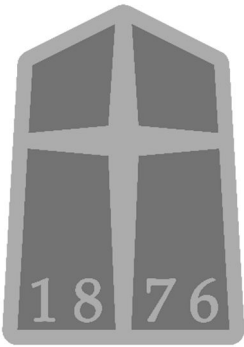

“I shall reflect on myself and ask: ‘What have I done for Christ?
What am I doing for Christ? What ought I do for Christ?’” -St. Stanislaus



NEWSTAN

The Newsletter of St. Stanislaus Parish



Summer/Autumn 2025

Father Brady's Playlist

Our new Parochial Administrator, Father Patrick Brady, has taken a musical approach to introducing himself on the Parish website. For those who have not seen the site or receive the Parish email's, here is the URL for the site with the five songs on the playlist to-date:

<https://ststanislaus.com/fr-bradys-playlists/>

We will not spoil Father's Brady's surprise reveals, but as hint, we've included 5 snapshots from the songs' videos, two on this page and the other three scattered throughout this issue. We've also reprinted Father Brady's own forward to the playlist here. Enjoy!

One of the surprising ways we come to know one another is through music. Songs have a way of embedding themselves in our memories and hearts—they help us celebrate, grieve, laugh, and remember. They mark key moments, link memories, and remind us of certain times in our lives. All of us have songs we love, even if it's just in our heads, songs that play alongside the big and small moments that shape who we are.

As the new administrator of St Stanislaus, I thought a fun way to introduce myself is to share a few songs from my own playlist over the next few weeks— not the ones I necessarily play in church, but the ones that bring back stories, stir memories, or just make me smile. Some of these songs aren't exactly sacred (a couple might even make you raise an eyebrow), but they are part of the story God has written in my life so far.

Each song comes with a little story. Some are humorous. Some are humbling. A few are deeply personal. But together, they give a glimpse into how I became the priest standing before you—and maybe they'll spark some of your own memories too.✕



Father's Brady's Playlist: Week One



Father's Brady's Playlist: Week Two

New Look for Hispanic Committees

From The Hispanic Committee for the Pastoral Planning

We're excited to share an important update about the Hispanic Committee at St. Stanislaus Parish. Earlier this year, a small group began reviewing the *Hispanic Pastoral Plan* from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), along with guidance from Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This helped us shape a new direction for our parish's Hispanic ministry.

We created the Hispanic Committee for the Pastoral Planning (CHPP) which consists of the priests and deacons and six lay parishioners of our parish. There were three fundamental goals that we were trying to achieve: How to have a more active participation among the Hispanic community? How to bridge the gap and create more communion between the Hispanic community and the rest of the parish? How to reach the rapidly growing Hispanic population in the surrounding areas?

At the beginning of March, we introduced two main committees: Liturgy and Evangelization. At this moment, each committee is composed of six teams, supported by over 60+ dedicated volunteers. These committees and teams foster a deeper connection with our faith and encourage active participation in our church's mission.

Liturgic Committee: This committee focuses on enriching our liturgical celebrations and ensuring that our worship services are meaningful and spiritually fulfilling. The six groups within the Liturgic Committee work tirelessly to prepare and execute various aspects of our liturgies, from music and reading, to altar serving, collections, and hospitality. Their efforts help create an environment where parishioners can experience the presence of Christ in a profound way.

Evangelization Committee: The Evangelization Committee is dedicated to spreading the Good News and reaching out to those who may not yet know the love of Christ. The six groups within this committee engage in various outreach activities, including community events, youth and young adult activities, sacramental for adults and social services. Their mission is to share the message of hope and salvation with everyone, inviting them to join our faith community.

The mission of all is simple: We're not here to lead with authority, but to serve with humility. We invite everyone involved to be "*Siervos Inutiles* (unworthy servants) who say *SI* (yes) to the plan of God, just like Mary: "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord, let it be done to me according to His will."

We invite all parishioners of St. Stanislaus Church to strive for the same service. Your involvement is crucial to the success of the future path we form together for our church and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Whether you have a talent for organizing events, a passion for teaching, or a gift for music, there is a place for you. We believe that each of us has received unique gifts from Christ our Lord through the Holy Spirit, and we encourage you to share these gifts with our community.

We invite all parishioners to be part of this journey. Whether you enjoy organizing, teaching, music, or helping others, there's a place for you. Each of us has received unique gifts from the Holy Spirit—let's use them to build a stronger, more welcoming parish.

For more information or to get involved, please speak with one of our priests or deacons!✠



Members of the CHPP who attended a Washington Pilgrimage

Parishioner Spotlight

Dennis Johnson

by **Dianne Spotts**

Dennis Johnson was born and raised in Lafayette Hill, St. Philip Neri Parish. He has a twin brother Dave and an older sister, Karen (who still lives in their hometown). In 1999, he met his future wife, Erin Harrington, in Sea Isle, where he shared a summer shore house with a group of friends, some of whom had attended St. Stan's and LC with Erin.

Erin grew up in St. Stanislaus Parish and even went to St. Stanislaus Parish school, so it was a natural for them to move to Stan's, and they married here in 2002. They have three children: twin boys who are attending Pope John Paul II High School and a daughter attending University of Notre Dame. All three kids attended and graduated from Mater Dei Catholic.

Dennis has over 25 years of experience in Accounting and Finance and holds an MBA from La Salle University. Currently, he is the Chief Financial Officer at Global Tax Management in Wayne.

During Dennis's youth, he participated actively in CYO. The benefit for him: He ended up playing football in high school at St. Joseph Prep. Then during his years at the University of Scranton, he played Rugby.

The benefits of Dennis's CYO history for our Parish: he became an active participant as an adult here in our Parish CYO. He has served on the St. Stanislaus/ Mater Dei Catholic CYO Board since 2016, and has held the role of Treasurer for the CYO since 2019.

Fun family facts: the whole Johnson family love going to the beach, golfing, outdoor activities like bike riding, and attending Eagles' football games (they have season tickets!). Another family activity is a good road trip – when Erin and Dennis travel, they tend to bring the whole family. Lately the road trips have included Notre Dame football games and going to watch his daughter Caroline's races.

I interviewed Dennis over the phone, and am anxious to meet him in person, as I now have the impression of fine-

tuned human being, a family man I'd like to know better.

Twin stories: He and Dave have both worked in accounting, in large firms that were competitors, which posed an interesting situation when coworkers thought one to be the other. I thought I'd hear about twin pranks during their childhood, but I believe both were too well behaved for such things. Now I'd also like to meet their parents! The brothers get together a lot and have fun times – and play a lot of golf together. Dennis said their scores are similar. His all-time best golf score was a 79 'a long time ago.'

Dennis's bucket list includes travel, to Italy, and playing golf in Scotland and Ireland. He'd like to (and will have more time someday) to see more movies and read more books.

He hardly has any pet peeves requiring expletives, except when the Eagles lose...

Having attended Catholic schools from grade school through college, -- and as noted earlier, all his wife and kids attended Catholic schools – Dennis clearly values the impact of Catholic education. He was involved at Mater Dei Catholic while his children attended. He was a key member of the committee responsible for the renovation of the school gym in 2022, and in 2023 he joined the Mater Dei Catholic Board of Limited

Jurisdiction and is currently the Chair of the Finance, Planning & Facilities committee.

Dennis reflected, "One point that probably ties into my involvement with CYO and Mater Dei is how much the Jesuits impacted who I am today. Both the Prep and Scranton always stressed two of the great mottos of the Jesuits: to be 'Men and Women for Others' and to do so 'For the Greater Glory of God (AMDG).' For some reason (fortunately!) these have always remained with me."

Dennis is grateful for the wonderful people he has met both in St. Stan's and Mater Dei. In spite of a busy life, he's happy to spend some of his spare time working toward their goals. God gives us gifts, and we're smart to use them in His service. It's clear Dennis has done just that for the benefit of both our parish and Mater Dei. God bless you Dennis. ✕



Life on a Tram Car

by Dianne Spotts

When I realize I am just sliding through life
Avoiding the extremes
Too concerned with balance and sanity
Careful, cautious, never doing anything new
Here's the time I should go ride a
Tram car along the length of Wildwood's boardwalk. It
Helps me indulge the child within
Enjoying the raucous sights, hawkers calling out
Their games of chance and prizes. Maybe next a
Roller coaster ride, ice cream, pizza or
A two mile walk to the grand ocean off in the distance.
Motion continues, and I feel the music's beat on my arms.
Can't I start over again when we get to the end?
And then decide what treat I'll have or which
Ride I'm bold enough to try.
Possibly I have been too conservative in the past,
Letting opportunities like this pass me by
Eager to maintain my composure, but
Alas that is over now. The Tram Car is my laugh
Starter helping me have fun and
Experience joy.



Father's Brady's Playlist: Week Three

Surfing Around?

Before he died, St. Carlo Acutis did complete the website he was developing as described in the article on page 6.

You can find it at
www.miracolieucaistici.org/en/Liste/list.html



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.



EDITOR

Paul Cutajar

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Deb Eble, Jeanne-Marie Motley, Philip Ricciardi,
Sandy Sasso, Dianne Spotts

PARISH STAFF LIAISONS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Trish Cunningham,
Lori O'Donnell, Fr. Jonathan Rice



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.

Is Jesus Truly Present in the Eucharist?

Our Continuing Apologetics Series

by **Phil Ricciardi**

Perhaps no doctrine of the Catholic Church causes more heated dissension with our other Christian brothers and sisters than our belief that the bread and wine of the Eucharist, once consecrated by a priest, becomes the actual Body and Blood of Christ. What evidence do we have to make such an audacious claim?

JESUS SAID SO HIMSELF, AND HE WAS QUITE SPECIFIC ABOUT IT

In the Bread of Life discourse, Jesus states quite clearly that we are to feed on Him. “Amen, amen I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day” (*John 6:53-54*). The New American Bible notes that the verb used in these verses is not the Greek word for human eating, but of animal eating, and translates more closely in English to “munch”, or “gnaw”. Pretty graphic, wouldn’t you say? John is emphasizing the reality of flesh and blood as he records Jesus’ words. The reaction of many in the crowd also point out how direct Jesus was being to them. “This is a hard saying. Who can accept it?” (*John 6:60*). If the crowd believed Jesus was only speaking symbolically or metaphorically, why would the teaching be hard to accept?

PAUL CONFIRMS WHAT JESUS SAID

Paul states in 1 Corinthians 11:24 “After he had given thanks, he broke the bread and said ‘this is my Body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’” And later in verse 27, he makes it clear receiving Communion is a very serious affair. “Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the *Body and Blood of the Lord*.” Why would there be serious consequences of receiving Communion in an improper state of mind if this act was just symbolic?

THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS CLEARLY BELIEVED IN THE EUCHARIST

St. Cyril: “Do not regard the bread and wine as simply that. For they are, according to the Master’s declaration, the Body and Blood of Christ. Even though the senses suggest otherwise, let faith make you firm.”

St. Augustine: “I promise you, that bread you see on the

altar, having been sanctified by the Word of God, is the Body of Christ. What is in that chalice is the Blood of Christ.”

St. Justin Martyr: “The food which has been made into the Eucharist by the prayer set down by Him is both the Flesh and Blood of the incarnated Jesus.”

The Church has consistently taught and affirmed that the Eucharist is the real presence of Christ since the beginning. The notion that it is merely symbolic only arose during the Protestant reformation.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR OUR NON-CATHOLIC BROTHERS AND SISTERS?

Can you be saved if you don’t believe in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist? You may be surprised to learn the answer is yes. Catholicism affirms that all who fully accept Christ as their savior will be saved. Our position, however, is that they have not received the completeness of Christ’s self-gift to humanity, and they are missing a powerful source of joy and fulfillment in their lives when treating Communion as simply an optional, symbolic ceremony.

It’s worth noting that while Catholics recognize the possibility of salvation for those who do not accept some of Catholic doctrine, many Protestants do not return the favor. Some denominations and independent churches teach that Catholics are not Christians and cannot be saved. Which begs a couple of questions – does that mean that the Apostle Paul and the early church fathers are not in heaven due to their belief in the Eucharist? Indeed, were no Christians saved until Martin Luther came along?

I hope some of these points help you appreciate the great gift we are given at every Mass.✠

Apologetics is a genre of religious writing which involves the formation of reasonable, logical arguments for the truth of faith. As modern Catholics, we probably are confronted with tough questions from non-believers even more frequently than in the past. If you have any questions you’d like addressed, please drop them off in [NewStan](#) mailbox in the Parish Center. Note, we have decided to roughly alternate between our Bible Study feature and our Apologetics feature. We hope that together you find them a way to enhance your Catholic knowledge.- Ed.✠

St. Carlo Acutus

by **Jeanne Marie Motley**

Let me introduce you to St. Carlo Acutus. Carlo was born on May 3, 1991. His parents were not religious in any way, but he had a Polish nanny who was very committed to her Catholic faith. She taught him to pray and took him to church, and he fell in love with Jesus.

Carlo was a very normal teenager. He enjoyed school, playing football (soccer to us), really enjoying playing video games, and had good friends. All of these things were important to him but what animated him most was his love for Jesus. He didn't understand why everyone couldn't grasp that Jesus was truly present in the Eucharist. To him He was so real. His best friend Gio just didn't get it. Carlo was searching for a way to help Gio understand. Gio wanted scientific proof. How could Carlo get that? One day, Carlo spoke with his parish priest about it. This priest, in a hurry to get to a wedding, suggested that Carlo look up the Miracle of Lanciano on his computer. That was the beginning of Carlo's mission to make a website of all the Eucharistic miracles known around the world.

Carlo was on fire to get this website going. His parents marveled at his urgent determination to gather information. He kept telling them he had to hurry to get it done. He was 15. He was not yet sick but would soon be. He developed acute leukemia and died shortly after. His last words before lapsing into a coma were, "I haven't wasted a minute on anything displeasing to God!" He died on October 12, 2006, and his resting place is in Assisi, Italy.

During his beatification process, Carlo's first recognized miracle was that of a 13-year-old boy who had a malformed pancreas. This child was very small because he couldn't eat much and threw up constantly. A relic of Carlo (a piece of his t-shirt) was brought to the local church, and the boy and his family went to pray. The boy made a simple request; "Dear Jesus, I just want to stop vomiting".

Getting into the car with his family, the boy said, "I've been healed!" He asked for some real food, ate it fully, and kept it down. Upon examination, his pancreas was completely healed and normally formed.

There have been many other miracles attributed to the intercession of Carlo Acutus since. He was to be canonized on April 27, 2025. Because of the death of Pope Francis on April 21st, this has been rescheduled for September 7th of this year.

We are fortunate to have a shrine dedicated to St. Carlo that displays many Eucharistic Miracles from around the world nearby at the Malvern Retreat House in Malvern, PA. On line applications can be made to arranged for group tours. Open visitation times are also available.

The Incorruptibles

by **Sandy Sasso**

The incorrupt bodies of those who have died is always mystifying. The early Egyptians originated the art of embalming producing deliberately treated mummies. The incorruptible bodies, however, have existed only since early Christian days. Their preservation has challenged the opinion of skeptics and contradicted and defied the laws of nature, all to the dismay of examining physicians, since they were never treated for preservation. Yet most were found lifelike, flexible, and even sweetly scented long after death.

St. Francis Xavier, St. John of the Cross, and St. Pascal Baylon were buried with thick layers of quick-lime for purposes of destroying the scent of decay. When exhumed the lime just peeled off to find intact bodies. The body of St. John of the Cross, even to the present day, to be perfectly flexible and fragrant many years after his death. Many bodies encountered moisture and dampness which would encourage dissolution of their bodies, yet were preserved.

St. Catherine of Genoa remained in the grave for eighteen months, but was found perfectly spotless in spite of a damp and decayed shroud she wore. St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi was disinterred one year after her death and although her clothing was completely wet, her body was unaffected. St. Teresa of Avila's coffin had deteriorated but her remains were not only fresh and perfectly intact after cleansing, but was mysteriously fragrant as well. St. Catherine Laboure was

continued on page 7



Father's Brady's Playlist: Week Four

Improvements to the St. Stanislaus Campus

by **Deb Eble and Donna Gross**

As reported in the March 30, 2025, Bulletin, St. Stanislaus's financial position is strong. This allowed Father Sean with the concurrence of the Finance Council to undertake needed repairs and projects during the fiscal year which ended June 30, 2025. Most notable projects completed include:

- ❖ Long needed repairs to the rectory, especially to the roof and water-damaged interiors
- ❖ Repairs to the Church and Parish Center roof to fix flooding in the basement
- ❖ Replacing the doors to the Adoration Chapel and the Parish Center
- ❖ Moving the tabernacle to behind the altar
- ❖ Creating a walkway for the Cemetery Columbarium

How was this accomplished? Steady increases in Sunday and other collections, sales of niches in the cemetery's Columbarium, proceeds from Parish-sponsored events such as the annual Summer Festival, and events hosted by the Legacy Committee have allowed completion of these

needed projects while allowing us to cover Parish expenses.

Additionally, gifts from donors have allowed St. Stan's to complete specific tasks without having to run a capital campaign for needed repairs. For example, a generous donation led to the construction of the first columbarium in the cemetery with subsequent sales of niches providing steady income for the parish over the last two years. Donations were also received to support the move of the Tabernacle. Replacing altar linens by a private donor and adding a stairlift to the choir, financed by the choir, also illustrate parishioners' willingness to support our faith community here at St. Stan's.

Currently under consideration for the coming year are technical proposals to revamp the Church's sound system after some unsuccessful past attempts. Thankfully, one of Father Patrick Brady's many talents is technical know-how!

None of these would have been accomplished without your support, especially in the Sunday collections. This puts into action the words of the Psalmist, "What can I give back to the Lord for all He has given me?" (*Psalms 116:12*). Thank you for your increasing generosity to St. Stanislaus Parish. ✠

The Incorruptibles

continued from page 6

found perfectly white and natural looking, even though her coffin was affected in various ways due to excessive moisture

Sometimes there isn't even a coffin involved in these miraculous events. In the case of St. Charbel Makhlouf, he was confined to a grave *without* a coffin, and was found floating in mud in a flooded grave during exhumation four months after his death. His body was perfectly lifelike and flexible, and even emitted a blood-like fluid.

Our patron St. Stanislaus Kostka, died at the young age of seventeen on the feast of the Assumption, which he especially regarded since the Blessed Mother appeared to him and advised he enter the Society of Jesus. Two years after his death in 1568, permission was given to exhume his body in order to give one of his bones to the house of the Society. When opening the grave, a sweet flower smell emitted and all were enthralled by its fragrance. Within the coffin was the young Stanislaus as beautiful and intact as on the day he died, with the same smile on his lips. No one could bring themselves to dismember this holy body which God had willed to be perfect in death. All present, with tears in their eyes, closed the coffin.

However, Stanislaus ' coffin was exhumed a few years later and found his mortal remains reduced in a normal manner. Then his bones were taken and wrapped in silk and placed in a leaden coffin in the novitiate church where they remain except for the cranium where it is enclosed in a decorated marble urn in a chapel of the Jesuit house in Feldkirch, Germany.

These accounts, and many others, came from a book entitled *The Incorruptibles* by Joan Carroll Cruz, where they were extensively researched and with correspondence from the shrines where most are kept. ✠







Father's Brady's Playlist: Week Five

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 *Father Brady's Playlist*
- 2 *New Look for Hispanic Committees*
- 3 *Parishioner Spotlight: Dennis Johnson*
- 4 *Life on a Tram Car*
- 5 *Apologetics: Is Jesus Truly Present in the Eucharist?*
- 6 *St. Carlo Acutus*
- 6 *The Incorruptibles*
- 7 *Improvements to the St. Stanislaus Campus*

Parish Census Data for October 2024 – February 2025

 <p>Genesis Sanchez Benitez Jack Joseph Bonner Alice Sofia Campos Estrada Carlos Leonel Castaneda Benitez Lukas Ryan Chapman, Jr. Helena Diana Crespo Mendez Madisson Gualalupe Cruz Caceres Maeve Grace Dempsey Marcos Nicolas Fana Vazquez Catherine Anne Fujimoto Andrew James Gist Yeison Alexander Guerra Casasola Kingsley Bennett Mark Haenn Malcolm Joseph Haenn Margot Ann Haenn Sawyer Rose Haenn Wesley Charles Haenn Daleyza Palacios Hernandez Rory Sean Keenan</p> <p>Jameson Cole Kirby Sophia Latragna Simon Maxwell Lemma Kylian Ryker Lohwasser Tatiana Arias Lopez Daniela Flores Maldonado Annalia Flores Maldonado Armaya Martinez Andrew Glen Mitchell Molly Lisa Mitkus Sara Elizabeth Pichilla Florian Michael Joseph Pontious Elian Jesus Punina Chulco Dania Jackeline Rivera Pichilla Jazmin Pamela Saula Castro Kieran Evan Specht Matthew Vincent Vernacchio</p>	 <p>Paulina Bartnikowska Joshua & Michelle Bridge Brian & Diana Carber Thomas & Michele Chesla William & Rebecca Deck Giovanni DeSpirito Elizabeth Drew Francis & Sandra Gosciminski Alexander & Olha Heck John & Erin Keenan</p> <p>Marta Krzyspiak Sarah McGinty James & Devin Meehl Joanne Naudasher Hieu Duc & Le Hoang Yen Nhi Nguyen Lizbeth Romero William & Kathryn Rose Carl Sandig Eric & Laura Silsby Robert Tamburrino</p>
	 <p>Carolann Altrogge Rosalinda Angulo Thomas Bowers Sara Mae Burns Noreen Clark Maryellen Desmond Marie DiDomizio Stephen Dobranski Marie Donato Gilda Giuliano Thomas Greely Werner Gross</p> <p>Walter Hausler Virginia Hughes Jaromyr Karaman Diane Kelly Linda Limbach Michael Linko, Sr. Kevin Love Linda Moffatt Angela Poccia Stephen Pomper Rose Marie Ricci Immaculate Roan</p> <p>John Sasso Fred Schmidt Paul Sullivan Thomas Tucker Edward Walsh David Welsh Wieslaw Witynski James Wyatt, Sr. Julia Wynne Patricia Yasky Cathleen Zentgraf</p>
	 <p>Juan Manuel Lopez Angel and Maricela Perez Nieto Antonio DeLeon Nicolas and Nelis Orbelina Romero Amaya Ryan Patrick Gilmore and Maria Chiarina Incollongo</p>