

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time June 25, 2023

Jeremiah 20:10-13; Psalm 69; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33

Freedom generally implies the ability to provide for ourselves, to move about at will, to be independent. Freedom is a basking in self-sufficiency, free of all debt -- financial or otherwise. Today's readings suggest another concept of freedom. They speak of a God who chooses to give to the most unlikely and undeserving because that is the nature of God.

Isaiah urges the people to repent, to have a change of heart, to return to Yahweh. Israel is slow to accept God's plan, they are skeptical that God can create something new out of the chaos of exile. How can the depressed break into song? Isaiah must teach a new way of thinking, a vision of God that gives new meaning to success and failure.

Jesus' original parable appears to have included only verses 1-13 of this passage from Matthew. This embraces the hiring of the five groups (vs. 1-7) and the paying of the same wage to each group, starting with the last (vs. 8-13). Verses 14-16 are perhaps the work of Matthew himself. He reminds his audience that God is free to reward merely on the basis of God's own goodness.

God's generous giving of surprises is a divine paradox that invites all believers to participate in the same adventure. Today's biblical passages suggest that this invitation is a sure path to sanctity. We are called to focus on those who seem to have no demand on our generosity, our compassion, and our love. The surprise is that we are most generous to those least able to claim our kindness.

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

VOCATION CORNER JUNE 25, 2023

"I was blessed to attend strong Catholic parishes and entered the Academy of Fine Arts to study painting, which was a dream come true. Still nothing in my life satisfied me completely. I wanted to grow closer to God and I felt the call to give my all to Christ. However, I was terrified with the idea of leaving my family and my dreams, painting, dancing, and children. Then a moment came in prayer when deep in my heart I simply said to God, "OK, I will do it". Suddenly, a peace entered my life like I never experience before. I never knew such peace existed. I completed my school studies and soon went to the convent with my suitcase."

Sister Gaudia Skass, Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, Krakow Poland, Columbia, May 2016, pg. 42



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

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

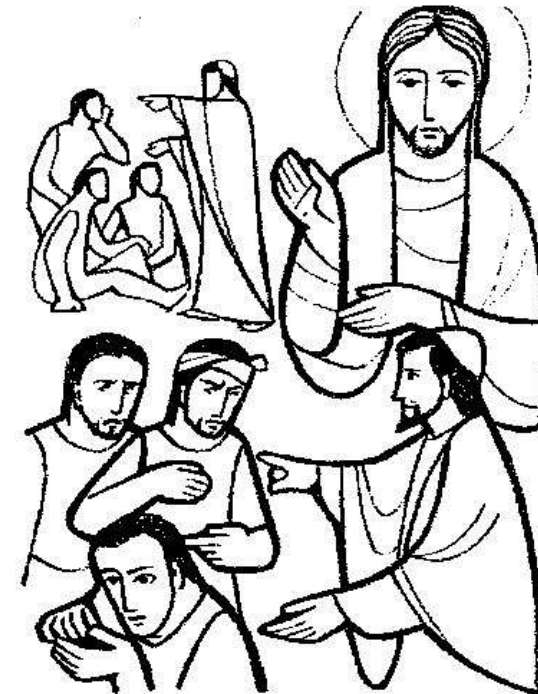
2020 State Rte. 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Sundays – 8:00 am

Parish Council Chair: Becky Bowers

Weekdays – Fri 6:00 pm

Trustees: Steve Pobst, Jared Bergmann



Vol. 42 #29 JUNE 25, 2023
12TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

Schedule of Masses

June	25	8 am	Mass
June	30	6 pm	Mass
July	1	8:30 am	Mass- <i>First Saturday Mass</i>
July	2	8 am	Mass- <i>1st Sunday Social</i>

BIRTHDAYS	
Nathaniel Ross	6/27
Karen Cole	7/4
Mitch Miller	7/5
Madeline Palmer	7/7

Liturgical Ministers

	Lector	Greeter	EM	Servers	Ushers
June 25	S. Pobst	L. Coleman	P. Widowski B. Palmer A. Dueker	C. Levesque	*M. McMahan D. Zmuda Sr.

Gift Bearers M. McMahan & J. Cecchi Cantor J. Starratt

	Lector	Greeter	EM	Servers	Ushers
July 2	M. Slife	B. Bowers	V. Anderson M. Nelson S. Widowski	E. Zmuda B. Palmer	*Joe Nelson R. Weeks

Gift Bearers Harry & Xennia Gruszczyk Cantor S. Pobst

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING June 18, 2023

General	\$945.00 (15)
Loose	\$20.00

Total \$965.00

THIS WEEKS SCHEDULE

SUN	JUNE	25	8 am	Mass
FRI	JUNE	30	6 pm	Mass
SAT	JULY	1	8:30 am	Mass- <i>First Saturday Mass</i>
SUN	JULY	2	8 am	Mass- <i>1st Sunday Social</i>

THANK YOU

Thank you *Cathy Kruep* for making and distributing holiday cards to **Hillview and Autumn Ridge** residents from our parish. A sample of her most recent card is on the Church bulletin board.

Thank you to the volunteers who worked *Faith Alive June 25-28*

FIRST SUNDAY SOCIAL

Please join us after Mass on 7/2/23 in the hall for the *First Sunday Social*.

STONEFORT FOOD DRIVE

Stonefort will be holding a *Food Drive* 7/2-7/30. We will have a bin for donations in the church foyer.

RESPECT FOR LIFE

St. Anne Cradle of Hope is up and running. It is located at 2015 Main St. in Carbondale. Current hours are Monday & Wednesday from 10 am-2 pm. Clients are coming in to receive new and gently used items.

JUNE HEALTH FOCUS

June is Men's Health Month. Please encourage all the men in your life to eat healthy, exercise often and get regular check-ups. These goals will help maintain a sound body and a long life.

CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL 2023

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

Each year the success of The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal depends upon the generous response of every Catholic household – it depends on you!! Every dollar donated to The Appeal is restricted and supports only the work of 17 diocesan ministries which serve thousands of people throughout southern Illinois each year. To learn more about the good works your gift makes possible, visit www.diobelle.org and click on The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal poster or call Judy Phillips at 618-722-5007 – she’d love to hear from you!

LOOKING AHEAD

July 2	First Sunday Social	(After Mass)
July 16	CCW Meeting	(After Mass)
July 19	Parish Council Meeting	6pm

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