



ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA

A PARISH of the ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE of FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

55756 Tulip Road, New Carlisle IN 46552 | (574) 654-3781



PARISH
PRIORITY PLAN
2021-2024

Dear Parishioners,

Between 1870 and 1875, Rev. Francis X. Szulak of the Society of Jesus visited Terre Coupee, where he celebrated Mass in the woods or in log cabins of various families. In 1884, Father Valentine Czyzewski, pastor of St. Hedwig, established the church for Terre Coupee. He undoubtedly was the one who selected the boy saint, St. Stanislaus Kostka, as the patron saint for the new church. The cornerstone was dedicated on Sunday, August 31, 1884, and the wood frame structure was built on the land which is the parking lot north of the present church. The land was generously donated by Lawrence and Mary Mackowski to Bishop Joseph Dwenger and the Diocese of Fort Wayne for one dollar.

I think back to those early parishioners who desired a church here in 1884. And since that time, we have had a wonderful parish. It is important to reflect and think back where we have been and where we will be going. Those who have gone before us deserve our praise and admiration for their accomplishments. They met the challenges of their times and that is why we honor them now. But the challenge of the future is no longer theirs, but ours to face. Our challenge is to continue the work begun, to preserve this Faith and cause the love of God to continue to flourish in the lives of generations to come. Our challenge is to pray and work that the seeds which have been sown here, over the years, may blossom forth into works of faith and love of God and neighbor. May Almighty God grant to all of us the grace to meet this challenge!

Building on this rich history, St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish must continue to be ready to meet the ever changing and growing needs of the parish community. Over the past eight months, I have been working with a team of dedicated parishioners who represent the diversity of this community as we discern where we hope to be in three years. Using the experience and input of being active parishioners in this community, the team has worked very hard to put together a plan that I am confident will both challenge us and motivate us as we intentionally look to the future with hope!

Proverbs 29:18 says, "Where there is no vision, a people perish." As we reflect upon this and now look upon our current vision, I believe that we will flourish. All of us thrive on knowing where we are going. We all need clarity in order to stay motivated and joyful about the work that has been entrusted to us and as a community of faith, that work is to Build the Kingdom of God!

My dear parishioners, my heart is with you here at St. Stans. Being your pastor and shepherd brings me profound joy. As I have often told you, I take my role as a priest very seriously and at the heart of that is making sure that who we are and what we offer is the very best that it can be. Please read through these pages and ask yourself how you can be a part of the implementation of this exciting plan that builds upon the past and looks toward the future with hope!

God bless,



Fr. Robert Garrow

St. Stanislaus Kostka Pastoral Parish Priority Planning Team



Jim Gadacz Kathy Henderson, Wendy Glon, Tim Hubbard,
Angela Schroeder, Judy Cravalho, and Fr. Bob Garrow.
Not pictured: John Kelly and Marianne Nyers



Our Parish Mission

We as parishioners of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, living our faith in Christ, through sacred scripture and His sacraments, together proclaim the love of God.



Our Parish Vision

Disciples of Christ striving to be Saints



The Values that Guide Our Community

- 1. Tradition** - The St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish community embraces the Apostolic Tradition, the living transmission of the Gospel by the Church through the Holy Spirit. (*"In His gracious goodness, God has seen to it that what He had revealed for the salvation of all nations would abide perpetually in its full integrity and be handed on to all generations."* Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation Chap II, 7)
- 2. Faith** - The St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish community believes in helping our parishioners, our families, and those who visit, to encounter Christ. Through our programs and resources, we provide opportunities to nourish, live and spread our Catholic faith. (*"Faith is man's response to God, who reveals himself and gives himself to man, at the same time bringing man a superabundant light as he searches for the ultimate meaning of his life."* Catechism of the Catholic Church #26)
- 3. Family** - The St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish community strives to be a place where parishioners share our faith, traditions, and lives together in order to grow closer in our relationship with Jesus Christ. (*"Keep the joy of loving God in your heart and share this joy with all you meet, especially your family. Be Holy! - St. Mother Theresa of Calcutta"*)

Founding Families



Top: Fred Miller Family, 1908. Bottom: Jacob and Mary Michalski.

I.H.S. - Symbol for Christ



2020 - View of the Church



Our Parish Priorities for 2021-2024

1. Evangelization - We are called to mission, to evangelize, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ because we are baptized. Thus we desire all people to experience the complete fulfillment with Christ and His Church. (*"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.'" - John 20:21*)

SMART GOAL:

- 1) To establish an outreach committee to welcome and reach out to all parishioners by August 2021.
- 2) To establish, pray for, and support a sister parish in Africa by August 30, 2021.
- 3) To create smaller Christian Communities (Alpha, Arise, etc) within the parish by May 30, 2023.
- 4) Increase attendance at Sunday and weekly Masses by June 2024.

2. Faith Formation/Catechesis - As disciples of Christ, we are called to mature in prayer and the spiritual life, to grow in knowledge, to evangelize, and to serve others. We desire to be missionary disciples. (*"Him we proclaim, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man mature in Christ."* - Col 1:28)

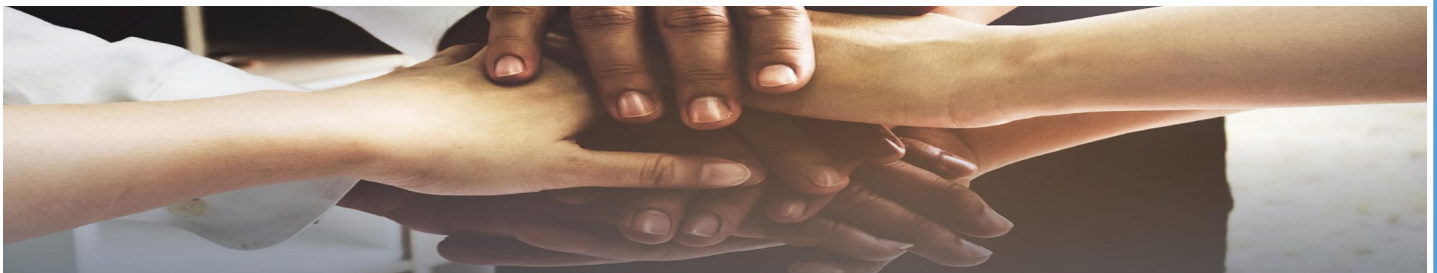
SMART GOAL:

- 1) Create a whole parish mission focusing on the Cross, due to the 100-year anniversary, from December 9, 2021 until December 31, 2022.
- 2) To create and establish faith formation nights within a four-year cycle beginning by August 2021 until 2024.
- 3) Schedule an Advent and Lenten Mission for 2 or 3 evenings each year beginning Advent 2021 through 2024 in preparation for Christmas and Easter.
- 4) To increase our volunteers in our various ministries from 88 to 130 by May 2024.

3. Facilities - We are called to be good stewards and to preserve, care for and develop the buildings and grounds with regards to safety, comfort, and the present and future needs of the parish. (*"Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will be established."* - Prov 19:21)

SMART GOAL:

- 1) To create a building and grounds committee by September 1, 2021.
- 2) Create a 5 year plan to modernize our facilities by May 30, 2022.
- 3) Enact a yearly parish Fall/Spring clean up day from 2021-2024.
- 4) Upgrade/refurbish/paint all facilities beginning in 2021 and completed by 2024.



**SUPPORT OUR
PARISH PRIORITIES**