



May 3, 2020

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Pastor Rev. Elias Lopez

Permanent Deacon Walter Busa

Permanent Deacon Grant Holt

Secretary / Bookkeeper Carol Serres

Altar Society

Delores Posinski President

Baptism Classes

EJ Maupin

Coordinator of Religious Education

Kirby Borski

Finance Council

David Borski President, Russell Pasket

Susan Wisnoski, Gary Klodzinski,

Susie Homeyer, Ben Leman, Larry Sechelski Jr.

Music Director

Mary Claire Maggio

RCIA

Kim Ritchie

RCIC

Dana Wagner & Marcy Pavlock

Pastoral Leadership Team

David Marlow President,

Daniel Otto, Russell Pasket, Marcus Reaves,

Thomas Sechelski, Linda Toler, Dana Wagner

Jerome Klawinsky

***All Masses have
been suspended***

Our Church is open for daily
prayer Monday – Saturday
8:00 to 4:00

Sunday 11:00 to 4:00

Office hours are Tuesday-Friday
8:00 to 4:00

May 3rd, 2020

*"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord." John 6:56*



The Shepherd is calling us. Let us heed his voice.

In the first reading, Peter tells the community that their Savior was indeed the one whom they crucified. They are cut to the heart, they repent, and are baptized – adding about three thousand persons to the community. In the second reading, Peter calls the community to patient suffering when they know what they are doing is right. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks about the shepherd and the sheep who know the sound of his voice.

Mass Intentions

Wednesday May 6th
Verna Sechelski

Friday May 8th
Living & deceased members of the
Connie & Amelia Moriarty family

Saturday May 9th
Lewis & Verna Sechelski

Sunday May 10th
Mothers Day

ONLINE GIVING

go to www.saintstans.org

Click on Stewardship

Then click online giving.

Mail

P O Box 210

Anderson, Tx 77830

Father Eli

lopez.eli68@gmail.com

www.houstonvocations.com

www.FORMED.org

Enter Parish code:
MVMZKF to register



Our Church is open for daily prayer seven days a week

Monday-Saturday 8 to 4

Sunday 11 to 4

www.magnificat.com/free

www.Massonline.org

www.archgh.org/onlinemass

www.archgh.org/spiritualresources



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Run the Race

"...let us throw off everything that hinders... let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1), exhorts the writer to the Hebrews. Perhaps that writer was the Apostle Paul, for running a race is a phrase he often used. In Acts 20:24, he declared that he wanted to *"finish the race and complete the task ...the task of testifying to the Gospel of God's grace."* That task belongs to us as well as to Paul. We have been chosen by God to run the race for the sake of the Gospel. Like Peter and John, we *"cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard"* (Acts 4:20).

Certainly our words testify to the Gospel of God's grace, and so do our lives. That's why we are also involved in the race of holy living. In this race, we put aside the hindrances of sin and self-interest that would keep us from a close relationship with our Savior and that would give ammunition to those who wish to disparage the Christian faith.

Our race is by no means all downhill. Competing in this race requires strict discipline and a focus on the goal. Scripture urges us to keep our eyes on *"Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith"* (Hebrews 12:2). Like the faith heroes of old, we run the race for those who will follow not in our own strength, but by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament.

Perseverance is key in our race. Scripture challenges us to stand firm, knowing that our labor for God is not in vain. We're commanded to hold fast to our faith and to keep to God's ways. As we run the race with perseverance, we are filled with *"inexpressible and glorious joy"* (1 Peter 1:8) in our Savior in whom we believe, even though we haven't seen him. Although the race is long and difficult, we have an eternal perspective and consider any suffering or distress but *"light and momentary troubles"* (2 Corinthians 4:17).

On the Lighter side

Garrison Keillor tells of a letter written from a local church to one of its members who was not present on pledge dedication Sunday, and therefore, did not fill out a pledge card:

"Dear Anne and Joe: We missed you last Sunday, Pledge Sunday. Since you were not present to fill out your pledge card, and to make it easy for you, we have completed a pledge card for you. Thank you for being so generous. Your Finance Committee."

✓ PLEDGE

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

I commit to give \$ _____ over the next year

I plan to give

☐ 1x ☐ Weekly ☐ Twice a month ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Other _____

☐ I believe this is a defining moment and I will not hold back. I prayerfully commit to step out in faith and pledge to give above my regular tithing over the next year.

Return this card in a postpaid giving envelope - it's free to use!

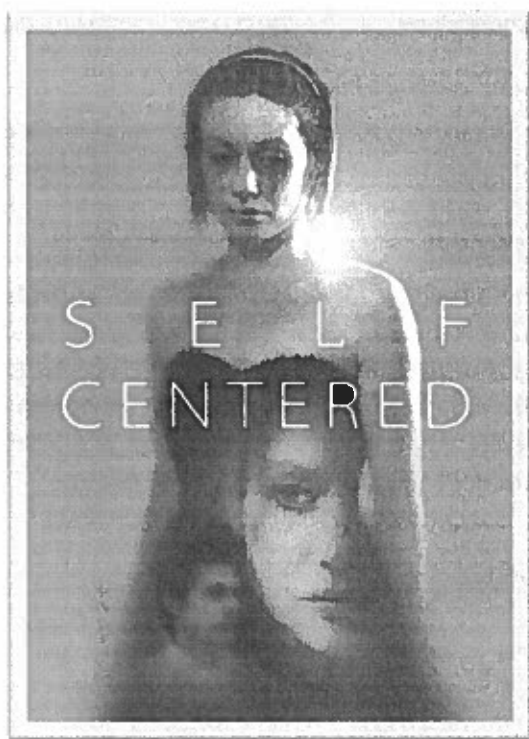
Our culture now has "lite" everything on the market: butter, cheese, syrup, even beer. A suggestion arose regarding what a "lite" church might look like: perhaps a 45-minute worship service, a seven percent tithe, and only eight of the Ten Commandments. And you get to choose which eight!

Self-centered or God Centered

At different times throughout our lives, we all make the choice whether to serve ourselves or to be servants to others. If we make a practice of putting ourselves first, we will spend life joyless and empty, wondering why fulfillment escapes us

Even though God never abandons us, we can elect to turn away him. God wants the best for us, and his best for us is that we deny ourselves

and follow him. If we focus only on our earthly possessions and make it our top priority to take care of ourselves only, we push God out of our lives. Putting our own interests first, we become selfish and self-centered.

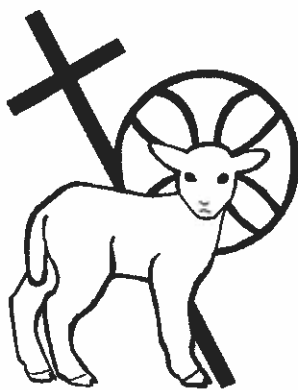


The Apostle Paul wrote that, as people redeemed by God's mercy, we are to offer our bodies as living sacrifices. He further said in Romans 12:2, *"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by*

the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is ... his good, pleasing and perfect will." Paul revealed the secret of the transformed mind to the Galatians. *"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me"* (Galatians 2:20). Joy comes into our lives when God, instead of self, is the object of our love and worship. It was joy that compelled Jesus to endure the Cross (Hebrews 12:2).

The stewardship life is a life dedicated completely to God through faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus said that if we would follow him, we *"must deny [ourselves] and take up [our] cross[es] and follow [him]"* (Matthew 16:24). The reward outweighs by far the sacrifice, for Christ promised in Matthew 16:25, *"Whoever loses his life for me will find it."* Martin Luther said, "If anyone would rap at the door of my heart and ask, 'Who lives here?' I would answer, 'Martin Luther once lived here. But Martin Luther has moved out and Jesus Christ has moved in.' " When Jesus has permanent residence within us, he can use us to build his kingdom among men.

Through God's grace, we are transformed into "new creatures" (2 Corinthians 5:17) willing to live lives that honor him with all that we are and have. God's love and generosity are seen through us as we recognize the opportunities God places before us to share our time, talents, and treasures in the building up of his kingdom.



Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!



Welcome to St. Stanislaus Kostka

Please contact the parish office if you wish to register or know someone who would like to become a member of our parish.
936-873-2291

Our Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for May

For Deacons: We pray that Deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Announcements

Give the Gift of Blood

K of C Council #4054 will host a Blood Drive on May 10, 2020 in the St. Stanislaus Parish hall. Blood and blood products are in short supply and donors are needed now to provide for this critical need. Donors **must sign-up in advance** on-line at www.giveblood.org. The Blood Center is adjusting their appointment schedule to balance out donations and prevent over-crowding during blood drives. To make an appointment log onto the website, click on **SCHEDULE TO DONATE**; under **QUICK LINKS** select **CITY SEARCH** and enter **Anderson**, scroll down to **ST. STANISLAUS**, click on **SCHEDULE** and select a convenient time between 8:30 am and 2:30 pm to donate. *Do you need a reason to give blood?* Go to the website and read the courageous stories of those who benefit from blood donations. **The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a severe shortage of blood and blood products.** Make your appointment to donate if you are eligible! *Commit for Life!*



Please remember our neighbors in need with you food donation.

Turmoil enters our lives and even enters our Church, but we are called to persevere and keep our eyes focused on the risen Christ. Through repentance and living for righteousness, we are united with him who is the heart and core of our faith. The Shepherd is calling us. Let us heed his voice.

Stewardship

When I was a boy in the mountain of eastern Tennessee, not far from the J.B. Chapman log memorial church, we lived in a somewhat primitive community. We carried water from the well to the house; we chopped our firewood and we had to have our corn ground into meal.

There were two grist mills in the neighborhood. One was west of us, down by the river, and was run by a water wheel; Mr. Yarmouth was the owner and operator of it. The mill building was rather large and stood out over the river. It was a lovely scene, the kind that inspires poets.


When the river level was high Mr. Yarmouth could grind meal for the farmers all day long without any operating expense. Then, too, the running of the mill was very quiet and serene with no noise of machinery interrupting the quiet of a river valley.

Mr. Johnson owned the other mill, some distance to the east of us. His mill was powered by a gasoline engine, and was housed in a simple and unpretentious small building. His double-piston engine often shattered the silent surroundings of the peaceful valley. Yet, Mr. Johnson got most of the corn-grinding business.

The reason was easily understood. Mr. Yarmouth could grind the corn only when the river was high, but people's needs occurred regularly. They ate three times a day, every day. Mr. Johnson could grind corn at any time, because the source of his

power was always at hand; the fuel tank of his engine was always full of gasoline.

Giving is like that. There are those Christians who give when their particular river of life is high; when they feel flush with the spirit of giving. They are good folks and speak of liberty, of not being bound to the law, etc. In times like these, however, the river doesn't run as high. However, the needs continue to arrive regularly. Come sunshine or rain, summer flowers and beautiful landscapes, or wintry blasts and barren trees, the needs keep coming. In such times we are forced to rely on the equivalent of Mr. Johnson's gasoline engine.

Regular and systematic giving may not be spectacular and exhilarating. It may be an unpretentious, down-to-earth, practical manner of supporting the Kingdom. But it gets the job done regularly, and on time. During these difficult times, let's be dependable givers like the gasoline-engine miller, and get the job done every time! 



In the story of the widow's mite, the poor widow "put more in than all who contributed." She had a spirit of sacrificial giving. We have churches, just like in Jesus' synagogue days. We support the church, but in what spirit? Will our depth of spirit be able to meet the stresses facing churches in the future? The widow shows the way.





One definition states that a steward is a person who manages the affairs of a household or an estate for the owner. In the Christian sense, a steward is the manager of the affairs of God on earth. God has made each of us a steward and has given us abilities and talents that are unique for each of us to use in that work.

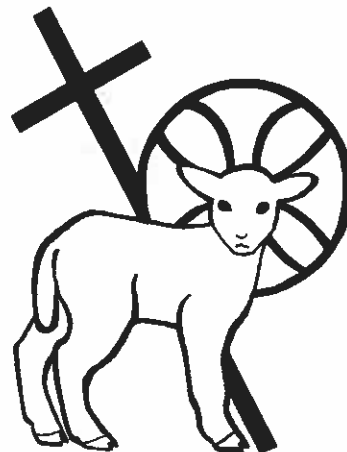
Nothing Happened Today

I asked someone the other day, "How are things going?" He replied, "All right, I guess. Nothing's happened today!" There are some days when it does seem that nothing happens. But are there really any such days?

God is always at work! When we look around us and really seek to see God at work, we will find that the sick are always being healed, people are always being saved, lives are being blessed. God is always at work in the life of his children. We may not always recognize what God is doing and many things may happen that we don't understand, but

God is always there! Has God been doing something in your life? Have you counted your blessings lately?

Don't ever say, "Nothing happened today," because something is always happening. Look around you this week ... See what is happening! If you will notice the changes that are occurring in your own life and in the lives of those around you, you will see that God is at work. As we receive the blessings of God from day to day and week to week, we should return a portion of what God has first given to us by making things happen using our time, talents and resources. ☩



A Stewardship Prayer

Dear God,

At baptism, we accepted the call to follow Jesus.

Be with us as we move along on our faith journey.

Send us your Holy Spirit, so that we might have wisdom for the journey.

Help us to develop and share our gifts as good stewards, so that we may use them in love and service in your Kingdom.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

“Notable Quotes”

“He who gives what he would as readily throw away, gives without generosity: for the essence of generosity is in self-sacrifice.”

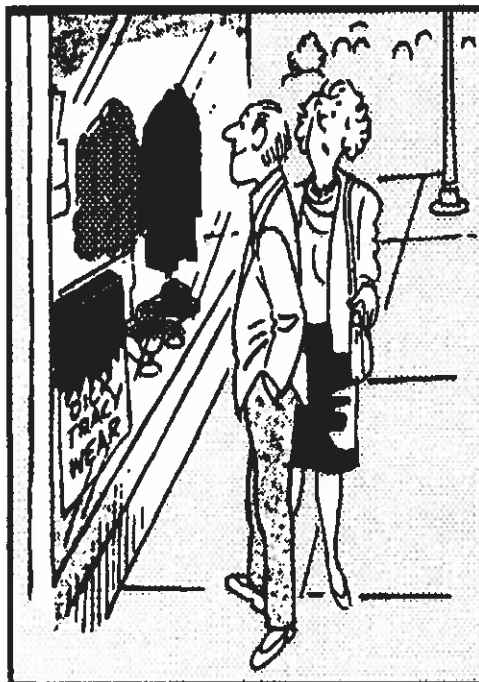
Sir Henry Taylor

“If we love Christ and his church enough, we will not stay away from church for light reasons. If we love enough, we will not easily turn down a church committee assignment. If we love enough, we will not refuse to help in the church school or choir. If we love enough, we will not have too tight a hold on our pocketbooks. Love wants to pour itself out. Love never counts the costs. Love never fails.”

William LaRoe Jr.

“Our love follows our pocketbook. Some say, dedicate the heart and the money will follow; but our Lord put it the other way around. ‘Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.’ If your treasure is dedicated, your heart will be dedicated. If it is not, it simply won’t. It’s as simple as that.”

G. Timothy Johnson



When you let me put more than ten dollars in the Sunday collection, I'll let you get the \$200 Dick Tracy pajamas!

The gift of money ... while forever needed ... cannot tell the whole story. The most precious gift, always, is the message that you care. There are, in practical terms, only two ways of showing how much you care for a particular cause. One is the amount of work you do for it; the other is the amount of substance you give to it.

Steward of the Month

Our Stained Glass Windows

Jerome, Penns Grove NJ

We have a wonderful old church built in 1920, and like many of us in the congregation, age has taken its toll. There are 45 exquisitely beautiful stained glass windows and therein lies our problem. Many of them are in desperate need of repair. So our pastor asked for volunteers to raise money to repair them.

A team of 6 stepped forward and in just about 3 years they have raised over \$14,000, had 2 small windows repaired for \$2000 and contracted to restore a large, 14 ft. high window for \$13,120. The window was removed last week and restoration has begun.

The team, with the help of the congregation, sold "Joe Corbi" pizzas, cakes and cookie dough, Tupperware, and jewelry. They ran concession stands for a local Minor League Baseball Team, The Blue Rocks in Wilmington, DE. They received money from a church Chinese auction, cleaned streets for the Township, hosted "Tastefully Simple" parties and received donations every Sunday from church members in a little green, stained glass box in the narthex.

The total estimated cost to repair all of the windows was over \$120,000 and when we started we said, "The journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step." We have taken that step ... just a small congregation, but BIG on STEWARDSHIP. ☩





Upcoming 2nd Collections:

May 24th Catholic Communications

Please pray for those in active military duty:

Andrew Anderson, Austin Barnes,
Andrew Burzynski, Don Fontaine,
Travis Hayes, Cody Klawinsky,
Travis Klawinsky, Joe A. Lopez,
Matthew Macejewski,
John McKnight, Phillip Walkoviak



The Lord is my strength
and my shield; my heart
trusts in him,
and he helps me.
My heart leaps
for joy, and with
my song I praise him.

Psalm 28:7

©My Daily Inspiration

Please pray for our parish family who are ill and/or homebound:

Laverne Backhus, Janet
Bienski, Ralph Cervantes,
Pat Davis, Don Dobiynski,
Margaret & Praslin Fann,
John Faust, Dolores Holler,
Mae Dell Izard, John Koch,
Caroline Kolbasinski,
Helen Molitor, Kellyanne
Katkoski, Tammy Kitchen,
BiBean Loukins, France
Loukins, Mathew Oliver, Regan
Oliver, Ashley Paskett,
Charlie Pasket, Marcus Reaves,
Kenny Sechelski, Katie Smith,
Chris Szymczak, LaNell
Szymczak, Anna Mae Vezurk,
Ann Wesolick,
Fr. Richard Hinkley,
Fr. Louis Sikorski



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