

**St. Stanislaus
Kostka
Catholic Church**

**Archdiocese of
Galveston-Houston**

Established
1866



September 6, 2020

Pastoral Staff

Pastor Rev. Elias Lopez

Permanent Deacon Walter Busa

Permanent Deacon Grant Holt

Seminarian Matthew Krusleski

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

Daniel Otto, Russell Pasket, Marcus Reaves,

Thomas Sechelski, Linda Toler, Dana Wagner

Jerome Klawinsky

Mass Schedule

Tuesday Noon

Wednesday Noon

Thursday Noon

Friday Noon

Saturday 4:15

Sept 13th Sunday 8:00 am NO MASS

Sunday 10:00 am

September 6, 2020

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

Love your neighbor as yourself.

1511 Hwy 90 South

P O Box 210

Anderson, Texas 77830

936-873-2291

936-873-3304 Fax

Email: ststan@embarqmail.com

Web: www.saintstans.org

In the first reading, the Lord tells Ezekiel that he will be held responsible for the death of the wicked one if he does not speak out to dissuade [him] from his way. In the Letter to the Romans, Paul writes that the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. In the Gospel, Jesus gives instructions for correcting another, gives authority to bind and loose, and promises where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday September 8th noon

Stella Bronikowski Holt

Wednesday September 9th noon

Albert Mattern

Thursday September 10th noon

Trey Barnett

Friday September 11th noon

Deceased member of the Bugaj Family

Saturday September 12th 4:15

Geneva & Anton Sicinski

Deaven Szymczak & Daniel Sicinski

Sunday September 13th 8:00 am

NO MASS

Sunday September 13th 10:00 am

Living & deceased member of
The Szymczak & Shimshack family

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.FORMED.org

Enter Parish code:

MVMZKF to register

Ststanskostka.flocknote.com/

or

Text STSTANS to 84576



If you cannot be present,
please find a replacement

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday September 12th 4:15pm

Lectors:

Leonard Szymczak & Dana Wagner

Rosary: Barbara Dibello

Ushers:

Michael Wisnoski, Darrell Wagner, Johnny Pasket Jr., Danny Pasket

NO E.M.H.C. or Altar Servers

Sunday September 13th 8:00 am

NO MASS

Sunday September 13th 10:00am

Lectors:

Gail Sowell & Jamie Diehl

Rosary: Theresa Guidry

Ushers:

Mike Wroblewski, Roger Vezurk, Marcus Klawinski, Darrin Pasket

NO E.M.H.C. or Altar Servers



If you cannot be present,
please find a replacement

Stewardship

God has made us stewards over the Earth, although some say that care of the Earth isn't mentioned in the New Testament and therefore it is not a religious concern. They don't see why the church should be involved.

Love God

The New Testament is concerned with saving souls, rather than the environment. However, the authority is there, but expressed in general terms. Christ said more in his two Great Commandments than did Moses in his Ten, plus all the rules of Deuteronomy.

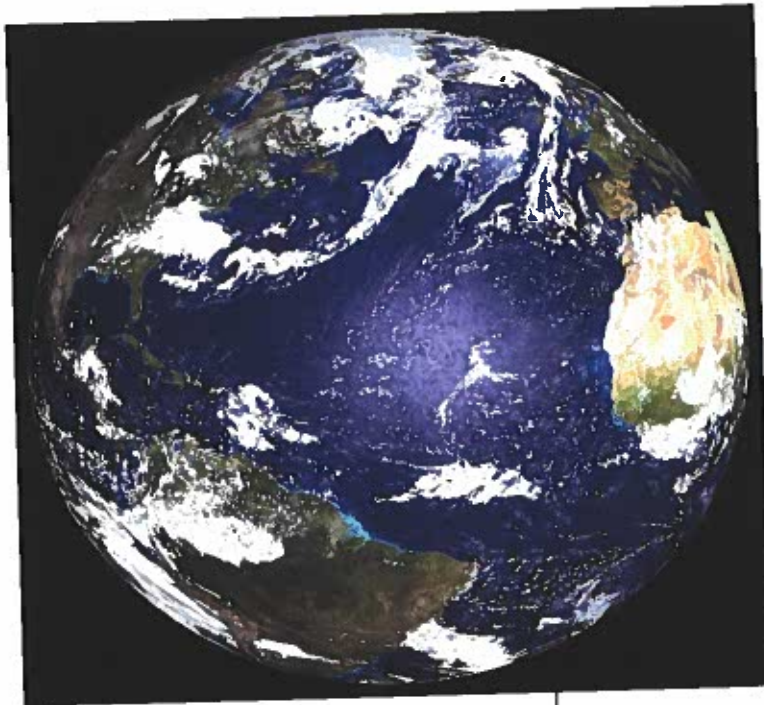
Still, many can't relate the two commandments to our environment.

The first commandment is that we must love God with all our heart, soul and mind. Genesis tells us that God has made us stewards over God's good Earth. We can see that despoiling God's Earth is not loving God.

Love our neighbor

Individual action is important, when multiplied by millions of people. The second commandment tells us to love our neighbor; surely, we can best express that love by preserving the good environment, both as a person and a voter.

People need to be educated to the fact that preserving our environment is more than an economic problem. Christians should be conscious of the implied "Environmental Commandment." ☩



Declaring the Real Truth

Why do we all insist on saying that we are "Giving" to the church, when at best we are only sharing what God has already given us? Why do we say we are trying to give our "Pledge," when we should be giving "God's Portion" to the church? Why do we say, "My Family," or "My Possessions" when they are blessings God permits us to enjoy, but that we never really own? Why should we say, "Thank My Lucky Stars" when we should be saying: "Thank You God"? ☩

The decisions faced, and the changes made in old age probably exceed those of even the turbulent years of late adolescence and young adulthood. Do not senior adults also deserve Christian guidance for their stewardship of the aging process?



Opportunities for Stewardship

Under the Old Law that God gave to Moses, the Israelites were expected to tithe, that is give a tenth of their first fruits to the priests to support God's work. This was only the beginning, or minimum offering. Chapters 1 through 7 of Leviticus tells of other required and voluntary offerings. The Grain Offering was a memorial offering to God. A Fellowship, or thank offering to God was to be made with cattle, goats or sheep. An accidental sin required a young bull sacrifice under the Sin Offering. Also, there was a Penalty Offering for purification from sin. All of these offerings to God were made through a mediator ... the priests.

1 Timothy 2:5 tells us, "For there is one God, and there is one who brings God and mankind together, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself to redeem all mankind."

Today we still have the opportunity and responsibility to return to God a portion of the money God

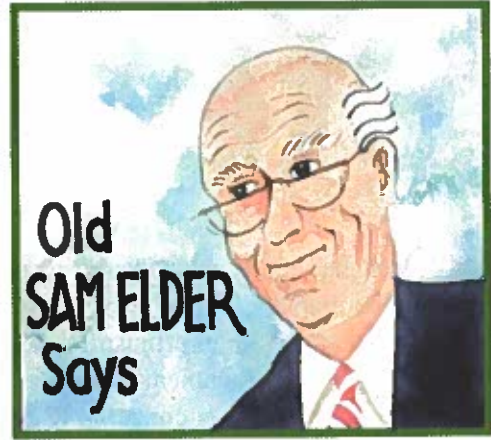
(Continued on page 4)

The current situation reminds us that we have lived in a culture that worships at the shrine of the four related idols: pleasure, wealth, professional status and physical appearance. It is a culture of convenience rather than duty and of avoidance of pain rather than seeking to relieve the burdens of others.

Hopefully, the financial metamorphosis that is taking place is turning many people from consumers into stewards.



"That was just a suggestion, based upon your income! How much did you want to pledge?"



That Which is God's

Sam, there is a whole area of confusion over what we give to God versus what we give to government," Newt Nitpick challenged old Sam Elder. "How can I give intelligently if the church doesn't help me define my obligations?"

"Newt, you must live under a sloppy government. I receive tax bills for property, schools and public services," old Sam objected. "Government emphatically tells me what I owe them!"

"Oh, alright! You are over-simplifying a perfectly reasonable question," protested Newt. "You know I'm talking about what to give God after taxes."

"Apply the same reasoning to both God and taxes," Sam suggested. "You pay taxes for benefits supplied by government; give to God as God has benefitted you."

"Come on, Sam! Be realistic! You agree that I have no choice on taxes; I must pay the amount specified," Newt argued. "But when I give to God, I must decide what to give, don't I?"

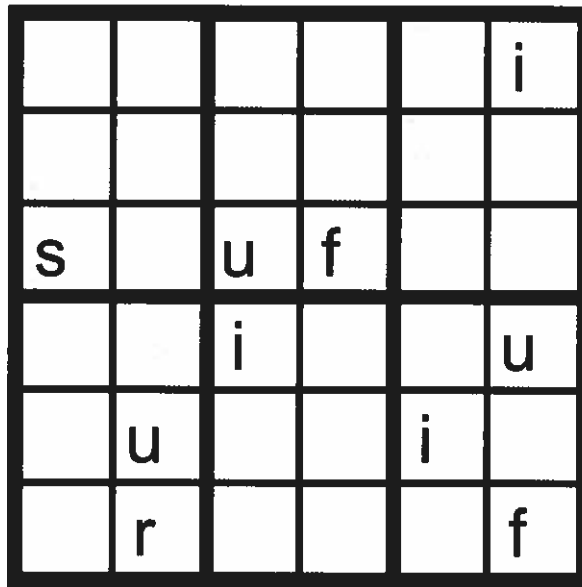
"Confusion enters when we try to figure how little can we give, and our conscience won't let us get away with it," Sam advised. "Christ told us to give Caesar that which is Caesar's and to give God that which is God's. Govern-

(Continued on page 4)

Stewardship Suduko Puzzle

Word Sudoku is Sudoku with letters instead of numbers. It works the same way as the numerical version, but using letters from a word found in the clue taken from the featured article. Each row and column contains one of the 6 letters from the word; each 3 rows x 2 columns block also contains each of the 6 letters once.

Clue: Under the Old Law that God gave to Moses, the Israelites were expected to tithe, that is give a tenth of their first fruits to the priests to support God's work.



The affairs of God can be described by three words that rhyme. They are caring, sharing, and bearing.

Bearing the burden of the cost to support the work of God in the world, whether through charitable donations, raising money for a particular need, or even paying our taxes, is the third way in which we carry out the affairs of God entrusted to us.

O Lord, giver of life and source of freedom, I know that all I have received is from your hand. Gracious and loving God, you call us to be stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us to always use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts, in Jesus' name. Amen.


Steward of the Month

My Mother ...

Submitted by: Jennifer Flagstaff, AZ

My mother is a real-life saint; a pillar in our community. She works at the high school in the office, and people of all ages remember her kindness, and gentle smile. I know from personal experience, when you get called into the office in high school, it's very scary ... I'm so proud of my mother and her smile and gentle way of comforting those kids, even when they are bad.


My mother has been there for the three of us since we lost our father five years ago ... and never once taking for herself. A pillar of strength, she called at all the right times, put her hand on my shoulder when I needed it, and helped me to my feet just when I was ready. My sisters all have the same account of things.

My grandmother has lived next door to us our entire life and my mother has taken care of her as well. She has always taught us to give back, because God has given so much to us. The importance of Christmas, not the commercial version, but the REAL Christmas has been taught to us. Easter dinners have been so special, all because of my mother. She takes time to talk about the important things, teaching us what is important, not with her words, but with her actions. I am blessed to pass her generous teachings onto my four children ... and I want to say that she is a true inspiration as a steward, and as a mother. 

"Steward of the Month" is an exciting way to recognize exemplary stewards. If you are aware of someone who has exemplified Christian stewardship, please tell us about it at stewardofthemonth.com. Once a month, one submission will be chosen to be published in *Stewardship*. In addition, if your story is chosen, \$100 will be given to the church or organization of your choice.

Continued from page 2...

Under the Old Law...

has blessed us with. As good stewards, we can give our thank offerings and our memorial offerings. We offer our gifts, works, and prayers through our Mediator, our High Priest, Christ Jesus, who freely gave his precious life so that we can have eternal life with God. 

Continued from page 2...

Old Sam Elder...

ment is the Caesar of today."

"Sam, you make it sound so simple," Newt sighted.

"And you won't get any peace or prosperity until you do," Sam added.



J	S	N	T	J	I
J	I	S	T	N	T
N	T	J	I	S	T
T	J	T	N	I	S
S	T	I	J	T	N
I	N	T	S	T	J

SUDOKO ANSWER



Graceful Generosity

Published to help you grow as a steward of God's grace.

Labor Day

The Labor Day holiday is a day that is set aside to recognize and give thanks for the blessings that work gives people. We receive a day of rest from our labors. Most of this newsletter will focus on the gifts and abilities that God gives us for work as well as the desire and ability that God gives us to work.

God Blesses Us with Talents and Abilities

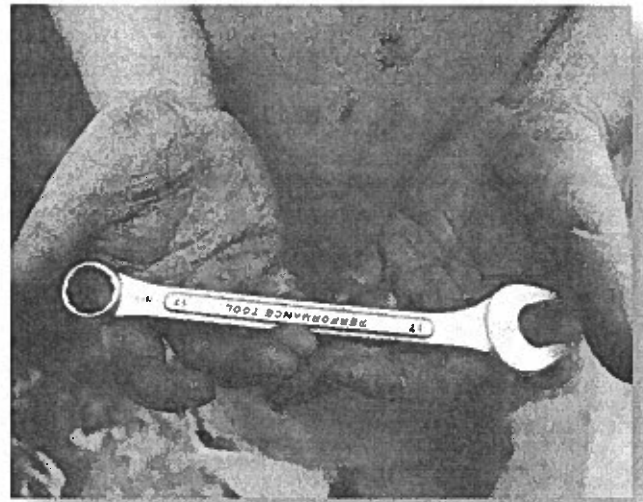
God has created us in his image (Genesis 1:26). He has given us tremendous talents. We are given intelligence, organization skills, creativity, decision-making powers, problem-solving capabilities, leadership abilities, and mechanical abilities, etc. God has given us labor so that we can use our God-given talents and provide for our needs. *"The Lord God took [Adam] and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it"* Genesis 2:15). Work is part of God's master plan for all people. Through our work, we not only take care of our needs, we receive fulfillment and growth as well as the joy of accomplishment.

Have you ever stopped to consider the differences in people? There are thousands of occupations in today's world, each requiring special talents. There are needs for carpenters, cooks, mechanics, tailors, pastors, teachers, farmers, servers, students, police officers, etc. The important thing to note here, however, is that, for every need, God has given to someone the ability to fulfill that need. Some people are able to take apart engines of cars, while others hardly know where to add the oil. Some can build houses, while others can barely nail boards together.

Some women sew fashionable clothes for their family and buy their bread at the store, while others cook and bake beyond compare but don't even own a sewing machine. God has made us

all unique. Along with all of our talents and abilities, God adds to them our desire and ability to work.

As Christians, we need to remember that our talents and abilities have come from God.



"You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today" (Deuteronomy 8:17-18).

Financial Equation

Earning income at our work is an essential part of the following financial equation:

***Earned income = giving,
saving, and spending.***

From the income that we earn, we give, save, and spend. For the financial equation to balance, we need to earn an income.

The Blessing of Work

Working is a blessing that God gives his people. God is not pleased with laziness or an indifferent attitude toward work. Solomon wrote, *"Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth."* (Proverbs 10:4). We are encouraged to be as ambitious, wise, and industrious as the ant. *"Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest"* (Proverbs 6:6).

God is concerned with our quality of work. The Apostle Paul wrote, *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men"* (Colossians 3:23). Because we are serving the Lord in all that we do, including our work, we are to give our very best effort. When we add value to our employers, we not only put ourselves in a position for promotions and raises, God is glorified.



The Apostle Paul reminds us, *"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously"* (2 Corinthians 9:6).

This sowing and reaping principle that Paul shares applies to our work. What is your attitude toward your work? Are you there to receive as much as you can while putting out the least amount of effort? Do you begrudge the hours your employer asks you to work, or are you willing to come in early and stay late at times? Are you learning more than you have to and doing more than you have to?

Another question to ask yourself about your work is how you plan to use this "wealth" that your "diligent hands" bring you. Is it your purpose to hoard it like the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21), so that you can *"take life easy; eat, drink and be merry"*? If you've read the parable, you know that plan is not pleasing to the Lord.

Our work is a gift from the Lord. As good stewards of that gift, we will work to the best of our ability so that we can care for our needs and give to the Lord by helping others in need. Paul talks about the service we can provide through our work: *"At the present time your plenty will supply what [others] need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality"* (2 Corinthians 8:14).

Besides providing for ourselves, God gives us two additional reasons for work:

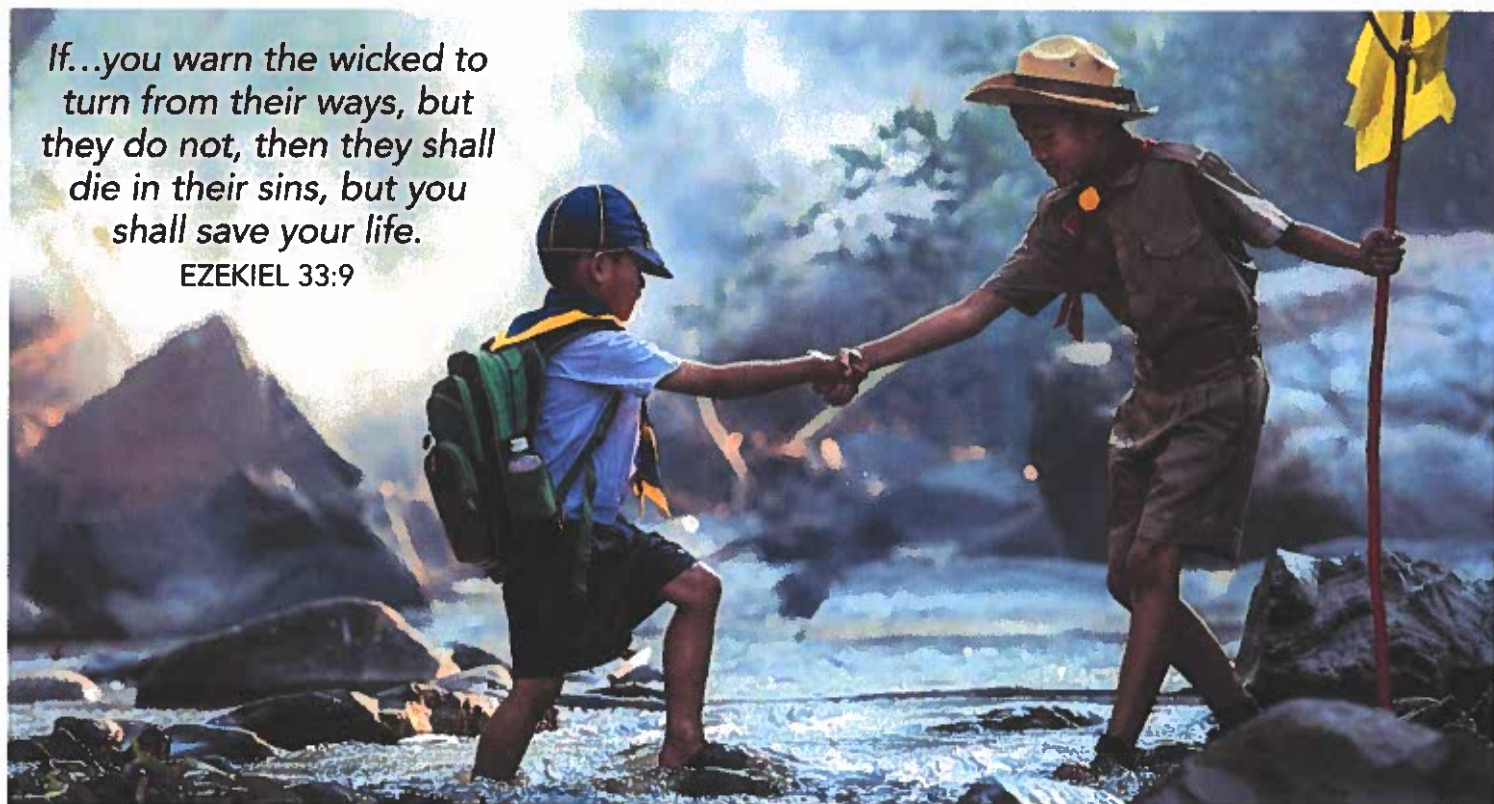
- † **Provide for our families:** *"If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever"* (1 Timothy 5:8).
- † **Provide for the needy:** *"[He] must work . . . doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need"* (Ephesians 4:28).

Give thanks to God for your work. Work to the best of your ability. Share with others the rewards of your work.

Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!

*If...you warn the wicked to
turn from their ways, but
they do not, then they shall
die in their sins, but you
shall save your life.*

EZEKIEL 33:9



It's None of My Business

This statement might sound like we are respecting the independence of others. It is none of our business how they live their lives, how they behave in society, how they worship God. We mind our own business; they mind theirs. After all, are we our brother's or sister's keepers?

Today's readings challenge this attitude. Ezekiel is told that he must proclaim God's will to the Israelites. If he reneges in his calling and someone dies in guilt, Ezekiel will be held responsible for that death. However, if the wicked refuse to hear this message, their death in guilt will be their own doing, for one must freely accept God's word. In the Gospel, Jesus outlines a way for his disciples to lead sinners back to the community. Both Ezekiel and the disciples have responsibilities to those who are not living faithfully. They both take steps to call them back. In this sense, they act as their brother's or sister's keeper. However,

they do not meddle in the other's business. The sinner must freely decide to return. God does not force repentance.

This might be a hard message. Who wants to step up and point out another's error in leaving the Church? However, if we are really concerned, we will do what we can to bring them back. We might not proclaim like the prophet or the disciples did. But the way we live our lives should show them the true value in being a faithful follower of Jesus.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *Is your life an example of the values of your faith?*
- ★ *Pray for those whom you love, who have left the practice of the faith.*

Dear Padre,

**In the story of Noah, God destroyed most of the world. Did that really happen?
How should we think about the world's end?**

Most biblical scholars generally consider the Noah story to be a tale of God's new covenant with the people. Life here is temporary, but life with God is eternal. The story of the Flood was probably based on some historical event that was recounted in oral traditions for centuries before the story of Noah was written.

The National Geographic Society, in researching that region, discovered that the Mediterranean Sea broke through a natural dam more than 7,500 years ago, filling a freshwater lake with seawater and creating the Black Sea. This natural catastrophe could be the basis for the story of Noah and the Ark. Catastrophic world events such as war, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, or tornadoes remind us repeatedly how fragile and temporary our lives are.

The biblical truth of the Noah story and of Jesus' account of the end of the world tell us that God is our beginning and our end. The world will end, but

God will not end. God's love for us will also never end. There is a spiritual transformation that will happen both at the end of lives on earth and at the end of time. We can be certain that, in the end, sin and death will be no more and God's love will reign forever.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

It is vital that the Church today go out to proclaim the Gospel to all, in all places, on all occasions, without delay, reluctance, or fear. We do so in obedience to the Lord's missionary mandate, certain of his presence among us until the end of the world.

—ADDRESS TO UNITED BIBLE SOCIETIES, OCTOBER 5, 2017



Calendar

Monday

SEPTEMBER 7

Weekday

1 Cor 5:1–8

Lk 6:6–11

Tuesday

SEPTEMBER 8

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mi 5:1–4a or

Rom 8:28–30

Mt 1:1–16, 18–23

or 1:18–23

Wednesday

SEPTEMBER 9

St. Peter Claver, Priest

1 Cor 7:25–31

Lk 6:20–26

Thursday

SEPTEMBER 10

Weekday

1 Cor 8:1b–7, 11–13

Lk 6:27–38

Friday

SEPTEMBER 11

Weekday

1 Cor 9:16–19, 22b–27

Lk 6:39–42

Saturday

SEPTEMBER 12

Weekday

1 Cor 10:14–22

Lk 6:43–49

Sunday

SEPTEMBER 13

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:30–28:7

Rom 14:7–9

Mt 18:21–35

September 6, 2020

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 33:7-9 | Rom 13:8-10 | Mt 18:15-20

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Pop quiz: What's the Seventh Commandment? Can you recite the other nine? At first glance, Paul's Letter to the Romans seems like an easy out. The commandments, he writes, "are summed up in this saying, namely, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Easy-peasy, right? Well, in this case the devil is not in the details, but in the totality. Most days, loving one's neighbor as yourself is harder than following the letter of the law. It means putting others first in a culture where rugged individualism is rewarded. In an everyday way, it means letting the person with four items and 23 coupons go in front of us at the grocery store, listening with an open mind to those with whom we disagree, or driving our parent to the doctor's office on a day we had hoped to attend our daughter's basketball game. When those situations come up, we know we don't have to go it alone. After all, God loved us first. As we move into the week ahead, we can ask God in prayer to open our hearts and minds to the needs of others, and help us love better by serving them, even when it's hard.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Who doesn't love a romantic comedy? (Well, I can name four men of varying ages in my household.) Paul might have been one of them. His Letter to the Romans is more head than heart, grounded in rock-solid logic: "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law." The line reminds me of one of the most famous tenets of the Hippocratic Oath: "First, do no harm." Surely, on some days, "doing no evil" or "doing no harm" may feel like enough. But as Christians, we can do so much more. I'm reminded of a generous couple who would pray together each morning asking God to show them how they could best help others. They understood the message of today's Gospel, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Knowing that Jesus was at their side, they prepared to face whatever the day brought them. Is there someone this week you can accompany on their faith journey, or invite to join you in Christian service?

PRAY By starting the day with a simple prayer like this: "God, show me how I can serve others today," or "God, open my heart to the needs around me," we may be pleasantly surprised at the opportunities to grow in love that we encounter.



Gaety Images/rievan celik

GIVE BLOOD.ORG

St. Stanislaus Catholic Church

**Sunday, September 13
8:30 am - 1:00 pm
fellowship hall**

**Contact
Henry Ostermann
(936) 873-2291
sponsor code: STKR**

**To sign up online please visit this link
<https://tinyurl.com/y53ukojb>**

***FREE COVID- 19
anti-body testing for all
successful donations!**

****This test is authorized by the FDA only for detecting the
presence of antibodies against SARS-Co V-2, and is not intended
for diagnosis of COVID-19**

***** September is Cancer Awareness Month FREE Socktember
socks!! for all successful donations!**



Katelyn, blood drive organizer



**Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center**

EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.

**Know when
your blood
has been
delivered**



Text **COMMIT** to 999.777 to
receive reminders and updates.



St. Stanislaus Catholic Church
Annual Homecoming and Bazaar
Sunday October 11, 2020
Anderson, TX

Raffle Prizes

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. 2020 John Deere Gator 560E - \$9,250 | In memory of Father James Moore \$1,000 |
| | In memory of Larry Sechelski Sr \$1,000 |
| 2. Howard Miller Wall Clock -- \$600 | Donated by Gary & Bonnie Klodzinski \$500 |
| 3. Visa Gift Card - \$500 | Donated by Buckner's Jewelry |
| 4. Visa Gift Card - \$500 | Donated by Serres & Son Plumbing |
| 5. Wal-Mart Gift Card - \$500 | Donated by Michael & Susan Wisnoski |
| 6. Lowe's Gift Card - \$500 | |
| 7. Academy Gift Card - \$500 | Donated by Joe & Linda Vitanza \$250 |
| | Donated by Jim & Shirley Hesse \$250 |
| | Donated by the Pete Paskett Family |
| 8. Barton 6 Piece Wicker Rattan Outdoor Rocking Chair Set - \$350 | Donated by David & Jesslyn Borski |
-

\$10.00 per ticket
Need not be present to win

Tickets Courtesy of the
First National Bank of Anderson
Member FDIC

Please call the office if you would like to make a donation 936-873-2291

Bazaar News

- Next Bazaar meeting is Wednesday September 16th at 6 pm in the Parish hall. All booth chairpersons as encouraged to attend.
- Raffle tickets
 - With a modified bazaar this year the selling of raffle tickets by each parish family is CRITICAL to our success.
 - If you have not picked up your raffle tickets, they will be mailed to you this week.
 - If you do not plan to attend the bazaar, please turn in your raffle tickets as soon as possible.
- Dinner tickets and Meat by the lb. will be presold after Mass starting the weekend of September 19-20, 2020
 - Dinner Tickets will be \$10/plate
 - Brisket by the lb. will be \$15 and Sausage will be \$10 per lb.



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 September

Respect for the Plant's Resources

We pray that the plant's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

Announcements

On the weekend of September 19th, **Altar Servers** will resume serving at the Saturday 4:15 and Sunday 10:00 am mass.
Please pick up a schedule today.

<><><>

If you would like to make a donation to this years Bazaar raffle prizes, please let the office know. 873-2291

<><><>

CCE Registration

CCE will be starting at home in September with the hope to begin in person in October at St. Stanislaus! Please register online at the link below ASAP so that the appropriate materials may be ordered.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe6hKQ-xeVKjPCq9wanJWPUPMENN5cvOI50pPM6RORt9eKc5w/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>

Our readings today work together to teach us about the real obligations of the law, which include gently correcting one another so that our communities may be in harmony. Paul explains how we must do this, and do all things, with love.
And Jesus promises to remain with us always.

Altar Society : Meets the first Thursday of every month. The next meeting will be Thursday October 1st at 6:00 in the rectory. All Catholic ladies are welcome.

Anointing of the Sick : Every 3rd weekend of the month. Anointing of the sick will be held in the church following the 10:00 am Sunday Mass. Anointing of the sick is for people who are seriously ill or preparing to undergo surgery. It is also for the elderly who are suffering from the infirmities

Baptism: Classes are necessary for baptism. Please contact the parish office to make needed arrangements.

Birthdays & Anniversaries : On the 1st weekend of every month Fr. Eli will bless anyone with a birthday or wedding anniversary during that month following each Mass.

Cemetery Guidelines: If you have any questions or concerns pertaining to the cemetery, please contact Charles Posinski at 936-873-2113. If work needs to be done you must call Charles Posinski first.

Choir Practice: Do to COVID-19, No practice at this time.

Counseling: Gratia Plena is a nonprofit organization that provides mental and spiritual health services for mental illnesses, addictions, and marriage/family problems. All counselors are Catholic and provide services in a way that is faithful to the teachings, values and traditions of the Church. Their closest office is near The Woodlands, but counselors are also available by video session. For more information, see their website at www.gratiaplenacounseling.org or call (832) 532-0129, or email info@gratiaplenacounseling.org

Divine Mercy: Every Friday after the noon Mass . Everyone is welcome to join us.

Gabriel Project: Pregnant. Scared. Need to talk! Gabriel Project offer assistance to women experiencing difficult circumstances. Please call Wanda O'Brien 936-597-6328 or St. Mary's Catholic Church 936-894-2223

Knights of Columbus : KC Council #4054 meets at the KC Hall every 2nd Tuesday at 7pm. Please join us. All Catholic men are welcome. Contact Deen Miller 936-524-1700 for membership information. And James Moran 936-825-7866 for rental information .
Next blood drive Sept. 13th in the parish hall.

Marriage: There is a required preparation process that must be completed prior to one being married in the Catholic Church. Please call the office for more information.

RCIA & RCIC: Anyone seeking the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults / Children or adult confirmation. Please call the church office at 936-873-2291

Reconciliation: 30 Minutes before Wednesday & Friday Masses (Please call ahead to let the Priest know) and 3:00 to 4:00 on Saturdays

12 Hour Adoration: Our church is open every Monday 8 am to 8 pm.
Everyone is welcome to join in the worship with the scheduled persons.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

September 2020

Christ Our Light Catholic Church and St. Stanislaus Church

Rev. Elias Lopez, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

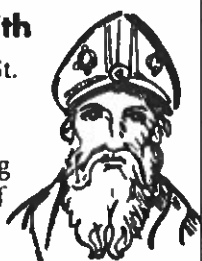
Mysteries of faith

Legend says that St. Augustine was walking on a beach puzzling the mystery of the Holy Trinity when he spotted a boy filling a bucket from the ocean and dumping it in a hole. The boy said he was trying to fit the ocean into the hole. St. Augustine cried, "But you can never do that!" The boy replied, "And neither can you understand the Holy Trinity," and vanished. Some things we just have to take on faith.

"God bless you"

When you sneeze, think of Pope St. Gregory, the Great. In 590AD, the bubonic plague was spreading to Rome. To combat the disease, the pope requested incessant prayer. "God bless you!" in response to a sneeze was part of that effort.

"You shall not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day, Nor the pestilence that roams in darkness, nor the plague that ravages at noon" (Psalm 91:5-6).



Do you trust God?

"The Lord is my strength and my shield, in whom my heart trusts" (Psalm 28:7). Do you trust God with everything in your life or only some things? Do you give him your problems but take them back when he doesn't do what you want? It is when we have complete trust in God that our lives work well.

Is God trustworthy? A person worthy of trust is one of good character and integrity. We have more than two thousand years of history that prove God means what he says and says what he means. He does what he promises.

Is God capable? God has power

over all creation – He even has power over life and death. Through the ages, we have learned that all things are possible with God. More to the point, God's Son told us that God loves us with

unimaginable intensity so he always wants what is best for us. In fact, God is more qualified than we are to take care of what we need.

Are you ready to really trust God? Start

by thanking him no matter what. Everything that he allows to happen to us is for our good. Then remind yourself that God is fully in charge. Finally, ask him what you should do next and do it.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe the Eucharist is Jesus' Body and Blood?

The concept of transubstantiation means that, during Mass, the entire substance of bread changes into the substance of the Body of Christ. The entire substance of wine changes into the substance of His Blood. This change is brought about in the eucharistic

prayer through the Word of Christ and the action of the Holy Spirit.

However, the outward characteristics of bread and wine, the "eucharistic species," remain unaltered.

Jesus is truly present during Mass, Body and Blood, soul and divinity.

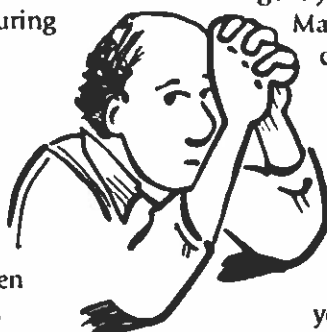


Make distractions a plus in prayer

There is no better way to build a relationship with Jesus than through prayer. Relying on His strength during difficult times is how we get through them. Yet when we become distracted during prayer, we can become discouraged and give up. Try these ideas for turning distractions into blessings:

Gently return. Start your prayer by placing yourself in the presence of God. When you wander, gently bring yourself back.

Practice recall. St. Frances de Sales said, "When your mind wanders or gives way to distractions,



gently recall it and place it once more close to its Divine Master. If you should do nothing else but repeat this during the whole time of prayer, your hour would be very well spent and you would perform a spiritual exercise most acceptable to God."

Turn distractions into prayer. If you start thinking about people and events unrelated to your prayer, pray about them and then return to the original subject of your prayer.

Pray out loud. When distractions overwhelm you, pray out loud.

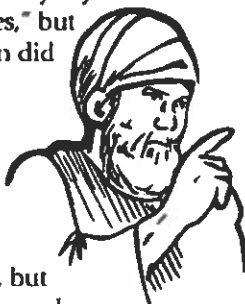
from Scripture

Matthew 21:28-32, Faithful obedience.

Jesus told of a man who asked his two sons to go work in his vineyard. The first said, "No," but went anyway. The second said, "Yes," but didn't go. Which son did as the father asked?

The father in the parable is God. The first son represents the outcasts of society. They said "No" to God at first, but repented of their sins and changed.

The second son represents the Jewish religious leaders. They said "Yes," but it was just lip service. They followed rules rather than changing their hearts.



Saying, "Yes, God, I believe in you," is not enough. If we presume that the Lord will take us into Heaven just because we profess our faith, we will be disappointed. Words are not enough.



True obedience is lived. When we realize we are in a state of sin, we have two options. We can say we're sorry, or we can show we're sorry by going to Confession, doing sincere penance and amending our lives. Living as Jesus taught us is our way of "working in our Father's vineyard."

Q & A How can I stop worrying about what other people think?

The problem with placing too much importance on other people's opinions of you is that you give them inappropriate power over you. In effect,



you are substituting other people's values and judgment for your own and there is no guarantee that they have your best interests – or your eternal future – at heart. Not everyone is interested in helping you get to Heaven.

Try instead to live by the rules detailed in the Ten Commandments and in the Beatitudes. They tell us to be devoted to God, to care for other people, to be honest and dedicated to truth, and to value the blessings God has given us.

Remember that there is value in being criticized or insulted even though you do the right thing. Not only can you offer it as penance for your sins, such suffering teaches humility and patience – two virtues that will help you get to Heaven. And when it comes down to it, the opinion of other people will pass, but God's judgment is forever.

Feasts & Celebrations

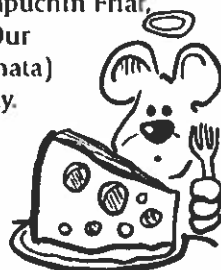
Sept. 8 - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1st century). Tradition holds that Mary was born in Jerusalem after her parents had been childless for more than twenty years. Mary's birth brought them – and us – joy.

Sept. 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows. In Luke 2:35, Simeon predicted Mary's sorrows as "a sword piercing" her soul. This referred, in part, to a time when Mary would stand at the foot of her son's Cross. Still, Mary stood dignified and fearless while others fled.

Sept. 21 - St. Matthew (1st century).

Also known as Levi, he was a notorious tax collector. St. Matthew left everything behind when Jesus called him to spread the Gospel. He wrote the Gospel According to Matthew.

Sept. 23 - St. Padre Pio (1968). Francesco Forgione was born to farmers in southern Italy. Eight years after he became a Capuchin Friar, the five wounds of Our Lord's Passion (stigmata) appeared on his body. Despite intense personal and physical suffering, he remained dedicated to prayer.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

Weekly Collections:

August 29th & 30th
\$4,556.00
August online giving
\$5,190.00

Upcoming 2nd Collections:

2nd Collection on Sept. 12th & 13th for 2020
Pontifical Good Friday Collection.
(deferred from Good Friday by Pope Francis)

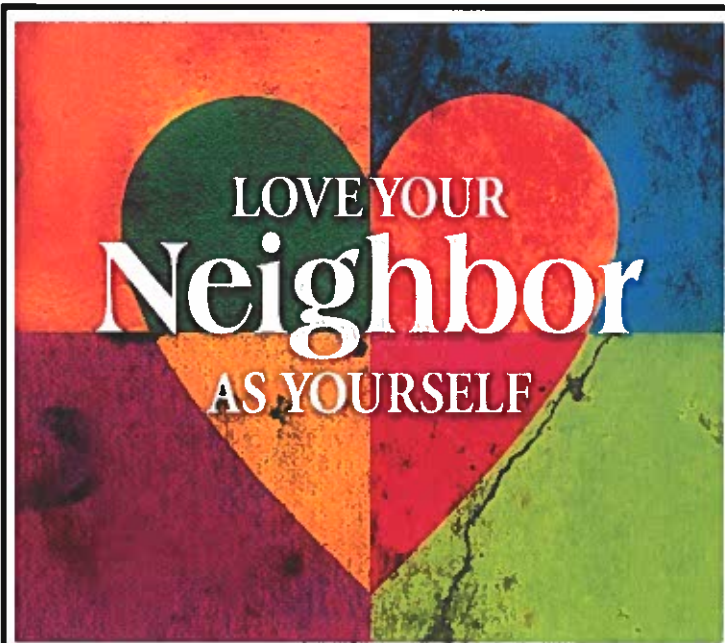
Please pray for those in active military duty:

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



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

Aria, Laverne Backhus, Janet Bienski, Sheila Blinka, Ralph Cervantes,
Pat Davis, Don Dobiyanski, Margaret & Praslin Fann, John Faust,
Paul Henry III, Dolores Holler, Mae Dell Izard, John Koch, Caroline
Kolbasinski, Barbara Kurtin, Helen Molitor, Kellyanne Katkoski, Tammy
Kitchen, Bibian Loukins, France Loukins, Desiree Oliver, Mathew Oliver,
Regan Oliver, Henry Ostermann, Ashley Paskett, Charlie Pasket, Kenny
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