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"I shall reflect on myself and ask: 'What have I done for Christ? What am I doing for Christ? What ought I do for Christ?'" -St. Stanislaus Kostka



# New Stan

The Newsletter of St. Stanislaus Parish  
El Boletín de la Parroquia de San Estanislao

Summer / Verano 2020

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## Ave Atque Vale: Hail and Farewell

### Welcome Archbishop Perez

by Meghan Farina

Back in January, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia welcomed a new Archbishop, Nelson J. Perez. He assumed the role after the retirement of Archbishop Chaput, who served Philadelphia for eight years. Archbishop Perez is the first Archbishop from the Philadelphia area in over 100 years.

Upon the transition Archbishop Chaput stated, "When I first spoke with the *nuncio* about my retirement and this transition last May, I asked for a successor who would care for and guide our people, speak the truth with conviction, and live a faithful witness to Jesus Christ. Archbishop Perez is a man who already knows and loves the Church in Philadelphia, and is already known and loved by our priests and people. He was ordained as a priest of Philadelphia. He's a graduate of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. He's

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*Monsignor Murray visits with longtime parishioner John McNulty and his grandchild*

### Msgr. Joseph Murray

by Sandy Sasso

Msgr. Joseph Murray was our pastor from June 1989 until his retirement in June 2008. Before his assignment here at St. Stanislaus, he served at Our Lady of Ransom in northeast Philadelphia. Then went on to teaching assignments at Bishop Kenrick, Norristown and at Pius X, Pottstown. He returned to Kennedy Kenrick as Principal, then served at Bishop McDevitt as principal, on to Holy Angels before coming to St. Stanislaus. After his retirement as our pastor, he spent many years at Mother of Divine Providence Parish in King of Prussia, until his failing health required him to move to Regina Nursing facility in 2018. On April 18, 2020 he passed on into Jesus and Mary's arms.

He was beloved at St. Stanislaus because he exuded love through his smiles and friendship. He once said, "I would like to be remembered as a man who tried to be a good

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*Archbishop Perez from [www.facebook.com/ArchbishopPerez/](https://www.facebook.com/ArchbishopPerez/)*

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# Archbishop Perez

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respected and well-liked by our priests, many of whom are his friends. And he served with distinction as one of our pastors before his ministry as a bishop...He's exactly the man with exactly the abilities our Church needs, and I'm very, very grateful to the Holy Father for sending him home to us in Philadelphia."

Perez was born in Miami, Florida in 1961 to Cuban emigrants, and was raised in West New York, New Jersey. After studying at Montclair State University, he found his way to the City of Brotherly Love, entering the seminary. He was ordained in 1989 and then served as parochial vicar of Saint Ambrose Parish, Philadelphia (Father Charles's new home!) until 1993. Later he became Pastor of St. William Parish in Philadelphia (2002-09), and Pastor of St. Agnes Parish in West Chester, PA (2009-12).

He eventually made his way to Cleveland in 2017 with an appointment as Bishop by Pope Francis. While in Cleveland, he focused on strengthening Catholic education. He showed concern for younger Catholics, encouraging them to join in the work of their local parishes and to feel a sense of belonging there.

Archbishop Perez is a believer in inclusivity. He said in an interview, "Being the son of refugees to this country who came looking for freedom, and this country was generous enough to open its borders, its doors, to welcome my parents, that's why I'm here today,"

Our Father Charles asserts that Archbishop Perez "Will bring a unique perspective on the needs of our diverse local church. The new Archbishop also makes history as the first Latino to be elevated to the position in Philadelphia. The many Latino Catholics of our parish and Archdiocese are overjoyed to welcome him as our new Shepherd! Personally, whenever I have had the pleasure of being in his company, I've found him to be a genuine, joyful and down to earth man of faith."

Archbishop Perez has stated his support for the vision of Pope Francis, that the church be a "community of missionary disciples" that will be "ever vibrant and powerful in the church here in Philadelphia." Knowing that our area, like all others, faces challenges, Archbishop Perez said he is not afraid to "do what needs to be done for the good of the family." Calling on parishioners, he said to them, "Never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit working in you, through you, and despite you." ✠

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# Monsignor Murray

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priest". Yes, you are Monsignor. A priest who was good, humble, and kind.

I knew Monsignor throughout my children's elementary years at St. Stanislaus, particularly as my son served as an altar boy. Although my son didn't talk with him, much as an altar boy, he does remember Monsignor speaking to his 8th grade class about how each person was a unique human being with different abilities. He touched the lives of many in the parish.

One woman remembers how he prayed for each individual or family that sent him a Christmas card. One day he told her, "...this is your day" (that he prayed for her), which brought a sudden sense of love and peace at a time she was mourning her mother's death. Another parishioner fondly recalls his special homily on celebrating First Communion to our young children while they sat around him on the altar steps.

Another gentleman from the parish remembers a poignant encounter when Monsignor visited him in the hospital. The man asked if Monsignor could instruct him on the faith since he had not much religious experience. Thereafter, Monsignor spent many hours with him and eventually anointed and welcomed him back into the church just one week before he died.

During his time here, St. Stanislaus was offering home Masses. Msgr. Murray promoted the role and importance of the domestic church through these home Masses, which lasted a couple of years. One family whose father was a den leader in the Cub Scouts requested a Mass at their home and invited the young cub scouts with their families as a way to further their faith formation. They set up the dining room table as an altar for Monsignor. Throughout the mass Monsignor paused to explain why he was doing certain things. For example, he noted the reason he washed his hands at the end of the offertory was that in the past the altar was used to offer grains, livestock and other items which could dirty the priest's hands.

Monsignor Murray's warm and active involvement with parishioners made us "the family of St. Stanislaus." Soon after his passing, Diane McCaughan, President of Mater Dei Catholic School wrote, "It is hard to let go of Monsignor Murray, a loving Pastor, a gentleman, a man devoted to Catholic education, and a dear friend to many of us!" Very true words, and he will be missed by all. ✠

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# Parishioner Spotlight

*Jane Friel*

by **Norman Berger**

Many of you may know Jane Friel, who has been a St. Stanislaus parishioner for 27 years, by face if not by name. It is in fact a name that has become nearly synonymous with the St. Stanislaus Festival with which she has been intimately involved for so long.

Jane Friel grew up in Ambler and attended the parochial school at St Alphonsus parish. She then graduated from Upper Dublin High School. Jane came into the parish in 1993 and has a son and a daughter, who both attended St. Stanislaus Parish School and Lansdale Catholic. Evan (24) graduated from Penn State and Samantha (22) attends West Chester University in Chester County.

Jane's involvement with the Festival goes back to 1993 when she first arrived and she has been with the Festival since then. Jane worked for Catholic Health Services (CHCS) from 1993 to 2014 as well as at St. Mary Manor where the then Father Joseph Tracy, Deputy Secretary for CHCS was her boss.

When later Monsignor Tracy became Pastor at St Stanislaus, he started looking around for people to help him with the Festival as the then crew were "retiring." Since he already knew Jane from CHCS and found out that she had been long-associated with the Festival, he asked if she would help him out. When she said "Sure!" he surprised her with the set of keys associated with the Festival and wished her good luck!

She sought the advice of Larry Collins and Boyd McIlvane, who were part of the original men's club that started the Festival and who were extremely helpful. With that, Jane took over responsibility for obtaining the entertainment for the Festival nights and also the daily operations and assisting with the set-up and tear-down functions.

A committee of ten to twenty handles all the Festival planning each of whom oversees and is responsible for a particular part of the Festival operations. Jane's also the contact person for anyone with Festival questions. If she

can't herself provide an answer, she passes on questions and concerns to a person on the committee who could best provide an answer. Jane emphasizes that the Festival could not happen without this committee!

I mentioned to Jane that having been involved for a couple of years in the set-up and then the take-down and storage of all Festival equipment such as the iron pieces used to construct the booths, I was amazed at how there always seemed to be someone who knew how everything had to be stored in the two garages in the back of the school building. There is a particular way to put everything away as the garages are filled to the ceiling with these items so that there was not room for mistakes! Charlie Monaghan

and Jim Fagan were the "wizards" who knew the secrets to the storage of the various items. Jane told me Jim has passed the torch on to Joe Volpe and his sons. But every year Jane takes pictures of the various stages of this process as well.

Jane also describes herself as a liaison between the School and the Parish. She often assists in the school office and has regularly welcomed golfers to the putting green for the putting contest at the annual Mater Dei Golf Outing.

With all of her years of experience with the Festival, Jane has many stories, anecdotes, and fond memories. One favorite memory Jane related was a year when Linda Volpe, was checking on the hermit crabs for that popular kids' booth. Linda came out of the school and yelled that all the hermit crabs, who resided before the Festival in a kid's swimming pool in the school, had died – mere hours before the Festival was to open! The school became too hot for their survival! Hopefully, someone was able to give them last rites...

Whether assisting in the office at Mater Dei Catholic School or helping direct the Festival to which she has been so integral, or sharing a smile at the golf outing, Jane is truly the epitome of the spirit of St. Stanislaus and what it means to be a dedicated parishioner!✠



# Father Sean Says

Summer has always been my favorite season. I enjoyed the time off from school, and the long days spent at our local pool. In my teen years and early twenties, I became a pool lifeguard, beach lifeguard, and pool manager. Summers had a carefree air to them, which I embraced and have come to expect. I am sure there may be many who share the same sentiment, and have also been struggling with the different feel Summer 2020 affords.



Here at St. Stan's, we have had to reimagine the defining event of our Summer at the parish, the Summer Festival. Last year when I arrived, many parishioners greeted me at the rectory as they were putting tables and tents away from a successful 2019 Festival. Since that day, I have been looking forward to celebrating with the community and experiencing my first festival as Pastor. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide the accustomed experience of that event; a weeklong experience with carnival rides, food booths, bands, etc. However, we are hoping to provide similar experiences at different events which are more manageable and safe.

Our first parish movie night was a success. It was an opportunity to gather on our Parish grounds and enjoy a socially distant community event. The parish now owns a large inflatable screen that will be used for similar events in the future. God-willing, when we find a cure, outdoor movie nights at St. Stan's will be something to enjoy and experience for years to come. As long as we are able to gather safely outdoors, we will take advantage of the Summer months to provide experiences reminiscent of the Summer Festival.

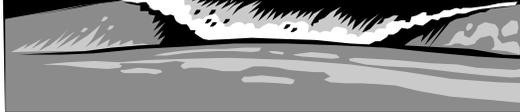
As a parish, we are called to preach the Gospel and invite people to follow Jesus. The celebration of Holy Mass and the Eucharist is the source and summit of all of our endeavors. Community events should stem from our communal celebration of the Eucharist and lead others to back to Mass. The pandemic has offered many challenges to the shared communal experience of Christ as we well know. However, the forced adaptations challenge us to go beyond our comfort zone as Catholics and create new avenues for encounters with the Risen Christ.

I hope that in your own personal adaptations to your normal summer routines, you find rest and restoration. Above all, make sure that you allow for the peace of Christ to enter any places of unrest you find in your heart. Pray for God's peace and the strength to follow His will in these tough times. In closing, please also continue to pray for the success of God's mission for all of us at St. Stan's.

God Bless You,

## Surfing Around?

Blessed Adoration is available in the Church Monday -Friday, noon to 5:00PM. But you can participate virtually anytime at [www.facebook.com/joe.stanislaus.505/vid/eos/654138198759583/UzpfSTEWMDAyNDkwMjI2NTY5OTo2NTQ0Njg4Njg3MjY1MTY](https://www.facebook.com/joe.stanislaus.505/vid/eos/654138198759583/UzpfSTEWMDAyNDkwMjI2NTY5OTo2NTQ0Njg4Njg3MjY1MTY)



## NEWSTAN

### MISSION STATEMENT

In response to the St. John Paul II's call to evangelization, St. Stanislaus Parish started publishing *NewStan* to serve members of the parish community and the community at large, to inform parishioners and members of the North Penn region about new developments in the parish, and to serve as a channel for communications among St. Stanislaus parishioners and benefactors.



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Those who wish to contribute items for publication should forward them to the NewStan mailbox in the St. Stanislaus Parish Center. The inclusion of submitted material is subject to the judgment of the editors in consultation with Father Sean and the St. Stanislaus Communications Director. The editors reserve the right to edit all submitted material for length and content.

Visit St. Stanislaus Parish on the web at

[www.ststanislaus.com](http://www.ststanislaus.com)

Follow us on Facebook: St. Stanislaus Lansdale



Do you have a question about St. Stanislaus Parish, or about the Catholic faith in general?

Forward your questions to the *NewStan* mailbox in the Parish Center, anonymously if desired. We will direct the questions to the right person and publish the answers in a future issue.

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## NewStan Book Review

by Lorraine Miller

Familiar names to readers such as Grisham, Patterson, and Steele appear constantly on the *New York Times* Best Seller List. Last year, *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* an unusual tile appeared, on the List. The author, Charles Makesy, has been a Scottish cartoonist for *Spectator Magazine* and an illustrator for Oxford University Press. He says about his drawings and the book, ‘Oddly, I had no agenda with the drawings. They were just a way of saying what I felt about existence and what I thought was important.’



The book has sold 250,000 copies, and is being translated into 17 languages. Makesy’s drawing of a horse confessing the “Bravest thing he’s ever said is ‘Help’” became an online sensation, and has been shared over a million times. Compared to the work of Beatrix Potter, Antoine de Saint-Exupery’s *Little Prince* and Silberstein’s *The Giving Tree*, this narrative with drawings is radiant with Makesy’s warmth and gentle wit. Material from this remarkable book is being used in yoga classes, therapy sessions for veterans, clinics, and children’s story sessions in libraries.

One reviewer said, “This very special book is about friendship, but a great deal more. The exquisite simplicity of the conversation between the boy and his companions, and the beauty of the accompanying drawings, reach out to the heart and soul of readers of all ages.” Another reader says, “The profound wisdom...speaks to our vulnerability, our struggles, and our deepest fears in the face of life’s challenges, bringing comfort, connection and hope.”

The illustrated musical score for *Soldatenmarsch* from Schumann’s *Album fur die jugend* appears on the end covers of the book, and is illustrated with charming drawings of the characters. They reflect the loving care that Makesy imbues into every aspect of this book’s creation. These characters represent different parts of the same person from the inquisitive boy, the mole, to the fox, to the horse “who’s the deepest part of you, the soul.”

The book is aimed to all audiences from eight-year-olds to octogenarians. Readers will find value and delight in this enchanting book. It is a modern fable, but also an object of art, thought-provoking, discussion-worthy, and so very worthwhile. ❧

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## St. Stanislaus Festival in the Year 2020

The Year of Our Lord 2020 has brought many firsts, changes, and never-before-seen events. Add the St. Stanislaus Festival to that list. For the first time in 59 years, St. Stanislaus Parish will not become a fairground of rides, booths, and bands. With so much uncertainty as to the prevalence of the coronavirus and the consequent restrictions on gatherings – by the time you are reading this there could be yet another quarantine in place for all we know – it was too risky and potentially unsafe to plan and hold our traditional festival. As our Spotlight Parishioner, Jane Friel, relayed even if Montgomery County remains “green,” that still means that only 250 people could be on Festival grounds at any one time. And it would be too much to control that number plus every booth would periodically have to be wiped down with sanitizer!

But that does not mean that there will not be *festivities* at St. Stanislaus. The committee members are instead planning events to take place in smaller numbers all Summer!

Firstly, the Garage Sale, a Festival mainstay will still be happening all summer long. The location of it will be in Little Flower Hall.

July 18<sup>th</sup> was deemed “Superhero Double Feature Movie Night” with the school lot converted into an impromptu, free drive-in and the movies *Hero 6* and the *Avengers* were projected on 30-foot outdoor screen. Food and beverages (adult and kiddie) were available for purchase.

More (and better) food will be available for the first ever “Hickory and Ash Smokehouse” dining under the stars catered event on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Parishioners can come eat outside while serenaded by an acoustic guitar player: Take-Out also available!

Finally, the Grand Prize drawing will still be held this year with a few adjustments. Sales will go virtual this year and the hope is you can get a scan code right from your phone. We are selling no more than 1000 tickets at \$100.00 each. If we sell the full amount, the prizes will be: \$25,000 first prize, (3) \$5,000 second prizes and (10) \$1,000 prizes. The drawing will be announced in December.

So, even if we can’t gather as a community in the regular way – we can still gather, have some fun, taste some good food and support our Parish. Be sure to come out and enjoy! ❧

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# Saint Marie Eugenie Milleret

by Anne K. Kaler

*EDITOR'S NOTE: As presented in our last issue this year is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Religious of the Assumption, who have been a steady presence in Lansdale for many years. This article continues our series of articles to celebrate the Order in its centennial year.*

America has been blessed with many orders of religious women who came to our shores to help bring Christ to our hearts and minds. Many of them have been declared saints.

Foundress of the Religious of the Assumption, St. Marie Eugenie Milleret of France was one of these religious women. Born in France in 1817, her family were not overly religious as their society valued rationalism, free-thinking, and anti-clericalism. However, just after her first communion, as young Marie Eugenie looked in vain for her mother in Notre Dame Cathedral, she experienced a startling voice from God that said "You will lose your mother but I shall be more to you than a mother . . . you will take leave of all that you love in order to glorify Me and serve the Church about which as yet you know nothing."

At that time, girls did not have access to formal education. As a late teen, Marie met her spiritual directors who guided her vocation as the foundress of a congregation of women religious who would instruct the young about God, leading them with love as a mother would teach a child. Even with the burdens and worries of her leadership of this new order, Marie Eugenie retained the strict discipline of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

Her order has been serving in America for over one hundred years. In their American past, they ran the Ravenhill Academy in East Falls, a boarding school for girls, especially those from Cuba and Central America, and two colleges, one in Miami and another in Worcester, MA.

Their international community has over 1200 sisters of many nationalities serving in over 30 countries throughout the world. Besides staffing our Lansdale parish's pastoral outreach program since 1978, the sisters are active at their border Ministry for Migrants in Chaparral, NM, while others are working with the diverse population at St. Francis de Sales Parish in West Philadelphia. Several others serve at the Assumption University in Worcester.

So, when we see them, dressed in their shades of purple for Christ's passion, attending our parish Masses and



*St. Marie Eugenie Milleret from [www.assumptionreligious.org/](http://www.assumptionreligious.org/)*

events with us, or greeting us joyfully outside the church, we recognize them as dear friends. They are always present in our daily lives and always welcoming us into their home just up the street from St. Stanislaus Church.

As an international order, the individual sisters have taught us how to love the entire world through the many countries they represent. Through their personalities, we have gotten to know Tanzania and Rwanda, Paris, the Philippines, Japan, the Congo, Thailand, Vietnam and so many other far-distant places.

We share their joy in celebrating their Centennial Year -- their first hundred years of service in the United States. Congratulations on your sainthood and Happy Centennial Year to your world-wide congregation. And most of all, thank you, St. Marie Eugenie, for sending us your beloved sisters. Marie Eugenie died, surrounded by those sisters, on March 10, 1898. She was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on June 3, 2007.

St. Marie Eugenie once said, "The person who looks for God at all times finds joy everywhere." You and your sisters have brought our parish JOY for over forty years.✠

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# Changed by God's Word

## *The Ninth Station*

by **Dianne Spotts**

My mom, one of 8 children, grew up in South Philadelphia in the early 1900's. One by one her parents and siblings died, leaving her older sister, my Aunt Isabel, alone at the age of 90. Since Isabel longed to remain in the family home, two retired cousins and I agreed to help her.

One lovely Saturday in Spring, I tried to prepare for my overnight visit in South Philadelphia – my part of the plan. I savored the last swallow of my morning coffee as I read Psalm 94, verses 18 and 19:

*When my foot is slipping, your steadfast love, O Lord, holds me up. When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul.*

The cares of my heart were many, but I experienced no consolation. I wanted to stay home but knew I should put down the book and get on the road.

*I know she needs me, I thought, pitching a few things into my overnight bag. Lord, I said I want to serve You, but this?*

I continued wrestling in prayer as I drove.

The visit had a shaky start. Isabel's anxiety was running high, and she began to scold me: "Where have you been? How come you're late? I was afraid you were in an accident."

I made a lame excuse about traffic delays and asked her to stop worrying. After going out for lunch, I asked what I could do to help her.

"Would you vacuum? I can't push it."

"Okay," I answered, glad for the mindless work. I plugged the antiquated Hoover's cord into the nearest socket.

"No! Not there," she barked. "We never plug it in there. And don't start vacuuming there, we always start over here!"

In a huff, I turned off the vacuum and said: "I've kept house for many years. I know how to vacuum. I'm taking a walk!"

"A walk? Now? Why?"

"Aunt Isabel, I need to take a walk. I promise I won't be long. Don't worry!"

Eyes stinging with tears, I headed down the block to St.

Thomas Aquinas, her parish church where my parents were married, and I was baptized. Slipping into the back pew, I realized I was near the ninth station of the cross: Jesus Falls the Third Time. I remembered the words of the morning's psalm: *My foot is slipping.*

I touched the partially worn foot of Jesus, as had many generations before me.

*Please help me Lord, I prayed. I need your love for Aunt Isabel and a willingness to help her.*

I'm not certain how long I knelt there. I knew I had to let go of my stubbornness and finally tried. Gradually, a peace came over me. My step was lighter as I walked back to the house, where I was greeted by a grateful and relieved Aunt Isabel. I apologized and so did she.

During the remainder of the weekend, I could sense a difference in myself and in her. During my prayer time the next morning, when I returned to Psalm 94, I was overwhelmed to realize that the Lord had indeed consoled me and lessened my cares.

My trips to South Philly continued for years and I grew closer to my aunt. She spent occasional weekends and all holidays with my family until she died at the age of 97.

My cousins and I made it possible for Isabel to remain in her home. God made it possible for me to do my part. He cheered me – and as His Word said, His love held me up, keeping my foot from slipping.

I miss her and feel certain she is enjoying God's loving consolation first hand.✘

## Upcoming GIFT Programs

Of course, all planning is subject to change-given our current environment, but currently the following GIFT programs are scheduled for Fall. Start times are 7PM.✘

Date	Speaker and Topic
<b>Sept. 8 2020</b>	Topic: The Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Speaker: Maureen Lomady
<b>Oct. 13, 2015</b>	Topic: Integrating Faith in the Workplace Speaker: Anne DeSantis

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## Parish Census Data for April – June 2020



Ryan Tomasz Rajkowski  
Samuel Antonio Santana  
Siaka Michael Lemailoux



Dominic Anepete  
Megan Bowes  
Mary Kusiak  
Richard & Gina Mattingly  
David & Megan Milroy



IN  
MEMORIAM

Sister Charlotte Virginia Close  
Kathleen M. Constabel  
Hazel Cross  
William Curley  
Bernard J. Friel  
Marie K. Geller  
Carl T. Jasuta Sr.  
Immaculate Kramer  
John C. Lucas  
Jeffrey Lugas  
Jenny R. Manero  
Sally Ann Meade  
Nina Michalowski  
Anne L. Owens  
John F. Rice  
Carolina Romano  
Francis Ryan  
John S. Tamaro  
Patricia Thompson  
Jean Wilson  
Ida Wilson  
Antonio Zaffino