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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

St. Adalbert's Stan Kowalski didn't plan a retirement like this

Stan Kowalski never planned to be the leader of a movement nor did he ever expect that the Journey in Faith and Grace would lead to a decision to close his beloved St. Adalbert's Church.

In fact, he only became president of St. Adalbert's Parish Council because having such a council was necessary to participate in the Faith and Grace Journey.

"These churches weren't built by the diocese," he points out. "They were built with the financial contributions of Polish immigrants who worked hard and saved their pennies so they could pay for the building of their churches. That's part of the reason why we are working so hard to keep our church open."

Born some 70 years ago, the son of a City of Buffalo worker, Stan joined the Boy Scouts when he was 12 and has been associated with the

Scouts for 58 years, most recently as a Scout master. He attended St. Adalbert's Elementary School through the 8th grade and then went on to St. Francis High School from which he graduated in 1954.

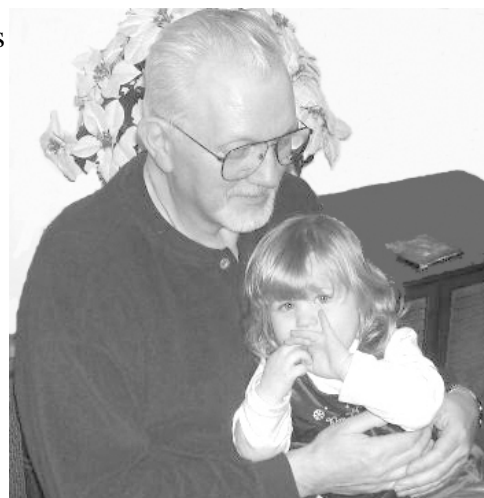


**POLONIA
PROFILE**
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Stan attended the University of Buffalo for two years and then, finding that an intensive math curriculum was not his cup of tea, joined the service, spending a two-year tour of duty in the U.S. Army. Once he returned to the Buffalo area, he worked for 40 years at the General Motors River Rd. plant. He married his wife Patricia in 1962 and together they have been blessed with two children, six grandchildren, and one greatgrandchild.

Retired for about five years now, Stan devotes much of his time these days to being a Scout leader and leading the movement to save St. Adalbert Parish from closing.

"It isn't true that St. Adalbert's Church isn't viable," declared Stan,



Stan Kowalski and his great-granddaughter Jessica

a lifelong member of the parish. "We had a parish picnic a while back and 85 parishioners attended. Almost all of our parishioners have responded to our calls to help us keep the church open. They say we shouldn't use revenues from the St. Adalbert's Cemetery, but that cemetery land was purchased and built up by our parishioners. If St. Adalbert's isn't viable, why are there so many people working so hard to save it?"