their journey to the priesthood. Your contribution to this collection is truly an investment in our faith and the life of the Church here in Southern Illinois. Thank you for your prayerful consideration

MEMORIAL DAY MASS AT ST. FRANCIS DESALES CEMETERY –MAY 30

Fr. Tom Barrett will be offering a 5 pm Mass at the St. Francis DeSales Cemetery in New Burnside .All are invited. Bring lawn chairs.

IMPORTANT DATES:

--Thursday thru Sat June 2-4 Faith Alive Thrift store workers for St. Paul needed
--Sunday June 5 Pentecost Sunday. Wear Red!
--Sunday June 19 Corpus Christi Sunday—Procession before Mass

REDISCOVERING THE EUCHARIST MASTERCLASS

The U.S. Bishops have called for a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist beginning in June 2022 and culminating in a National Eucharistic Congress in 2024. In this article, you will learn about the objectives of the Eucharist Revival and the ways that the Eucharistic catechesis can thrive with greater accompaniment. Be prepared to embrace opportunities for renewal during the Eucharist Revival by registering for a three-part online class, (live or on demand) starting May 17. For more information and to register go to <https://www.sadlier.com/religion/blog/rediscovering-the-eucharist>

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VOCATION CORNER May 22:

“As a teenager, I struggled to find my identity and purpose. I had a loving family and great friends, and I was a motivated student, yet I felt lost and empty. I had this gnawing desire to be whole. Everything changed when I encountered the Lord at a confirmation retreat. He spoke to my deepest desires, and for the first time, I felt at home with myself and the world. At the foot of the cross, I discovered that I am loved and known from all eternity. That same gaze of Christ crucified now calls me to respond to his love with love through the path of the

holy cross.” *Sr. Viet Oanh Nguyen; Lovers of the Holy Cross; Columbia Magazine*,
December 2020