

Third Sunday In Ordinary Time Jan 22, 2023

Isaiah 8:23--9:3; Psalm 27; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17;
Matthew 4:12-23

"It is better to light one little candle than to curse the darkness." Light and darkness symbolize tension in human living: presence and absence, hope and despair, love and hate. Today's readings present the human and divine experience of light and darkness. They reveal a God whose first biblical words are "Let there be light" (Genesis 1:3). They challenge us to be producers of light, not architects of darkness.

Isaiah, in the passage from the Hebrew Scriptures, is preaching between 733 and 725 B.C. The prophet predicts that things will get worse before they get better. But there is also a message of hope: Yahweh will provide an ideal Davidic king. Once again there will be joy. The former captives of the neo-Assyrians who walked in darkness will now witness a great light (Isaiah 9:1). Yahweh dispels darkness and gloom.

Psalm 27 is an individual lament. Enemies are afflicting the psalmist. The author's greatest fear is the absence of God. The image of light suffuses the psalm. Yahweh is the psalmist's light who vanquishes fear. The psalmist longs for Yahweh's house where the author will gaze unimpaired on Yahweh's beauty. The psalmist is also confident about seeing God's goodness in the land of the living.

Matthew uses the text of the first reading for his own theological purposes. For example, in the first reading "sea" refers to the Mediterranean: in Matthew 4:13 it refers to the Sea of Galilee. Matthew also uncovers in today's passage the beginning of Jesus' mission to the Gentiles. This is important for Matthew because his own community is made up of both Jews and Gentiles. Matthew uses a prophetic text in which the pagans overcome darkness by experiencing the light emanating from Jesus' message.

Darkness is a constant companion in our world. The poor, ill, hurting, and depressed lose the capacity to hope for light. Our Christian mission is to echo Genesis, entering this darkness with our personal "Let there be light."

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

VOCATION CORNER JAN 22 2023

January 22:

Today’s Gospel is the story of Jesus beginning His Church on earth. He calls Peter and Andrew to be “fishers of men”. He likewise enlists James and John to follow Him. We are ALL called to be fishers of men, women and children through the example of our daily lives. We are charged with helping each other live the vocation we’ve each been uniquely called to. We need to minimally pray each day for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Religious Life.



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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

Sundays – 8:00 am

Parish Council Chair: Becky Bowers

Weekdays –Fri 6:00 pm

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann



Vol . 24 #8 January 22, 2023
3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Schedule of Masses

Wed Jan 18 5:30 pm Mass

Fri Jan 20 5:30 pm Mass

Sun Jan 22 8:00 am Mass Terry Kirkeeng, Michelle Aumiller

Sun Jan 29 8:00 am Mass Terry Kirkeeng

BIRTHDAYS
Joe Nelson 1/22
Macie Zmuda 1/22
Julie Kolb 1/23
Chuck Stone 1/25

Liturgical Ministers

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Jan 22	E.Garrett	B. Bowers	M. Nelson	Vol	*Joe Nelson J. Nelson
<u>Gift Bearers</u>	P. Shallenberger, J. Hacker		<u>Cantor</u>	Z. Garrett	

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Jan.29	S. Widowski	L.Coleman	B.Palmer	M.Palmer E.Zmuda	*Alan Irby W. Hooks
<u>Gift Bearers</u>	S&K Probst		<u>Cantor</u>	C.Ross	

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Jan 15 2023

General (23)	\$1850.00
Loose	\$19.00
2023 Initial Offering (1)	\$10.00
Total	\$1879.00

BLDG Maint. (6)	\$135.00
Total	\$135.00

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

WED JAN 18	5:30pm	Mass
WED JAN 18	6pm	Parish Council Meeting
FRI JAN 20	5:30pm	Mass
SUN JAN 22	8 am	Mass-Terry Kirkeeng, Michelle Aumiller
SUN JAN 29	8 am	Mass-Terry Kirkeeng
	9am	Adult Bible Study

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadlines for announcements are Wednesday at noon. Contact Theresa via email and or phone/text at spccil@frontier.com or 331-234-0658.

HELP US BE MINDFUL AS WE MEET AND GREET IN THE FOYER BEFORE MASS.

Our conversations carry into the church and disrupt what is meant to be a quiet and contemplative space before Mass. Thank you.

PHONE CALLS/TEXTS

If anyone calls/texts from my phone number making a request, it should not be attended to. Thank You Fr. Christian

TODAY BEFORE AND AFTER MASS

Peggy Wisdowski will be taking blood pressure checks before and after mass.

HEALTH FOCUS FROM THE WELLNESS COMMITTEE

January is National Blood Donor month. This month is usually a period of critical blood shortages. People stop donating blood during the holidays, due to illness like colds, flu, etc. Blood drives can also get “snowed out” Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. There is no substitute for human blood!

KINGS HOUSE RETREAT ANNOUNCEMENT

Ladies of St. Paul we are participating in a women's silent retreat on April 14th thru the 16th at King's House in Belleville, Illinois if interested call Vickie Anderson at 618-579-3748 ASAP

LOOKING AHEAD

Jan 29	Adult Bible Study
Feb 2,3 & 4	St. Paul Faith Alive Work Days
Feb 7	Central Pastoral Council
Feb 5 ^{1st}	Sunday Social
Feb 21	Wellness Committee 6pm
Feb 22	Ash Wednesday Mass at 6pm

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be on Sunday afternoon April 30 at St. Kateri. For any adults looking to be confirmed, please let Fr. Christian know before February 28, 2023.

MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL COMING FEBURARY

Make *The Messenger* a part of your New Year’s Resolution!*The Messenger* brings you the stories of real people quietly living their faith through compassion and good works. Inspirational stories that show our Catholic faith is alive and well in southern Illinois. Subscribe to *The Messenger* at 618-233-8670. To subscribe online go to www.bellevillemessenger.org

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER

9 Day of Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each days intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Participants can receive the novena by subscribing to daily emails or text messages. Visit 9DAYSFORLIFE.COM