

4th Sunday of Easter April 30, 2023

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:20b-25; John 10:1-10

All of us have role models for planning and managing our lives. Those who aspire to beauty and glamour look to Hollywood; those who are attracted to power emulate business executives or politicians; those who are sports-minded look to the superstars of professional athletics. Disciples also need role models.

Solomon passes over desire for long life, wealth, and victory over enemies in favor of "an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil" (vs. 9). This is a request to govern well and provide for the people, especially the disenfranchised. As a matter of fact Solomon did not live up to this expectation (see 1 Kings 11:28), and hence is not a role model for just government.

Paul speaks of that plan for humans whereby they can arrive at the destiny God intended from the beginning. He uses five verbs (foreknew, predestined, called, justified, glorified) that capture God's benefits on behalf of Israel. But now humans who respond in faith can also share in those benefits. After "predestined," Paul adds a qualification: "to be conformed to the image of his Son" (vs. 29). The risen Lord is the exemplar of God's destiny for humanity. To be fully human is to be one with the lifestyle and death-style of Jesus.

In the parable of the buried treasure, Matthew offers a role model of how growth in the kingdom takes place. The first stage is normalcy, the day to day routine of the farmer. The second stage is the discovery of the treasure that opens a whole new world. The third stage is the overturning of the past -- the farmer sells all his possessions to purchase the field. The fourth stage is the new world that Jesus offers the disciple. Matthew calls for a radical commitment to the person of Jesus.

Solomon challenges our use of power. Matthew's true disciple reminds us of ultimate values. The Jesus role model of Paul urges us to make those values the guideposts for our living.

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

VOCATION CORNER APRIL 30, 2023

Today we acknowledge the *World Day of Prayer for Vocations*. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for vocations to the priesthood and religious life? Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead. Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister. Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call. To quote Pope Francis, "Each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now."

<https://vianneyvocations.com/product-category/wdpv/>
<https://worlddayofprayerforvocations.com>



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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



*Confirmation candidates **Laney Slife & Madaline Bergmann** with their instructor **Marsha Nelson**.*



***Dolly Hopkins** on her 89th birthday
with **Maddie Palmer** who served
Mass.*

Vol. 34 #22 April 30, 2023
4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

Schedule of Masses

April 30 8 am Mass- *World Day of Prayer for Vocations*
May 5 6 pm Eucharistic Adoration
May 6 8:30 am Mass
May 7 8 am Mass- *Seminarian Education Drive*

Liturgical Ministers

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Server</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Apr 30	X. Gruszczyk	J. Hacker	S. Widowski	VOL	* Frank Dueker A. Irby

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

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
May 07	S. Pobst	K. Pobst	X. Gruszczyk M. Nelson V. Anderson	M. Palmer E. Zmuda	* Joe Nelson S. Widowski

Gift Bearers Donna & Alan Irby **Cantor** S. Pobst

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING *April 23, 2023*

General (20)	\$895.00
Loose	\$112.00
Total	\$1007.00

BUILDING MAINTENANCE (3) \$55.00

Total \$55.00

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

SUN	APR	30	8 AM	Mass- <i>World Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>
SUN	APR	30	10:00 AM	<i>Confirmation St. Kateris</i>
FRI	MAY	5	6 PM	Eucharistic Adoration
SAT	MAY	6	8:30 AM	Mass
SUN	MAY	7	8 AM	Mass- <i>Seminarian Education Drive</i>

ST. PAUL CCW MEETING

St. Paul CCW Meeting will be after the 8:30 Mass on Saturday, **May 6**. We'll be enjoying breakfast and each other's company as we plan for summer activities. All ladies of the parish 18 years old and above are invited to attend.

RECEPTION BREAKFAST

A reception breakfast for *Mady Bergmann* and *Laney Slife*, our recent confirmees will be held on **May 7** at the parish hall after 8:00 Mass. All parishioners are invited.

CATFISH

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

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*.

SEMINARIN EDUCATION DRIVE

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

THE 2023 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord - Psalm 15

A special thanks to everyone who has so generously supported *The 2023 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal* – we are most grateful. If you haven't had an opportunity to make a gift as yet, we hope you will prayerfully consider doing so now. Gifts can be made through your parish or by visiting www.diobelle.org and clicking on "Giving". Seventeen (17) ministries and programs and all those they so faithfully serve are counting on YOU. Please make your contribution today.

LOOKING AHEAD

May 6 *St. Paul CCW Meeting* (After First Saturday Mass)

May 7 *Seminarian Education Drive*

May 7 *Reception Breakfast for Maddy Bergmann & Laney Slife*

****Office Hours to contact Theresa are M-F 8am-4pm at the rectory (618) 658-4501 or via email spccil@frontier.com. Wednesday by 12pm is the deadline for any bulletin changes or additions. Wednesdays Theresa will be at the rectory 11am- 1pm.****