



St. Stan's News

Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki, DD - Pastor | Rev. Janusz A. Lucarz - Assistant Pastor | www.saintstanislauspncc.org

My Dear Parishioners and our Friends,

In this season of gift giving, never be distracted from the great truth that God our heavenly Father bestowed upon us the greatest gift ever, Jesus Christ's presence and hope in our lives. In the midst of the tinsel and twinkle, always follow the Star's steady beam revealing Him, and only Him, as our hope and as the true Light of the world. None of us ever passes through a year of God's good grace without experiencing certain times of darkness. But at this time of joy and exultation, you and I can rejoice together for the Lord has given us enduring hope even in our darkest hours.



On this glorious occasion of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in this season of our celebration of the divine gift bestowed upon our souls, I delight in this opportunity to extend my blessing to you all with my sincere prayer for health, peace within your souls and prosperity.

I pray the hope of Christmas be born anew in all of us. May the Light of Jesus Christ radiate within all of us in the Cathedral Parish of Saint Stanislaus, and warm our lives with tranquility.

"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13).

Christ is born! Christ is revealed!

A happy and blessed New Year in the Lord!

Bishop Bernard

Keep us in mind

When thinking about where to make a holiday contribution this season, keep St. Stanislaus Cathedral in mind. Monies are needed to maintain our facility and continue to improve the many programs of our parish.



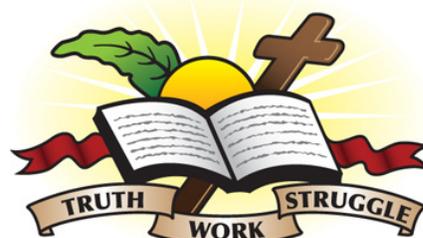
REMINDER

As the year draws to a close don't forget your annual contribution to our parish. Payments can be made in the parish office or on line at [www.saintstanislauspncc.org/?page id=1388](http://www.saintstanislauspncc.org/?page%20id=1388). We accept all major credit cards. Dues for 2014 are \$245 per person.

A Prayer For Today

Heavenly Father, I come to You today with an open and humble heart. I ask You to fill me with Your strength, peace and joy so that I can press through to victory today. Show me the good plan You have for me in Jesus' name. Amen.

— Joel & Victoria Osteen



Advent Services for December & January

Friday, December 19

7:00pm- Christmas Program "Jaselka" of the St. Stanislaus Elementary School in the Youth Center.

Saturday, December 20

10:00 – Private Confession, Chapel

7:00pm – Advent Penitential Service, Chapel

Sunday, December 21 – 4th Sunday in Advent

7:30am - Holy Mass – 4th Advent Candle Lighting

9:00am - Holy Mass – 4th Advent Candle Lighting

11:00am - Holy Mass, Our Savior Chapel, Tripp Park & 3rd Advent Candle Lighting

Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00pm – Vigil Mass of Christmas Eve, Contemporary, with the Living Nativity offered by our Parish Youth Association

9:30pm – Melodies and Carols of the Season

10:00 pm – Mass of the Shepherds, Traditional

Thursday, December 25 – Nativity of our Lord

10:00am – Mass of Christmas Day, Traditional

10:30am – Holy Mass, Our Savior Chapel, Tripp Park

Friday, December 26 - Feast of St. Stephen

10:00am – Holy Mass, Chapel

Saturday, December 27 - Feast of St. John, Evangelist

10:00am – Holy Mass, Cathedral with blessing and distribution of wine

Sunday, December 28 - Solemnity of Humble Shepherds

7:30am – Holy Mass

9:00am – Holy Mass

11:00am – Holy Mass, Our Savior Chapel, Tripp Park

Wednesday, December 31 – New Year's Eve

7:00pm – Holy Mass at Year's End

Thursday, January 1, 2015 – Solemnity of the Circumcision

10:00am – Holy Mass, Cathedral

Sunday, January 4, 2015 – Feast of the Holy Family

7:30am – Holy Mass

9:00am – Holy Mass

11:00am – Holy Mass, Our Savior Chapel, Tripp Park

Tuesday, January 6, 2015 - Solemnity of the Epiphany

10:00am – Holy Mass, Cathedral with Blessing of Incense, Charcoal, and Chalk

7:00pm – Holy Mass, Cathedral with Blessing of Incense, Charcoal, and Chalk

Sunday, January 11, 2015 – Baptism of the Lord

7:30am – Holy Mass

9:00am – Holy Mass

11:00am – Holy Mass, Cathedral

12:00pm – Wafer Dinner in the Youth Center

Calendar of Events

Basketball Registration - December 14 at 8:00 am The St. Stanislaus Youth Basketball League registration is underway. Any youth between the ages of 4 and 16 can join. MORE INFO: Forms and information about the league can be found downstairs in the church hall and on our website: [http:// www.saint-stanislauspncc.org/](http://www.saint-stanislauspncc.org/) 529 East Locust Street, Scranton, PA 18505

Santa Breakfast - December 14 at 10:00 am YMS of R Branch #1 hosts their annual Breakfast Buffet with Santa! When: Sunday, December 14th after the 9:00am Holy Mass. Where: Parish Youth Center. Tickets: \$8/Adults and \$3/ Children. Ages 3 and under are FREE. Make reservations in the Church Auditorium after 9:30am Mass on Sundays or call Frank Gerardi at 570-587-3672. Limited number of tickets. 529 E. Locust Street, Scranton, PA, 18505

Prepare our Cathedral for the Christmas season - December 21 immediately following 9 am Mass. start a new tradition and bring a friend or your entire family to start your holiday season.

One Hot Meal – Jan 3, 1-3 pm in the Youth Center. Help needed to deliver meals. All welcome – contact Carol Nasser to do something good for someone.

Wafer Dinner - Wigilia – Sunday Jan. 11 after the 11 am Mass. Held in the Youth Center. Everyone welcome to join this great tradition of getting your year off on the right path with friends, relatives and your St. Stanislaus family.

YMS of R Valentine Dance – Saturday, Feb. 14 – Mark your calendar. Bring your loved one, friends, coworkers and family for a great night out (and a great fund raising event for our Youth Center).

From a Parish Director

Greetings Everyone!!!!

I have sat on our Parish Committee for almost two years now and although we haven't moved mountains we have moved in a positive direction and will continue to do so as long as we are all true to the cause of this great church.

Last Saturday, One Hot Meal was hosted at the Youth Center with a Christmas theme and many came to enjoy our offerings. Granted I have not worked very many of these events (this is only my third). I arrived later Saturday as like many of you, I was running with sports and errands earlier that day. Earlier the clergy were there for the ordination of Deacon Konicki. I was made aware that there was little interaction but sometimes we are never sure how to proceed when facing these opportunities.

I sat down for about 20 minutes to listen to a fellow who is in his 50's. Hard worker in nice weather as a landscaper but doesn't always find work now in the cold. So he hung Christmas lights on houses in Glenn Maura and Harmony Hills. Kinda ironic isn't it. We laughed about ladders, lights, and then got serious as we talked about how the economy hit him in 2008 when he lost his job and just couldn't get back on a normal work routine. It hit us all in some way then. Remember how it felt like the world was unraveling?

Carol Nasser asked that my son Jake and I deliver four large trays of ham and beans to the Scranton Intervention Center. Ever been there? No. Me neither. Heck, I couldn't even find it. I had to call the kitchen since I was lost in a city I grew up. LOL. But then we found it. Here is my message to us all. Remember this is in Scranton. 2008 was not that long ago.....

Say what you want about One Hot Meal. You can say, it feeds people who are drug addicts, they are people using the 'system', below us (we wouldn't say that in public though), or anything else. Truth is people are hurting and we are doing something tremendous. What I saw when I walked in the Scranton Intervention Center on that rainy Saturday rocked me to my core. I have traveled around the world with our finest Marine Corps and seen places I wouldn't wish my worse enemy and this shocked me to see guys my age, younger and older with nothing. Woah. There were about 40 when I got there. My son Jake couldn't say two words. And even I felt....scared. These aren't "my people" was my initial reaction. I am ashamed of that now. The worker at the center jumped up and came over to us. He saw we needed a hand getting trays from my car and up jumped 6 guys to lend a hand. They were so very very thankful. They shook our hands and patted us on the back. I was speechless. All they need is a light and maybe for a few minutes that day, with the food our church brought forth, we became that light.

John Kotula told me:

At 4:30, they will have dinner together.

At 6:30, a line will form for beds that evening.

Over 140 people are homeless in Scranton right now and they only have beds for about 110.

Those 30 who get cut have to leave quickly and find shelter under a bridge, in a stairwell, under a tarp.

At this Christmas time, be with your family, be with your friends, and be with us together in the church. Spread the word of the work we do. The reason is, we are a light and what I saw that day is much closer to us than we might like to think. We have the power to impact so many lives with all that we have. It is time we meet them instead of waiting for them to come to us.

God bless you and all your families this Christmas!!!! Regards, Fred Aebli, A Parish Committee Director

Before you speak,

THINK

T -- is it true?

H -- is it helpful?

I -- is it inspiring?

N -- is it necessary?

K -- is it kind?

Chair's Chatter As we say good bye to 2014, I find myself looking back on some of the projects done over the past few years. Let's test your memory and see if you can name them with me.

- 1. New sound system installed in the Cathedral and Youth Center
- 2. Video screen and projector installed in Chapel to view mass
- 3. Temporary ramp set up for access to the church.
- 4. Computerization of the parish office.
- 5. Website where you can use credit card to pay dues or make donations.
- 6. Security system(fire and alarm) installed in both Cathedral and Rectory
- 7. Camera placed around the perimeter of cathedral enabling video surveillance of the front porch and back area of rectory, garage and back entrance of Youth Center as well as the exterior of the church and parking lot.
- 8. New electrical box and light switches installed in the nave of church and new breaker in the hall.
- 9. One chandelier rewire and energy efficient led bulb installed in all the chandeliers.
- 10. New bell controller installed.
- 11. Cathedral sanctuary ceiling repaired and repainted
- 12. Shelving installed in annex for better storage
- 13. Rear section of cathedral roof was capped and chimney bracing.
- 14. Leaking rectory roof valley repaired.
- 15. Grotto stones reset, floor at altar repaired and entire structure sealed.
- 16. New roof on the bathrooms at the cemetery.
- 17. One set of leathers replaced on the organ.
- 18. Power vent installed in Youth Center boiler room.
- 19. New mixer for Youth Center, old mixer repaired and general maintenance done on stoves and dishwasher.
- 20. New freezer door installed on the walk in freezer and compressor repaired.
- 21. Rectory renovations:
 - a. wiring was inspected and replaced where needed.
 - b. carpet removed and wood floor refinished
 - c. new sofa and love seat purchased for 1st floor
 - d. new curtains for 1st and 2nd floor
 - e. new kitchen on 1st floor
 - f. renovated kitchen and bathroom on 3rd floor, including a washer & dryer.
 - g. new furniture for front room on 2nd floor

Note: Central Diocese allotted \$5,000 for new furniture.

How many did you get? As you can see, there has been much accomplished since 2010 and we aren't done yet. St. Stanislaus is a large complex that we must continue to maintain. We will keep you informed as we proceed this year so look for updates in our newsletter. Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year. See you in 2015!

-Mage Stankowski



Where will the Catholic Church Be in 20 Years?

A few words from Matthew Kelly.

Watch an engaging 5 minute video on this topic by going to:

http://youtu.be/eptRJuF0bnM?list=UU4rfI3dhy_nwtciS3M-AmsA

BE BOLD. BE CATHOLIC.

We each have a role to play in working toward a future for the Church that will inspire the masses. Imagine what **67 million American Catholics** are capable of. Imagine what more than a **billion Catholics worldwide** are capable of. -Matthew Kelly

