

STAFF & ORGANIZATIONS

PARISH STAFF

Mr. Bogdan (Don) Pieniak, Parish Administrator
 Mrs. Alice Torrence, St. Stanislaus School Principal
 Mr. Dan Kane Jr., Business Manager
 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

Ms. Betty Dabrowski, Pastoral Council Chairperson
 Mr. Frank Greczanik, Finance Council Chairperson
 Mrs. Agnes Fronckowiak, Golden Agers President
 Mrs. Marcia Philpotts, P.T.U. President
 Mr. Frank Krajewski, Dad's Club President
 Ms. Marilyn Mosinski, Pulaski Franciscan CDC
 Mr. Rick Krakowski, C.Y.O. Coordinator
 Mr. Matt Zielinski, St. Vincent DePaul Society
 Ms. Jane Bobula, Good Shepherd Catechesis
 Mr. Rob Jagelewski, Parish Historical Committee
 Mrs. Nancy Mack, MANNA Coordinator
 Mrs. Grace Hryniewicz, Shrine Shoppe Manager
 Mrs. Sharon Kozak, Alumni and Development
 Mrs. Denise Ziemborski, Fr. William Scholarship
 Mr. John Heyink, Building and Grounds Committee
 Chris Bartram, Lil Bros President

PARISH PRIESTS

Rev. Michael Surufka, OFM, Pastor
 Rev. Camillus Janas, OFM, Associate Pastor
 Rev. Placyd Kon, OFM, Associate Pastor
 Rev. Howard Stunek, OFM, in Residence

DIRECTORY

Rectory & Parish Office	341-9091
Parish Fax	341-2688
St. Stanislaus Elementary School	883-3307
Central Catholic High School	441-4700
Pulaski Franciscan CDC	271-6630

PARISH WEBSITE

www.ststanislaus.org

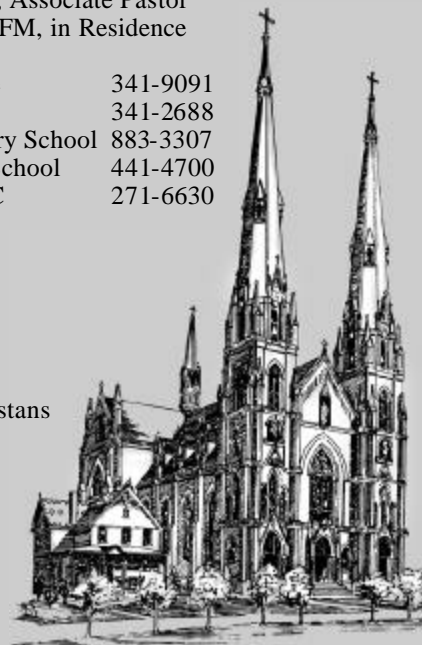
E-MAIL

ststans@ameritech.net

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 church dedicated in 1891.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Masses: 7:00 AM & 8:30 AM (no 7:00 on Sat.)
 Daily Morning Prayer: 7:55 AM (exc. Sunday)
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

OFFICE HOURS

The parish office is open from Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 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. 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.

GOPARENT 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 usually made in coordination with the funeral home of your choice.

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 24 Grudnia 2006

Sat	5:00 PM	+Kazimierz Kozwowski
Sun	8:30 AM	+Helen Markiewicz
	10:00 AM	+Jan Jarmuziewicz
	11:30 AM	+John Pelka

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 25 Grudnia 2006

Sun	5:00 PM	Sp. Int. Children of St. Stanislaus Church
Mon	12:00 AM	Sp. Int. Parishioners of St. Stanislaus
	8:30 AM	+Br. Fideles Veselek OFM
	10:00 AM	+Theodore Nadolny
	11:30 AM	+Celia Kopec

Tue	Dec 26	St. Stephen , first martyr
	8:30 AM	+Richard Modlinski

Wed	Dec 27	St. John , Apostle
	8:30 AM	+Ben Benowski

Thu	Dec 28	Holy Innocents , martyrs
	8:30 AM	+Salomea Stecki

Fri	Dec 29	Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas
	8:30 AM	+Stella Krupa

Sat	Dec 30	Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas
	8:30 AM	+Bruno & Maryann Trojanowski

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

December 31 Grudnia 2006

Sat	5:00 PM	+Joe & Sally Stryczny
Sun	8:30 AM	+Al & Jean Schultz
	10:00 AM	+Sabina Monzell
	11:30 AM	+Stella Lucas

1:00 PM Baptism of Jack Liam Sheppard

FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MOTHER OF GOD

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE

January 1 Stycznia 2007

Mon	10:30 AM	+Harriet Markiewicz
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MUSIC – FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

ENGLISH MASS

Processional: O Come, O Come Emmanuel vs. 7, 1 #313
 Presentation: Wake, o Wake and Sleep no Longer #184
 Communion: Jesus, Hope for the World #234
 Recessional: In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful (Sheets)

POLSKA MSZA ŒWIĘTA

Procesja: O przyjdŹ na œwiat Odkupicielu (zielona kartka)
 Ofiarowanie: Niebios¹ rosê #8, str. 278(mszalik)
 Na Komuniê: Czekam na Ciebie (chór)
 Zakoñczenie: Pan jest moc¹ Swojego ludu (zielona kartka)

Sing to God with joy - ful hearts. Praise the Lord for
 Spiewaj - my Pa - nu ra - do - snym sercem Chwal - my Pa - na
 ev - er - more, praise the Lord for ev - er - more.
 na woe - ki! Chwal - my Pa - na na wie - ki!

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Tue Parish Offices Closed
 Wed 8:00 PM A.A. & Al-Anon in the social center.
 Thu 3:00 PM Church Cleanup Crew works until 5:15.
 Mon **HAPPY NEW YEAR — One Mass, Polish & English, 10:30 AM**
 Tue Parish Offices Closed



Terry Kopania & Ruta Jakubauskas (II)
 Kieth Chesla & Michele Hartlieb (I)

The Feast of the Incarnation

And so we say *Merry Christmas* almost as easily as we say *Hello* to strangers, friends and family alike. But does this salutation really not stand for much more than a simple greeting? The event we are commemorating this December 25th is not simply the birthday of a little baby. If we start thinking along those terms the entire event becomes a saccharine, melancholy gathering of friends who like glitzy decorations, hearty food and festive drinks and view the nativity scene as a cute little tableau for children to see.

Yes, this is a time of commemorating a most sacred event in the history of humanity. This is a time of remembering the point in time when God became a human being. This is a time of celebrating God's love for humanity. Not to say that any birth is not as important inasmuch as it exhibits the miracle of life. This particular event, what we know in our culture as *Christmas* retains that same special character in addition to the aforementioned aspects.

The great mystery of the *Word made flesh* shows us how special we are. God's decision to become a human being (as opposed to an Angel) is most frightening to contemplate. This decision flowed from His essence, Love. God's *being* and, now, His *becoming* in Jesus were never so manifested as now at the moment of Mary's conception. The birth of Jesus became the engagement to all of humanity. The life of Jesus was its courting. The death of Jesus became His wedding with the cross as its ceremonial ring. The resurrection was the proclamation of the entire blessed event celebrating God's love. Taken as a whole, the feast is one as we celebrate the fact of God's passionate love for us in the action of the Mass throughout the year.

On this fest, let us recall the opening words of the fourth Eucharistic prayer, for these words summarize the true meaning of this feast, these words are the long form of our salutation: *Merry Christmas!*

"Father, we acknowledge Your greatness; all Your actions show Your wisdom and love. You formed man in Your own likeness and set him over the whole world to serve You, his Creator, and to rule over all creatures. Even when he disobeyed You and lost Your friendship You did not abandon him to the power of death, but helped all men to seek and find You. Again and again You offered a covenant to man. And through the prophets taught him to hope for salvation. Father, You so loved the world that in the fullness of time You sent Your only Son to be our Savior. He was conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary, a man like us in all things but sin. To the poor He proclaimed the good news of salvation, to prisoners, freedom, and to those in sorrow, joy."
 David Krakowski

SCHEDULE FOR MINISTERS

Feast of the Holy Family, December 31 Grudnia 2006

Sat 5:00 PM Lector — Rob Jagelewski
 Euch. Min. — Marilyn Mosinski, Bill Russin, Connie Aliff, Stan Witczak
 Sun 8:30 AM Lector — Jim Sadowski
 Euch. Min. — Loretta Horvath, Alice Klafczynski, Yolanda Kane, Chris Luboski
 10:00 AM Lector — Rafael Hryniewicz
 Euch. Min. — W. Sztalkoper, R. Drewnowski, Mike Buczek, Ewalina Ejsmont
 11:30 AM Lector — Richard Konisiewicz
 Euch. Min. — Angela Revay, Pat Young, Lawrence Wilks, Stanley Koch.

PARISH SUPPORT

Last Sunday's Collection

5:00 PM\$1,196.00
 8:30 AM\$1,801.00
 10:00 AM.....\$972.25
 11:30 AM.....\$1,256.75
 Mailed in.....\$1,049.00
Total (425 envelopes) \$6,275.50
Christmas Flowers (208) \$1,508.00



Why Was Jesus Born?

Another way of putting this question is: why did the Word of God, the second person of the Blessed Trinity, become human in Jesus?

The question and the answer are important for us followers of Jesus because they can direct and shape our lives. Each of us is to become like Jesus, so that God the Father sees in us

only one begotten Son, Jesus.

The answer to the question posed in the title and within the article is simple and straightforward: The word of God became human out of love in order to teach us what is love and how to love. God could have taught us how to love by words as a teacher teaches his students. However, God chose to incarnate (put flesh on) that word in **the person** of Jesus the Christ. This is as **personal** as God could have become to us. The Trinitarian God, who is love, **personalized** that love in the **person** of Jesus.

One of the effects of the incarnation of the Word of God in Jesus is the reminder and realization that true love is **personal**, it flows *from and to the person* of the other. This means that each of us who loves is responsible for the **personalized** gift of love, which we have received in and through Jesus the Christ. His birth **out of love** and **for love** enables to live **out of love** and **for love**. St. John put it this way: *“In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through him”* (1 Jn.4:9) Because of this love we can and must love one another as He loved us (Jn 15:12) Because of this love we can and must love not only friends but enemies as well.

Since love prompts love to act — irrespective of the circumstances — a good number of the Franciscan theologians believed that even if Adam and Eve had not sinned, the word of God in Jesus the Christ would have become human and dwelt among us. Why? To be our model and inspiration of loving. Jesus would have been — as he is even in view of the sinfulness of human beings — the way to truth and to life.. He is the only mediator between human beings and God. No one can come to the Father except through Jesus. The sinfulness of Adam and Eve did not deter God to change His plans. Rather, God’s plan to love — even sinful human beings — became more evident than if human beings would not have sinned. *“God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten Son as an expiation for our sins”* (Jn 3:16; Jn.4:10; 4:14; 3:5) . Sin did and does NOT prompt God to act. Love alone did and does.

The birth of Jesus primarily has to do with love, as does the birth of any child. No matter what kind of skin color, ethnic background or body features a human child may have, it’s heart is made for loving as God loves. As long as a human being can love that being is human and worthy of life.

The love which Jesus **personalized** through his birth was a reconciling , healing and unifying love. It was open to every needy person.

Since we are recipients and participants of that personalized love of God we, too, are expected to be reconciling, healing and unifying lovers open to all peoples.

Peace and Good! **Fr. Cam**

Przesłanie z Betlejem

Dzisiaj miasto Betlejem jest na skraju bankructwa. Władzom miasta brakuje pieniędzy na opłacenie urzędników. Ponad 60 procent ludzi zdolnych do pracy jest bezrobotnych. Wskutek postawienia murów i ścisłych kontroli granicznych, przybywa tam tylko około kilku tysięcy pielgrzymów rocznie. Dla porównania: w roku 2000 było ich kilkadziesiąt tysięcy. A jednak to wszystko nie zmienia faktu, że to właśnie z tego udrezonego miasteczka wyszła radosna dla całego świata nowina: „Nie bójcie się! Oto zwiastuje wam radość wielką, która będzie udziałem całego narodu: dziś w mieście Dawida narodził się wam Zbawiciel, którym jest Mesjasz, Pan. A to będzie znakiem dla was: Znajdziecie Niemowlę, owinięte w pieluszki i leżące w żłobie.”

Dekret Cezara spowodował, że ludzie w całym imperium posłusznie przemieszczały się. Rozprawiali pewnie o polityce, narzekali na cezara, który naraził ich na liczne niewygody. Tymczasem gdy oni rozprawiali o „wielkich rzeczach, Pan przyszedł na świat w jakimś nie mającym znaczenia zakatku, na dodatek w szopie. Taka jest logika Boża: wielkie rzeczy dzieją się często tam, gdzie świat nie zwraca swego wzroku.

Tak, Pan przychodził w ludzkiej postaci, w osobie bezbronnego dziecka potrzebującego opieki i czułości, niszczy nasze stereotypy, stawia na głowie nasze postrzeganie świata. To, co dla świata jest wielkie, nagle staje się małe, a małe i pogardzane w oczach świata nabiera znaczenia, staje się wielkie, a nawet, o dziwo! - otoczone chwałą. Boże Narodzenie uczy nas nie przeceniać rzeczy światowych. Uczy nas także zaufania do Boga. Bo widzimy, jak Boże plany się wypełniają nawet przy pomocy ludzi, jak Cezar August, który w Boga nie wierzył. Boże prorocтво o narodzeniu Mesjasza w Betlejem wypełnia się przy pomocy potężnego cezara, który choć nieswiadomie, służył spełnieniu się planów Bożych. Tak, nawet i on, najpotężniejszy z ludzi, jest **sluga** wobec Boga.

Jednak to Jezus jest Sluga Boży *par excellence!* Dlatego odtąd tytuł „sluga Boży” znaczy coś bardzo pozytywnego. Kościół nadaje tytuł Sluga Boży w dowód uznania świętobliwości osób zmarłych w opinii świętości. Jest to jeden z etapów na drodze do beatyfikacji. Wszyscy w jakiś sposób jesteśmy slugami Boga. Chodzi jednak o to, żeby być nimi z wyboru.

Jezus, Syn Boży staje się i dzieckiem i slugą . Bycie slugą w czasach Jezusa oznaczało nie mieć żadnych praw. Być dzieckiem oznacza być zdany na pomoc innych. Niemowlę pozostawione samo sobie jest skazane na śmierć. Bycie dzieckiem to znaczy być zależnym od innych. Niech to zniszczy w nas pragnienie bycia niezależnym od Boga i Bożego Prawa, pragnienie samowystarczalności, pragnienie panowania nad innymi. Z chwila, kiedy potrafimy to zaakceptować, znajdujemy się na drodze do osiągnięcia prawdziwej wolności i uspokojenia serca.

Właśnie tego życzy wszystkim Czytelnikom tego biuletynu, wszystkim przychodzącym do naszego kościoła i wszystkim naszym Dobroczyńcom. Niech pokój i radość z Bożego Narodzenia będzie Waszym trwałym udziałem. Niech Dzieciatko Jezus Wam błogosławi!

o. Placyd



ST. STANISLAUS SCHEDULE OF HOLIDAY LITURGIES

Christmas Liturgies

Sunday, Christmas Eve

Family Christmas Mass 5:00PM

Kolendy & Christmas Carols 11:30PM

Midnight Christmas Mass 12:00PM

Monday, Christmas Day

English Christmas Masses 8:30 & 11:30AM

Polish Christmas Mass 10:00AM

Daily Masses

Tuesday-Saturday, Dec. 26-30 8:30AM

The Year of our Lord 2007

Because the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, falls on a Monday, attending Mass is *not* an obligation. We will celebrate the day with *one* Mass in Polish and English at 10:30 AM.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Remember how beautiful our church looked decked out in Christmas floral finery? We again call on your generosity to keep up this beautiful tradition of our parish. Please take time to consider your donation and include it in your Christmas Flower Envelope.

MASS INTENTIONS

Every Mass is celebrated for the sake of the whole Church community, and each person attending brings his or her own prayerful intentions to Mass. The intention of the priest is listed publicly so that everyone else may also join in his intention as well. The whole church joins in remembering deceased loved ones as well as the living who celebrate anniversaries, birthdays, etc. Contact the rectory to reserve a date for 2007.

TREES, TINSEL, TOYS...THANKS!!!

A great big 'thank you' goes out to the many parishioners who helped decorate our beautiful church for this wondrous season! It was great to work with so many families and friends, all who put forth their best to get the job done. While many of the freshly cut trees came from Heritage Farms in Peninsula, a few very special ones came from the yards of two of our parishioners (Anna Lesniak — sanctuary tree, and Jim Wilson — pulpit tree and one of the manger trees). Many people also donated lights, ornaments, ribbons and talents which are all truly appreciated! Some things had been given us to use in previous years and they finally made their way into our decoration plan (e.g. the brass horns from Ken Waters). The generosity many created what you see before your eyes. May God bless everyone who helped beautify His house for this Christmas season!



Vivian Buchanan one of our many worker elves, puts the finishing touches on the candle post Christmas decorations.

THANK YOU FOR THE MANNA

We appreciate all those who have purchased Manna Cards this past year. With your participation the program will continue for 2007. You may order cards next week after the holidays for pick up on January 7th.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EVERY ONE!

PILGRIMAGE TO THE SACRED PLACES OF THE CITY OF STANISLAUS AND JOHN PAUL II

Join Fr. Mike Surufka and David Krakowski on a pilgrimage to Krakow to visit sacred places of the city of Stanislaus and John Paul II. Also during the trip, the group will accept the new icon which will be installed at our Shrine Church in Cleveland.

Sites to be visited while in Krakow will include:

- ? **Ska^{ka}** - the place of martyrdom of St. Stanislaus
- ? **Wawel Cathedral** - where his relics are enshrined
- ? **Lagiewniki** - Church of Divine Mercy (plan to be there on Divine Mercy Sunday)
- ? **Częstochowa** - Matka Boska
- ? **Oświęcim (Auschwitz)** - Martyrdom of Maximilian Kolbe and other victims of the Nazi holocaust
- ? **Kalwaria Zebrzydowska** - The Franciscan Pilgrimage Village outside of Krakow.
- ? **Kościół Mariacki** - The basilica of Our Lady in Krakow
- ? **Wadowice** — Birthplace of Pope John Paul II

Save the date!

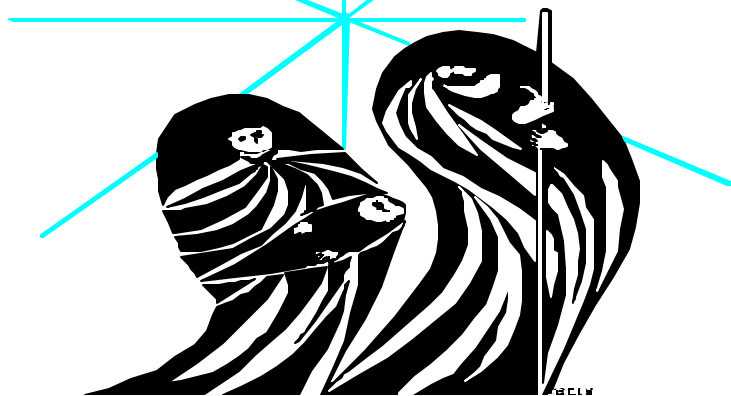
April 9, 2007 (Monday after Easter) — April 17, 2007
Price to be announced

ST. STANS HISTORICAL FACT

On December 24, 1980 Brother Fidelis Veselak OFM, longtime sacristan at St. Stanislaus died. "Brother," as he was known affectionately, was blind due to glaucoma in his later years but still carried out his sacristan duties. He knew every inch of the church. Brother crafted the decorations which frame the tabernacle on the main altar from spent flashbulbs from cameras. Brother molded the silver from those bulbs into wheat and angels surrounding the doors of the tabernacle. Many children spent many hours with brother helping him with chores such as making the hosts for Mass. Brother was a holy man who died on Christmas Eve after setting up the Christmas decorations in the church. He went into his room, laid down on his bed, saying the rosary, and went to celebrate Christmas with Jesus in heaven. He was a great example of love for God and this church which has been passed down to the many individuals, who now work as sacristans and church workers in what is now called the Fidelis Society.

EMMANUEL

Because
of
his
boundless
love,
Jesus
became
what
we
are
that
he
might
make
us
to be
what
he is.



ALLELUIA!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR
PARISHIONERS, FRIENDS AND VISITORS!

CALLING ALL ALUMNI! St. Stanislaus Parish is inviting all alumni and friends of St. Stanislaus Elementary and High Schools to a celebration to kick off Catholic Schools Week on Saturday, January 27, 2007. There will be Mass at 5 PM in the church. A soup, salad, and dessert dinner will be served in the Social Center from 6-9 PM. The Elementary School will be open for an Open House also from 6-9 PM. Reservations are not required. A free will offering for the dinner will be accepted. We are also celebrating 100 years of Franciscan presence in our community, 100 years since the cornerstone of the Elementary School was laid, and 100 years of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth teaching in our school. For more information call 216-341-9091. Meet old friends from your school days and reminisce about your days at St. Stans. Our past two alumni events have been very successful and enjoyable. *Return Home for a night!*

PEACE GARDEN MEMORIAL BRICKS are still available for \$100.00 each by contacting the rectory office. Order your brick in time for a spring 2007 installation. If you previously donated a brick, you may find it by taking a stroll in the garden.

WELCOME!

To all our friends visiting our church during this Joyous Christmas Season. The Parishioners of St. Stanislaus pride themselves in our outreach and service to our diverse neighborhood peoples. If you can find it in your means, please be generous in your support of the many good works of our Parish. St. Stanislaus depends upon the regular support of its membership and the generosity of those who visit here. Please look upon your financial gift or sacrifice as a way of giving praise to God along with the many from earlier generations who have worshiped and prayed here for 133 years.

EPIPHANY CONCERT

Holy Name Church
8328 Broadway
Sunday January 7, 1:30 PM
Free will offering for the Holy Name
Restoration Fund.
Reception to follow.

Christmas Cards and Gifts!

ST. STANISLAUS
SHRINE
GIFT SHOPPE

New! *Come for Coffee and
Bakery after Mass!*

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY The following parishioners are serving our country and ask for your prayers. **David Sklodowski** is with the Army and is serving in Baghdad at this time.

Sto lat! 1906-2006 Franciscans at Saint Stanislaus

