

STAFF & ORGANIZATIONS

PARISH AND SCHOOL STAFF

Mr. Dan Kane Jr., Business Manager
Mrs. Deborah Martin, St. Stanislaus School Principal
Mr. David Krakowski, Director of Liturgy and Music
Mrs. Denise O'Reilly, St. Stanislaus School Secretary
Mr. Fred Mendat, Maintenance & Social Center Manager

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Mrs. Susan Halamek, Pastoral Council Chairperson
Ms. Celeste Suchocki, Finance Council Chairperson
Mrs. Dorota Tomaszewska, *Katechizacja po polsku*
Mrs. Sophie Wasielewski, Golden Agers President
Mr. Frank Krajewski, Dads Club President
Mr. Matt Zielenski, St. Vincent DePaul Society
Ms. Jane Bobula, Good Shepherd Catechesis
Mr. Rob Jagelewski, Parish History
Mrs. Nancy Mack, MANNA Coordinator
Mrs. Sharon Kozak, Alumni and Development
Mrs. Denise Siemborski, Fr. William Scholarship
Ms. Marilyn Mosinski, Polish Festival
Mr. John Heyink, Building and Grounds
Sister Mary Alice Jarosz, SSJ-TOSF, Stewardship
Mrs. Alice Klafczynski, Hospitality
Mr. Ralph Trepal, Evangelization
Luis Ramirez, Lil Bros President

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

Fr. Michael Surufka, OFM, Pastor
Fr. Leonard Stunek, OFM, Friary Guardian, Parochial Vicar
Fr. Placyd Koń, OFM, Parochial Vicar
Br. Justin Kwietniewski, OFM, Pastoral Ministry
Br. David Kelly, OFM, Deacon

DIRECTORY

Rectory & Parish Office 216-341-9091
Parish Fax 341-2688
St. Stanislaus Elementary School 883-3307
Central Catholic High School 441-4700

PARISH WEBSITE

www.ststanislaus.org

E-MAIL

ststans@ameritech.net

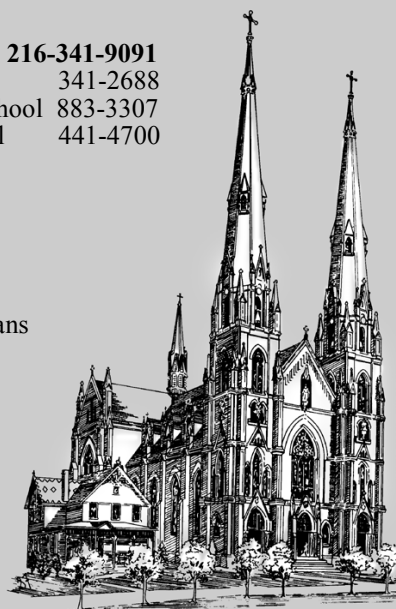
PHOTO ALBUM

www.picturetrail.com/saintstans

TO CONTACT ORGANIZATIONS:

Send an e-mail to the parish with the person you wish to contact in the subject line.

The artist's sketch on the right depicts the original building with the spires. Corner Stone laid in 1886, church dedicated in 1891.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Masses: 7:00 AM & 8:30 AM (no 7:00 on Sat.)
Sunday Vigil: Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday English Masses: 8:30 AM & 11:30 AM
Sunday Polish Mass: 10:00 AM
Holy Day English: Refer to Schedule
Holy Day Polish: 5:30 PM
National Holidays: 9:00 AM

DEVOTIONS

Daily Morning Prayer 8:00 AM (exc. Sunday)
Saint Anthony Novena Tuesdays after Mass
Rosary for Life Tuesdays and Fridays after Mass
Avilas prayer for vocations, second Monday of the month

OFFICE HOURS

The parish office is open from Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 to 4:45 PM or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Ordinarily on Sundays at 1:00 PM. Alternate times must be arranged with a parish priest. Pre-Baptism instructions are necessary in advance.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

All arrangements must be made with one of the priests of the parish six months in advance.

GODPARENT AND SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Those who wish to be sponsors for Baptism or Confirmation must be registered and practicing members of the Catholic Church. If you attend St. Stanislaus but you are not registered, please contact the parish office so that you can be listed as a parishioner here.

FUNERALS

Arrangements are made through the funeral home.

INQUIRY CLASSES

(R.C.I.A.): Contact any member of the Pastoral Team.

CHURCH HOURS

Church is open daily 30 minutes before and after all Masses. For tours or private prayer please call the rectory.

MASS INTENTIONS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13 (Grudnia), 2009

Sat	5:00 PM	Sp. Int. Parishioners
Sun	8:30 AM	+Walter & Eleanor Sienkiewicz
	10:00 AM	+Wincenty Nancy Filipowicz
	11:30 AM	+ Dr. Jan Dzwigala

Mon Dec 14 St. John of the Cross

7:00 AM +Cecelia Tegowski
8:30 AM + Frances Ciborowski

Tue Dec 15 Advent Weekday

7:00 AM + Jean Jelinek
8:30 AM + Brad & Shelly Kopania

Wed Dec 16 Advent Weekday

7:00 AM + William Spetrino
8:30 AM + Stanley Wasielewski

Thu Dec 17 Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM + Fr. Alcuin, OFM
8:30 AM Sp. Int. Grandchildren / Family
7:00 PM Beatification of John Paul II

Fri Dec 18 Late Advent Weekday

7:00 AM + Henry R. Wojtkiewicz
8:30 AM Sp. Int. Anthony Cottaia

Sat Dec 19 Late Advent Weekday

8:30 AM Sp. Int. Angela Cottaia

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 20 (Grudnia), 2009

Sat	5:00 PM	+Regina Rosiewicz / John Lesniak Family
Sun	8:30 AM	Sp. Int. Parishioners
	10:00 AM	+Edward Glinski
	11:30 AM	+Karen Buryanek



We pray for our faithful departed —

Irene Tyler
 Stelle Trafis
 Leonard Oryl
 Helen Sontowski



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Bread and Wine Offering

The bread and wine used for all Masses during the month of December is donated in loving memory of **Stanley Wasielewski**

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Sun	10:00 AM	RCIA meets in the rectory.	Fri	7:30 PM	Trinity High School Christmas Concert.
	11:00 AM	<i>Dobry Pasterz - Good Shepherd.</i>	Sat	1:00 PM	St. Stanislaus Boys Basketball home game.
	3:00 PM	<i>Katechizacja dzieci.</i>	Sun	10:00 AM	RCIA meets in the rectory.
	6:00 PM	Godzinki.		11:00 AM	<i>Dobry Pasterz - Good Shepherd.</i>
	7:30 PM	Advent Vespers.			<i>Katechizacja dzieci.</i>
Tues	6:00 PM	St. Lucy Vespers.		3:00 PM	Godzinki.
Wed	8:00 PM	PPC / PFC Christmas Dinner.		6:00 PM	Advent Vespers.
Thu	3:30 PM	A.A. & Al-Anon meets, Social Center		6:30 PM	Church Decorating Begins
	6:30 PM	Church Cleanup Crew until 5:00.			
		St. Stanislaus Grade School Christmas Concert in the Social Center.			

Darkness Will Soon Begin to Diminish

One of the greatest things about this time of December is knowing that very soon (sometime the week of the 20th in this part of the world) the days will finally begin to be longer once again. I don't know about you, but I don't enjoy it getting dark so early in the day! Once the sun disappears I feel like halting all productive work and simply vegetating. It's no surprise that the feast of Christmas was placed at this time of the year supplanting a Roman holiday which celebrated that very phenomenon: the return of more sun light to the days! The pagan Romans offered sacrifices to the Sun, hoping to restore its energy for another year of warmth.

The substitution of that pagan ritual with Christianity's commemoration of the birth of Jesus seemed a most appropriate idea. Jesus became the light of the world, dispelling the darkness with His entry into the plan for our salvation. The light we eventually experience at the Easter Vigil represents that more than anything. That candle really gets a workout at our church. I know of no other church where the Paschal candle resembles a stub so quickly in the year as it does here! Luckily, we have a supply of stubs from previous years in storage to hold us through until the new candle is blessed. It's not that we have so many funerals in comparison to other parishes, but we also have many baptisms and other occasions during which it is appropriate to keep the Paschal candle burning bright. To me, the stubby Paschal candle is a real sign of vibrancy in our parish, signifying our busy liturgical life.

Of course there are other important candles in the church which have significance. We see those adorning the Advent wreath—the same candles which adorn the tomb where we see Christ buried on Good Friday. We also have the sanctuary light (in our case, for some reason, 2 of them) which signifies the Sacramental presence of Jesus in the tabernacle. Some candles we only light during liturgical services. Others are decorative. Together they contribute to the sacredness of the space.

Jesus accomplishes the same in our sacred lives. He provides a light which nothing else can. He provides a warmth which is greater than the energy of the sun. He lights the path before our wandering feet, directing us safely home to His welcoming embrace. That is what we will celebrate on Christmas—Christ, our light, Who loves us and desires our happiness. Together we await the diminished darkness and look forward to welcoming His return.

David Krakowski

SCHEDULE FOR MINISTERS

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec 20 (Grudnia), 2009

Sat	5:00 PM	Lector — Betty Dabrowski
		Euch. Min. — Marge & Andy Flock, Chris Wisniewski & Mike Potter
Sun	8:30 AM	Lector — Karen Newman
		Euch. Min. — Marcia & Don Stech, Sharon Kozak & Chris Luboski
	10:00 AM	Lector — Tera Cyranek
		Euch. Min. — M. Sladewski & Witold Sztalkoper, Tom Monzel & E. Ejsmont
	11:30 AM	Lector — Richard Konisiewicz
		Euch. Min. — Angela Revay & Larry Wilks, Stan Koch & Nancy Sontowski

PARISH SUPPORT

Last Sunday's Collection

5:00 PM (83).....	\$1,559.00
8:30 AM (85).....	2,092.00
10:00 AM (87).....	948.00
11:30AM (73).....	1,024.00
Mailed in (30).....	1,970.00
Total (375)	\$7,593.00
Christmas Flowers (158)	1,204.00

Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Ushers —

Please contact the coordinator of your ministry, or David Krakowski, about your availability for ministry during the Christmas Masses.

THANK YOU!!!

Bóg zapłać!!!

GROWING ONIONS



In the seminary, they taught us that we need to feel comfortable with the many symbols that are present in our churches, in our liturgies, indeed throughout our spiritual lives. The author and priest, Fr. Andrew Greeley, wrote often about the “Catholic imagination” that we are raised in as children, a world filled with images, sounds, and experiences

that shape us from the inside out. In fact, it is almost degrading to say that something is “just a symbol,” because in a certain way, symbols are even more real than external reality. For symbols intend to draw us into a deeper, more intense world that words alone cannot quite convey. Symbols don’t just point to something else, they participate in that other-ness and bring us into it.

At the same time, we were also taught that if a symbol is good — namely, it actually is able to do what it needs to do with us — then it shouldn’t need an explanation. We shouldn’t



have to clarify something like that, we should simply let it be what it is and let it speak for itself.

The Advent season, like all the seasons in the church year, has its own symbolic logic and vocabulary that make it distinct from the pre-Christmas already playing out all around

us. The colors we use are rich, regal, and deep. Candles are lit — one, two, three, four. The hymns change. Darkness descends and is challenged.

Recently we welcomed a group of high school students from a suburban parish who came to celebrate Mass and then have a church tour. Like many people who are new to our church building, they were in awe of the rich symbolic drama playing out all around them. I did my best to focus on a few of the many points of interest, and then they had a chance to ask questions. One young man pointed to the narcissus bulbs growing in planters around the church and asked, “What’s up with the onions?”

So much for an obvious symbol.

As the bulbs drink in water, light, and warmth, giving growth to the green shoots until they blossom forth into delicate flowers around Christmas, so also do we drink in the richness of our liturgy, scriptures, devotions, and personal rituals of the season. As we watch the plants grow before our eyes, we pray also that the Spirit of the Living God will also grow within us, bringing peace and light for ourselves and all whom we meet. If you haven’t “prepared the way” yet, there is still time this Advent to drink from the vast well that is given to us this holy season. *O Come, Emmanuel.*

But get your own onions.

Fr. Michael

Niepokalanie Poczęta

8 grudnia obchodzimy uroczystość Niepokalanego Poczęcia NMP. Przez dogmat o Niepokalanym Poczęciu NMP, Kościół katolicki stwierdza, że na mocy szczególnego przywileju danego ze strony Boga, oraz ze względu na zasługi Chrystusowej śmierci, Maryja została zachowana od skazy grzechu pierworodnego od pierwszego momentu Jej życia.

Inaczej mówiąc: Maryja całe Jej życie była całkowicie święta.

Dogmat o Niepokalanym Poczęciu NMP został ogłoszony 1854 przez papieża Piusa IX. Cztery lata później ta prawda została potwierdzona w Lourdes. Matka Boża objawiała się Bernadecie i przedstawiła się jej: „Jestem Niepokalane Poczęcie”.

Uroczystość Niepokalanego Poczęcia NMP przypomina nam, ludziom, że jest tylko jedna rzecz, która poniża człowieka. Tą rzeczą jest grzech. Jest to bardzo istotne i naglące przesłanie, które trzeba powtarzać. Grzech, tylko grzech poniża człowieka. Współczesny świat zatracił poczucie grzechu. Widać to w żartach i powiedzeniach. Współczesny świat reklamuje spektakle i produkty, jako grzeszne, aby przez to zwiększyć ich atrakcyjność. Współczesny świat mówiąc o grzechu i na temat grzechu używa żartobliwych czy czułych wręcz określeń.

Ten sposób myślenia ma straszliwy wpływ nawet na wiernych, którzy chcą żyć według Ewangelii. Ten sposób myślenia obecny we współczesnym świecie powoduje w nich usypianie sumienia, pewien rodzaj duchowej śpiączki; jest jak narkotyk, który wypacza nasze rozumienie, czym jest grzech, że jest on jedyną rzeczą, która poniża człowieka. Chrześcijanie nie rozpoznają swego głównego, prawdziwego przeciwnika, który zniewala. Dzieje się tak, ponieważ ta niewola jest pozłacana, czyli na pierwszy rzut oka wydaje się czymś dobrym.

Zamiast uwolnienia od grzechu, całe wysiłki dzisiaj są skierowane na uwolnienie od żalu z powodu grzechu; zamiast walki przeciw grzechowi, świat walczy przeciw samemu pojęciu grzechu. Takie próby oznaczają, że świat nie stara się rozwiązać problemu, którym jest grzech, tylko neguje sam problem. W ten sposób sprowadza go do podświadomości. Dlatego dzisiaj, kiedy pustoszeją konfesjonały, kolejki tworzą się do psychoterapeutów.

Dla porównania, to tak, jakby uwierzyć, że śmierć może zostać zniwelowana przez odrzucenie myślenia o śmierci. Św. Jan mówi, że jeśli mówimy, że jesteśmy bez grzechu, to czynimy Boga kłamcą. Bóg mówi w rzeczywistości, że jesteśmy grzesznikami.

Pismo św. mówi, że Chrystus umarł za nasze grzechy (1 Kor 15, 3). Jeśli usuniemy z naszego myślenia pojęcie „grzech”, to czynimy próżnym i bezowocnym odkupienie dokonane przez Chrystusa, to niszczyliśmy znaczenie Jego śmierci. Oznaczałoby to, że Chrystus walczył z wiatrakami, że wylał swoją krew nadaremnie, że nadaremnie cierpiał.

Dogmat o Niepokalanym Poczęciu Maryi mówi nam coś bardzo pozytywnego: Pan Bóg jest silniejszy niż grzech, i że tam, gdzie rozpanoszył się grzech, tam jeszcze obficie rozlała się łaska (Rz 5, 20).



o. Placyd



Na zdjęciu grupa dzieci biorących udział w katechezie "Good Shepard Program", czyli katechezie Dobrego Pasterza, wraz z ich rodzicami i ... niebieskim Gościem, św. biskupem Mikołajem, który przyniósł im drobne upominki i mówił o przygotowaniu przez dobre uczynki do świąt Bożego Narodzenia. Rozdanie prezentów było poprzedzone kukielkową inscenizacją scen z życia Biskupa żyjącego w VI w. Program był przygotowany przez nauczycielki Jane Bobula i Gloria Provenslik.

GODZINKI

Tradycyjnie w niedziele Adwentu śpiewamy w naszym kościele Godzinki o Niepokalanym Poczęciu Najświętszej Maryi Panny. To bardzo piękne staropolskie nabożeństwo do NMP. Napisane na podobieństwo modlitwy brewiarzowej. Godzinki wyznają i sławią Niepokalane Poczęcie Dziewicy Maryi. Bardzo lubię to nabożeństwo, podobnie jak nieliczni przedstawiciele naszej parafii, którzy przychodzą, aby śpiewać ku czci Niepokalanej. Bardzo zachęcam wszystkich czcicieli Matki Bożej do włączenia się w śpiew Godzinek. Przypominam: Nabożeństwo Godzinek o Niepokalanym Poczęciu NMP jest śpiewane w każdą niedzielę Adwentu o godz. 3:00 popołudniu.

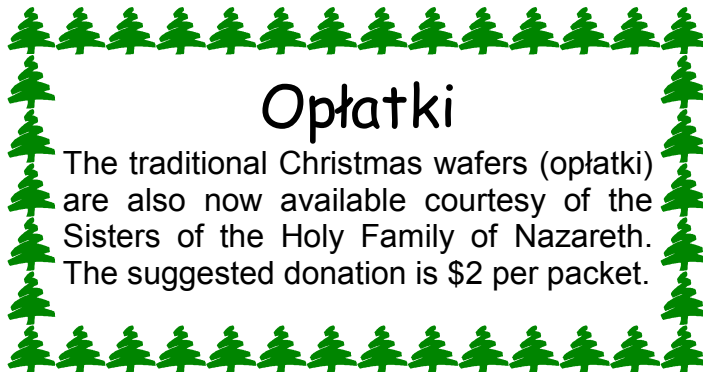
Przedświąteczne zakupy

W przedsionku kościoła można kupić ozdoby choinkowe i pamiątki związane z naszym kościołem, a wśród nich dyski kompaktowe, które zostały nagrane po polsku i angielsku przez nasz chór pod kierownictwem Dawida Krakowskiego: „Amen” (cały po polsku), „We Should Glory” - polsko-angielska wersja i pamiątkowy koncert ku czci Ojca św. Jana Pawła Wielkiego.

SPOWIEDŹ PRZEDŚWIĄTECZNA

W tym roku, podobnie jak w lata poprzednie, odbędzie nabożeństwo pokutne połączone ze spowiedzią po polsku i po angielsku. Nabożeństwo zacznie się w środę 23 grudnia o godzinie 7:00 wieczorem. Spowiedzi słuchać będą także kapłani zaproszeni z innych parafii.

Oprócz tego, jak w ciągu całego roku, istnieje możliwość spowiedzi w każdą sobotę w godz. od 4:00 do 4:45 popołudniu oraz w innych terminach po umówieniu się z kapłanem.



Opłatki

The traditional Christmas wafers (opłatki) are also now available courtesy of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth. The suggested donation is \$2 per packet.

DON'T FORGET YOUR MANNA CARDS

AVOID THE SHOPPING MALLS! Use Manna cards as Christmas gifts. Ask in the vestibule for a list of popular stores that have cards available for us, and avoid the traffic and crowds. And don't forget to use them for your weekly groceries.

TRADITIONAL WIGILIA

Would you like to attend a traditional Wigilia celebration? Well, here's your chance!! On Sunday, December 20th at 12:30 the Polish American Cultural Center at 6501 Lansing Avenue will begin this wonderful event with the breaking of the oplatek followed by a wonderful meatless dinner. Then at 2 PM the children will put on the Jasełka, a traditional Christmas play. The cost for this is only \$15 per person (children 5-12, \$5). Purchase your tickets early as they are likely to sell out quickly!

Also, please keep in mind that the Centrum has dinner every Sunday afternoon serving until 1:30 PM. So, if you are looking for a great place to dine after the 10AM or 11:30 Masses, please drop over for some great food. It is all home made and delicious. The dinner includes soup, salad, an entrée and dessert all for \$10.!!! Plus while you are there you can take some time to visit the Polish -American Museums in the same building.

YOU WILL BE IMPRESSED!

For more info or reservations call:

Alina: 440 888 1567

Center 216 883 2828

Christmas "Unique - Boutique"

The sale of items continues this weekend in the vestibule of the church. Ornaments (\$3-\$25), CDs (\$5), Cards (12 pack for \$10), St. Stan woodblock (\$5). Please visit the shop soon for ornaments before you decorate your tree! The CDs contain many familiar Polish songs which you will remember...suitable as stocking stuffers. *You can only get 'em here!*

ST. STANS HISTORICAL FACT by Rob Jagelewski.

Father Methodius Kielar, OFM arrived with the first Franciscans at St. Stanislaus Parish in 1906. Father Kielar arrived here along with Pastor, Father Theobald Kalamaja OFM and Brothers Zosimus and Basil. The last diocesan pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish was Father Benedict Rosinski from 1892-1905. Father Kielar was a tireless assistant pastor and worked for the ever growing numbers of parishioners that were attending this parish. In 1908 Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish on Lansing Avenue was brought into the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland and Father Kielar was appointed their Parish Administrator. After his stint as administrator was finished, Father Kielar returned to his duties at St. Stanislaus Parish and stayed until his death in 1939.

Infants/Toddlers of Slavic Village

The baskets were overflowing with your generosity! What a sight to behold! Please continue to keep the children in mind and donate a couple jars of baby food, infant cereal, canned goods, tuna, etc. God will reward you in so many ways. Donate and enter the drawing on December 13 for a live Christmas wreath!

Saint Stanislaus Christmas Schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Saturday, 4:00—4:45

Wednesday, December 23 7:00 PM

Communal Penance Service

Several Visiting Confessors, Polish & English

Christmas Liturgies

Thursday, Christmas Eve

Family Christmas Mass 5:00 PM

Christmas Carols 11:30 PM

Midnight Mass 12:00 PM

Christmas Day

English Christmas Masses 8:30 & 11:30 AM

Polish Christmas Mass 10:00 AM

Daily Masses

Monday -Thursday, Dec. 28-31 8:30 AM only

The Year of Our Lord 2010

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, falls on Friday, January 1. Saint Stanislaus will celebrate the day with **one Mass** in Polish and English at 10:30 AM. Please check the Mass schedules of neighboring parishes if you cannot attend here.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS IN AREA CHURCHES

"Preparing the way of the Lord" for Catholic Christians should include celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation before Christmas. We clean and straighten out the insides of our homes for the holidays, so why not ask God to straighten out our inner selves as well? If you cannot attend the communal penance service or make it to private confession on Saturdays here, perhaps you can make it to one of the other area parishes.

Holy Name: Dec. 16, 21, 23 from 3:30-5:00 PM

Sacred Heart: Dec. 21, 7:00-8:00 PM

St. John Nepomucene: Dec. 14, 7:00-8:00 PM

Immaculate Heart of Mary: Saturdays 3:00-3:30 PM;
Dec. 22 & 23, 8:30-9:00 AM

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

Before a family may schedule the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism, parents must attend a class to prepare themselves. The next class will be held at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, January 3, at 12:30 PM. Please call at 341-2828 if you plan to attend.