

I HAVE KNOWN PRIESTS who present themselves as experts on marriage and others who regard themselves as completely incompetent to address any matters involving husbands and wives. Who am I, they argue, an unmarried, childless man to presume insight regarding marriages and families.

I'd put myself somewhere in a gray middle between those two spots. It would be ridiculous to suggest any expertise or divine knowledge, but I think



most pastors know something about human relationships. We don't have direct experience of the intricacies of all potential relationships, their joys and pitfalls, but we have a lived experience of our own relationships, interactions with friends and family, with parishioners. Some insight comes from observation.

This dilemma was apparent in the recent kerfuffle over a statement by Pope Francis in which he derided prospective parents who, he suggested, had chosen pets over children because, to put it most simply, pets are easier. His remarks were a bit more complicated than that, but that's what people heard. None of this sat well with pet owners or parents, or prospective parents, or couples trying desperately to have children and become parents. And others wondered why he'd make such a comparison.

This context is a prelude to my of-



On the first two Sundays of February we will gather items for the Salvation Army. Their greatest need at this time is for non-perishable food items. Bring donations along to Mass or drop them in the Gathering Space during the week. Learn more about this month's beneficiary at centralusa.salvationarmy.org/wausau.

FRESH-BAKED CINNAMON ROLLS WILL BE SOLD NEXT SUNDAY MORNING TO BENEFIT THE SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIP. PLAN TO ENJOY SOME GOOD SWEET TREATS.

"Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels" 1 Corinthians, Michael Joncas gels. 1. Not for tongues of heav en's an 2. Love is hum ble. love is gen tle, 3. Nev er ous. self ish, jeal nev er 4 the this fad In day world is ing Not for wis dom to dis cern, Love der, and kind; is ten true. Love will not joice in wrong; re play their Faith and hope will part; Not for faith that ters moun - tains, mas Love tient, is gra - cious, ev er pa --Nev er boast - ful ful, nor re sent when Christ But in is seen glo ry For this gift yearn: bet ter we Gen ous of heart and mind: er suf Love be lieves and fers long: shall heart: Love reign in ev 'ry May love love be ours, Lord; be ours. may 0 Lord. May love be ours.



715.849.3930 | stanneswausau.org 700 W. Bridge St., Wausau WI 54401 Parish Office Hours: 9A-4P Mon-Thurs

Fr. Tom Lindner, Pastor frtom@stanneswausau.org | Ext. 309

Deacon Erv Burkhardt ervb@stanneswausau.org | Ext. 303

Kristine Lato, Liturgy Coordinator & Administrative Assistant kristinek@stanneswausau.org | Ext. 307

John Schmitt, Lee Ann Lella **Disciple Formation Co-Directors** johns@stanneswausau.org | Ext. 306 leeannl@stanneswausau.org | Ext. 308

Paul Hoffer, Finance Director paulh@stanneswausau.org | Ext. 310

Newman Catholic Schools Jeff Gulan, President www.NewmanCatholicSchools.com 715.845.5735

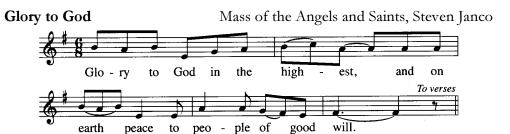
Pastoral Council Jenny Bruening, Julie Bunczak, Tony Cicha, Sandy Gilge, Kendall Gullo, Cec Holmberg, Doug Holmberg, Deb Jarosz, Gary Jarosz, John Lang, Kathy Maves, Evie Nielsen, John Prey, Elizabeth Waggoner, Jill Warsaw, Deacon Erv Burkhardt, Fr. Tom Lindner

Finance Council Mary Bethke, Tom Erickson, Tim Gierl, Susan Imm, Gary Jarosz, Bill Lewandowski, Buddy Watford, Ann Waraksa, Paul Hoffer, Fr. Tom Lindner

JOINING OUR PARISH: Fr. Tom would be glad to talk with you about parish membership. Send him an email at frtom@stanneswausau.org or call 849.3930.

CELEBRATING BAPTISM: We gladly welcome children to faith through the waters of Baptism. If you want to raise your child in the Catholic faith and celebrate your child's baptism, please call the parish office, 849.3930. Parents celebrating the baptism of their first child are asked to complete a baptism orientation seminar.

CELEBRATING MARRIAGE: We eagerly welcome couples seeking to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage. Contact Fr. Tom to talk about scheduling your wedding and to learn about marriage preparation.



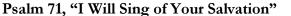
1. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

good

will

2. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

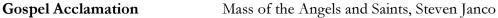
3. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.



earth









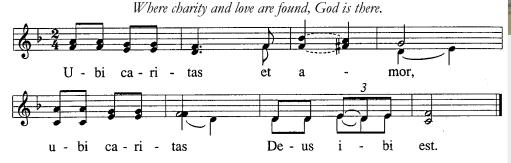
Profession of Faith (Nicene Creed)

- I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
- I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.
- God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.
- For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
- For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
- He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
- I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

FEAST DAY EVENING MASS: Wednesday is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 p.m. as part of Forming Young Disciples. However, everyone is invited to participate in this feast of the young and not so young.

"Ubi Caritas"

Taize Community



Eucharistic Prayer Holy, Holy Mass of the Angels and Saints, Steven Janco





RE-IMAGINING: As the church renovation continues, check stanneswausau.org/reimagining for new construction photos, as well as the weekly Quick Things email which will include a video update. You can also peek through doors in the Gathering Space to see the progress being made. A complete overview of the project also is provided at the web site.

🚯 Stewardship

IN TODAY'S SECOND READING we find one of the most beautiful and familiar passages in the Bible; a recitation of fifteen characteristics of Christian love often read at weddings. Of course, this was not what Saint Paul had in mind when he was chastising the Christian community at Corinth for its lack of love. He admonished the members of the community to exercise better stewardship of Christian love. The practice of patience, humility, joy, truth, peace, affirmation, and hope are ways good stewards put love into action. Might there be one or two of these attributes we can work on in order to grow in our love for God and others?

— International Catholic Stewardship Council

PARTICIPATION AT MASS

Jan. 22/23 4 PM - 108; 8:30 AM - 107 10:30 AM - 72; 6 PM - 69; Online - 352

ST. ANNE PARISH GIVING

Total collected	(Jan. 23)		
	Weekly need:	\$15	5,099
Total collected	(since July 1, 2021):	\$43	86,643
Amount neede	d:	\$44	13,814
Shortfall:		\$	7,171



2021-22 Parish Target:	\$1	L10,760
Pledges/Contributions:	\$	52,108
164 contributors / 16%	of p	barish
Still needed:	\$	58,742
Vou con molecular contributio		the nerich

You can make your contributions to the parish and the Annual Appeal at stanneswausau.org.

Transitions

ETERNAL LIFE: We pray for the eternal rest of **DuWayne Balk, Lois Vande Boom** and **Sister Barbara Bell** who died recently. May they rest in the peace of the Risen Lord. Sr. Barbara, a Dominican sister, was a teacher and prayer leader at St. Anne.

🗊 This Week

MONDAY 31 JAN/ 2 Sm 15:13-14,30;16:5-13/Mk 5:1-20 • 6 PM - GriefShare on Zoom

TUESDAY 1 FEB / 2 Sm 18:9-10,14b,24-25a,30-19:3/Mk 5:21-43

• 7 AM - Mass +Ed, Gert, Dawn Burek

WEDNESDAY 2 FEB / Mal 3:1-4/Lk 2:22-40

- 8:15 AM Mass +Lawrence Rebman
- 6:30 PM Forming Young Disciples
- 6:30 PM Mass -People of St. Anne Parish

THURSDAY 3 FEB / 1 Kgs 2:1-4,10-12/Mk 6:7-13 • 8:15 AM - Mass +Anthony Braun

FRIDAY 4 FEB / Sir 47:2-11/Mk 6:14-29

• 7 AM - Mass +Dorothy Hollis

SATURDAY 5 FEB / 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Mk 6:30-34 • 9 AM - Reconciliation

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 5/6 FEB Is 6:1-2a,3-8/1 Cor15:1-11/Lk 5:1-11
- 4 PM Saturday +Burish & Blaskowski families -LIVESTREAM
- 8:30 AM Sunday +Dorothy & Joseph Karlen
- 10:30 AM Sunday +George Waldvogel
- 6 PM Sunday -People of St. Anne Parish

The Sunday readings are the focus of a new weekly gathering at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the Gathering Space. Meetings will last about an hour. All are welcome.



FATIMA COUNCIL: The Parish Council of Catholic Women will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10, in the Fireside Room with access from the main entranceway. Bring small, useful items for Bingo prizes.

GRIEFSHARE is a group of people who walk with those experiencing grief through a weekly meeting of presentations, discussions and prayer. Gatherings are at 6 p.m. on Monday nights on Zoom. To get a Zoom link, or to learn how Zoom works, send an email to bosdad.johnson2@gmail.com.



Welcoming Our New Neighbors

As the Wausau area continues to welcome Afghan refugee families and individuals the need continues for furniture and household items. New Beginnings is the local clearing house for those donations. A link to what is needed and how to make donations can be found at stanneswausau.org/welcome.

A web site, similar to a wedding gift registry, has been established to identify ways parishioners can assist the Senakai family, which is being sponsored by our parish. This list includes gift cards for various stores, as well as preparing a weekly meal being provided to the family. You can find the registry at the parish web site.

The arrival of more families also increases the need for organizations to sponsor and welcome those refugees, as we have done with the Senakai family. Our core team is discerning how St. Anne might assist in welcoming another family. If you could join that discernment, send an email to frtom@stanneswausau.org.

You can also get more information and hear from parishioners involved in this effort in last week's Quick Things email, which is also available at stanneswausau.org.

MARRIAGE / from Page 1

fering an encouragement to married couples enduring stress, even trauma, in their relationship; potentially, it might seem, at a breaking point. There is, as you realize all too painfully, no magic formula, no sure-fire resolution of months or years of simmering tension and strife. But there is something called Retrouvaille, which bills itself as "a lifeline for married couples."

"When the old ways aren't working," a promotional brochure states, "the Retrouvaille Program helps couples restore their marriages and rebuild loving relationships."

Of course that sounds like a promotional brochure. And, again, how credible can I be in making a recommendation. Well, here's the thing: I am recommending Retrouvaille based upon the positive input of five couples I know. These are couples in which either the husband or wife, or both, approached me out of concern, frustration, anger, fear. They realized that their marriage – the most essential relationship of their life – was on rocky ground at best, and that they needed help.

These couples had the courage to take a leap of faith, to sacrifice the time and personal investment, and to participate in a Retrouvaille weekend program of presentations, guided personal conversations, honest discernment and prayer. They returned to the necessary follow-up sessions because, as indicated at the beginning, there is no quick solution. Most matters of consequence take time.

Each of these couples has shared with me a common judgment: If not for Retrouvaille they would probably no longer be married, or at least it would not be a very happy marriage.

As a spouse in one of those couples observed, "One thing I learned the weekend of Retrouvaille and every day after is that we were one couple of so many who suffered silently in marriage, hoping for a better way to do this, wondering if God had abandoned us. Before the weekend, we were flinging the word 'divorce' at each other and it was looking as if that was a real option. On the outside we looked fine, on the inside we were crumbling and numb. ... The Retrouvaille program saved our marriage. The tools we learned during that weekend continue to strengthen our marriage today. The amazing (leaders) had all once been in our shoes and chose to serve as volunteers because they wanted to share the power of Retrouvaille with others. One marriage at a time. Restoring hope."

AND HERE'S THE REALLY GOOD NEWS: A RETROUVAILLE SESSION WILL BE OFFERED IN CENTRAL WIS-CONSIN FEB. 18-20. If anything shared here rings true to you and your marriage, talk with your spouse, go to HelpOurMarriage.org, call 800.877.HOPE for a confidential conversation, talk to me if you think that would be helpful, and, most importantly, I hope, register for this great, blessed opportunity. The registration deadline is Feb. 11.

As the husband in one of the couples I mentioned earlier observed at the prospect of participating in Retrouvaille: "We have so much to lose, I guess we at least have to give it a try." They rejoice every day that they did. **TL**

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