

ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH
398 Superior Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102
www.ststans.org

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Kim Velasquez
Education Assistant – 651-238-3098

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WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION (penance)
Saturday 2:30 to 3:00 p.m.

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS
Father John C. Clay - 651-964-2812



HOLY IS ANY PLACE WHERE IT IS SAFE TO TELL YOUR STORY,
HOLY IS ANY PLACE THAT CREATES JUSTICE.

ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH
398 SUPERIOR STREET
ST. PAUL, MN 55102-2925

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Dear People Whom God Loves,

Whom Do We Follow?

Getting caught in religion can lead to things like violence—maybe physical violence, maybe emotional violence. The horrific terrorist acts that occur are only something written large that lurks in the heart of each one of us. We probably will not go to that extreme, but when we are caught in religion, the tendency is to put people aside, to make divisions, to put people down, to say they are no good, and so on.

Here are some examples. The leaders of the Jewish religion in Jesus' time said people had to be very careful about who they ate with. You didn't dare eat with the people who were unclean, and there were so many things that made people unclean. The ordinary people were always unclean. You weren't supposed to eat with them because if you did, then you became unclean too. Then you could not partake in the Temple worship. So you had to watch out who you ate with.

What did Jesus do? He ate with everybody—the prostitutes, the sinners, the tax collectors, the clean, the unclean—everybody. What Jesus was saying by these actions was part of what got him killed.

Jesus was telling us not to divide people into those who are worthy and those who are not, into those who are clean and those who are not. Jesus was saying that we are all daughters and sons of God. Jesus made this very clear by the way he ate and drank with everybody.

How can we learn from this? Let's look at how we deal with communion. We say that certain people shouldn't receive communion. They are not worthy. Their lifestyle is such and such, so they are not worthy to receive. Just a minute, is that following Jesus or not? When we don't follow Jesus, we should stop and ask ourselves the question: Am I getting caught in religion?

When we get caught in religion, we do things we think are good. We say, "Well, you can come to mass, but don't receive communion." Can you imagine how this would be? Suppose you have a party. You invite people to

JANUARY CALENDAR

MONDAYS

Al-Anon: 11:30am-12:30pm, Parish Center

TUESDAYS

Women's Spirituality Group: 5:00-6:30pm, Parish Center

WEDNESDAYS

Youth Group: Meets at 6:30pm, Grades 7-12, Parish Center.

THURSDAYS

Women's Spirituality Group: 9:30-11:00am, Parish Center

Centering Prayer: 12-1:00pm; 7-8:00pm, Parish Center

Lectio Divina: 6:00-6:50 pm, Parish Center Library, Meets 1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month.

Scriptural Rosary: Parish Center chapel 11-11:45am.

SATURDAYS

Penance: 3:00-3:30pm (**please note change in time**)

Mass: 4:00pm

SUNDAYS

Mass: 8:00am and 10:00am

Centering Prayer: 1st & 3rd Sunday mornings between Sunday mass times from 9:15-9:45am, Parish Center.

JANUARY SPECIAL EVENTS

- ❖ New Year's Day mass: Tuesday, January 1, 10:00am
- ❖ Caramel roll Sunday: Sunday, January 6 after 10am mass
- ❖ Spiritual Growth series: Sunday, January 13 & 27, 11:30am-1:00pm, *Everything Ablaze*, Parish Center
- ❖ Religious Education classes: Sundays, January 13, 20 & 27, Parish Center.
- ❖ Youth Group Adult Trivia Night: Saturday, January 26, 5:15pm, Church hall

MASSES—JANUARY 6—JANUARY 13

Sat. 4:00 Sharron Martagon

Sun. 8:00 Loretta Bruzda

10:00 Family of Steve Johnson

Sat. 4:00 People of St. Stan's

Sun. 8:00 Joe Schreiber

10:00 Clarice Gombold

come to the party. It comes time to sit down at the table and eat and you say, "Now, so-and-so, you stand over there against the wall. The rest of you folks come up and we will have our dinner together." And you actually think you're doing this for Jesus.

It's easy for us to get caught like this. That's why it is so terribly important for us to take a step back and ask: How did Jesus live? How did he talk? How did he act?

What were the examples he gave us? When we take a close look at our policies and the ways we are acting, we can realize that they don't correspond to Jesus. We can say to ourselves, *Wait a minute. Something is wrong. I'd better stop and rethink this.*

As strange as it may seem, Jesus got caught in religion too. As holy and good as Jesus was, even he got caught. On one occasion he was going toward the cities of Tyre and Sidon, which were in Gentile territory. A pagan woman from this territory came to Jesus and asked him to heal her daughter.

Jesus didn't pay any attention to her. She came after him. Finally Jesus said, "You don't take the bread of the children and throw it to the dogs." That's pretty awful. This was Jesus, and yet even he was caught in religion. We shouldn't be surprised when we get caught too.

The woman stood her ground. She said to Jesus, "But even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the Master's table." Jesus got it. He said, "Woman, you have great faith," and he healed her daughter.

More to come.

Smile, God loves you,
Father Clay



Experience God's love on our spiritual journey. At St. Stan's we accept everyone, regardless of their background. We provide a safe haven for all in a Christian faith-sharing community. *Please share what we have at St. Stan's with someone this year!*
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LECTIO DIVINA

The brightness of God illumined the holy city Jerusalem, and the nations will walk by its light.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Just a reminder for our religious education students pre-school through sixth grade; the children's religious education program will be on winter vacation through Sunday, January 6, 2019. Classes resume on Sunday, January 13. Happy New Year All!

ST. STAN'S CHURCH PAINTING AND SIGNED PRINTS FUNDRAISER

We are very grateful to parishioner and artist Tom Dimock who created a lovely winter landscape of our beloved St. Stan's. As part of a way to raise funds for our St. Stan's community, we are offering Tom's original painting for bidding as a blind auction. We will also be selling 5x7 and 8x10 signed, limited edition prints of the original painting. Parishioner Nora Hamburge writes "As Thanksgiving approaches, I'm grateful for how St. Stan's continues to bless my life. Father Clay's vision for St. Stan's of 'welcoming everyone' resonates deeply within me and challenges me to grow spiritually in the very best way. As our spiritual home, we contribute to St. Stan's however we are able. One way could be purchasing the gorgeous new St. Stanislaus print by Tom Dimock. It makes a perfect gift to benefit, honor and love the community we hold so dear." Please see the painting, prints and details for this special fundraiser in our church vestibule.



DONATION ENVELOPES FOR THE NEW YEAR

For those who use envelopes, 2019 boxes will be available in the church vestibule. If you would like to start using envelopes, blank boxes are also available. Please make sure to fill out the register, so we can match your box number to your name. Remember, you are always welcome at St. Stan's, regardless of your financial contribution.

AL-ANON

Is your life affected by someone else's drinking? To help them, you have to help yourself first. Al-Anon--help for families and friends of alcoholics. An Al-Anon group meets Mondays 11:30am-12:30pm in the Parish Center. Please contact Lindsay Lopez at 651-292-1913 or lindsay@ststans.org for information.

MASS AND ACTIVITY WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

For weather related cancellations this season, refer to WCCO TV for up-to-date information.

WWW.STSTANS.ORG

Did you know you can find information on the St. Stan's church and community online? We also post all bulletin monthly mailers, calendar events, ministry and volunteer opportunities and more. Check out our website! We have added daily mass readings. St. Stan's is also on Facebook, and you can follow Father Clay on Twitter! We welcome any suggestions or ideas for our online presence! Please feel free to contact Kim Myers at 651-224-7998 or kimmyers@ststans.org with any suggestions or ideas.

PENANCE AND HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION SCHEDULING CHANGES

Please note that the Sacrament of Penance will be **now be offered on Saturdays from 3:00-3:30pm**. This is a change from the current offering time of 2:30-3:00pm each Saturday. You are also welcome to contact Father Dennis at 952-898-6954 or dennytee@charter.net to arrange a scheduled time for penance. Going forward, we are also making a time change for holy days of obligation mass times. We have offered early evening mass times for these occasions in the past and plan to now offer mass times of 11:30am for holy days of obligation. We welcome your thoughts or concerns about these changes. Please feel free to contact Kim Myers, parish administrator at 651-224-7998 or kimmyers@ststans.org.

YOUTH GROUP ADULT TRIVIA NIGHT

Please join us for Adult Trivia Night on **Saturday, January 26, 2019**. St. Stanislaus lower level Church Hall.

Cost is \$15.00 per person, must preregister. Cost includes snacks and soft drinks and a whole lot of laughter! Beer and wine will be available for purchase. Registration and food at 5:15 p.m.; Trivia begins at 6:00 p.m. Proceeds will go to the St. Stanislaus Youth Group Mission trip this summer. To register, please contact Kristine Ranweiler at 651-292-1390 or kristine@ststans.org by Monday, January 21.



WE CARE...

Do you have a family member, friend or neighbor who is ill, lonely, or grieving, who would appreciate a friendly call, and a listening ear? Father Clay or Father Dennis will make the initial contact, and depending on the circumstances, a member of St. Stan's would follow up with subsequent calls. Just a call, letting someone know we care, can help! Please contact Lydia Linscheid at 651-964-2807.