



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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Died September 13, 2020

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Dear People Whom God Loves,

Entering the Reign of God—Christian Morality

I want to make myself clear. Money is not evil. Scripture tells us that it is the “love of money” that is the root of all evil. Jesus also reminded us that money can easily become dangerous.

Power is not evil. Power is the ability to do things and to make things happen. We need that. Jesus warned his disciples of the danger of power over people. We are meant to be helpful to each other.

Prestige is not evil. It can come to us in various ways. It becomes a problem when we do bad things in order to enhance our prestige. Comparing ourselves to others can be helpful when we admire something in others and realize that it is something that could help us become better people. But remember, we are all unique and our path will not be identical to another’s path.

I am reminded of the story of the Jewish Rabbi who admired Moses greatly. He kept praying and asking God to help him become more like Moses. This went on for a long time. He wasn’t becoming like Moses. Finally, God answered him and said, “I already have a Moses, I need you.”

Religion is not evil. It becomes a problem when we do religious things but do not grow in love. Instead of using religious things in a manner that is valuable to ourselves and others, we too often use them in ways that are destructive. All that is human is good. Unfortunately, we can use our humanness in ways that are hurtful and not loving.

The following scripture passages tell me that if we want to see more concretely what the reign of God is, we need to look at the life of Jesus.

Luke 4:18-19, 21 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.”

Then Jesus reads from Isaiah: “Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”

The good news to the poor is that they are just as important to God as those whom society holds in high esteem. They are loved by God and should not believe that they are less than others. I think that “poor” extends not only to those who are economically poor but also to all others who are deemed less in society. God embraces all those whom society puts down.

I think that we can understand “sight to the blind” not only to mean receiving physical sight but also to mean receiving the ability to see God and life in a new way.

More to come.

Smile, God loves you, *Father Clay*

MAY CALENDAR

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

- Women's Spirituality Group: 5:00 - 6:30 pm, Parish Center library. Meets May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. Call Lindsay Lopez, 651-292-1913 with questions.

WEDNESDAYS

- Youth Group: Meets 6:30 — 8:00 pm, Grades 7-12, Church Hall.

THURSDAYS

- Women's Spirituality Group: 9:30 am -11:00 am online and in person, Parish Center library. Meets this month May 5, 12, 19, and 26.
- Centering Prayer: 12:00 - 1:00 pm, Parish Center and 7:00 - 8:00 pm (currently meeting online) on May 5, 12, 19 and 26.
- Lectio Divina: 6:00 - 6:50 pm meeting online on May 5, 12, 19, and 26. Please call Lindsay Lopez at 651-292-1913 with any questions.

SATURDAYS

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

SUNDAYS

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



MAY SPECIAL EVENTS

- ❖ First Communion: Sunday, May 1 10:00 am Mass
- ❖ Diaper Drive: Mother's Day Weekend, May 7 & 8
- ❖ Intro to Welcoming Prayer: Sunday, May 22 11:00 am -12:30 pm Parish Center
- ❖ Joint Pastoral Council Meeting: Sunday, May 22 11:00 am Church Hall
- ❖ Spring Fling Raffle: Tickets are NOW on sale in the Church vestibule through June 4. 350 Tickets will be sold at \$100 each for a Grand Prize of \$10,000!

LECTIO DIVINA

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, everything in the universe, cry out:

"To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor, glory and might, forever and ever."

MASSES: APRIL 30—MAY 8, 2022

Sat. 10:00 Deceased Members of St. Stans	Sat. 4:00 Joyce Doherty
Sun. 8:00 Kevin O'Brien	Sun. 8:00 All Mothers
10:00 Patti Elias	10:00 All Mothers

Mass Readings: Third Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32, 40b-41 (48C)

Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

Gospel: John 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

SPRING FLING RAFFLE **AND SAVE THE DATE JUNE 4 SPRING FLING PICNIC**

This year, for our Spring Fling, we are again offering a Special Raffle with a Grand Prize of \$10,000.00!! The Special Raffle works by selling 350 tickets at \$100 each. You have a 1 in 350 chance of being a winner! All raffle tickets must be paid for and picked up at the Rectory (398 Superior Street) or contact Kim Myers or Lindsay Lopez to make other arrangements. In addition to the Grand Prize of \$10,000, the 2nd place prize will be \$1,000, 3rd, 4th, & 5th place prizes will be \$500 each. The drawing for the Spring Fling Raffle will take place on Saturday, June 4, 2022. The drawing will take place on the church lawn at 5:00 pm, following our 4:00 pm Mass at our Spring Fling Outdoor Picnic event. You do not need to be present to win.

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To ensure all 350 tickets are sold we are opening the raffle to everyone: employees, volunteers, parishioners and their families and friends. Sale of the raffle tickets will be first come, first served. Tickets are available for sale now at Mass times or by contacting Kim Myers (651-224-7998 or kimmyers@ststans.org) or Lindsay Lopez (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!

MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND DIAPER DRIVE AT ST. STAN'S MAY 7 & 8

We invite you to celebrate Mother's Day Weekend by making a contribution to St. Stan's Diaper Drive to help families who are struggling to make ends meet. The need is great! A one month old baby needs a diaper change more than six times a day. After one month, it's four to nine times a day.

We will be accepting donations of disposable diapers (all sizes needed, but particularly sizes 4, 5, and 6) and diaper wipes before and after the 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, May 7th and before and after both the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Masses on Sunday, May 8th. Cash donations will also be accepted. If you would like to contribute money, but will not be at Mass on Mother's Day weekend, envelopes marked "Diaper Drive" will be in the pews on the weekends of April 23 - 24 and April 30 - May 1. You can put these envelopes in the collection baskets at the entrances of the church. (If you donate by check, make it payable to Church of St. Stanislaus.) Please be as generous as you can. All items and money collected will be donated to Joseph's Coat.

WELCOMING PRAYER WORKSHOP MAY 22 – WITH FOLLOW-UP on JUNE 12

The Welcoming Prayer is a method of consenting to God's presence and action in our physical and emotional reactions to events and situations in daily life. The purpose of the Welcoming Prayer is to deepen our relationship with God through consenting in ordinary activities. The practice of the Welcoming Prayer is an opportunity to make choices free of the false-self system responding instead of reacting to the present moment. It teaches us to "welcome" what you are experiencing at this moment in your body as an opportunity to consent to the Divine Indwelling.

This practice is a wonderful addition to Centering Prayer. We invite you to join us **Sunday May 22, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm in the Parish Center.** Facilitated by Mary Lapham of Minnesota Contemplative Outreach. Register by contacting Lindsay Lopez lindsay@ststans.org or 651-292-1913. Suggested donation \$25.

In follow-up, please note: Participants of this workshop will gather together again on Sunday June 12, at 11:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Parish Center to discuss how this prayer practice has been going for them.



MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS

We welcome your requests to have Mass offered for someone in thanksgiving, for the intentions of a loved one or for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. Feel free to contact our Sacristan, Pat Heroff, at pat@ststans.org or 651-964-2808 to request a Mass intention.

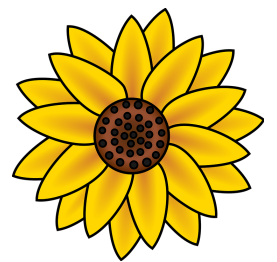
CONGRATULATIONS CONFIRMATION STUDENTS!

Congratulations to our St. Stan's students who were confirmed on April 23rd at the Cathedral of St. Paul! May God in all His goodness bless this special day with true happiness, and may you always keep the memory of your Confirmation day and let it and your faith guide you. They received their certificates of confirmation at the 10am mass on April 24. Please pray for them during this exciting time in their faith journeys. Congratulations and best wishes!

Quinn Yao Ambrose Buchl
Ellen Caroline Joan Hendricks
Serenity Marie Gertrude Meier-Mielzarek
Kaia Bae Jin Maria Rademacher
Alicia Lucia Sanchez-Rodriguez
Nayeli Anatasia Sanchez-Rodriguez
Elliott Donohue Francis Thatcher
Keara Rae Katharine Twomey
Oliver James Sebastian Twomey
Willa Judith Mary Twomey

PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

We pray to you for the people of Ukraine who are experiencing conflicts and deaths. Bless the leaders with wisdom, vision and perseverance needed to build together a world of justice and solidarity, and to break down walls of hostility and division.



If you are interested in donating to the needs of the people in Ukraine you can provide relief through Catholic Relief Services at support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine.

SAFETY PRACTICES AT MASS CONTINUE

The Archdiocese has communicated the Centers for Disease Control has now classified the Twin Cities with a Community Level risk of “Low.” Starting April 1, 2022 general protocols for archdiocesan parishes have been lifted. However, while it appears we may be beginning to emerge from the COVID pandemic of the last two years, at this time we continue to practice some safety protocols at St. Stan’s.

We are currently recommending masks for those vaccinated and unvaccinated, but masks are optional. 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 4:00 pm Mass. Pews are still marked to maintain social distancing. We regularly review the Minnesota Department of Health safety protocol guidelines to maintain a safe worship environment for all. We have returned missals and Mass cards to our pews. We are currently working to reschedule our keyboard musicians for playing at Mass times.