

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 31 2022

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Psalm 95; Colossians 3:1-5,9-11; Luke 12:13-21

Jerry was not as proud of his 25-foot powerboat as usual because a luxurious yacht had docked next to him. Jerry wished the yacht were his. Then he saw a man in a little bass boat admiring Jerry's craft. Jerry then noticed the yacht's owners gazing with envy at children playing on the beach!

Jerry thought, "If we keep looking for what is bigger and better, we'll never be happy with what we have. And we'll eventually end up wishing for what we could have had all along!"

"Vanity of vanities," says today's first reading, "All is vanity!" If we think that material possessions will make us happy, we will spend half our time trying to acquire them and the other half trying to protect them. And in the end they must all be left behind!

The gospel shows even more forcefully the foolishness of making material things our top priority. Jesus refuses to arbitrate a family quarrel over a will. He points out in a dramatic parable the folly of counting on wealth for security.

"Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth," admonishes Paul (Colossians 3:2). Material things are good, but they are not God!

-- Father Oscar Lukefahr, C.M.

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About Greed. Family quarrels, regrettably, are often about inheritance, about possessions. That should be mine, we may say. I do not have enough, we may say. Jesus tells a story about how we are stewards only, and not owners of what we use; about how possessions can possess.

- ◆ How much is enough?
- ◆ What do I have that I can give away?
- ◆ With mercy works in mind, what will I do?

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Aug 7, 2022

Wisdom 18:6-9; Psalm 33; Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19; Luke 12:32-48



Pastor: Rev Christian Iwuagwu

Phone (618) 658 – 4501

E-mail: spccil@frontier.com

Website:

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

Our Other Desires

Today's liturgy contains a very strong message to those who have much and to those who want more: "Avoid greed in all its forms." We are to avoid the mistake of the rich fool, who saved up a fortune, only to die and have it left to others.

"That is the way it works with the man who grows rich for himself instead of growing rich in the sight of God." Christians are challenged to be "intent on things above rather than on things of earth"; anything else "is vanity and a great misfortune."

Our society, based on the civil religion of capitalism, perceives greed as good and desirable, for it fuels the drive to improve ourselves. "Greed is not a bad word," said a prominent American economist and erstwhile Secretary of Treasury.

But in the Christian scheme of things, greed is a bad word, and money does not save: God is "the only one who helps (us) and sets (us) free."

The Eucharist is a sign of the Christian commitment to satisfying basic human needs such as food; all our other desires should prompt us to fall on our knees with the prayer: "Forgive our sins and restore us to life."

Neither individuals nor nations should regard the possession of more and more goods as the ultimate objective. ... The exclusive pursuit of material possessions prevents man's growth as a human being and stands in opposition to his true grandeur. Avarice, in individuals and in nations, is the most obvious form of stultified moral development.

Pope Paul VI, [Populorum Progressio](#), 1967:19

--Gerald Darring from SLU Sunday Website

Vol. 23 # 40- 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 31, 2022

Schedule of Masses

Sun Jul 31 8:00 am Mass Billie Anderson
Fri Aug 5 6:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration
Sat Aug 6 8:30 am 1st Saturday Mass
Sun Aug 7 8:00 am Mass Heather Fred

Birthdays
Jul 31 David Zmuda, Sr

Liturgical Ministers

<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
July 31 J Nelson	J Hacker	Z Garrett	M &C Bergmann	*M Slife, J Slife
	<u>Cantor</u>	J Starrett		

<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Aug 7 X Gruszczyk	L Coleman	V Anderson	M Palmer,E Zmuda	*S Widowski, W Hooks
	<u>Cantor</u>	Z Garrett		

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING July 24, 2022

Envelope (22) \$1322..00

Loose \$21.00

Total: \$1343.00

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun Jul 31 8:00 am Mass Billie Anderson
9:00 am Adult Bible Study
Fri Aug 5 6:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration
Sat Aug 6 8:30 am 1st Saturday Mass
Sun Aug 7 8:00 am Mass Heather Fred
9:00 am 1st Sunday Social

JULY 31: VOCATION CORNER

“Growing up, I had a lot of misconceptions about nuns. Primarily, I assumed women became nuns only if they couldn’t find a boyfriend. Why else would a woman give up the joys – marriage and family – as celibate priests, with none of the “superpowers”? Then, in college, I actually *met* nuns and I was stunned. They were beautiful! And smart! And had personalities! I opened the door of my heart. Not much- just a crack. But it was a crack big enough for Jesus to get his toe in and open it a lot wider. I often recalled the words of my spiritual director: “We all have a natural call to marriage, but some of us have a supernatural call to celibacy.” My desire for a spouse helps me lean into Christ as my Bridegroom. And my desire for children molds me into a spiritual mother to many more children than I could otherwise have.”

Mother Natalia; Christ the Bridegroom Monastery, Burton, Ohio. Columbia Magazine April 2022

ST PAUL PARISH IS INVITED TO ST MARY’S HARRISBURG” SUMMER FEST”

on August 7 following 10:30 Mass. Potluck with meat furnished by the Knights of Columbus. Bingo and adult and children’s activities are part of the Fest. Please consider coming.

BOX OF JOY DRIVE BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY AUGUST 7 THRU SEPT 18.

This program provides gifts at Christmas for children involved with Catholic missions in Central America and the Caribbean. Please pick up a Box to fill at home or contribute items to the Box of Joy item container in the hall. A suggestion list of items will be available.

LOOKING AHEAD

August 2 Central Pastoral Parish Council meeting Harrisburg
August 7 1st Sunday Social following Mass
August 7 Summer Fest Picnic at St. Mary’s Harrisburg following their 10:30 Mass
August 14 Adult Bible Study
August 17 St. Paul Parish Council 6:00 pm
August 23-25 **St.** Paul operates Faith Alive Store

DEACON FORMATION PROGRAM STARTING

The Diocese of Belleville will begin the process of seeking those who may be interested in pursuing the office of a "Permanent Deacon" with a series of " Come and See" events at parishes around the diocese August through November 2022. 1. St Joseph Parish, 220 South Elliott, Olney, IL 62450-Sunday Aug. 7@ 2pm. 2. St Francis Xavier Parish, 303 S. Poplar St. Carbondale, IL 62901-Tuesday, Sept. 13 @ 7pm. 3. Cathedral of St Peter, 200 W. Harrison St., Belleville, IL 62220-Saturday Oct. 15 @ 10am (undercroft). 4. St Mary Parish,1550 Main St., Mt Vernon, IL 62864 Wednesday, Nov. 16 @ 7pm N/B Pre-registration is not required. For additional information contact Fr, Steven Pautler, director of deacon formation at 618-722-5043

UPDATE ON CHURCH SECURITY. Mike McMahan will be giving a brief update on church security.