

Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time Jan 29, 2023

Zephaniah 2:3;3:12-13 Psalm 146; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31Matthew 5:1-12a

Will my real values please stand up? The communications barrage we face each day is more than willing to define values. Happiness is in the latest fad, the newest beverage, in looking out for number one. Today's readings present another challenge: Can I run the risk of being different? Look deep within to identify a personal value system.

Zephaniah preached in Jerusalem during the seventh century B.C. He addressed an audience reeling from the effects of paganism. Idolatry was rampant, violence and fraud were commonplace. The prophet believed that Yahweh had to punish Judah so that a purified people would turn again to the Lord.

Zephaniah is able to single out one group whose values have not eroded. The "humble of the land" (Zephaniah 2:3) are those who choose to obey Yahweh and practice justice. They are a remnant of loyal people whom God will spare and even defend.

Paul points out that most of his community cannot boast about their pedigree or prestige. God actually chooses those less wise, less influential, less wellborn -- in this way God confounds the rich and powerful. There is only one genuine value, namely life in Christ Jesus.

In Matthew's account of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus presents the basic plan of God's kingdom. The qualities that make for happiness in God's reign are identified. Matthew lists nine beatitudes: four stressing a passive attitude (vs. 3-6); four emphasizing an active attitude (vs. 7-10); and a final and longer one focusing on persecution (vs. 11-12).

Zephaniah, Paul, and Jesus call for an abrupt move away from the pursuit of self to concentration on the community. They suggest that we examine our values against the background of ego versus others. This trio presses us to pose an unsettling question: Will my real values please stand up?

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

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VOCATION CORNER JAN 29, 2023

“Though I was raised in a Catholic family and blessed with good priests throughout my life, the priesthood did not attract me when I was young. In fact, during college, I didn’t even practice the faith. The Lord eventually led me back to the Church, and when he began to call me to the priesthood, I was both terrified and excited. He was asking me to sacrifice my will and to trust and follow him. This meant breaking up with the girl I was dating and placing my desires for fatherhood and family into his hands. Had I been called when was younger, I wouldn’t have been mature enough in my faith to answer with the generosity and trust that let me to the priesthood.”

Father Jonathan Schnobrich, Diocese of Burlington, Vt. *Columbia Magazine* October 2020



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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 #9 January 29, 2023

4thSUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Schedule of Masses

Sun Jan 29 8:00 am Mass Terry Kirkeeng
Fri Feb 3 5:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration
Sat Feb 4 8:30 am 1st Saturday Mass
Sun Feb 5 8:00 am Mass

BIRTHDAYS

Arnie Morse 1/29
Anthony Kolb 1/29
Ryan Weeks 1/30
Susan Ward 2/2
Cathy Hinton 2/2
Deborah Retz 2/3
Paul Widowski2/3

Liturgical Ministers

	<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	*Alan Irby
				E. Zmuda	William Hooks

Gift Bearers S & K Probst Cantor C. Ross

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Feb 5	J. Nelson	D. Irby	V. Anderson	M.Bergmann	*S. Widowski
				C.Bergmann	Ryan Weeks

Gift Bearers Bergmann Family Cantor C. Ross

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Jan 22 2023

General (18)	\$1645.00
Loose	\$10.00
Masses	\$70.00
2023 Initial Offering (1)	\$20.00
Total	\$1745.00

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

SUN	JAN 29	8 am	Mass-Terry Kirkeeng
		9am	Adult Bible Study
THUR	FEB 2	9am-3pm	Faith Alive Workday
FRI	FEB 3	9am-3pm	Faith Alive Workday
SAT	FEB 4	8:30am	1 st Saturday Mass
SAT	FEB 4	9am-3pm	Faith Alive Workday
SUN	FEB 5	8 am	Mass

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadlines for announcements are Wednesday at noon. Contact Theresa via email and or phone/text atspccil@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.

CONTRIBUTIONS

2022 Annual Contributions statement are available in the church foyer.

ENEVELOPES

Weekly envelopes for February are available. Hopefully our boxed envelopes will be here for March and the rest of the year.

HEALTH FOCUS FROM THE WELLNESS COMITTEE

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 28th thru the 30th 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 51 st	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