

**St. Stanislaus
Kostka
Catholic Church**

1511 Hwy 90 South
Anderson, TX 77830
936-873-2291

Archdiocese of
Galveston-Houston

Established 1866



February 28, 2021

Pastoral Staff

Pastor Rev. Elias Lopez

Permanent Deacon Grant Holt

Permanent Deacon Russell Pasket

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, Susie Homeyer,

Ben Leman, Larry Sechelski Jr.

Music Coordinator

Margaret McClosky

RCIA

Kim Ritchie

RCIC

Dana Wagner

Pastoral Leadership Team

Jerome Klawinsky, Daniel Otto,

Russell Pasket, Marcus Reaves,

Thomas Sechelski, Gail Sowell

Linda Toler, Dana Wagner

Mass Schedule

Tuesday Noon

Wednesday Noon

Thursday Noon

Friday Noon

Saturday 4:15 pm

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

February 28th, 2021

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

On the Mount of the Transfiguration,
Jesus is revealed to his disciples as
God's *beloved Son*.



Abraham was about to offer [his son] up as a holocaust to the Lord. But a messenger of the Lord stopped him, and told him, [the Lord] will bless you abundantly, and that he would have innumerable descendants. Saint Paul asks, *If God is for us, who can be against us?* For Christ Jesus intercedes for us. In the Gospel, Peter, James, and John accompany Jesus up a high mountain, where he is transfigured before them. They see Moses and Elijah conversing with Jesus, and from the cloud a voice says, *This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.*

Mass Intentions

Tuesday March 2nd noon

Wischnewsky, Posinski & Coffman Families

Wednesday March 3rd noon

Marcella Reaves

Thursday March 4th noon

Eugene Burzynski

Friday March 5th noon

Floyd & James Pasket, John & Maggie Pasket

Willie, Christine & Frank Sechelski

Saturday March 6th 4:15

Max Joswiak & Ruben Garcia

Sunday March 7th 8:00

John, Stella & Pete Kroll

Sunday March 7th 10:00

Edward Pasket

*Building on
our past,
Securing our
future!*

Father Eli

lopez.eli68@gmail.com

<><>

www.FORMED.org

Enter Parish code:

MVMZKF to register

<><>

Ststanskostka.flocknote.com/

or

Text STSTANS to 84576

<><>

Web: www.saintstans.org

Email:

ststan@embarqmail.com



If you cannot be present,
please find a replacement

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

If you cannot be present,
please find a replacement



Saturday March 6th 4:15 pm

Lectors: Leonard Szymczak & Dana Wagner

Rosary: Barbara Dibello

Altar Servers: Christina Hluchan, Brant Werner, Wyatt Marek

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

Sunday March 7th 8:00 am

Volunteers

Rosary: Barbara Dibello

Sunday March 7th 10:00 am

Lectors: Gail Sowell & Jamie Diehl

Rosary: Theresa Guidry

Altar Servers: Tyler Abraham, Hannah Abraham, William Abraham

Ushers: Gary Klodzinski, Daniel Klawinsky, Don Sowell, James Busa



Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent (B)

Gn 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18

Rom 8:31b–34

Mk 9:2–10

Future Gazing

Some spiritual writers and psychologists tell us how important it is to live in the present. Still, many of our decisions are made with an eye toward the future. Life commitments are always future oriented. Each newborn child carries promises for the future. Because we are part of the emerging universe, we are always called into the future. Today's readings also carry implications for the future.

Isaac was not only Abraham's beloved son; he was Abraham's legacy and future dynasty. Isaac's death would have put an end to Abraham's memory in the future. Consequently, this was more than a test of obedience. Abraham was presented with a choice: Choose Isaac and all that the future might bring to your family and memory through him. Or, trust that the promise God made—that your descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky—would be fulfilled even if Isaac dies. God asked Abraham to place his future in God's hands.

Some scholars believe that the real meaning of Jesus' transfiguration lies in its effects on the disciples who witnessed it. In this experience they came to see Jesus in a significantly new way. They saw that he has somehow associated with Moses, an agent of the law, and Elijah, a great prophet. In other words, Jesus was somehow associated with the very core of Jewish religion. The disciples did not understand how, nor did they grasp what "rising from the dead meant." Still they placed their future in his hands.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ Have you ever felt like your whole world has collapsed? How did you get through it?
- ★ True disciples must place their lives in God's hands. Pray for this grace.

*I will bless you and
make your descendants
as countless as the
stars of the sky and the
sands of the seashore.*

GENESIS 22:17



PIYAMAT NAIJENOPARIT/SHUTTERSTOCK

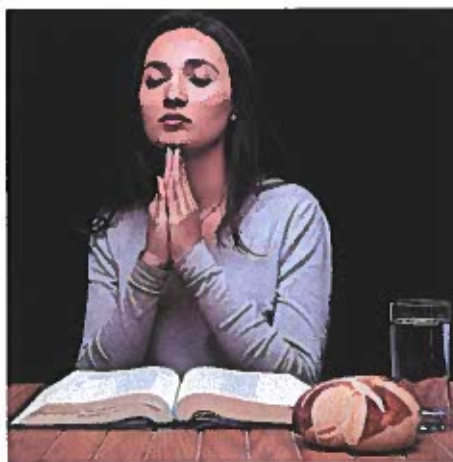
Dear Padre,

Was Lent always associated with sacrifice, sin, and penance? Did Lent have some other purpose in Church history?

A set period of Lent was not observed during the first centuries of Christianity. Rather, Christians prepared for the Easter celebration with an all-night vigil and a fast. This vigil concluded with a morning Eucharist. Gradually, Christians extended this celebration to include Jesus' own Passover (the supper on Holy Thursday and the death of Jesus on Friday). By the end of the second century, baptism became linked to the Easter Vigil, and the time leading to Easter became a period of intense preparation for baptism. At first, this preparation period lasted only three weeks. This baptismal preparation program eventually extended to forty days. The idea of forty days came out of Mark's Gospel (1:13), where we read about Jesus going into the desert for forty days to prepare for his ministry.

Today the Lenten period serves a double purpose. It is still a time of intense preparation for the catechumens, as they anticipate celebrating the sacrament of baptism at the Easter Vigil. But Lent also has become a time for baptized Christians to reflect on their own baptism. During Lent, the baptized are challenged to turn away from sin and choose again the deepest meaning of their baptism: the fact that they have died and risen with Christ and are now alive anew in Jesus. This renewal is done through the traditional penitential practices of fasting, prayer, and works of charity.

*From Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask © 2003 Liguori Publications
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org*



JESUS CERNANES/SHUTTERSOCK

Calendar

Monday

MARCH 1

Lenten Weekday

Dn 9:4b–10

Lk 6:36–38

Tuesday

MARCH 2

Lenten Weekday

Is 1:10, 16–20

Mt 23:1–12

Wednesday

MARCH 3

Lenten Weekday

Jer 18:18–20

Mt 20:17–28

Thursday

MARCH 4

Lenten Weekday

Jer 17:5–10

Lk 16:19–31

Friday

MARCH 5

Lenten Weekday

Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a,

17b–28a

Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

Saturday

MARCH 6

Lenten Weekday

Mi 7:14–15, 18–20

Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

Sunday

MARCH 7

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 20:1–17 or

20:1–3, 7–8, 12–17

1 Cor 1:22–25

Jn 2:13–25



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

We learn from Abraham to pray with faith, to dialogue, to argue, but always ready to receive the word of God and to put it into practice. We learn to talk with God as a child with his father: to listen to him, respond, argue, but transparent, as a child with his father.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, JUNE 3, 2020

GIVE BLOOD.ORG

St. Stanislaus Catholic Church

Sunday, March 21
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://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/324378

*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



Kimberly, blood recipient



Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center

EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.

Share your
donation story



@commitforlife | #commitforlife



Station 3 - Jesus falls the first time - © TheCatholicKid.com

February 28, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 | Rom 8:31b-34 | Mk 9:2-10

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

Oh, the gloom! The view out my window on a typical Michigan winter day can be described as “grayscale monochrome,” a technical term for black-and-white photographs. Fortunately, the sun peeks out on occasion, providing a lovely sunrise or sunset that can lift my mood and remind me that spring will come. If such an ordinary thing can provide hope, imagine what the Transfiguration provided for the disciples who witnessed it? “His clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them.” And even though they were so terrified, the voice of God came from a cloud, conveying comfort and truth: “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” The disciples did not know what lay ahead, but this vision of Jesus and the Father’s presence in their midst would give them hope and foretell Jesus’ glorious resurrection. As we continue on our Lenten journey, we can turn to God, who will one day transfigure us in the same way Christ was, to strengthen us through the gray days ahead. And St. Paul’s powerful words that “God is for us” add solace and encouragement.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

As Catholics, we are likely very familiar with the four Gospels, but I have to say I can’t get enough of Paul’s letters. Like a good coach, Paul encourages us to dig deep and trust God. In today’s reading, he reminds the Romans that God loves us so much that he did not spare his own Son. I’m struck by his assurance that Jesus not only died and was raised for us, but “indeed intercedes for us.” Lent is an ideal time to turn to Jesus in prayer, asking that he give us the grace to grow in faith and turn away from sin. At the same time, we can offer intercessory prayer for *others*, just as we do at every Mass. Perhaps as we continue our Lenten journey, we can make an extra effort to pray for the needs of other people: Those we know personally, such as friends and family members; and those whom we do not know, such as government leaders or Christians experiencing persecution in other countries.

PRAY I find that I often make prayer all about me! Yet, as the Church teaches, “in intercession, those who pray look ‘not only to their own interests, but also to the interests of others,’ even to the point of praying for those who do them harm.” (CCC 2635) One way to practice intercessory prayer is to make a list and pray for the people and intentions on it once a day. For those of us who regularly pray the rosary, another practice might be to dedicate each decade to an individual in need of prayer.

“THIS
IS MY
beloved son
LISTEN
TO HIM”



Station 4 - Jesus meets His mother - © TheCatholicKid.com



Station 5 - Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry His cross - © TheCatholicKid.com



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 February

Universal Intention: Violence Against Woman

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

Announcements

Lenten Fish Fry

Friday March 5th Knight of Columbus of Navasota starting at 5:00. Fish, French fries, hush puppies & cole slaw. Cost of the meal is \$10. Come out and support your local

K of C Council. KC Hall 9306 CR 420 Navasota

Stations of The Cross

We will have Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 12:30pm and 7:00pm until March 26th.

Parish celebration and thanksgiving in honor of Deacon Russell Pasket.

The St. Stanislaus Altar Society and the Knights of Columbus Council #4054 are hosting a pancake breakfast following the 10:00 o'clock mass on Sunday, March 14, 2021.

This event will celebrate the ordination of Russell Pasket to the Diaconate and acknowledge his commitment to a ministry of service to our faith. All members of the parish are invited to attend and congratulate Deacon Pasket, thank him for his faithfulness, and wish him well as undertakes his new responsibilities.

Choir Notes

The "Lively Lofters" have resumed practice and are preparing for a spiritual and meaningful lent and Easter season. If you have ever given thought to joining the choir, this would be a great opportunity to give an additional time of service to the church during lent. Please consider joining us for practice on Thursday evenings at 6:15 and at any of our weekend masses.

You can contact Margaret McClosky (margaretmcclosky@gmail.com) for more information

In our Scriptures today, Jesus is revealed as God's *beloved Son*, and Paul writes that the risen Jesus will *indeed intercede for us*. What gifts we are given! Let us, then, act in the world as God's children and be his instruments for building the Kingdom on earth.

Altar Society : Meets the first Thursday of every month. The next meeting will be Thursday March 4th at 6:00 in the rectory. All Catholic ladies are welcome.

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: Choir practice is on Thursday evenings beginning at 6:15pm in the church. You can contact Margaret McClosky (margaretmcclosky@gmail.com) for more information

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. **Next blood drive March 21st, 2021 in the parish hall** Contact Deen Miller 936-524-1700 for membership information. And James Moran 936-825-7866 for rental information .

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.

[illegible]

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
		12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	9am COL Fr. Eli 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
7 3rd Sunday of Lent 8am COL Fr. Eli 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	8	9	10	11	12	13
		12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Paul 6pm COL Fr. Eli
14 4th Sunday of Lent 8am COL Fr. Eli 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	18	19	20
		12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	4:15 St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
21 5th Sunday of Lent 8am COL Fr. Eli 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	22	23	24	25	26	27
		12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Paul 6pm COL Fr. Eli
28 Palm Sunday 8am COL Fr. Eli 8am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	29 HOLY WEEK...	30	31	1	2	3
		12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli Christen Mass of Co Cathedral	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 6pm COL Fr. Eli	8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	
4	5	Preaching Schedule: Deacon Russell Pasket- 3/6-37 Deacon Grant Holt- 3/20-3/21 Deacon Gary Janotta- 3/27-28				

Graceful Generosity

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

What Have I Done for Him?

Lent is a season in the church year during which we particularly focus on the sacrifice Jesus made for us to pay the debt we owed for our sin. We know there is no way we can pay the debt ourselves. Only the sinless Son of God could do that. We have access to heaven only by grace through faith in Christ Jesus.

While we cannot repay Jesus for what he has done for us, his love does require a response. Paul, speaking of our ministry of reconciliation, wrote, *"For Christ's love compels us . . ."* (2 Corinthians 5:14). We remain on earth to carry out the tasks which Christ left for us to do: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit the prisoner, (Matthew 25:31-46). James admonished us that *"... faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead"* (James 2:17). We provide the funds that support our pastors, teachers, and missionaries. Again, we can quote Paul writing in 1 Corinthians 9:11-12. *"If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you? If others have this right of support from you, shouldn't we have it all the more?"* Certainly each of us is addressed by the Great Commission: *"Go and make disciples of all nations . . ."* (Matthew 28:19). The following words from Frances Ridley Havergal are a poignant reminder that Christ's love and sacrifice for us require a response:

*Thy life was given for me, thy blood, O Lord,
was shed*

*That I might ransomed by, and quickened
from the dead.*

*Thy life was given for me, what have I
given for thee?*

*And thou hast brought to me down from thy
home above*

*Salvation full and free, thy pardon and thy
love.*

*Great gifts thou broughtest me, what have I
brought to thee?*



We are saved by grace through faith for works. Let us pray for the desire to be good stewards of the gifts of salvation, health and wealth, and time and opportunity which God has given us that we might have a part in the furthering of God's kingdom.

Second Fiddles Are Needed Too

The conductor of a great symphony orchestra on tour was being interviewed by a young reporter from the high school paper. She was a charming girl with a great ambition to succeed and no experience whatever with great artists.

"My paper would like to know," she began, with an evident effort to appear professional, "what instrument in the orchestra is the hardest to play." Without a second's hesitation the great musician replied, "A second fiddle! And it's that way with life, too. It is always easy to find those who want to play the solos. It is something else to find those who are willing to provide the harmony and the accompaniment." (Roy Smith)

Meditate on Christ's Sacrifice

Genesis tells us about the creation of the world. *"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good"* (Genesis 1:31). It wasn't long, unfortunately, before our perfect world was destroyed when Adam and Eve rebelled against God even though they knew that such an act would lead to death (Genesis 2:17). A just and holy God would have to carry out that sentence, but a merciful and forgiving God would also offer a solution to our sin problem: Enter Jesus, our Savior. This Lenten season, meditate on his sacrifice and thank him for his grace.



The Nature of a Servant ...

Poor Peter. He was so flustered. They had all met for the Passover, and no one had taken the initiative to perform the lowly task of washing the feet of the disciples. Now, here was Jesus, with the towel around his waist, coming toward

him. How embarrassing! *"Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"* Jesus must have known how Peter felt, for he said Peter would understand later.

But this was now, and Peter demurred. *No, you shall never wash my feet."* Jesus insisted. *"Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."* And Peter's feet were washed.

No one but Jesus knew exactly what lay ahead. Although he had brought up the subject of his death more than once, the disciples didn't comprehend the words. Maybe if they had, they would have acted differently.

Is that what we say when we miss opportunities to be servants? *"Well, if I had known ..."* We do know, though. We have the benefit of hindsight, which, we have heard, is 20/20. We know we have a Savior who has conquered death and Satan, and so we take Jesus' command to his disciples as a command to us as well. *"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet"* (John 13:14).

We Pray

Lord, I am like those disciples ... looking around to see who will serve me instead of whom I can serve. Forgive my stubbornness and pride. Teach me to love and serve as you did that others might see you through me. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!

Stewardship

Not long ago, our neighborhood faced a “crisis.” The threat was not a sudden crime wave, environmental danger, or the loss of some of our neighborhood’s treasured and uncommon diversity. In small ways, we have already faced each of these challenges. This year’s threat was rising association dues!

Our neighborhood is situated on the outer edge of a small town between several major roadways. Our 99 homes are nestled in a neighborhood that was intentionally designed to encourage community. Our subdivision has a single entrance, a neighborhood bus stop, and a large oval-shaped road around which the houses are built. Inside that large oval – beyond the edges of each one of our property lines – lies nearly 15 acres of “common” park areas that we share. In these areas we have a large community sandbox, a playground, a soccer field, and a swimming pool. Private ownership of any of these might be beyond the reach of many of us. Together however, we are able to enjoy and share these things as a community.

Recently, our commonly held areas – the areas that are supposed to bring us together – began to cause us some stress. Maintenance and upkeep costs were continually rising. Shared space is a wonderful idea, but managing and caring for it is complex and expensive. Some called for closing the pool or no longer maintaining our park. Others said it was those things that drew them to the community.

Anxious homeowners knew the dues would rise. Speculation and conversation

was metastasizing. As a board, we knew we needed to be sensitive to the economic challenges among our friends and neighbors; we also knew that the board



needs to protect and maintain the property we share.

On the day I was composing an email for the community I was keenly aware of that tension. As I was writing, there was a knock at my door. When I opened it, I saw four young kids standing there and several more in my driveway. With a simple innocence and a firm determination, they handed me a surprisingly heavy coffee can.

“What is this?” I asked.

“We heard the neighborhood was in trouble so we had some lemonade stands. This is the money. We counted it like five times; we’re pretty sure it’s \$48.88. Bye.” With that they turned, skipped out

“In giving, a person receives more than they give, and the more is in the proportion to the worth of the thing given.”

G. Macdonald



(Continued on page 4)

“NOTABLE QUOTES”

“In our Christian stewardship we must be very careful lest we let our tithe of little things be a substitute for giving ourselves fully for great Christian causes.”

S. I. Stuber

“Giving God less than my whole life is robbery.”

“When shearing the sheep, never shear from the rear forwards. They do not want the wool pulled over their eyes.”

J. E. Herrman

Giving to God a weekly amount from the top of your income makes giving easier and adds the satisfaction of knowing, as you spend the rest of your income, that you have given God the “first fruits” rather than the “leftovers.”




“He doesn’t have much to say, but you have to admire his work!”

The Good Steward

Giving our time is often harder than giving our money. When Ron Windorpher, one of our church members, suggested that our congregation start a soup kitchen ministry at noon on Sundays, he knew he couldn’t do it alone. Additional hands would be needed to prepare and serve the food on a day when the local Salvation Army kitchen was closed. The need was clear. Hungry folks needed to eat on Sundays, too. Money alone would not feed empty stomachs. Ron knew he needed both hearts and hands to work together.

So he announced his plan from the pulpit, prepared a sign-up sheet for volunteers, and asked for prayers of support and seed money to help his vision grow. Still, it took awhile for the idea to take hold. Questions and concerns were raised and addressed. After all, this was new territory for our small northern Michigan parish. The new ministry would take a lot of menu planning, preparation, and prayer. And time.

Soon enough, though, volunteer teams appeared. And they have stayed faithful to Ron’s call for over fifteen years. Soup kitchen lunches have ranged from soup to nuts to holiday feasts of turkey, dressing, and yams; from peanut butter and honey sandwiches to baked pineapple and glazed ham. Whether the food is simple or sublime, it fills an empty stomach and warms a lonely heart.

We need each other. What’s more important than giving our time, our most precious commodity, to a hungry person? 





The great commandment given by Jesus was to love. To fulfill this, Christians worship and share.

Let's talk about ... SHARING.

Sharing is both serving and giving. It's part of our "stewardship." We believe that it is the privilege of Christians to dedicate what they have and what they are to God. We commonly speak of time,


talents and possessions, and how you use these is a choice you make that indicates the depth of your faith.

You can share your time by serving in the activities of your church, as a leader or teacher, and by faithful attendance, recreational and social activities.

You can share your talents and abilities by answering the call for workers in any task, from painting the woodwork to calling on people.

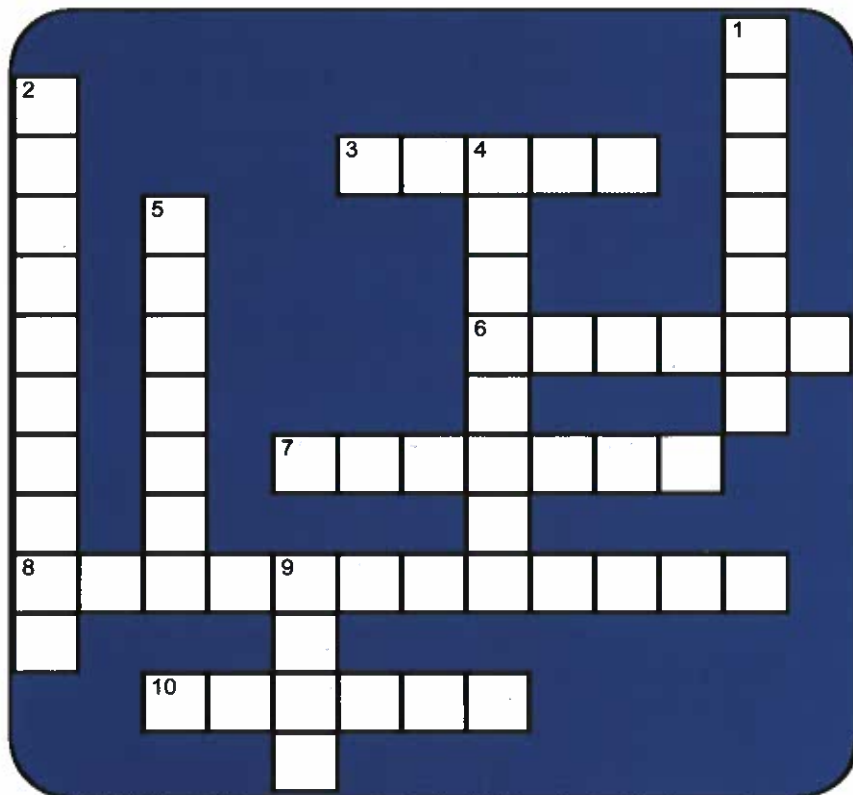
Once there was a man who went to his Pastor and said, "Give me the job that nobody else wants to do." What a marvelous investment of his time and ability.

You can acknowledge the priority of God's work by giving it first place in the apportionment of your income.

So then, part of being a good church member is sharing yourself and what you have with God and your fellow human beings ... your time, your talent, and your possessions. 

Christian stewards do not dedicate their time, talent and treasure that they may become God's, but because they are God's.

Stewardship Word Scramble



Clue

Answer

Across

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 3. Easier to give than time. | eynmo |
| 6. An act of stewardship. | invigig |
| 7. Not returning tithes and offerings (Malachi 3:8). | rorbbye |
| 8. Good way for people to face challenges. | hsettrgsneeo |
| 10. Supports the church. | bmrnee |

Down

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. An act of sharing. | nvirges |
| 2. An attribute of a good steward. | yneregios |
| 4. Anyone in need of our help. | rheignob |
| 5. Both serving and giving. | ginsarh |
| 9. A gift from God, measured in hours. | imte |


Continued from page 1...

Not long ago....

of my garage and went back to playing. I thanked them and quickly shut the door because of my tears. I wondered, what kinds of things did these kids overhear? What was the "trouble" they sensed?

What impressed me was that these kids sensed a challenge and decided to do something about it. The "trouble" or tension they sensed did not make them complain or worry, but they decided to work together with ingenuity and imagination to solve the issue. For some of us, anxiety and tension can close us down, shut us down, and cause us to protect ourselves. Instead of handling themselves that way, the kids faced a challenge with togetherness and generosity.

I returned to my computer inspired and, with coffee can in hand I narrated the story to my neighbors. I wrote that the kids inspired me and that I would match their gift to the neighborhood. I encouraged my neighbors to join me. There were several who did. More importantly, when the neighborhood heard the story, the content and tone of our conversations changed. We moved from talking about money, uncertainty and scarcity to talking about what the kids did.

When matching funds were combined with others marked for improvements, we refilled the sandbox, replaced worn soccer nets, and put up a new community basketball hoop. We wanted the kids to know that their simple gift made a difference in the neighborhood. For many of us, the difference was looking at problem-solving through the lens of community and creativity - not just money. We learned that togetherness, imagination, and generosity are fine antidotes for what ails us. 

M. Nelesen



The Best Puzzle

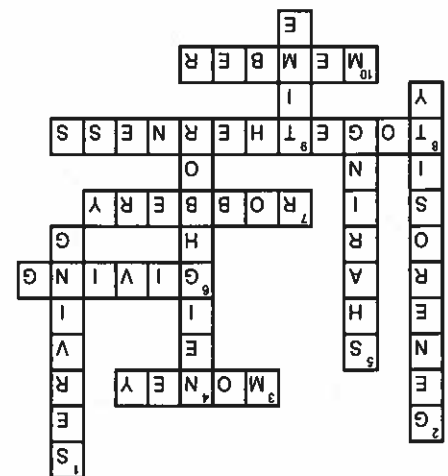
Almost everyone is familiar with how jigsaw puzzles work. You form a picture by assembling pieces that are cut so that they only fit together in one way.

However, there's another type of puzzle, one in which all the pieces are the same shape, usually square. These pieces can fit together in an almost unlimited number of ways. It's necessary to focus on what the entire picture is to finish the puzzle.

In a way, stewardship of treasure is like the second type of puzzle. There are many different places we can put it. Money will "fit" anywhere. However, the right picture can only be formed if we put our funds where God wants them to be.

What does this mean for Christians?

For most of us, it means budgeting carefully. Thinking before buying impulsively. Most of all, it means trying to improve the lives of others and our own by giving back to God more of what God so graciously provides us.



Puzzle Solution

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3-14 Catholic Relief Services

4-2 Holy Land (Good Friday)

Please pray for those in

active military duty:

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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, Dody Abbott, Valerie Busa, Donna Emmette,
John Faust, Briley Gladney, Dolores Holler, Kerrie Karr,
Carolyn Kimich, Florence Lara, Andy McCleney, Henry Ostermann,
Charlie Pasket, Tina Pasket, Marcus Reaves, Pam Schroeder,
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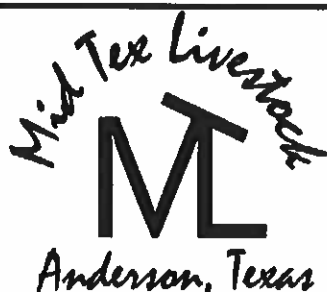
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