

6th Sunday of Easter May 14, 2023

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Psalm 66; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21

Today's readings focus on people filled with fear. The common antidote for these encounters with fear is the divine presence. The healing presence of God routs despair and dispels discouragement.

Around the middle of the ninth century B.C., the prophet Elijah incurred the wrath of Queen Jezebel. He fled in fear to Sinai (Horeb) where Elijah experienced God's covenant presence in a special manifestation; not wind or fire but a tiny whispering sound. Elijah was then commissioned to resume his prophetic career by the proclamation of God's Word, a word that will overcome fear.

Paul, in the verses from Romans, anguishes over the fact that Israel did not enter the Christian community. Paul notes Israel's privileges: covenants, lawgiving, worship, and so forth. This culminates in the human origin of the Messiah, and sadly he was not recognized. Ironically, the Gentiles did recognize Jesus and thus enjoy the destiny originally set aside for Israel.

Matthew uses images from Hebrew Scripture: God walks on the waters of chaos (see Job 38:16), rescues humans captured in the flood waters of death (see Psalm 18:16-17), and indicates God's presence and willingness to save (Isaiah 45:18). Peter symbolizes the fearful Christian hovering between faith and doubt; Jesus offers his hand and enters the boat.

God depends on human beings to help realize God's plan for the world. Believers are challenged to radiate God's comforting presence and thus offset the fear that plagues the world.

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

VOCATION CORNER MAY 14, 2023

Mothers' Day – what a wonderful commemoration of one of the greatest vocations there is. We are inspired by the example of Mary, the Mother of God, to live by the words from the Cana feast “Do whatever He tells you”. We pray for all our Mothers today and for the families they form, nurture and love. We also ponder our own “FIAT” – our surrendering to God's plan for us.



Pastor: Rev Christian Iwuagwu
Phone (618) 658-4501
E-mail: spccil@frontier.com
Website: www.stpaulvienna.org



Mission: Live Catholic teachings,
Participate in Sacramental and Liturgical Celebrations, Serve our Community

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

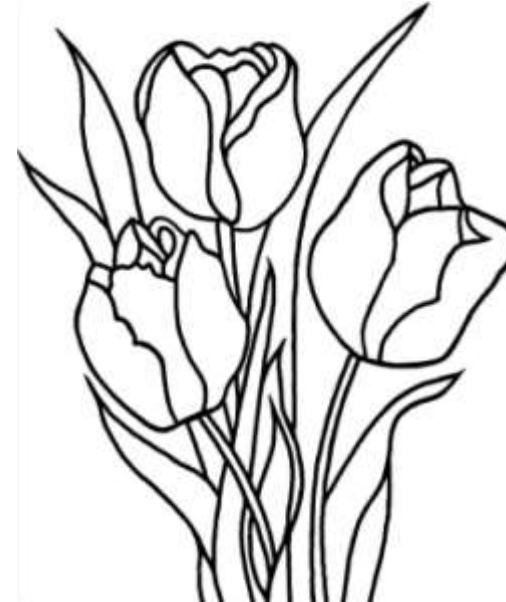
2020 State Rte. 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Sundays – 8:00 am

Parish Council Chair: Becky Bowers

Weekdays – Fri 6:00 pm

Trustees: Steve Pobst, Jared Bergmann



*Happy Mother's
Day*

Vol. 36 #24 MAY 14, 2023
6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

BIRTHDAYS

Alan Irby 5/15

Schedule of Masses

May 14 8 am Mass- *Mothers Day*
May 19 6pm Mass
May 21 8am Mass- *Ascension of the Lord*

Liturgical Ministers

May 14 **Lector** E. Garrett **Greeter** L. Coleman **EM** B. Palmer
P. Widowski S. Widowski **Server** VOL **Ushers** *Matt Slife
R. Weeks

Gift Bearers C. Koester & R. Weeks **Cantor** J. Starratt

May 21 **Lector** X. Gruszczyk **Greeter** B. Bowers **EM** V. Anderson
M. Slife M. Nelson **Servers** M. Bergmann C. Bergmann **Ushers** *Frank Dueker
J. Bergmann

Gift Bearers G. Tesina & J. Hacker **Cantor** C. Ross

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING May 07, 2023

General (22) \$1640.00
Loose \$5.00
Dio Collection \$20.00 (Catholic Home Mission) (1)
\$440.00 (Seminarian Education) (12)

Total \$2105.00

BUILDING MAINTENANCE (7) \$230.00

Total \$230.00

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

SUN MAY 14 8 am Mass- *Mothers Day*
FRI MAY 19 6pm Mass
SUN MAY 21 8am Mass- *Ascension of the Lord*

THE BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Help support the programs of the *Metropolis Crisis Pregnancy Center* and *Hope Unlimited*, that begins today, *Mothers Day* and runs through *Father's Day*. Please take a bottle home to fill with change and return it to church by **June 18**.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE MEETING

Wellness Committee meeting Tuesday May 16 at 6pm Parish Hall.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Faith Alive needs volunteers for *May 25, 26 & 27*. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the church.

REPSECT FOR LIFE CORNER

“O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers”

DIOCESAN PRO-LIFE SERVICES

Would you like a way to put your pro-life beliefs into action? St. Paul Parish needs volunteers to keep us informed of Diocesan Pro-Life Services and events. If interested, please let *Father Christian* or parish council member know.

THE 2023 CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

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

Did you know **YOUR GIFT** to The 2023 *Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal* can be made online? Visit your Belleville Diocese’s website at www.diobelle.org and click on “Giving”. It’s that simple! Every donation – large or small – is needed to continue our diocesan ministry to those in need. We are counting on YOU. Please visit www.diobelle.org today!

LOOKING AHEAD

May 14- Jun 18 *Baby Bottle Campaign*
May 16 *Wellness Committee Meeting* 6 pm
May 25-27 *Faith Alive Workdays*

****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.****