

## 19<sup>h</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 7, 2022

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

Our Christian tradition teaches us about priorities in living: God, love of neighbor as yourself, justice and truth, and so forth. We all know, however, that in the practical realm of everyday life, values are rarely ordered with such precision and clarity. Actually living the values we know to be right requires a harmony of mind and heart, spirit and flesh. Today's readings challenge our priorities, our hierarchy of values.

The gospel passage from Luke clearly identifies the kingdom of God as our ultimate concern. The kingdom does not result from human ingenuity; it is a pure gift of God. The classic measure of priorities is stated by Jesus, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Luke 12:34).

"Thy kingdom come" is an unrelenting prayer and desire for those who choose the kingdom in mind and heart. The true believer is constantly prepared with belt fastened and lamp burning. To doze off is to abandon the ultimate quest.

Jesus speaks of priorities in the lives of Church leaders. People in roles of leadership sometime choose power over justice as their ultimate concern. The leader is first of all servant. Jesus states the leader's responsibility in this way, "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded" (Luke 12:48).

The Hebrews passage today, the second reading, presents Abraham and Sarah as examples of responsible servant-leaders who are uncompromising in their values. The lesson we learn from these giants of faith is that God's promises will always be fulfilled, but perhaps not in our time for our viewing. "Faith is assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

The world focuses priorities and values around power, success, popularity, and pleasure. Today's Scriptures help us to measure these priorities and values against the ultimate concerns of the kingdom.

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

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## 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time- Aug 14, 2022

Jeremiah 38:4-6,8-10; Psalm 40; Hebrews 12:1-4; Luke 12:49-53



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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

### **Anticipating the Kingdom**

We are a people who have been promised inheritance and life; we are “heirs of the same promise” made to Abraham. We have, therefore, put our hope in God: “our soul waits for the Lord,” who will come when we least expect him.

But our waiting is not passive; we are to keep our belts tightened and our lamps burning “like men awaiting their master’s return from a wedding.” So when the command comes to “be watchful and ready,” it means for us to go about “putting into effect with one accord the divine institution.”

Waiting for Christ to return means working for the coming of the Kingdom of God. It means combatting poverty; ending the hatreds that divide us; establishing peace among individuals, within families, in society, and among the nations of the world; curbing the pride that causes us to become confrontational with God and with each other; building social structures that respect the dignity of individual humans.

Abraham obeyed when he was called: let us obey the call to prepare the world for the coming of Christ.

*The church well knows that no temporal achievement is to be identified with the kingdom of God, but that all such achievements simply reflect and in a sense anticipate the glory of the kingdom, the kingdom which we await at the end of history when the Lord will come again. But that expectation can never be an excuse for lack of concern for people in their concrete personal situations and in their social, national and international life.*

From Pope John Paul II, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, 1987: 48

--Gerald Darring from SLU Sunday Website.

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Schedule of Masses

Sun Aug 7 8:00 am Mass Heather Fred  
Fri Aug 12 6:00 pm Mass  
Sun Aug 14 8:00 am Mass Rose Lewis family

Birthdays  
Aug 8 Patsy Bishop

Liturgical Ministers

<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		
<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Aug 14 S Widowski	P Widowski	B Palmer	M &C Bergmann	*F Dueker, A Irby
		<u>Cantor</u> Z Garrett		

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING For July 31, 2022 and August 7 will both be posted in the August 14 bulletin due to vacation coverage issues.

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sun Aug 7 8:00 am Mass Heather Fred  
9:00 am 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Social  
Fri Aug 12 6:00 pm Mass  
Sun Aug 14 8:00 am Mass Rose Lewis family  
9:00 am Adult Bible Study

AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup> VOCATION CORNER

“As the son of Polish immigrants, I grew up in a good Catholic home. But it wasn’t until I began participating in our parish youth group that I embraced the faith as my own and fell in love with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. A girl I was dating went to daily Mass, and I began going with her. It didn’t take long for my focus to shift from her to what took place in the sanctuary - God coming down to be with his people. I found myself with thoughts like, ‘how would I preach on that Gospel’. I wrestled with the idea of becoming a priest often.... Following high school graduation, I entered seminary and eight years later I was ordained a priest. If God calls you to the priesthood, nothing on earth will give you greater joy.”  
**Fr. Michael Niemczak; Archdiocese of Santa Fe, N.M. Columbia Magazine January, 2020**  
**April 2022**

ST PAUL PARISH 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY SOCIAL IS TODAY FOLLOWING MASS. Please stop by the Parish Hall after Mass and join us for refreshments and fellowship.

BOX OF JOY KICKOFF IS THIS SUNDAY AUGUST 7

Sponsored thru Cross Cultural Catholic Organization the Boxes of Joy are given to children at Christmas time by missions supported by Cross Cultural Catholic organization. You can take a box and fill it, or donate items for the boxes. For more information contact Pam Shallenberger at 217 714 4568

LOOKING AHEAD

August 2 Central Pastoral parish Council meeting Harrisburg  
August 7 Summer Fest Picnic at St. Mary’s Harrisburg  
August 14 Adult Bible Study  
August 17 St. Paul Parish Council  
August 23-25 St. Paul operates Faith Alive Store

**RESPECT FOR LIFE REFLECTION:** “A woman with an unexpected pregnancy may have any number of fears and challenges: facing judgment from her friends and family, losing her job or housing, or being abandoned by the father of her child. Following Mary’s example, we can ask ourselves how to better know these mothers, listen to them, seek understanding, and help them obtain the necessities of life for themselves and their children”  
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
“Called to Serve Moms in Need”