
"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 2022

Did You Feel Those Summer Vibes?

by Norm Berger

Mater Dei's summer camp, known as Summer Vibes, has concluded its second summer, a welcome diversion from the COVID lockdowns and the resulting isolation for schoolchildren in the past.

The Summer Camp at Mater Dei Mission Statement speaks to inspiring faith, excellence, service, and community with a foundation rooted in the Catholic faith with opportunities for service and socialization in a warm, loving home away from home. But for the kids who attended there was yet another mission: have a ton of fun. In both cases, "Mission Accomplished!"

The Summer Vibes program this year began the week of June 27 to July 1 and ran through the week of August 22 to August 26. The program was open to all parishioners' and friends of parishioners' children in Pre-K 3 through Grade 5. Monday thru Friday, camp hours were 8:30am to 3:30pm. For parents needing to be able to drop off children earlier they were accommodated starting at 7:00am to 8:30am and then were able to pick up children after 3:30pm until 5:30pm. This was great for parents who both work.



The campers were divided into groups (Pre-K-3 and Pre-K-4, Kindergarten and Grade 1, Grades 2 and 3, and Grades 4 and 5) enhancing socialization and team identity.

Each week of the camp had its own theme or "vibe" which the counselors used to plan the activities that engaged the children in during the group activity periods.

The following is a list of the themes that were featured in 2022:

- ❖ Week 1 (6/27 - 7/1): Ocean Vibes
- ❖ Week 2 (7/5 - 7/8): Celebrating America Vibes
- ❖ Week 3 (7/11 - 7/15): Animal Kingdom Vibes
- ❖ Week 4 (7/18 - 7/22): Exploring Space Vibes
- ❖ Week 5 (7/25 - 7/29): Christmas/Winter Vibes
- ❖ Week 6 (8/1 - 8/5): Around the World Vibes
- ❖ Week 7 (8/8 - 8/12): Disney Vibe
- ❖ Week 8 (8/15 - 8/19): Circus Vibes
- ❖ Week 9 (8/22 - 8/26): Harry Potter Vibes



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Parish Picnic Recap

by **Phil Ricciardi**

Although the weather was quite warm, that did not stop the members of St. Stanislaus parish from having a great time at the 2022 Parish Picnic. Over 300 parishioners attended and enjoyed burgers, hot dogs, tacos, and water ice while being entertained by Sean Wynne and the Spanish music group led by Esmeralda.

The front lawn of the rectory proved to be the perfect venue for the event. There was plenty of room for the musicians to play, parishioners to relax and eat, and children to run around. Face painting, cornhole, and ladder golf rounded out the activities. The inflatable obstacle course was an especially big hit with the kids, and we will try to book that equipment or something like it the next time we put on this event. The trivia contest came down to the wire, and a tiebreaker question was needed to determine a winner (Q. Who was the youngest person to become US President? A. Teddy Roosevelt). 19-year-old Aiden was crowned the champion.

In addition to the official activities, it was heartening to see parishioners mingling with each other, meeting fellow church-goers and their family members with whom they had not previously been acquainted. Personally, I was privileged to meet Deacon Chuck's son and daughter-in-law, and was happy to watch him delight in his new grandchild who was perched on his lap. Many scenes such as this repeated throughout the day.

The picnic committee is happy to report that thanks to several generous donations, the cost of the picnic to the



parish was lower than anticipated. We were further blessed when the gentleman who won the 50/50 raffle astounded everyone by immediately donating his winnings back to the parish, further off-setting the cost of the event.

The end of the picnic also experienced a special moment. The Knights of Columbus had been working hard to move all the tables and chairs from the garage and school cafeteria into place. When it was time to go home, many parishioners helped carry the tables and chairs back up the hill for put-away. All the Knights were very grateful for this help.

The parish would absolutely like to repeat this event next year, but the Picnic Committee will need more members to spread out the preparation and day-of-event work so no one has to take on too much responsibility. Please consider volunteering for the committee next year, and thanks to all who participated.✘



Parishioner Spotlight

Norm Berger

by **Dianne Spotts**

Norman's parents emigrated from Germany. His Mom arrived in 1924 and his Dad in 1926. They each settled at first with their respective family members and sponsors in Ohio, but did not know each other until meeting at a dance in Cleveland. Norman was their second child, his sister being a few years older.

His dear mom wrote little poems in German and in her adopted language, English, for family occurrences and shared her love of music and art with him. He has a framed piece with a quotation from Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe done in calligraphy hanging in his living room, which he believes represents her philosophy of life:

A person should hear a little music, read a little poetry and see a fine picture every day in order that worldly cares may not obliterate the sense of the beautiful which God has implanted in the human soul.

Norman began to follow that philosophy when he began violin lessons in elementary school. A highlight from that time: Playing in an orchestra that was once conducted by Leopold Stokowski!

Reaching twenty-one he enlisted in the army with overseas duty in Germany. When he was discharged he enrolled in Dayton University, and joined the choir, and the Theater Department. Though he enjoyed it all, and exhibited talent in both activities, he had to curtail those interests as his courses in Electrical Engineering became more challenging.

Patty Parshall was acting with Playcrafters Community Theater in Skippack, and asked the director to recruit Norman for the lead role in *How the Other Half Loves*. She played his wife. In the real world, Norm and Patty married in St. Paul's Episcopal while awaiting word of an annulment. Their marriage was both validated and blessed by Monsignor McDonough at St. Stanislaus (who also

threw them a little reception in the rectory). Norman has a son and daughter from his first marriage.

In 1985 after marrying Patty, he continued his involvement in the Town and Country Players – and was an actor, director, and singer there and in other community theater companies for 27 years.

In 1986, Norman played a monsignor in the play *The Runner Stumbles* and Monsignor Msgr McDonough lent him the clerical garb he needed. Monsignor also played an

important part in Norman's life in 1987 when he suggested Norman become a cantor, a role he cherishes still.

Norman has continued playing the violin and added another skill – which in my opinion makes him a Renaissance Man: he took lessons in fencing: learning both foil and saber.

In the 1990's Norman became more involved in St. Stan's when he joined the Landings Committee (part of the Evangelization Committee), the *Newstan* staff (check out his cover article in this issue if you haven't already!), and became the leader of the Legion of Mary from the fall of 2008 until Covid. He became a committed

adorer in 2003 and has worked many Festivals.

Norman's "sense of the beautiful which God has implanted in the human soul" continues, as he loves his Catholic faith and being a part of the St. Stanislaus family.

One of the songs he has sung, from the Breaking Bread songbook says it well: "Sing a joyful song to the Lord, let His song be heard from mountains high!"

He is a strong advocate of being an active parishioner. He hopes *you'll* consider being more involved – and if you're not certain how his recommendation is to ask Father Sean! ✕



Father Sean Says

At the end of the Parishioner Spotlight article on Norm Berger, it mentions that he is an active parishioner, and hopes you will consider being more involved too. He also suggests coming to me for some recommendations on how we can make that happen.



So, rather than wait for questions, let's take a minute to unravel that term, "active parishioner."

The first thing to make clear, is that no two parishioners are alike. In fact, no two calls from God are the same. We are all created and loved individually by God. He imparted us with unique gifts and talents, and yet still calls us to gather as a community of believers. Read through the letters of St. Paul, and note how often St. Paul commends the varied spiritual gifts of the communities in Ephesus, Corinth and other cities he visited. One common theme, is he always preaches for a unity of faith, that must gather around the Eucharistic table, and be focused on service. Often, he has to remind the early Christians that they should not be in competition with each other over who "serves the best," but rather be united in love in service of God and our community.

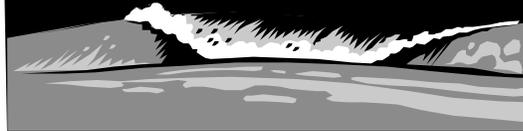
What is primary in Paul's teaching, is handing on the experience of God's love that can only be received through an encounter with Jesus Christ. Paul had a miraculous conversion, because that is what Paul needed, in his own unique way. All of us come from different backgrounds of faith, with different periods in our life where we are committed or often indifferent. God uses all of our personal history to call us deeper into relationship with Him, asking us to turn from sin, and to love Him and each other. This is where all of our "activity" should be focused. Only in our growing realization of God's love for us, in and through the sacraments of the Church, do we begin to believe that we are God's beloved sons and daughters.

So, the first action, as it was for all of the disciples that Jesus called, is to "follow" Him. St. Stan's exists so that you can follow Jesus, on a path to freedom that no other created thing in the world can offer. It is your place of encounter with Jesus Christ.

My recommendation then, to grow in service to the Church, is to continue to follow Him, set out into the deep, and grow in your love for God every day.

Surfing Around?

The Archdiocese continues a Rosary campaign for the eradication of Coronavirus. You can find more information and the list of prayers on their webpage
<http://www.phillyevang.org/rosary/>.



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

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.

Summer Vibes

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In addition to the themes or “Vibes” listed above, camp groups moved through “stations” involving groups of activities. These daily stations were:

- ❖ Arts and Crafts
- ❖ Discover Science
- ❖ Music and Movement
- ❖ Technology
- ❖ Sports and Outdoor Activities
- ❖ Reading Adventure/Summer Reading

The week’s “Vibe” was then woven into each of the daily activities listed as “stations” which helped the counselors plan what was presented during these periods.

There were often guests who put on demonstrations related to the week’s “Vibes” theme. During the Animal Kingdom Vibes week, a woman introduced the campers to various animals including a snake and a ferret that balanced itself on the heads of campers. During Ocean Vibes week a man with a foam-generating, cylindrical machine was hired to run this machine and produce lots of foam into the air for the campers play with and romp around in. During Exploring Space Vibes week, kids from LC involved with robotics demonstrated for the camper groups what they have been doing during the school with robotics projects.



Perhaps the most popular activity during each week was “Water Wednesdays” located on the front lawn of the rectory next to the school. Mater Dei President Diane McCaughan took me back through the school and out a side door which overlooked the rectory lawn. Here kids were running around in bathing suits and spraying each other with water guns. Splash and spray slide mats were

laid out on a slope in the lawn and kids were sliding down these water-soaked mats supplied from a hose!

208 children were enrolled in the camp this summer: some for a couple of weeks, some for the whole season. An outlying camp experience was also provided for pre-school children at St Maria Goretti. All of them had fun every week – and are already looking forward to Summer Vibes 2023!✂



Supporting Ukraine

CRS (Catholic Relief Services) advises that monetary donations are best way to help the Ukrainian people as they can be used as and where need is most urgent. Local entities in the Ukraine and neighboring countries assisting them are advised to contact their local churches, who can direct them to CRS, Caritas, and others with aid. Right now this is the most organized way to address the needs, which change and move along with the refugees.

The need for the assistance will be ongoing, so as you are able, please use the following resources to help relieve the terrible suffering of the besieged Ukrainian people:

CRS – support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine

Caritas – caritas.org

Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia –
ukrarcheparchy.us/donate



Another Parish Festival Success

by Sandy Sasso

The St. Stanislaus Summer Festival has brought entertainment and fun for our parish and the surrounding communities for many years. Festivities ran this year from Tuesday August 9th to Saturday the 13th. That's a little earlier than normal since regularly the Festival has been the week of the Assumption. But that just meant the fun started sooner, and with beautiful weather all week, success was assured!

On the first day of the Festival, to make sure that no baseball fans had an excuse to not attend, the Phillies game was broadcasted with the Fightin' Phils defeating the Florida Marlins 4-1, live from Citizens' Bank Park. Just to make you feel more in the mood: it was Dollar Dog night.

Many attendees at the Festival through the years express how much they love the food: root beer floats and funnel cake – with extra toppings – are standard St. Stan's Festival fare. This year we had Rita's Water Ice set up all week too.

Raffle tickets were sold in the weeks before the Festival and up to the day of the drawing – Saturday Night. This year's the Grand Prize was \$3,000! Second prize was a Blackstone Griddle, and for the third prize there was a 65" Smart TV! All three fantastic prizes!

The usual game booths were popular as always: Goldfish, Bean Bag Toss, Ring Toss, Darts, Easy Pitch, Brothers Plush, Turbo Ducks, Escape Room! Even Bingo! One family told us their three-year-old loves the ducks. Of course, there were also the exciting and exhilarating rides – like the Ferris Wheel and the spinny rides! Fun for all ages – as long as you timed your rides and ingestion of funnel cake appropriately!



Something new this year was an area to tie-die T-shirts! Kids and adults created their own custom shirts and bags were provided to take home.

Preceding the Festival there's always the garage sale starting in early July – although this year it was not actually in the garage. This is a huge part of the fundraising component for the Parish and the garage sale is a great place to save some money on college dorm essentials, used toys, and even golf clubs!

Let's not forget the hard work of volunteers who set up the game booths, tables and chairs, and food stands starting in early July. They are rightly commended for their dedication in making it possible for this most important event for the Parish. So as the summer winds down during September, let's thank our Parish for evenings of fun, with family and friends we haven't seen for in a while. Without a doubt, fond memories will last from another year attending the St. Stanislaus Summer Festival.✘



Prayers from Pope Francis

In a world where it sometimes seems every day brings another setback or even another crisis – personal, local, national or global, the one thing we can always use, that we can always use, is prayer. Our Holy Father frequently offers us prayers for various petitions. Here are a few prayers from Pope Francis which you can incorporate into your own prayer life.✠

Prayer to the Virgin Mary for Protection

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,

joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,

to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us,

through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger,

O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Prayer in the Basilica of St. Paul (in Rabat, Malta)

O God, infinite is your mercy,

boundless the riches of your goodness:

graciously increase the faith

of the people consecrated to you,

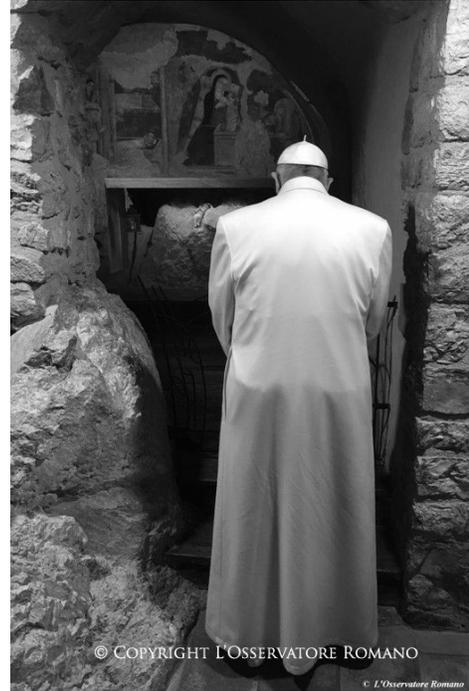
so that all may grasp and rightly understand

the love that created them,

the blood that redeemed them,

and the Spirit that gave them rebirth.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Prayer for Protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,

joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,

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Amen.

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Parish Census Data for April – July 2022

<p>Jane Bader Robert Wayne Bosack, Jr. Ann Bridi Robert Collins Mary Virginia Conwell Angeline Deeny Howard Everett Jr. Marie Ferretti Ellen Galeone Christopher Gimaro Raymond Gotthardt Matthew Huff Bernard Kearney John Ketterer Henry Kulik Jason Lang Teresa Law Anthony Lupino Sr. Charles Mamzic Sr. Joseph Matje Martha Mazeikas Christine McAnulty Thomas Parisi James Santi Patricia Shreffler Jake Smart Robert Steinbacher Jr. Fr. Raymond Tribuiani Walter Valovage Jr. Shane Williams</p> 	<p><i>Baptized</i>  <i>in the</i> <i>Name of Jesus</i></p> <p>John Joseph Burke V Jacqueline Sofia Carranza Nova Jimmy Joseph Carranza Nova Julie Yaneth Chicas Jennifer Ariana Chicas Hannah Elizabeth DiSanto Hayden Ann DiSanto Marlane Nicolle Disher Owen Michael Dollarton</p> <p>Yarelyn Sofia Duarte Martinez Gianna Marie Edsell Francesca Rose Farina Rocco Giovanni Farina Vince Alexander Farina Anthony Richard Farina Jake David Gamez Lopez Keyri Daviana Gamez Lopez Ellie Rose Gordon Jeffrey Dale Gulla Theodore Maximillan Lewis Ciaran Charles Lewis Mingshen Lin</p>	<p>Miles Lincoln Linskey Riley Addison Marrer Aubrielle Grace McDermott Emmanuel Lara Milan James Edgar Musselman Theodore Samuel Pajor Beau Everett Partridge Crew Bennett Partridge Carmela Giuliana Presta Jazmine Noelia Vanegas Aguirre Lucia Velasquez Chic Lucy Patricia Wright Victoria Anne Wright</p>
	<p> Welcome Our New Members</p> <p>Daniel Bucciarelli Darren and Victoria Conlen John and Donna DeSandro Odir and Lisa Fiallos Larry and Linda Funk Giselle Martinez Andrew and Sara Medeiros</p> <p>Jennifer Miller Eleanor Napiorkowski Mark and Courtney Roberts Rick and Christina Siegal Barbara Tinus Gregory and Rosemary Ziemba-Volpe</p>	<p><i>WEDDINGS</i> </p> <p>Michael Ryan Quaranto & Iliana Anapolsky Michael Brent Trail II & Lauren Elizabeth Marrone Matthew Joseph Bogdan & Kayla Elizabeth Murphy Kevin McNeil Caldwell & Lauren Elizabeth Fludina Kyle Carson Capps & Angeline Nicole Scotto Mingshen Lin & Joanne Jelica Manarang</p>