



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

October 3, 2021
Issue No. 435

Dear People Whom God Loves,

Love, the Big Picture

When we little loves are at our best and act in this healing and loving way, it helps us to believe that Big Love will be infinitely more the same with all of us. I sometimes wonder if our human understanding of "justice" distorts our vision of LOVE.

I understand that our life as creatures will often bring consequences for our bad deeds. That's the way it is. I also see it as valuable. We need to learn accountability. We also need to make amends unless amends would cause more harm.

My experience is that LOVE frequently works through reversals, not to punish us, but to wake us up so that we can begin the difficult and usually painful path of healing. LOVE doesn't cause pain, but works through pain to bring healing. I see LOVE as working through both good stuff and bad stuff to heal and save us.

How does LOVE want us to live? I believe that the life of Jesus tells us better than anything else. I see Jesus reaching out to anyone who was suffering. He was always concerned with making people whole, no matter who they were or how they were broken.

He reached out to the sick in need of healing.

He reached out to the lepers who were pushed out of the community.

He reached out to Mary of Magdala, out of whom he cast seven devils.

He reached out to the woman caught in the act of adultery.

He reached out to the woman who was known in the town as a sinner, a prostitute.

He reached out to the despised tax collectors even though they were

defrauding people, and this effected transformation in some of them.

He reached out to the sinners, those deficient in following the religious laws.

He reached out to the poor, whom the Roman tax and the Temple tax were making destitute.

He reached out to the religiously righteous, those who looked down on those who didn't follow the religious law as well as they did.

However, he did this in a different way, using strong and harsh words. He called them white sepulchers, white and shiny on the outside, but inside full of dead people's bones.

Why did Jesus use a different tactic with those who were religiously righteous? I suspect that it was a form of tough love. Religious righteousness is an insidious form of badness. When we are religiously righteous and look down on others, we have in some way convinced ourselves that we are really very good. But we are really trapped. We don't see how distorted we are inside. We are blind to who we are. That is why conversion is so difficult.

My guess is that while Jesus felt anger at the religiously righteous because they were hurting people, he also loved them. He needed to use strong and harsh language to crack through the hard shell of religious righteousness that was spiritually destroying them. He wanted their conversion and transformation.

More to come.

Smile, God loves you,

Father Clay

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Holy is any place where it is safe to tell your story. Holy is any place that creates justice.



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OCTOBER CALENDAR

MONDAYS

- Al-Anon: 11:30am-12:30pm, online.

WEDNESDAYS

- Youth Group Parent Meeting and Registration: **October 6, 6-8pm** Church Hall.

THURSDAYS

- Centering Prayer: 12:00-1:00pm, Parish Center and 7:00-8:00pm currently meeting online.
- Lectio Divina: 6:00-6:50pm currently meeting online. Please call Lindsay Lopez at 651-292-1913 with any questions.

SATURDAYS

- Penance: 3:00-3:30pm
- Mass: 4:00pm

SUNDAYS

- Mass: 8:00am and 10:00am

OCTOBER SPECIAL EVENTS

- ✦ **Craft Fair**: Saturday, October 2 from 9am to 4pm, Church Hall.
- ✦ **Parish Financial Presentation**: Dave Freier will present St. Stan's financial profile to our parish at Mass times, October 2 & 3
- ✦ **Archdiocesan Synod Small Group Meetings**: Sundays, October 3, 10, 17 and 24, 11am-1pm, Church Hall.
- ✦ **Youth Group** grades 7-12 Group and **Confirmation Registration**: Wednesday, October 6, 6-8pm in the Church Hall.
- ✦ **St. Stan's Stewardship Meetings**: Wednesday, October 6, 20, 27 and November 3 and 10 from 6pm-7:30pm, Church proper.
- ✦ **Joint Pastoral Councils (Finance and Parish Councils) Meeting**: Sunday, October 31, 11am, Church Hall

MASSES—OCTOBER 2—OCTOBER 10, 2021

Sat. 4:00 Nora Rose Morelli	Sat. 4:00 Guadalupe Vasquez
Sun. 8:00 Bob Gatti	Sun. 8:00 Clarice Gombold
10:00 Debbie Brown	10:00 Pat Kautz

LECTIO DIVINA

Though many, we are one bread, one body, for we all partake of the one Bread and one Chalice.

He reached out to the man born blind.

CONGRATULATIONS FALL FEST RAFFLE WINNERS!

We appreciate the great support of our Fall Fest Picnic Raffle! Thank you! We also congratulate the Winners:

- ✦ Grand Prize \$5,000 Kari Storey
- ✦ \$500.00 Robert Brown
- ✦ \$100 prizes to Jeff Pearson, Lauren Potempa; Rick Casalenda and Marie Medvec!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Thank you to all who signed up for the Blood Drive.

We especially thank parishioner Mark Thiel for scheduling and overseeing this important community drive. There were 29 openings which were all filled and a total of 24 units of blood donated.



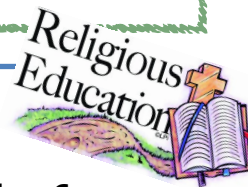
SAFETY PRACTICES AT MASS CONTINUE



We continue to practice social distancing at St. Stan's, and we strongly encourage wearing masks, especially if you have not been vaccinated. However, presently masks are not required. This is subject to change, and given the recent variants and virus surges, it may occur sooner than later. We have a designated basket to collect all donations in lieu of ushers and our holy water fonts remain emptied. We also continue to live stream our Saturday 4pm Mass. Pews are marked to maintain social distancing. We regularly review the Minnesota Department of Health safety protocol guidelines to maintaining a safe worship environment for all. Missals and songbooks have been temporarily removed from the pews as a precaution. We will not be singing until safe to do so. Please feel free to contact Kim Myers, Parish Administrator at 651-224-7998 or kimmyers@ststans.org with any questions or concerns.

CRAFT FAIR OCTOBER 2

This year we will be hosting the annual **St. Stan's Craft Fair** in our Church Hall on **Saturday, October 2, 2021** from 9am to 4pm. Our Fair will have more than 20 crafters with a variety of homemade gifts and goodies. There will also be our Krazy Kafe with chili, sloppy joes, hot dogs, chips, pop and a variety of sweets. We hope to see you there! This event helps fund our children's programming.



YOUTH GROUP REGISTRATION

Youth Group and Confirmation registration will be on **Wednesday, October 6, 6-8pm** in the Church Hall. Confirmation candidates will meet from 6:00-8:00pm and other youth group kids and parents (not in confirmation) will join from 7:00-8:00pm.

FALL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Registration for Children's Programming will be before and after each Mass on **Sunday, October 10** in the Parish Center. Programs include Religious Education: Kindergarten – Sixth Grade, and Sacrament (Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation).

FRANCISCAN RETREATS AND SPIRITUALITY CENTER, PRIOR LAKE

Experience a new theme [started in September 2021] "**Hope Rising; Revisioning our Dream**". Experience four compelling talks interspersed with fruitful periods of free time for prayer, journaling, hiking or rest. Includes opportunities for unhurried confession, spiritual direction, guided prayer sessions and anointing as well. Re-energize mentally, physically and spiritually amidst stunning fall colors.

- **October 5-7** Women's Mid-week Retreat.
- **October 8-10** Women's Weekend Retreat
- **October 22-24** Men's Silent Retreat
- **October 29 - 31** Friends of Francis Retreat (open to men and women)
- **November 5-7** Women's Weekend Retreat.

Register online at www.franciscanretreats.net or by calling at 952-447-2182. See our website for safety procedures at Franciscan Retreats.



ST. STAN'S STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Our Parish Community has gone through significant changes over the last couple of years, and we have all faced together the challenges and hardships around the COVID-19 pandemic this past year and going forward. Our Pastoral Councils (Finance and Parish Councils), Trustees and Parish Administrator have been meeting regularly to review our financial position and the current state of affairs at St. Stan's. We agreed it's important at this time to create a formal group to address the formation of our parish and have created a Stewardship Committee. The Committee will meet on five **Wednesday evenings October 6, 20, 27 and November 3, and 10 from 6:00 - 7:30pm in the Parish Center** to address different topics important to the mission of St. Stan's Parish. Of course, any member of the parish is welcome to attend any of the stewardship meetings. An agenda will be provided at each Wednesday meeting. Masks required.

PLEASE JOIN US — ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD OCTOBER SESSIONS

We invite all parishioners to join in our small group gatherings as part of the Archdiocesan Synod. We meet on Sundays, from 11am to 1pm in the Church Hall. While we have had rather small attendance at our first two sessions, we have had very interesting, thoughtful and fruitful discussions! We encourage you to attend all of the sessions, but it is not necessary to attend every session. Going forward, we will meet on **Sundays October 3, 10, 17 and 24**. Here's what you can expect:

- Arrive at your parish and find a seat at a table of about 8 while maintaining social distancing.
- Watch a video which will lead everyone in prayer and share teaching on our Catholic faith to inform our discussion and response.
- As you are comfortable, share your experience and ideas in discussion with your tablemates.
- Respond to ideas and offer your own suggestions on a brief feedback form to be considered by Archbishop Hebda.

We invite all parishioners to join in the upcoming six small group sessions to learn, pray and discuss the three focus areas. Parish feedback will then be used to help inform the Deanery consultation in early 2022. The process will then culminate in the Archdiocesan Synod Assembly held Pentecost weekend, June 3-5, 2022. The remaining four small group gatherings will be held on **October 3, 10, 17 and 24 from 11am to 1pm in the Church Hall**. No preregistration required. For further information on the Archdiocese Synod please visit archspm.org/synod.