

3rd Sunday of Easter April 23, 2023

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

Today's first reading, responsorial psalm, and gospel consider the theme of leniency. The image is of a God who chooses to demonstrate control by means of kindness and patience. This is a God who governs not by power or force but by compassion.

Writing for Alexandrian Jews in the first century B.C., the author of the Book of Wisdom emphasizes God's special care of Israel during the Exodus. He also takes up the problem of the just and the unjust. God's power does not result in blind rage but in clemency. In this way God manages a balance between justice and mercy. We are to imitate this balance by showing strength through the exercise of leniency.

Psalm 86 presents a person who has suffered from persecution. The persecutors are intent upon taking the life of the psalmist. This bleak situation of the victim demands God's immediate action. "Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame" (vs. 17). The psalm does not speak of revenge on the persecutors but rather God's power in leniency.

The parable defines the kingdom as one that embraces both wheat and weeds, both good and evil. The owner confronts two problems: (1) how to save the wheat and (2) how to outwit the enemy. He resolves the first by permitting the wheat and weeds to grow together until harvest. He resolves the second by using the weeds as fuel. The owner realizes that violence (killing the weeds) will only endanger the common good. In the kingdom, the common good demands patience and forgiveness.

Swift action plus compassion make the owner a symbol of the kingdom: strength through leniency. Power is given to help others. Power, if destructive rather than constructive, must be carefully examined.

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

VOCATION CORNER APRIL 23, 2023

"A difficult freshman year of high school left me feeling alone and far away from God, in part because of my sins. I decided to do something different and attended a Catholic youth conference. It was there that I heard Jesus say, "Estevan, you're not just a face in the crowd. I love you, and I'm calling you to be a saint." From that moment on, I sought to give my life to him. After graduating high school, I entered seminary. The biggest thing I've learned is to lean into the Lord's grace. No matter where your discernment leads, open wide your heart to Christ, and he will not disappoint you."

Fr. Estevan Wetzel; Diocese of Phoenix; Columbia Magazine December 2021



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Mission: Live Catholic teachings,

Participate in Sacramental and Liturgical Celebrations, Serve our Community

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

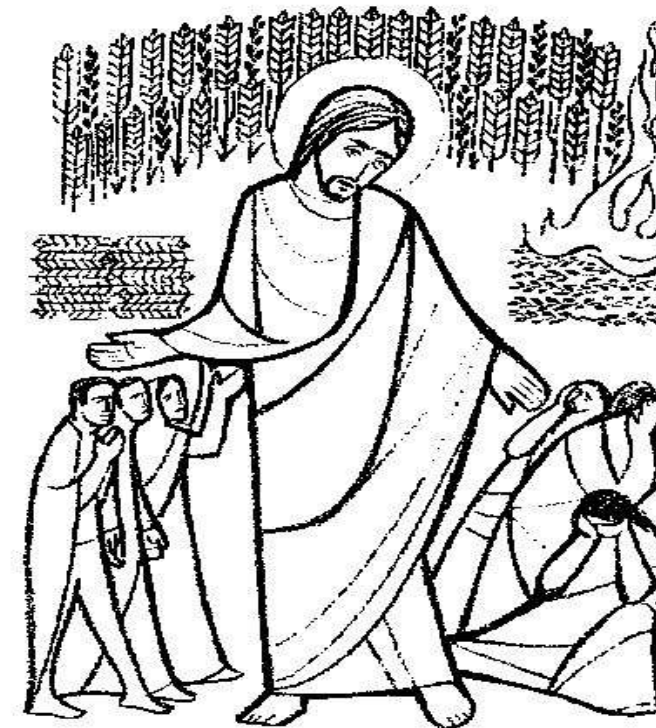
2020 State Rte. 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Sundays – 8:00 am

Parish Council Chair: Becky Bowers

Weekdays – Fri 6:00 pm

Trustees: Steve Pobst, Jared Bergmann



Vol. 33 #21 April 23, 2023
16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Schedule of Masses

April 23 8 am Mass – *Doc Maier*
April 28 5:30 pm Mass
April 30 8 am Mass

<u>BIRTHDAYS</u>	
Tom Kruep	4/24
Dale Bishop	4/24
Xennia Gruszczyk	4/28
John Zawacki	4/29

Liturgical Ministers

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Apr 23	J. Nelson	D. Irby	B. Palmer	M. Palmer E. Zmuda	*Mike McMahan D. Zmuda Sr.

Gift Bearers Stan & Mary Treat **Cantor** J. Starratt

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Apr 29	X. Gruszczyk	J. Hacker	S. Widowski	VOL	*Frank Dueker A. Irby

Gift Bearers David Zmuda Jr. Family **Cantor** Z. Garrett

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING *April 16, 2023*

General (18)	\$840.00
Loose	\$97.00
Dio Collection	\$286.90 (CRS)
	\$500.00 (CSMA) (1)
Other	\$24.00 (Fish Fry)
Total	\$1747.90

BUILDING MAINTENANCE (2) \$70.00

Total \$70.00

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

SUN	APR	23	8 AM	Mass- <i>Doc Maier</i>
FRI	APR	28	5:30 PM	Mass
SUN	APR	30	8 AM	Mass
SUN	APR	30	10:00 AM	<i>Confirmation St. Kateris</i>

CATFISH

We have 20lbs of catfish from the *Fish Fry* at **\$5.50/lb.** for sale. See *Joe Nelson* or *Matt Slife*.

THANK YOU

Thank you to *Steve Pobst* for taking the **Trustee** position on the *Parish Council*.

PRAYER CARDS FOR VOCATIONS

Prayers cards for vocations will be given out Sunday the 30th before and after mass.

ARMED INTRUDER AWARENESS TALK

Mike McMahon will present the quarterly *Disaster Awareness Talk* on *Armed Intruders* today after Communion

RESTORE: A Day Of Formation For Those Called To Pray With Others For Healing
Saturday April 29th – at St. Vincent Parish in Cape

Please join *St. Raphael Prayer Ministry* from *St. Vincent de Paul Parish* in *Cape Girardeau*, for this day long workshop on *Saturday April 29th* from **8:30 am to 5:00 pm** Registration is \$20 and includes lunch. To register got to *svcape.com* or call **573-335-7667**

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

There will be a special collection on April 30th for the *Catholic Home Missions Appeal*.

APRIL IS FACIAL PROTECTION MONTH

7-11 year olds are the most vulnerable to sports related mouth injuries. Did you know that **5 million** teeth each year get knocked out or injured? Many oral/facial injuries can be easily prevented with the use of sport's safety equipment like *helmets* or *mouth guards*.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

April 30 is *World Day of Prayer*.

SEMINARIN EDUCATION DRIVE

There will be a collection on May 7th for the *Seminarian Education Drive*.

CSMA

The initial mailing of envelopes for the 2023 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal was February 18th, if you haven't received your envelope there will be envelopes on the table at the back of the church for your convenience in making your donation.

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CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be on April 30, 2023 at *St. Kateris Church* starting at 10:00 AM. Dinner will follow in the gym. Please contact *St. Mary Church* office ASAP if you plan to attend the dinner in order to make sure there will be enough food.

LOOKING AHEAD

April 22	<i>Journey to Justice Retreat</i>	9 am- 2:30 pm
April 28-29	<i>Kings House Retreat</i>	
April 29	<i>RESTORE: A Day Of Formation For Those Called To Pray With Others For Healing</i>	8:30 am- 5:30 pm
April 30	<i>Confirmation at St. Kateris</i>	10:00 am
April 30	<i>World Prayer Day</i>	
May 6	<i>St. Paul CCW Meeting (After First Saturday Mass)</i>	8:30 am
May 7	<i>Seminarian Education Drive</i>	