

ST. STANISLAUS STAFF

PASTORAL TEAM:

Rev. Michael Surufka, OFM, Pastor
Rev. George Kusy, Associate Pastor
Rev. Joachim Studwell, OFM Associate Pastor

ST. STANISLAUS SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Alice Torrence

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY AND MUSIC:

Mr. David Krakowski 883-7766

OFFICE STAFF:

Ms. Debbie Grale, Director of Redevelopment
Mr. Dan Kane Jr., Business Manager
Mr. Bogdan (Don) Pieniak, Parish Administrator
Mrs. Denise O'Reilly, School Secretary

ST. STANISLAUS HALL MANAGER:

Mr. Fred Mendat 441-5339

E-MAIL ststans@ameritech.net

FAX 341-2688

DIRECTORY:

Rectory Administration Office 341-9091
St. Stanislaus Elementary School 883-3307
St. Stanislaus Convent 341-0934
Social Center 341-0080
Central Catholic High School 441-4700

PARISH WEBSITE:

www.ststanislaus.org

PHOTO ALBUM:

www.picturetrail.com/saintstans

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



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

MASS SCHEDULE:

Daily Masses: 7:00 AM & 8:30 AM
Sunday Vigil: Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday English Masses: 8:30 AM & 11:30 AM
Sunday Polish Mass: 10:00 AM
Holy Day English: 8:30 AM & 7:00 PM
Holy Day Polish: 5:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 4:00 to 4:45 PM or upon arrangement with any of the priests.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Ordinarily on Sundays at 1:00 PM. Pre-Baptism instructions necessary in advance.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

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

FUNERAL:

Please make arrangements at the rectory in advance of public announcement.

INQUIRY CLASSES:

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

OFFICE HOURS:

Weekday appointments with a member of the Pastoral Team may be scheduled between the hours of 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM. The office is open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM for all ordinary business.

CHURCH HOURS:

The church is open 1/2 hour before and after services. For tours or private prayer please call the rectory.

MASS INTENTIONS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 14 (Grudzien), 2003

Sat	5:00 PM	+Sigmund Kocinski
Sun	8:30 AM	+Estelle Dailey
	10:00 AM	+Stanley and Ann Gurgol
	11:30 AM	+Julius Horvath
		<i>1:00 PM Baptism of Ryan Anthony Krajewski</i>
Mon	Dec 15	Advent Weekday
	7:00 AM	+Kenneth Stevens
	8:30 AM	+Sophie Shendel
Tue	Dec 16	Advent Weekday
	7:00 AM	+Joseph Cackowski
	8:30 AM	+Joseph Fryzowicz
Wed	Dec 17	Late Advent Weekday
	7:00 AM	+Daniel Kendzierski Jr.
	8:30 AM	+Frank Papa
Thu	Dec 18	Late Advent Weekday
	7:00 AM	+Stella & Anthony Drewnowski
	8:30 AM	+Mitchell Dylong
Fri	Dec 19	Late Advent Weekday
	7:00 AM	+Sophie Zerucha
	8:30 AM	+Janet Szarwark
	9:30 AM	Sp. Int. Cleve. Central Cath. Students
Sat	Dec 20	Late Advent Weekday
	8:30 AM	+Fr. Martin Szawerna OFM

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 21 (Grudzien), 2003

Sat	5:00 PM	+Stella Pokrywka
Sun	8:30 AM	+Ted Kwiatkowski
	10:00 AM	+Celia Kopec
	11:30 AM	+Eddie Racut

MUSIC – THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

MASS

Processional O Come Emmanuel (vs.5,6) #285
 Offertory: Wake, O Wake #183
 Communion: Proclaim the Joyful Message #185
 Recessional: Soon and Very Soon #182

POLSKA MSZA ŚWIĘTA

Procesja O przyjdź (chór)
 Ofiarowanie: Mądrości która (v. 5,6,7)
 Na Komunię: Kłaniam się Tobie #156
 Zakończenie Spuście nam #26

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!
 Pan blis - ko jest, o - cze - kuj Go. Pan blis - ko jest, w Nim ser - ca moci!

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SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Sun	1:00 PM	Golden Agers Christmas Party , social center.	Wed	7:00 PM	Evangelization Commission in the convectory.
	2:00 PM	Lecture by "Red" Orchestra Conductor		6:00 PM	English Choir meets in chapel.
	3:00 PM	Concert "Red" Orchestra in church.		6:30 PM	Youth Group meeting in the school.
	6:00 PM	Solemn Vespers		8:00 PM	A.A. & Al-Anon in the social center.
	6:30 PM	Lil Bros meeting in convectory.	Thu	3:00 PM	Church Cleanup Crew works until 5:15.
Mon	6:45 PM	Bingo in our social center.	Sun	3:00 PM	Godzinki
	7:00 PM	RCIA — meets in the convectory.		6:00 PM	Solemn Vespers
Tue	6:00 PM	Próba w kościele			
	7:00 PM	Pastoral and Finance Council Christmas Party in the convectory.			

Deck the Halls...

The signals surround us: shopping bags, the baking of special cookies, writing colorful greeting cards! Within our church we see the third candle of the Advent wreath aglow. With the 'rejoice' signal from the Entrance Antiphon of *Gaudete Sunday* we know that Christmas is really getting near and soon this building will lose its subdued hues of midnight blue and cranberry and purple to make way for fresh evergreens and gold and all sorts of festive decorations to celebrate the God's intimate intervention into our world.

You may have noticed the three felled pines from the front yard of our rectory. Many of you wondered why they were taken down. Well, it was decided that they were getting too large for the space they were in and it was time to remove them. Earlier this year one of them was blown over (they have a shallow root system) and thus for safety and security purposes, three of the four were cut and will soon celebrate the holidays with us indoors. The trees were planted back in 1991 by Fr. Alcuin and Fr. Michael. According to their rings, I calculated them to be about 20 – 25 years old.

Those trees are big. We will need muscles to get them to their positions in the sanctuary. Those muscles will hopefully come from some of our in-house bodybuilders (or at least somewhat physically unchallenged) beginning next Sunday afternoon and evening, December 21st. That evening we will begin to decorate the church and continue to do so the following two days and nights so that all is in place for December 24th. If you are able to donate an hour or two or any of your time to help us, please let me know, or just show up. There will be plenty to do! Please try to join us in making our church beautiful this Christmas.

David Krakowski

SCHEDULE FOR MINISTERS

December 14, (Grudzien), 2003 Third Sunday of Advent

Sat	5:00 PM	Lector — Nancy Scott Euch. Min. — Chris Wisniewski, Paul and Kim Trickett, Theresa Warosz
Sun	8:30 AM	Lector — Jim Sadowski Euch. Min. — Debby Ziss, Mark and Nicole Kobylinski, Ray Tegowski
	10:00 AM	Lector — Teresa Cyranek Euch. Min. — Sr. Jane Frances, Witold Szalkoper
	11:30 AM	Lector — Richard Konisiewicz Euch. Min. — Jeannette Simcox, Marilyn Mosinski, Ron and Joanne Grams

PARISH SUPPORT

Last Sunday's Collection	
5:00 PM.....	\$1,854.50
8:30 AM.....	\$1,408.50
10:00 AM.....	\$920.98
11:30 AM.....	\$1,641.20
Mailed in.....	\$2,367.00
Total (525 envelopes)	\$8,192.18
Children's Collection (21)	\$36.10
School Support (38)	\$202.00
Diocesan Assessment (55)	\$351.25
Campaign Human Dev. (54)	\$415.25



“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.” Philippians 4:4-5

Today is *Gaudete* (Rejoice) Sunday, and as the great feast of Christmas approaches, we Christians are encouraged to rejoice, for the Savior is near at hand! Let's consider what we have experienced that may cause us to rejoice. Remember,

we rejoice in the Lord (*Jesus*), not in ourselves or what we do.

Recently, an Orthodox Jewish friend of mine shared a story she had read with me, and I found it to be very moving and it further caused me to rejoice — in the Lord's faithfulness. I would like to share that story with you.

During the 1940s, when Poland was under Nazi occupation and the SS was rounding up Jews for the concentration camps, Krakow was one of the cities in which Jews had been herded into ghettos (walled-in areas of a city). The Nazis began to collect the Jews in Krakow and brutally force them onto the cattle trains to such camps as Auschwitz. (*You may remember the movie, “Schindler's List”.*)

There was a Jewish family, father, mother and young son among the many hundreds of thousands who would perish in the camps. This family, however, knew a Gentile Polish family, who were Catholics and whom they trusted. They asked this family to please take in their son, with the stipulation that he be raised Jewish. They also handed the couple two letters, one for relatives in Canada and another for relatives in the United States, in the event that they did not return. The Jewish couple was rounded up and never heard from again, having been murdered at Auschwitz.

Meanwhile, the Gentile Polish couple reared the young boy. After the war had ended, the couple one day took him to church to have him prepared for baptism, going against his parents' express wishes. The young priest noticed the advanced age of the child and asked the couple why they had delayed baptism. After some hesitation, they revealed the entire story to the priest. The priest instructed the couple that they must honor the parents' wishes and send the boy to North America. And he refused to baptize the Jewish boy. The Polish couple complied.

A Jewish refugee organization was able to contact the families in Canada and the United States, and the boy moved to the United States where he was reared in the Jewish faith and to this day is an observant Orthodox Jew in the Washington, DC area.

He remained in contact with his adoptive parents in Poland throughout. One day, around October or November 1978, the adoptive mother shared the story with her son, of how she nearly betrayed his biological parents' wishes and had him baptized, and she told him of the priest's refusal. She begged her adoptive son's forgiveness, which he readily gave.

The young priest who directed the Catholic couple to send the boy to North America where he would be reared as a Jew and who refused him baptism? He was Fr. Karol Wojtila, later cardinal archbishop of Krakow and now known to us as Pope John Paul II.

When we obey God, even though it may be difficult, God always blesses us. When God is glorified, God blesses those who glorify him. This is not a *quid pro quo* relationship. Rather, the person who obeys God opens his or her heart to God, and so God can work!

I rejoice in God's faithfulness, because God is ALWAYS faithful and is faithful in ALL WAYS!

Peace, Fr. Joachim Studwell, OFM

POSZUKIWACZE RADOŚCI

Jedna ze starych legend opowiada, że Ewa opuszczając raj wzięła ze sobą dzban radości. Ale na widok anioła stojącego z mieczem u bram raj, przelęknęła się i rozbiła ów dzban. Zostały z niego tylko skorupy.

To tylko legenda. Jednak obserwując życie czyż nie daje się zauważyć, że jej elementy łatwo można odnaleźć w dziejach człowieka. Staliśmy się zbieraczami skorup radości. Wszyscy ludzie nieustannie szukają szczęścia. Szukają go wszędzie, zarówno w oknach wystawowych czy na ekranach telewizorów jak i stając przed nęcącym najnowszym modelem samochodu lub marząc o luksusowo urządzonej mieszkanie; wabią nas piękne widoki i ciekawe podróże a także lokale rozrywkowe czy loty w przestrzeń kosmiczną.

Kim są ci poszukiwacze? To my, ludzie wiecznie niezaspokojeni, w pogoni za szczęściem, za czymś, co dałoby nam radość, najlepiej nieustającą, permanentną. To błędny trop, bo radość to nie lekkość życia, przyjemność konsumowania tego świata i jego dóbr. Prawdziwa radość to umiejętność czynienia i przyjmowania dobra. Niewarygodne? Radzę spróbować: wyjść z zakłętego rewiru, gdzie wszystko kręci się wokół mojej własnej osi, gdzie zawsze moje ego jest najważniejsze; spojrzeć w rozpromienione oczy dziecka, w twarz biedaka spożywającego kromkę suchego chleba, w oczy cierpiącego prawdziwego wyznawcy Chrystusa.

Nie możemy mylić pojęcia radości z przyjemnością, nigdy nie będą one w pełni tożsame. Przyjemność pozostaje w sferze uczuć, radość zaś to przeżycie ducha. Nie można zbierać owoców, zanim się nie zasadzi i nie wychoduje drzewa.

Wbrew pozorom nie trzeba aż tak dużo, aby być radosnym; bywa, że radość mylna jest z wesołkowatością, a te pojęcia rzadko nawet sąsiadują ze sobą. Prawdziwa radość jest owocem miłości: kochać Boga i pokochać bliźniego - to recepta na pełnię radości. Wówczas to pogoda ducha nie będzie tylko chwilą, uniesieniem, jednorazowym przeżyciem ale czymś, co na stałe zagości we wnętrzu człowieka. Przecież nie chodzi tu o uśmiech od “ucha do ucha” lecz o radość serca wypisaną na całym obliczu człowieka, w jego osobowości. Umieć “wyjść z siebie”, ze swego małego “ja”, nastawić się na dawanie siebie innym, to metoda zdobywania radości. Im więcej człowiek stara się sprawiać radości innym tym więcej otrzymuje jej sam.

Radość nie wynika z posiadania luksusowego domu czy wygodnie ułożonego życia, nie stanowi jej także wysokie konto bankowe czy super nowoczesny samochód. Ona wyrasta z czystego sumienia, rozwija się i wzrasta w klimacie miłości i dobroci wobec innych.

W zwariowanej przedświątecznej bieganinie musimy bardzo uważać aby na same Święta nie pozostał tylko smutek i niesmak, że nie “zdążyliśmy” z najważniejszym - spotkać się z Bożym Dziecięciem przynoszącym radość, pokój i dobro.

Człowiek poszukuje konkretnych rozwiązań. Nie trzeba ich szukać daleko; prorok Adwentu w dzisiejszej Ewangelii daje bardzo konkretne wskazówki, co czynić by zyskać radość.

Druga połowa Adwentu nazywana jest czasem radości; do niej wzywa dziś św. Paweł: **Radujcie się zawsze w Panu.../ O nic się zbyt nie troskajcie, ale w każdej sprawie wasze prośby przedstawiajcie Bogu w modlitwie i błaganii z dziękczynieniem.**

ks. Jerzy



*Notes from Fr. Michael:***A BRIGHT CHRISTMAS**

Many thanks to John Sklodowski, president of the Dads Club, the other club members, and the Sklodowski family who donated many hours of time and plenty of strings of lights to brighten the outside of our convent, the spruce in front of the rectory, and the Sisters' house on Baxter. Thanks to them, a warm glow arises from our little corner of Slavic Village!

WHERE'S THE TREES?

People have been asking about the removal of some of the trees from the front of the rectory. A landscape architect had noticed that most of the trees in front of the rectory had overgrown and their branches had intertwined. We decided eventually to remove some of them and to let the others grow. But we decided to cut them now and make use of them in the church for Christmas, and to light up the remaining spruce outside. Not only will this be healthier for the trees, but also it will help make the area more secure.

A WORTHY REMEMBRANCE

Last weekend we had several opportunities to pray and to gather for fellowship as we remembered Fr. William and drew to a close our year of mourning. Many people remarked how beautiful the prayer services were, and the times to gather as a community were truly necessary for so many of us. An abundance of thanks is owed to David Krakowski and the ministers of music and liturgy who poured out their hearts for us all. Also, the Student Ministry team from Cleveland Central Catholic helped greatly with the social on Sunday. The family of Fr. William also wishes to express their gratitude to the parish for our generous hospitality which provided for their stay with us. A great measure of healing took place, and for this we give thanks to God.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE OF LITURGIES AND EVENTS**Sunday Devotions**

Sundays of Advent,
Godzinki (Polish) 3:00PM
Solemn Vespers 6:00PM

Confessions

Wednesday, December 17th 7:00 PM
Bi-lingual Penitential Service (Confessions)
Saturday, December 20th 10:00—12:00PM
Polish Confessions
Saturdays before Mass 4:00—4:45 PM

Christmas Liturgies

Wednesday, Christmas Eve
Family Christmas Mass 5:00PM
Kolendy & Christmas Carols 11:30PM
Midnight Christmas Mass 12:00PM
Thursday, Christmas Day
English Christmas Masses 8:30 & 11:30 AM
Polish Christmas Mass 10:00AM

Daily Masses

Friday-Wednesday, December 26-31
8:30AM

New Years Liturgy

Thursday, New Years Day 10:30 AM
Bi-lingual

Cultural Events

Sunday, December 14th 3:00 PM
Christmas Oratorio—"Red" an Orchestra
Sunday, January 4, 2004 7:30 PM
Pastoralka Staropolska—Opera Circle

PLEASE NOTE: There will be only one Mass on New Years Day. There will NOT be a vigil Mass on New Years Eve. Please plan accordingly.



Scenes from Fr. William's Memorial Services December 6th and 7th, 2003



A WARM WELCOME TO — “RED” an orchestra under the artistic direction of Jonathan Scheffer. Cleveland's most recent addition to its refined musical landscape will perform Heinrich Schutz's **ORATORIO** fitting for this season staged with orchestra, chorus and soloists. The ensemble will also perform Respighi's Ancient Airs and Dances, Suite III as well as The Adoration of the Magi. This Sunday, December 14, at 3:00 PM in St. Stanislaus Church. Tickets from \$15.00 to \$55.00 May be purchased at the door.

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND COLLECTION THIS WEEK! Help our Religious spend their retirement in dignity. Last year the people of the Diocese responded very generously. The funds collected were distributed to the religious communities of our Diocese and to others across the country. It is important that we offer our Promise, Commitment, and Impact to support this appeal to alleviate the retirement needs of our Religious.

OPLATKI (CHRISTMAS WAFERS) In the spirit of the Christmas season, the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, will make Christmas Wafers, (oplatki) available to parishioners. The packets contain 4 wafers. A minimum donation of \$2.00 to \$3.00 per package is appreciated. You may contact a Sister before or after Sunday Mass. Wafers will also be available at the rectory during ordinary business hours. The Sisters sincerely thank everyone and wish all a Joyous and Blessed Christmas and holiday season.



Looking for that unique, one-of-a-kind gift idea? Over the past year several parish fund-raising projects have produced attractive and unique items for sale.

With Christmas approaching many parishioners have asked if any of these “St. Stan’s specialty gifts” are still available.

For the next weekends until Christmas, there will be a gift table set up in the vestibule of the church where people may find these unique gift ideas. You will find Christmas cards, framed photos of the church, religious items, cook-books, Slavic Village books, and other good things. The members of the Lil Bros Club will be there to help with your selections. Remember, all proceeds go to benefit the church and the Lil Bros. Happy shopping!

CUT YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS TREE AT HERITAGE FARMS. Heritage Farms in Peninsula, Ohio, have supplied St. Stanislaus Church with live Christmas Trees at a reduced price for the last few years. If you plan to purchase a live Christmas tree for your home, we encourage you to patronize Heritage Farms. Either cut your own or purchase one that has been freshly cut. Heritage Farms is located on 6050 Riverview Rd., just South of Route 303. Phone (330) 657-2384 and be sure to thank them for their donation to our church.

SPOWIED

PRZED BOŻYM NARODZENIEM

Przed nami już tylko niespełna dwa tygodnie Adwentu i Boże Narodzenie. Dla człowieka wierzącego najlepszym sposobem przygotowania się do Świąt jest pojednanie się z Bogiem. Taką okazję będziemy mieli podczas organizowanych parafialnych dni spowiedzi. W naszej parafii św. Stanisława nabożeństwo pokutne i spowiedź w obydwu językach będzie **w środę 17 grudnia o godz. 7:00 wieczorem** oraz tylko w języku polskim **w sobotę 20 grudnia od godz. 10:00 do 12:00 w południe**. W języku polskim będzie można skorzystać z sakramentu pokuty także w innych parafiach: **Niepokalanego Serca NMP przy ul. Lansing w piątek 18 grudnia od godz. 4:00 po południu** oraz **w parafii świętych Piotra i Pawła w Garfield Hts. w niedzielę 21 grudnia od godz. 5:00 po południu**.

GODZINKI

W adwentowe niedziele modlimy się tradycyjną polską modlitwą zwaną **Godzinkami**. Nabożeństwo to będziemy śpiewać już tylko raz w niedzielne popołudnie o godz. 3:00, 21 grudnia. Adwent to czas oczekiwania, refleksji i przygotowania się na Święta Bożego Narodzenia. Maryjna modlitwa **Godzinek** spełnia wszystkie te warunki. Stąd też wykorzystajmy już ostatnią szansę by choćby raz w tym Adwencie włączyć się w tę modlitwę w naszym kościele.

OPLATKI

W polskiej tradycji nieodłącznym elementem wieczery wigilijnej jest biały oplatek, którym dzielac się składamy sobie życzenia. Oplatki, przygotowane przez nasze Siostry Nazaretanki, będzie można nabyć przed i po Mszach św niedzielnych w naszym kościele, a także w naszej aktualnej plebani, bądź w domu Sióstr Nazaretanek. Mile widziana złożona przy tej okazji ofiara, \$2-3.00.

PLACE A BULLETIN AD. During the coming weeks Bruce Hicks, from this Bulletin’s supplier, Liturgical Publications Inc., will be soliciting advertising support for the weekly Parish Bulletin. This is a great opportunity for any local businesses to get their messages in front of the many potential customers who attend church on a weekly basis. As always we appreciate the hospitality and the co-operation of our business partners who help sponsor our weekly Bulletin. “In Memory” and “Compliments of” spaces are now available. Please contact Bruce at 800-477-4574 extension 265 for information.

AREA-WIDE ADVENT MISSION. The Area-wide Advent Mission continues on December 17 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish on East 55 entitled “Journeying to Bethlehem,” from 7-8 PM. The Eucharist will be celebrated at this time.

POLISH CHRISTMAS LITURGY. The Traditional Polish Christmas Liturgy, “Pasterka” will be celebrated on December 29 at St. Anthony of Padua Church on State Road in Parma. Singing of Polish Christmas Carols will begin at 6:45 PM. Mass will follow at 7:30 PM. For more information call Larry or Kay Gonet at 440-842-3535.



GOD BLESS AMERICA