

HOLY IS ANY PLACE WHERE IT IS SAFE TO TELL YOUR STORY.

HOLY IS ANY PLACE THAT CREATES JUSTICE.

St. Stanislaus Church

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St. Stanislaus Church Bulletin St. Stanislaus Church 398 Superior Street St. Paul, MN 55102 April 4, 2021 Issue No. 429

Dear People Whom God Loves,

Easter Message to People of St. Stan's and All Who are Interested

When we begin to believe that God is Merciful Love and that Jesus lived merciful love, we will then likely learn to live merciful love with no concerns about rewards or punishments.

When we see ourselves more deeply, we will see our goodness and see the ways in which we have sinned. We will also see that we would have sinned more but that we were prevented from doing so with God's help. This insight will help us to realize that our living well is only by the grace of God. When we see ourselves more deeply, it helps us not to think that we are better than others and not to compare ourselves to others.

At the same time, we are graced to realize that we are not the ones who are the source of merciful love, but that the merciful love is flowing through us. That is a blessing that we are grateful to have been given. The words that I use are these. I am a rusty old pipe. I may be a rusty old pipe, but the divine love that flows through this rusty old pipe is clean, healing and beautiful. Why me? I don't know. I don't need to know. I just need to be happy that healing is taking place.

Merciful love does the work. Our willingness is important. Merciful love helps us do our part. Trusting in God makes more sense to me than merely trusting myself.

He (Jesus) called a child, whom he put among them, and said "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Mt. 18:2-3

Being a mystic is not for special people, but it does call for the willingness to be open to being a lover. I suggest that we not say to ourselves—God wouldn't want

me. I suggest that God might prefer to choose someone who feels they are not worthy rather than someone who feels they are worthy. On the other hand, God will choose what God sees is good and doesn't need my advice.

We look at some of the things we can do to move the healing process along by allowing the love that is God to enter into us. We can do this by reading scripture or other material, not to get new information, but get a sentence or two, a word or two, something that hits us and causes us to feel something. When we stick with it and let ourselves feel compassion, hurt and loneliness, we let the love of God come in. We don't have to do it by reading. We can just rest in God and allow the God who loves us to come into our heart and soul, to begin healing the wounds, the false self and all the destructive patterns. This is part of the process.

Now we come to Easter. When the healing process of forgiveness is finished (mine will be finished when I am 176), this is what we will look like. This is the Easter part, but we have to go through all the passion and death first.

This is the resurrection. It does not all happen as neatly as I just said it. It's much more complex. We will still have pains, sufferings and reverses of many kinds, but these pains and suffering and reverses can be redemptive and transforming. I suspect I will never be totally healed until the next life. But I am grateful that I am on the journey. And I do believe that in the next life, the next world, the healing will be complete.

Forgiveness is a gift that God offers to every one of us regardless of our background, our past, our present condition. No matter what our situation in life is, we are offered this gift by the Love that moves the sun and the stars. God bless you.

More to come.

Smile, God loves you, Father Clay

APRIL CALENDAR

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

• Women's Spirituality Group: 6:00-7:30pm. The group meets online until further notice. Call Lindsay Lopez at 651-292-1913 with any questions.

WEDNESDAYS

• Youth Group: Meets 6:30pm—8:00pm, Grades 7-12, Parish Center

THURSDAYS

- Women's Spirituality Group: 10:00-11:30am, online until future notice.
- Centering Prayer: 7:00-8:00pm online.
- Lectio Divina: 6:00-6:50 pm currently meeting online. 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

APRIL SPECIAL EVENTS

- Holy Thursday Mass April 1, 5:30pm **
- Stations of the Cross April 2, 11:00am
- ❖ Good Friday Service April 2, 5:30pm **
- ❖ Easter Vigil Mass April 3, 5:30pm (no 4:00pm mass) **
- Easter Sunday April 4, 8:00am and 10:00am All Masses and Services will be in-person at St. Stan's. Services marked with ** will also be live streamed on our <u>Facebook page</u> and <u>St. Stan's</u> website
- Spring Fling Raffle Drawing—April 11, after the 10:00am Mass
- ❖ Joint Parish and Finance Council Meeting—April 25, 11:00am online

MASSES—APRIL 3—APRIL 11, 2021

Sat. 4:00 Judy Kasel Sat. 4:00 Peggy Sanchez
Sun. 8:00 Jean Cutting Sun. 8:00 Rosanne Hertel
10:00 John Clay 10:00 Angie Stemig

Mass Readings: Easter Sunday

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43 (42ABC)

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 5:6-b-8

Gospel: John 20:1-9

LENT DEVOTIONS FROM STEADFAST LOVE INSPIRATION FROM HENRI NOUWEN

Steadfast Love Lent Devotions booklets are available in church or please feel free to contact Kim Myers at 651-224-7998 or kimmyers@ststans.org to obtain a copy.

Forming a community with family and friends, building a body of love, shaping a new

people of the resurrection: all of this is not just so that we can live a life protected from the dark forces that dominate our world; it is, rather, to enable us to proclaim together to all people, young and old, white and black, poor and rich, that death does not have



the last word, that hope is real and God is alive. (With Burning Hearts, 86)

Risen Savior, your victory over death gives you the last word. Death is done. Heaven is real. Thank you for your steadfast love. Alleluia! Amen.

LECTIO DIVINA

I have risen, and I am still with you, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.



FEBRUARY YOUTH GROUP FOOD DRIVE

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Youth Group Food Drive! Over \$1,250 and over 400 pounds of food was collected and donated to the W. 7th Salvation Army food shelf.

MARCH 20, 2021 RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Thank you all who signed up for the Blood Drive. We especially thank parishioner Mark Thiel for scheduling and overseeing this important community drive. There were 30 openings which were all filled and a total of 25 units of blood donated.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL FOUNDATION

<u>Together in Hope</u>: The Catholic Services Appeal Foundation partners with fellow Catholic to share Christ's love with neighbors in need through ministries that serve the poor, support life and strengthen the Faith. Your gift brings hope by helping provide:

- Thousands with life-giving care via hospital chaplains.
- 12,000 people / week with fresh groceries and hygiene items.
- 1,200 hot meals monthly.
- 635 people with housing/emergency shelter each month.
- 33,000 young people with Faith-filled outreach.
- 1,300 women and families with pro-life support.
- 28,000 Catholic school students with in-person learning.
- Over 50 seminarians studying to be future priests of our Archdiocese with tuition assistance, room and board.

Visit <u>www.csafspm.org</u> to learn more or www.GiveCSAF.org to donate today!



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 to read Father Dennis's weekly homily (found under the 'Fr. Dennis' 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 (see 'Blog' menu or at www.dearpeoplewhomgodloves.com).

SPRING FLING RAFFLE

For this year's Spring Fling, as we did very successfully with our Fall Festival thanks to all of you, we are offering a **Special Raffle with a Grand Prize of \$10,000.00!!**

The Special Raffle works just as it did with the Fall Festival Raffle. We are selling 350 tickets at \$100 each. That gives you a 1 in 350 chance of being a winner! All raffle tickets must be paid for and picked up at the Rectory at 398 Superior Street or feel free to contact Kim Myers to make other arrangements.

In addition to the Grand Prize of \$10,000, the 2nd place prize is \$1,000 and the 3rd, 4th, and 5th place prizes are \$500.

he drawing for the Spring Fling Raffle will take place on Sunday, April 11, 2021 at 11:00am on the church lawn, following our 10am mass. You do not need to be present to win.

To date, we have sold 145 of the 350 tickets, so we encourage you to purchase a ticket, tell a friend, take a chance and support St. Stan's!

TICKET SALES: Tickets will be available for sale at mass or by contacting Kim Myers at 651-224-7998 or kimmyers@ststans.org or Lindsay Lopez at 651-292-1913 or lindsay@ststans.org. We thank you very much for your ongoing generous and kind support of our St. Stan's Parish!



CHECK OUT! CUPPA JOE is a series of 10 talks by 10 theologians on the 10 wonders of Saint Joseph, taking place at 10 locations in our archdiocese entrusted to the patronage of our spiritual father.

These talks will premiere the first Tuesday of the month, March – December, at 4 p.m. – just in time for your afternoon coffee. Virtual Talks Posted on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram – and on the Year of Saint Joseph page

