



"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

Autumn/Otoño 2021

## We Don't Like to Wait

by Dianne Spotts

*Who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*

Melissa and Alex decided to raise chickens so they would have fresh eggs daily. They purchased eight chicks, built a chicken coop - and patiently waited.

Paul planted a garden with many varieties of tomatoes and peppers every year around Mothers' Day - and patiently waited.

They did the needed work - they did their part - but they needed to wait.

In Advent, we think about our Blessed Mother's time of waiting. Gabriel amazed her with good news. She did her part and cooperated with God's plan. Quickly, she left to visit her cousin Elizabeth who acknowledged her as 'the mother of my Lord.' She had Hope growing inside of her - the Living Word of God. While she waited, her mind must have frequently reviewed the angel's words, and the assurance she received from Elizabeth. She waited with patience.

### Waiting with Hope

*Surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.*

Melissa and Alex's chickens are producing fresh eggs daily!

Each summer I enjoyed Paul's delicious veggies. Their work - their hope and patient waiting paid off.

Over many generations, the people of God, waited for their coming Messiah. Those exiled to Babylon waited with hope for the 40 years they longed for their homes.

They all kept their faith alive by repeating their stories to

each coming generation, and kept their traditions alive as they observed the rites and rituals as best they could, and pleaded for God's help when they failed.

### Patience and Hope

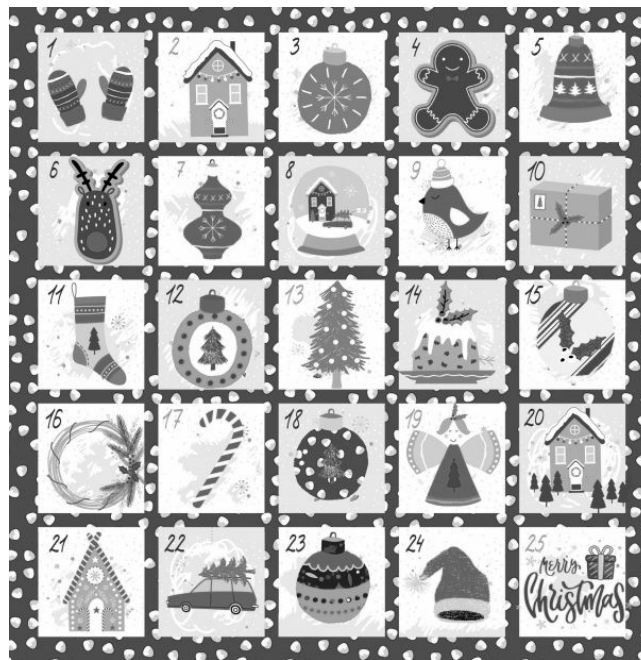
Patience is a fruit of the Spirit. While I do not have my husband Paul's green thumb, I witnessed the work he did: tilling the soil, providing good nutrients, weeding, etc. And he did it with joy hoping for what he as yet could not see.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "Hope is a theological virtue: faith, hope

and charity dispose Christians to live in a relationship with God, the foundation of Christian moral activity." St. Theresa of Avila said, "Hope, O my soul, hope...your impatience makes doubtful what is certain, and turns a very short time into a long one."

### A Personal Approach

Reading God's Word daily is a work that helps me to prepare, wait for Jesus' birth His second coming, and



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# Even More Church Maintenance News

*When we did our two-part article on updates and upgrades to the Church building, we did not anticipate having a third installment – but then again, this one was just as unplanned. - Ed.*

**by Sandy Sasso**

Our homes and properties always need some maintenance and repairs over the years. Our home at St. Stanislaus is no different. The same setbacks, financially and emotionally come to light. Now it falls on our Pastor, Fr. Sean, to help keep our home structurally sound.

Our church has periodic routine inspections on the roof and gutters. An inspection this summer included an examination of the outside and inside of the church during which the contractor noticed an unusual gap in the base of one of the arches. An engineer, used and recommended by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, was called in for an evaluation.

When the church was erected in the 1960's, it was built upon a concrete slab, secured into the foundation and covered by brick window sills. The engineer's evaluation determined significant damage from moisture in five of the eight arches on the Lansdale Avenue side of the church

In order to reinforce the arches, workers had to remove the bricks to expose the damaged bases, allowing for amputation of the damaged portions and replacement with custom engineered steel bases, steel plates, and rivets. Since most of the arches were in good condition the engineer assured Fr. Sean it was safe to remain open.

As a result, in order to fortify the structure while repairs were in progress, emergency scaffolding was set up. Unfortunately, this meant a number of pews were blocked, and the paths to Holy Communion – only just restored after the Pandemic – had to be re-routed.

The good news, is the completion for the project is projected to be before the upcoming holidays. There will be a noticeable change in appearance that will eventually be aesthetically looked into thereafter.

Because of our great team of financial management and foresight, the church is able to handle unknown problems or emergencies. And, of course, our dedicated congregation always ready to heed our financial needs when requested.



Our home at St. Stan's has aged over the years but will prove to be quite strong, in structure and spirit, for many years to come. ✕

## WANTED WRITERS

The key to keeping *NewStan* going all these years – with constantly varying styles and perspectives – is that we have had so many different writers over the years. Right now, we actually are a little low on staff and could use some “new blood”. If you...

- ❖ Like to write and can pen interesting and creative articles between 400 and 750 words.
- ❖ Would like to meet new people around the Parish.
- ❖ Can attend half-hour planning meetings four times a year and contribute ideas for issue.
- ❖ Can communicate and send articles via e-mail
- ❖ Can meet 2-3 week long deadlines for assignments

If this sounds like you and you'd like to give writing for *NewStan* a try, e-mail Paul at [ts.cutty@verizon.net](mailto:ts.cutty@verizon.net). Thanks! ✕

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# Parishioner Spotlight

## *Dr. Kelly Landman*

by Paul Cutajar

“Lifelong Parishioner” is a term commonly seen in this space, attributed to a senior member of our community. But Dr. Kelly Landman shows that you don’t need to be a member of the Greatest Generation to be engrained in the fabric of St. Stanislaus Parish.

While Kelly was born in Northeast Philadelphia, she became a member of St. Stanislaus at the age of 3 when her parents Sally and Jack Lister and her maternal grandmother Sally Cummins (aka “Mommom”) moved to Hatfield in the mid-eighties. Along with her two older sisters, Erin and Meghan, Kelly literally grew up at St. Stan’s: She attended St. Stanislaus Parish School from “K to 8,” receiving First Communion, First Penance, and Confirmation all at St. Stans, and attended high school at Lansdale Catholic.

Throughout her childhood, she experienced what it meant to be an active St. Stans parishioner through the example of her parents and her grandmother. Her father was a Eucharistic Minister, coached numerous sports, and served a stint as CYO Athletic Director. Her mother Sally also coached and volunteered at school, eventually becoming a teacher at St. Stanislaus, a role she held there and at Mater Dei for over two decades.

Kelly’s grandmother even more demonstrated what it meant to become a St. Stan’s Parishioner. Widowed decades earlier and living with Kelly’s family, “Mommom” often drove Kelly to and from school when her mother worked. Sally Cummins also worked in the Rectory where Kelly would often visit and spend afternoons. Kelly relates her grandmother thrived at St. Stan’s: “She found her home away from home at St. Stanislaus. She was part of the Seniors Club, and she enjoyed her meetings and bus trips with her crew. Our parish truly creates community for all ages and stages.”

Kelly thrived as well. She made many of her closest friends

through St. Stanislaus school and CYO. She formed memories of service and community throughout her childhood from leaf-raking parties to walkathons, and pageants. She recalls “staring at the priests’ residence and thinking it would be the greatest place to live ... waking up very late every day, walking five steps to school, and being ready to take on the day.” As a teen, she worked in the Parish Center taking calls and greeting visitors, a job that allowed her to meet parishioners and become even more a part of the community.

Kelly went on to attend and graduate from the University of Scranton. Then she moved to Ohio where she earned her MA and PhD in Clinical Psychology at Bowling Green State University. After completing a post doctorate at the Child Abuse Research Education & Service Institute at UMDNJ’s School of Medicine (now at Rowan), she became a clinical psychologist and as an associate professor of psychology. She worked four years as an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Chestnut Hill before taking on her current position as Associate Professor of Psychology at Delaware County Community College.



In the midst of all those impressive academic and professional accomplishments she also found time to meet and marry Ian Landman and bring into the world three wonderful children, Conor (age 9), Kieran (7) and Maeve (4). The Landmans settled in St. Stanislaus parish with all three children currently attending Mater Dei Catholic School. And just as Kelly’s family did for her, Kelly and Ian are modeling what it means to be active St. Stanislaus parishioners for their children.

Kelly is a veteran member of the Mater Dei Board of Limited Jurisdiction, in various roles over 9 years including serving on the Enrollment Committee and her current position on the Executive Committee as Secretary. Kelly was tagged as part of the MDCS Reopening Task Force where she developed the “Family and Student Life”

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# Father Sean Says

I hope you enjoy the articles in this *NewStan* issue, because they speak of the joy and hope that the liturgical season of Advent preaches.

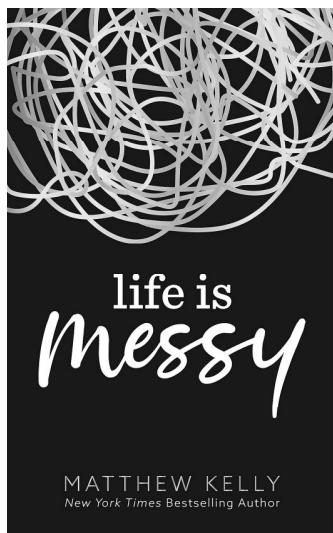
The Church prepares for the coming of Jesus into the world, with somber celebrations that anticipate the magnificent celebrations on Christmas. Each week, an additional candle is lit on the Advent wreath, to teach us the light of Christ conquers all darkness. Advent and Christmas are a time when the liturgies excel in demonstrating through signs, the heavenly realities we celebrate on earth. Sometimes the darkness of sin and evil makes it hard to see the joy and hope in the world. But like the lit candles of the advent wreath, when we come together as a Church, the light of Jesus Christ is hard to miss.

Christmas has become so special in the life of a Parish, because it is usually the time when most of us come together as a Church. Sometimes, we fall out of the habit of coming to Mass, but there is something about Christmas which draws the greater number of us back to our spiritual home. God is the Prodigal Father who uses anything to welcome us home, to share in the light that the gift of His Son Jesus brings to the world.

We will be gifting families copies of Matthew Kelly's book *Life is Messy* this year at our Christmas Masses. With sin, evil and the pandemic, it can be easy to focus on the messiness of life without recognizing Christ in our midst. As the presence of so many parishioners together at Christmas Mass brings life to the Parish, so too does the presence of Christ in our lives bring joy and hope to the world.✠



*Rev. Sean P. English*



## Try this App!

Would you like to have the Scripture at hand without carrying a Bible in your pocket? Try the YouVersion app available for iOS or Android. It includes numerous translations as well as reading plans spanning a few days, a liturgical season or an entire year!



## 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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# Memories and Musings

## *Pam Mohl: We Have a Volunteer*

My family was aghast when they heard that I moved to Lansdale or, as they referred to it, to Outer Mongolia. After all, there was no Blue Route and I knew no one in the parish. How was I going to make friends and help people in a parish new to me?

I was twenty-five years old and a college graduate, but I had never considered being a volunteer until I met with Msgr. Cahill who convinced me that I could volunteer to assist with other parish activities. As the years passed, I have had the pleasure of knowing that that my volunteering made some small difference to the parish groups with which I worked. However, I have found that the real value of volunteering has helped me be a better person as well as a better parishioner in many ways.

I have loved every group and every activity for which I volunteered from helping new parishioners and children in St. Stan's CCD to being a substitute for to the CYO where I eventually became the Athletic Advisor. And I am not the only family member to embrace CYO. My husband Charlie taught JV CYO basketball for over twenty years because we are a family who loves to help our parish in any way we can.

Being a volunteer in the Mothers' Club allowed me to help with the children's special projects. One activity which seems to top the list is my involvement in the Summer Festival year after year. Who can't enjoy the thrilled children's reactions to the bright lights of carnival rides and toy-filled booths and the smell of hot dogs, funnel cake, and cotton-candy?

In addition, when Msgr. Murray asked me to take the job of as Director of Volunteers and Parish Secretary, I did so happily for sixteen years. That task allowed me to really know the life blood of the parish on another level of service. Through the years, I have met so many wonderful, giving people among the volunteers that it is no surprise that many of them have become good friends

Most of all, my life has been blessed by the most special of all volunteer duties – that of being a Eucharistic Minister. What a joyous chore that has been for me. That gift of being able to bring the Lord Himself in Holy Communion to our parishioners, whether in church or in their homes, has been the greatest honor I could ever have had. I am truly humbled just by the memory of those blessed visits.

Even with the pandemic restricting our usual activities, St. Stanislaus's is such a welcoming parish that our volunteers adapted and created clever new ways to help the parishioners. Such a show of faith continues to provide encouragement for future volunteer activities.

Finally, I'd like to encourage every parishioner to seek out a volunteer group to join.

## *Anne Kaler: Two for One*

It's hard to believe that the old brick school house across the street was dedicated nearly one hundred years ago. It seems none the worse for wear now than it did while I was student in it in the early forties.

As I first-grader, I entered through the back doors of the school, slipped by the cafeteria and mounted the high wide steps leading up to the first floor and the first grade. I slung my bag of books – it was a cloth bag, not a briefcase or a backpack – over my right shoulder and tried to navigate the mountain of steps. As my head surfaced above the last step, I saw a black-clad nun motion to me to hurry. I scampered into the open classroom door to face my first step in formal education.

What I saw were huge windows, blackboards, long flat boards for desks – but no chairs. As the nun tapped the silver bell on her desk, all of us stood quietly as she called roll and then assigned us our places at the desks. Being one of the shorter girls, I was assigned to a front desk where I stood until all had found desks . . . but still no chairs.

As I stood in front of my desk, I noticed for the first time that there was a boy standing next to me, looking almost as scared as I was. I glanced around, refusing to believe that I had an intruder in my desk area. As my gaze widened, I noticed to my horror that all the desks had two occupants.

He looked as puzzled as I was. We had a desk but no seats for it. Then my knee hit an object behind me which moved slightly. He discovered it at the same time.

Our seat was a two-seater shelf which folded down from the desk directly behind us to become the seat for our desk. The seat I was sitting on belonged to the seat behind me, but these seats were of multi-colored woods highly polished by students' bottoms for years before I sat in them. The entire device was held together by a black iron brace contraption.

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# The Second Coming of Advent

by Norm Berger

Advent, the liturgical season we are entering (or will shortly enter depending on when you receive this issue of *NewsStan*) is a penitential season as illustrated by the color purple of the priest's chasuble and stole at Mass. It's a change of emphasis from the prayers for the poor souls in November to the anticipation of Christ's birth.

However, there is another theme during Advent that is seen in the Gospel for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent. In that reading Jesus talks about the end times and our readiness to anticipate it. So, in the midst of looking forward to the coming of the baby Jesus in Bethlehem, seen initially only by the shepherds in the vicinity, we are told of the second coming of the Lord in glory that will be experienced by all the earth's peoples. What a difference!

The preparation for Christmas is prayer, increased daily devotions, and confession, etc. The Second Coming involves living devoutly not only for a season but for all of a person's life for as is said in 1 Thessalonians 5:2-6:

***For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober...***

Sobering indeed is this passage from the Bible as are the four last things: Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell which we, as Catholics, are advised to always keep in mind. After death, we will quickly experience the particular judgment where we will know where we stand with God. That will immediately result in our transport to heaven, hell, or to purgatory: But it is all in God's hands.

Wouldn't it be comforting to know where we stand with the Lord before we die? In a certain TV commercial, I've seen a lot lately, a black screen appears with bold white lettering asking "Will you go to Heaven or Hell?" Below this is the line "You can know for sure...". Don't believe that one, folks! If that is true, then why does Paul say to his hearers?: "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (*Philippians 2:12*).



Different saints have talked about this coming event as long ago as St. Edmund Campion (1540-1581), a martyr of the English Reformation, who stated "I pronounce to you a great day...where...the Terrible Judge should reveal all men's consciences and try every man of each kind of religion." Blessed Anna Maria Taigi (1799-1837), an Incorruptible proclaimed, "A great purification will come upon the world preceded by an "Illumination of Conscience" in which everyone will see themselves as God sees them." Finally, St Faustina Kowalska, associated with the establishment of the Divine Mercy devotion, noted in her diary "I was summoned to the judgment seat of God. I stood alone before the Lord. Jesus appeared such, as we know Him during His Passion. After a moment, His wounds disappeared except for five, those in His hands, His feet, and His side. Suddenly I saw the complete condition of my soul as God sees it. I could clearly see all that was displeasing to God".

We also have what Jesus gave to the world through St Faustina: the Ocean of Mercy which Jesus makes available to us on the Feast of the Divine Mercy (2nd Sunday of Easter) and in the recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. We all should take advantage of His Mercy extended to us and also what the Church extends to us sinners through plenary and partial indulgences to lessen our time in Purgatory, as well as engaging in frequent confession, and praying prayers of repentance for our sins as suggested by the Virgin Mary in her Fatima appearances.

So, while we normally focus solely on the "First Coming" of Jesus during advent, focusing on the Second Coming is not unnatural at all either!✠

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# We Don't Like to Wait

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generally to face each day with hope. Using the Bible – worshipping God by being in His Word and allowing His Word to be in me – is an active form of waiting. This is my preparation work.

***For God alone my soul waits in silence, from Him comes my salvation...I will never be shaken...for my hope is in Him.***

St. Jerome said knowledge of the Scripture is knowledge of Jesus.

## Practical Application

The Scriptures for the days of the coming week are printed in each parish bulletin. It's a way to pray the Liturgy of the Word. (The Greek root of the word Liturgy translates into People's Work!) A way to allow His truth to work – to stir up hope to accompany the 'waiting.' I believe this practice is akin to preparing the garden's soil to receive the seed, and also to guarantee growth.

***Who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.***

I continue to wait for this world of ours – and our Church – to find harmony, balance and peace. With the richness of Catholic teaching, the Word of God, and a personal relationship with Jesus, waiting with patience and hope is not only doable, it is joyful. ✠

***Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength!***

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# Memories and Musings

*continued from page 5*

I detail this memory with fondness. Years later, when new seats were needed, the parish sold these two-fers for a reasonable price. I bought one. It still works, holding my books and hiding my boxes and giving me pleasure to know that it is had survived for nearly a hundred years. It is in better shape than I am most days! ✠

*The NewStan staff would like to hear YOUR **memories** from the past and the **musings** of the present. Short glimpses of what you and other our parishioners remember from Church, School, and everything in between will hopefully bring back smiles of recognition from all of us. Entries should be less than 200 words so that we can fit multiple into the same of them into the issue. Send your memories and your musings to Dianne Spotts at [dianspot@gmail.com](mailto:dianspot@gmail.com) and Anne Kaler at [akkaler@verizon.net](mailto:akkaler@verizon.net) who will handle editing your submissions for each issue!*

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# Dr. Kelly Landman

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portion of the Health and Safety Plan in the aftermath of Covid-19. Ian coaches CYO, and her children and nieces participate in CYO sports, so Kelly frequently attends and volunteers at CYO events as well as school events.

Outside of teaching and volunteering, Kelly enjoys spending quality time with family and friends including going to the beach and the mountains. The family adopted a dog, Murphy, in December 2020, and Kelly also enjoys playing with him as well as reading, dancing, and running.

When asked what stands out to Kelly about life in St. Stanislaus Parish, it is unsurprising that she focuses in on relationships. She observes, "I watched my parents form their closest friendships in this community, and I formed lifelong bonds through my childhood friendships (I even have a photo from my wedding of my 'St. Stans Crew' who were in my bridal party) and now I am forming new bonds as a parent in this community myself." She goes on to note "St. Stanislaus is a constant in a wildly unpredictable world. You can always see a familiar face, and it is welcoming to all new faces as well." Kelly's reflections are really compelling based on the fact that they come from someone not only rooted so deeply in the parish, but whose expertise is in relationships and what makes humans who they are.

One final observation Kelly has is about our own *NewStan* as a reflection of the parish as a whole. She says, "I love looking through the New Stan and seeing the names of new parishioners, those celebrating baptisms and weddings, and the names of the deceased. As someone who studies and teaches about the lifespan, it is a blessing to see how our parish honors and contributes to the most important developmental aspects of the human experience."

When one sees Kelly and her family as examples of the people that St. Stanislaus has developed as "lifelong parishioners," I think we can agree that as a Parish we truly are blessed. ✠

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**Parish Census Data for June – September 2021**



**Welcome  
 Our New  
 Members**

Anthony & Linette Ortiz Barnes  
 Brian & Nicole Campbell  
 Maria Dotsey  
 Thomas Farragher  
 Scott & Teresa Fontaine  
 DUBY & Rouseline Frenel  
 Daniel & Christina Gilmore  
 Andrew & Mary Gist  
 Carol Gleason  
 Cheryl Greer  
 Joseph & Kelly Karetzky  
 Joseph Kowles  
 Lillian Maccarella  
 Steven & Christina Mathe  
 Patrick & Caitlin Mest  
 Helen Ortwein  
 Victoria Reiser  
 John & Kristen Rombach  
 Melite Scherzinger  
 Charles & Dhara Stangler  
 Louis & Jennifer Thomas  
 Erick & Angelina Marie Turk  
 Paul & Danielle Verwey



Matthew David Alarcon Ortega  
 Kiera James Campbell  
 Cecilia Anne Campbell  
 Madeleine Sophia Castro Ortiz  
 Thomas Alan Check  
 Brian Thomas Dempsey  
 Lincoln James Dempsey  
 Wilden Bradigan Derstine  
 Evan Benito Diaz  
 Norah Lynn Diliberto  
 Carrera Marie Donato  
 Brendan Lee Drew  
 Matias Jhovany Espinoza Yunga  
 David Antonio Flores  
 Scarlett Ainsley Frogg  
 Genesis Guerra

Kimberly Guerra  
 Leyli Estrella Guerra Melendez  
 Francis Hamilton IV  
 Luke William Hennessey  
 Anneliese Grace Hollenbach  
 Carey Violet Lockwood  
 Bianca Camila Lopez  
 Isabella Lopez  
 Alisson Gessel Marquez Hernandez  
 Isabel Dean Mathe  
 Melanie Ortiz Moreno  
 Innaya Ivette Parra Leon  
 Charles Jordan Reid  
 Evelyn Zoe Reyes Castanon  
 Scarlett Camila Roque Reyes  
 Clare Estelle Rush  
 Braeden Robert Schrank  
 Mia James Slotter  
 Gabriel Tavera  
 Nikolai Joseph Tradewell  
 Matthew Bryan Urbanski  
 Abby Olive Yurgalevicz  
 Genesis B. Zavala



Josè Perez Mendez & Mirta Alarcon Acosta  
 Timothy Miller & Erin Olszak  
 William Daubner III & Ann Marie Barron  
 Christopher Kirk & Aileen Carrasco  
 Ryan Quigg & Mary Nguyen  
 Thomas Saboe & Jesse Breidinger



**IN  
 MEMORIAM**

Claire Bonner  
 Dolores Burdsall  
 Clara Corrado  
 Luigi Corrado  
 William Cossman  
 Salvatore Decembrino  
 Frank Facht  
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 Charles Hague  
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