



***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  
[www.ststans.org](http://www.ststans.org) or FB @saintstanislauschurch  
651-292-0303 office, 651-292-1098 fax

**Father Dennis Thompson**

952-898-6954  
[dennytee@charter.net](mailto:dennytee@charter.net)

**Kim Myers**

Administrator  
651-224-7998  
[kimmyers@ststans.org](mailto:kimmyers@ststans.org)

**Pat Heroff**

Baptism, Wedding, Funeral, Secretary/Sacristan  
651-964-2808  
[pat@ststans.org](mailto:pat@ststans.org)

**Lindsay Lopez**

Education Director  
651-292-1913  
[lindsay@ststans.org](mailto:lindsay@ststans.org)

**Kristine & Chris Ranweiler, Laurie Russell Pickert**

Youth Directors  
651-292-1390  
[kristine@ststans.org](mailto:kristine@ststans.org)

**Barb Johnson**

Housekeeping/Funeral Lunch  
651-216-3295

**Dolores Hunstad**

Pastoral Minister  
651-303-4995 or 651-493-9281

**Tim Lucas**

Building Manager  
651-336-7072

Dear People Whom God Loves,

**Beliefs—Valuable, but with a Dark Side**

Let's address the first question about survival as a people. The Jewish people were in the small Persian province of Yehud. Jerusalem was in Yehud. They were surrounded by powerful empires that could destroy them. How would they survive? They had to form a very tight relationship with one another to have any hope of survival. This would understandably create a human survival mode.

Answering the second question of why they were not protected by God also gave them the answer of how to have that protection in the future. The reason that they came up with was that they were not protected by God because they had not been faithful. They had not followed faithfully the law of Moses. It was their fault, not God's, that God didn't protect them. "I will be your God and you will be my people." They had not behaved as God's people.

Following the prescriptions of the law in every detail would bring about this survival as a people. Their nation was at stake. This can give us some understanding of the Pharisees. The Pharisees (who followed the law very strictly) separated themselves from the ones who didn't follow the law the way they did. They at least were the ones, they thought, who would preserve the nation by total dedication to the law of Moses.

This brings us to Saul (the strictest of Pharisees) and his belief that enables us to understand his persecution of the followers of Jesus.

The early followers of Jesus were all Jews. As Jews, they understood the value of the law of Moses and they continued to observe it. As their understanding of Jesus grew, they began to doubt (at least some of them did) that following all of the prescriptions were necessary. They also began to wonder if the God they knew through Jesus was exactly like the God who demanded such strict observance as a condition of protection.

What then would be in the mind of Saul who was passionate about the importance

of strict adherence to the law? He apparently saw these Jewish followers of Jesus as a danger to the survival of the Jewish people. The cleanliness and purity that came from following the law of Moses was endangered. Therefore, to eliminate these people was a duty before God. It even led to killing. As Stephen, a follower of Jesus, was being stoned to death, the witnesses laid their cloaks at the feet of the young man named Saul. When we look at the big picture, Saul was not a bad man, but his religious belief led to persecution and killing.

More to come.

Smile, God loves you,  
Father Clay

**NOVEMBER CALENDAR**  
**MONDAYS**

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

**TUESDAYS**

Women's Spirituality Group: 6:00-7:30pm. The group meets on the church lawn or via online. Please call Lindsay Lopez at 651-292-1913 with any questions.

**THURSDAYS**

Women's Spirituality Group: 10:00-11:30am, on the church lawn or via online.

Centering Prayer: 7:00-8:00pm online.

Lectio Divina: 6:00-6:50 pm currently meeting online.

Please call Lindsay Lopez at 651-292-191 with any questions or information to join meetings online.

**SATURDAYS**

Penance: 3:00-3:30pm

Mass: 4:00pm

**SUNDAYS**

Mass: 8:00am and 10:00am

**NOVEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS**

- ❖ Sought Through Prayer and Meditation Workshop: Step 11, Tuesday, November 10, 12:00pm—1:30pm, online. Please contact Lindsay Lopez 651-292-1913 or [lindsay@ststans.org](mailto:lindsay@ststans.org) for information on how to join the virtual meeting.
- ❖ Youth Group: Wednesdays November 4, 11 and 18 at 6:30pm in the Church Hall. Please note, masks required.
- ❖ Bob & Dorothy Casper Thanksgiving Dinner Meal: November, 26, 2020. Pick up or delivery available.

## **MASSES—OCTOBER 31—NOVEMBER 8**

Sat. 4:00 Tony Klepaida      Sat. 4:00 Glen James  
Sun. 8:00 Kevin O'Brien      Sun. 8:00 Deceased Members of St. Stan's  
10:00 Chuck Lynch      10:00 Samuel Paty

## **LECTIO DIVINA**

Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

**Mass Readings:** First Reading: Revelation 7:2-4; 9-14 (667)  
Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3. Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

## **A NOTE ABOUT OUR BULLETIN**

The Parish and Finance Councils have been meeting jointly as we move through changes at St. Stan's and face the challenges of COVID-19. The councils recently discussed the bulletin content and have decided to continue with Father Clay's writings from his fourth book Mysterious Love until the writings from this book have all been shared. We understand the love for Father's writings while acknowledging the need to move forward with a new format. We anticipate making some significant changes to our bulletin communication going forward after the New Year. Peace to all!

**DID YOU KNOW . . . St. Stan's website** has a few new features and is being updated frequently with new information! Check out our website at [www.ststans.org](http://www.ststans.org) to read Father Dennis's weekly homily (found under the 'Fr. Dennis' menu), send a prayer request (found under the 'Prayer' menu) or browse parishioner Katie Walter's blog as she explores her story and how God's love is helping her connect to holiness, love and safety (found under the 'Blog' menu or at [www.dearpeoplewhomgodloves.com](http://www.dearpeoplewhomgodloves.com)).

## **SOUGHT THROUGH PRAYER AND MEDITATION WORKSHOP**

This workshop continues to meet monthly on the second Tuesday of each month from 12pm-1:30pm but is now meeting online. Each month we will discuss one of the 12 Steps and look at how Step 11 plays a role in our understanding of that step. This workshop will be facilitated by Mary Lapham and Lindsay Lopez. This month the virtual meeting will be on Step 11 on Tuesday, November 10, from 12-1:30pm. To register call or email Lindsay Lopez at 651-292-1913 or [lindsay@ststans.org](mailto:lindsay@ststans.org).

## **ST. STAN'S SATURDAY 4:00PM MASS NOW BEING LIVE STREAMED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.**

**FIND THE VIDEO ON FACEBOOK (@saintstanislauchurch) or by visiting our website at [ststans.org](http://ststans.org).** Our apologies for some of the technical problems we have been encountering during the live streaming of our mass at St. Stan's. We are working diligently to improve this service as we know it is an important option for many of you while we continue to maintain safety precautions during COVID-19.

## **HAVE YOU WONDERED ABOUT LECTIO DIVINA (DIVINE READING)?**

Traditionally, Lectio Divina was a monastic practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to enrich one's relationship with God and promote listening with one's heart. St. Stan's offers time for group Lectio Divina on Thursdays from 6:00—6:50pm now meeting via online at GoToMeeting. Lectio Divina at St. Stan's offers opportunity for contemplation and reflection within community. Please feel free to contact Kim Myers at 651-224-7998 with any questions: **Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.** <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/997723317>

Or **You can also dial in using your phone.** United States: [+1 \(571\) 317-3112](tel:+15713173112)  
**Access Code:** 997-723-317

## **CENTERING PRAYER IS ANOTHER SPIRITUAL PRACTICE YOU CAN JOIN AT ST. STAN'S**

Centering Prayer meets via Zoom on Thursday Evenings at 7pm -8pm. In Centering Prayer, the participant seeks the presence of God directly. The participant's aim is to be present to the Lord, to "consent to God's presence and action during the time of prayer." Thomas Keating emphasizes that Centering Prayer is not an exercise in concentrating or focusing one's attention on something (such as a mantra), but rather is concerned with Intention and Consent. To learn more or become part of the Zoom meeting contact Lindsay Lopez at [lindsay@ststans.org](mailto:lindsay@ststans.org) or 612-292-1913.



Fr. M. Basil Pennington suggests these steps for practicing Centering Prayer:

❖ Sit comfortably with your eyes closed, relax, and quiet yourself.

- ❖ Choose a sacred word that best supports your sincere intention to be in the lord's presence and open to His divine action within you.
- ❖ Let that word be gently present as your symbol of your sincere intention to be in the Lord's presence and open to His divine action within you.
- ❖ Whenever you become aware of anything (thoughts, feelings, perceptions, images, associations, etc.) simply return to your sacred word--your anchor.

~~~~~

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation by prayer and petition, with THANKSGIVING present your requests to GOD and the peace of GOD, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in CHRIST JESUS . Philippians 4:6-7

### THE 37TH BOB AND DOROTHY CASPER THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Thanksgiving service will be available on November 26, 2020 this year with "touch less" pick-up (or delivery service, if needed) from St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 1154 Seminole Avenue, West Saint Paul and is sponsored by the Casper family. There will be no dine-in service this year due to the COVID19 safety precautions. Those interested in picking-up a Thanksgiving meal will need to sign-up for a particular time slot from 10:30-11:00, 11:00-12:00, and 12:00-1:00. This is a community event open to people in need or who might be alone at Thanksgiving. We welcome you to partner with St. Stan's and Rick Casper and help us feed our neighbors in need. **Please contact Kim Myers at 651-224-7998 for more information and sign-up registration or if you are interested in volunteering for the event.** Our gratitude to Parishioner, Dave Freier, for serving as St. Stan's representative for this community event.

### HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

There will be no Thanksgiving service this year at St. Stan's due to the concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. You will all be in our thoughts and our prayers of gratitude, healing and community.

Lord, we thank you  
for the goodness of our people  
and for the spirit of justice  
that fills this nation.  
We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the  
land and the challenge of the cities.

We thank you for our work and our rest,  
for one another, and for our homes.  
We thank you, Lord:  
accept our thanksgiving on this day.  
We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.

—from [Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers](#).

