

**STAFF:**

Rev. Mark Keene, Pastor  
Rev. Msgr. Donald Enzweiler, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. James Quill, Retired  
Rev. Mr. Bob Stoeckle, Deacon/Pastoral Assoc.  
Rev. Mr. Ralph Grieme, Deacon  
(513)477-0307 [r.grieme@gmail.com](mailto:r.grieme@gmail.com)  
Rev. Mr. Gary Scott, Deacon  
Bobby Fisher, Director of Music Ministries  
Anita Dunn, Coordinator of Religious Education  
Rich Hoyt, School Principal  
Tom Rasp, Parish Business Manager  
Jackie Flynn, Bookkeeper  
Paula Fritz, Coordinator of RCIA  
Beth Nagle, Administrative Asst./Bulletin Editor

**PARISH DIRECTORY:**

Parish Office .....431-1802  
Parish Fax .....291-7017  
Email Address ... [parishoffice@saintagnes.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintagnes.com)

**Office Hours:**

Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

School ..... 261-0543  
Hall Rental (Ron Lawson) ..... 803-3216

Prayer Line Requests .....331-1924  
.....331-3276  
Email: [stagnesprayerline@gmail.com](mailto:stagnesprayerline@gmail.com)

Adoration Chapel, Blaine Comfort.....578-0133

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday : 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.  
Weekday: 6:30 & 11:30 a.m. Monday thru Friday,  
9:20 a.m. Friday - School Mass  
Holy Day: 7:00 p.m. Vigil, 6:30, 8:30 & 11:30 a.m.

**BAPTISMS:**

First-time parents must attend a Baptism Preparation Class before the child can be Baptized. Classes are held every other month on the second Thursday. Call the Parish Office to register. Baptisms take place every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. except during Lent.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA):**

Persons wishing to inquire about the Catholic Faith or seeking to complete their initiation Sacraments should contact Paula Fritz at 431-1802 or [pfritz@saintagnes.com](mailto:pfritz@saintagnes.com).

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

Confessions are heard on Saturday after the 8:30 a.m. Mass, after the 11:30 a.m. Mass on the first Friday of the month, the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. or by calling the Parish Office and making an appointment.

**MARRIAGE:**

Call the Parish Office at least nine months in advance. At least one of the individuals must be a registered parishioner.

**HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK:**

For those who are homebound or sick and wish to receive Communion, call the Parish Office.

**MEN'S PRAYER GROUP**

Gather with fellow Brothers in Christ every Saturday morning, 7:00-8:00 a.m. in the Saint Agnes Daily Mass Chapel. Enjoy fellowship and the Word of God.

**GRADE SCHOOL CCD CLASSES:**

Held on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. during the school year. Contact Anita Dunn, 431-1802 or [adunn@saintagnes.com](mailto:adunn@saintagnes.com) for more information.

**PRE-SCHOOL RELIGION:**

Held on Sunday during the 11:30 a.m. Mass from September thru April. Contact Stacey Moorhead at 859-907-3667 or [staceyscully4@aol.com](mailto:staceyscully4@aol.com) for more information.

**MEETINGS:**

Athletic Boosters-3rd Monday at 7:30 p.m.  
in the Rectory Conference Room  
Board of Education-2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.  
in the Library/Media (School) Center  
Finance Committee-1st Thursday at 7:00 p.m.  
in Feb., May, Aug. & Nov. in the  
Rectory Conference Room  
Parish Council-1st Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the  
Rectory Conference Room  
Pro-Life Committee-2nd Monday at 7:30 p.m.  
Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct. & Dec. in  
Murphy Hall  
St. Vincent de Paul Society-2nd & 4th Mondays  
at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory Conference  
Room

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Calendar

#### Sunday, December 10

- Cans for Kids Collection  
9:00 a.m. Rosary - Church  
10:30 a.m. RCIA - Rectory Conf Room  
1:00 p.m. Baptisms  
7:00 p.m. CCH Christmas Concert - Church  
7:30 p.m. Rosary for Peace-Adoration Chapel

#### Monday, December 11

- 2:30 p.m. Product Survey - Murphy Hall  
5:30 p.m. 1st Place 4 Health - Rectory Conf Room  
7:00 p.m. CCD - School  
7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul - Rectory Conf Room  
7:30 p.m. Pro-Life Committee - Murphy Hall

#### Tuesday, December 12

- 7:30 a.m. 1st Place 4 Health - Rectory Conf Room  
10:00 a.m. Prayer Group - Chapel  
7:00 p.m. Cookie Exchange - Murphy Hall  
7:00 p.m. Board of Education - School

#### Wednesday, December 13

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Murphy A & B

#### Thursday, December 14

- 11:30 a.m. Anointing of the Sick following Mass  
7:00 p.m. Deanery Reconciliation - St. Pius Church

#### Friday, December 15

- 7:30 p.m. Concert - Church

#### Saturday, December 16

- 8:10 a.m. Sung Morning Prayer - Church  
9:00 a.m. Confessions - Church

#### Sunday, December 17

- 9:00 a.m. Rosary - Church  
10:30 a.m. RCIA - Rectory Conf Room  
1:00 p.m. Baptisms  
7:30 p.m. Rosary for Peace-Adoration Chapel

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, December 10-Second Sunday of Advent

- 7:30 a.m. Bernie Kramer  
9:30 a.m. Ann Dickman  
11:30 a.m. Jeanne Able

#### Monday, December 11-St. Damasus I

- 6:30 a.m. Special Intention  
11:30 a.m. Al Melching

#### Tuesday, December 12-Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 6:30 a.m. Barbara Devlin  
11:30 a.m. Michael Warning

#### Wednesday, December 13-St. Lucy

- 6:30 a.m. Dolores Todd Lyon  
11:30 a.m. David Taeuber

#### Thursday, December 14-St. John of the Cross

- 6:30 a.m. People of the Parish  
11:30 a.m. George H. Kreutzjans

#### Friday, December 15

- 6:30 a.m. Jimmy Bayless  
9:20 a.m. Souls in Purgatory  
11:30 a.m. Mary Dolores Pieschel

#### Saturday, December 16

- 8:30 a.m. William J. Roth Family  
4:00 p.m. Nick Kreutzjans

#### Sunday, December 17-Third Sunday of Advent

- 7:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory  
9:30 a.m. Jeannie Wendling  
11:30 a.m. Jeanne Able

### Ministry/Volunteer Schedule for December 16th/17th

#### Gift Bearers

- 4:00 p.m. Joe & Nancy Stratman  
7:30 a.m. Ron & Janet Muck  
9:30 a.m. Ric & Karen Gassmann  
11:30 a.m. Matt & John Fritz

#### Special Ministers of the Word

- 4:00 p.m. L-A Ward, C-A Wadsworth  
7:30 a.m. M Ruberg  
9:30 a.m. L-K Fischer, C-D Dickhaus  
11:30 a.m. L-M Fritz, C-C Read

#### Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

- 4:00 p.m. J Ward, S Gleeson, C Hill, M Martin,  
D & J Rehtin, T & D Eilerman  
7:30 a.m. J & C Brueggemann, D & B Tepe  
9:30 a.m. C Cleves, A Dickhaus, M Fox, P Fritz,  
C Jacober, R & T Lonneman, C Mullen  
11:30 a.m.

#### Servers

- 4:00 p.m. I Ward, G Wainscott, K Wainscott  
7:30 a.m. VOLUNTEERS  
9:30 a.m. P Maier, E Thaman, B Dickhaus  
11:30 a.m. J Fritz, C Hochhausler, E Hochhausler

#### 6:30 a.m. – Servers:

- Dec. 11th-Paul Kleier Dec. 26th-Don Mai

#### Rosary, Sunday, Dec. 17th at 9:00 a.m.: Frances Lee

#### Highland Crossing, Dec. 17th: Deacon Bob Stoeckle

#### Vocation Chalice Program Participants

- 4:00 p.m. Steve & Ellen Suetholz  
7:30 a.m. Loretta McKinley  
9:30 a.m. Walt & Martha Witt  
11:30 a.m. Joe & Karen Elfers

#### Greeters

- 4:00 p.m. F-Marge Kuhlman A-Geri Sullivan  
7:30 a.m. F-Daryl & Blanche Tepe  
A-Deana & Grayson Gabbard  
9:30 a.m. F-Natalie & Chris Maier  
A-Paul & Debbie Finke  
11:30 a.m. F-Colleen Read & Hannah Buxton  
A-Doug & Amy Cribbs

## Staff Article

### John the Baptist

The Gospel for this Sunday (and next Sunday) features John the Baptist. He is a very fitting symbol for Advent, a time of preparation, a time of looking forward, a time of anticipation.

Paradoxically Advent is a season of looking both backward and forward. It is the season of longing. I think we all recognize that we do not live in a perfect world. Life could be better. Things could improve. We all have our own stories, or our own histories. Advent is a time to reflect on our personal lives, a time to open our minds and hearts to the presence of God.

We also think about the world in which we live. We recognize that things could be better. We could treat each other more kindly, with a sense of understanding. Unfortunately, confrontation seems to be the mood of the present.

John the Baptist speaks to our hopes, to hope for a Savior... "one mightier than I is coming after me."

Fr. Quill



## Parish Worship

### Faith Sharing Questions

**Theme of this week's Gospel: John the Baptist announces the coming of Jesus and calls for repentance!**

Adults: If you had been present when John the Baptist was telling about the coming of Jesus, how do you think you would have reacted: acceptance, doubt, repentance or a little of each? Why?

Teens: Do you know anyone today who reminds you of John the Baptist? Is it the way they dress, the way they speak, or is it because they talk about Jesus? How do you feel about them?

Children: Can you imagine why John the Baptist ate locusts and honey? What treat can you give up today in "repentance" of one of your faults?

### Next Sunday: December 17, 2017

#### Third Sunday of Advent, Cycle B

The season of Advent reminds us that we are a people who live in the "in-between times" of Christ's first and second comings. We use readings concerning the first coming of Christ to remind ourselves that we should be vigilant with regard to the second. As the people of the Old Testament awaited Christ's first coming, we—the church—are the "new Israel" who await His second coming. The Gospel of Mark will be featured on Sundays during the Year of Worship we are just beginning (Cycle B).

The third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete Sunday*, from the Latin word that means "to rejoice"... rejoice for with this Sunday, we are at least half-way through Advent. This is the Sunday for rose-colored vestments and for lighting the rose candle on the Advent wreath.

**Gospel Reading (John 1:6-8,19-28):** While the Gospel of Mark is the featured Gospel this year, there are exceptions when we read passages from the Gospel of John. That being said, again this Sunday, as with the Second Sunday of Advent, our Gospel reading concerns itself with John the Baptist's ministry. In this passage, which is from the famous prologue to the Gospel of John, the evangelist speaks of the identity of John the Baptist. John is "not the light, but came to testify to the light." Perhaps in his day some thought John the Baptist might be the Messiah. In the Gospel of John the Evangelist, John the Baptist is presented as firmly denying that he is the Messiah. Rather, he is, as Isaiah says, "the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord."

**First Reading (Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11):** The circumstance for this very hopeful passage from Isaiah is the Jewish people's return to the Promised Land after their captivity/exile in Babylon, about 538 BC. The reading speaks of "glad tidings," "healing," and "liberty to captives." Isaiah is very hopeful about the future of the people and that Israel will be a place where "justice and praise spring up before the nations." This is consistent with one of the main themes in the Book of Isaiah: Israel's role in a more universal

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Parish Worship continued

vision of salvation (“justice and praise”) for all the peoples of the world.

#### **Second Reading (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24):**

The second reading is from the concluding verses of the First Letter to the Thessalonians. This passage is full of exhortations and words of encouragement as Paul brings his letter to a close: “Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks...” This is very fitting for *Gaudete* Sunday!

### Catholic Traditions

**The Sacrament of the Sick** - Many older Catholics remember being taught about the Sacrament of the Sick when it was called *Extreme Unction*. The rite principally was a rite to prepare someone for death, and so it was only given at times when death was thought to be truly immanent.

The rite consisted of prayers and then the person made a good confession if they were able. If they were unable, it was believed that the anointing itself took the place of a good confession. If they had never been Baptized, they were Baptized. There was Communion, and it was called a special name in this circumstance. It was called “*viaticum*” which means “food for the way” or “food for the journey,” which in this case meant the person’s journey back to God. Having thus had their soul prepared for death, the person’s body was “prepared” for death. The priest would anoint the five senses of the person (eyes, ears, nose, mouth and hands). The senses—our seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting and feeling—are what connect us with the physical world we live in now. When celebrated reverently and prayerfully, I think we can see how this Sacrament was important in the life of our church. It provided a ritual way to begin to accept the reality of one’s own death. For those who were in attendance at the anointing, it was also a way to consciously confront the reality of a loved one’s impending death. The ritual helped to make this possible.

Today, what is called the Sacrament of the Sick still has the role that *Extreme Unction* did for those

who are near to death. The Sacrament is also celebrated however with those who while seriously ill, are not close to death. In this circumstance it is not about preparing one’s soul and body for death. It is about the hope of bringing God’s healing (and in the end it is only God who heals) into a person’s life. This healing can take many forms, from a healing of the actual illness, to being given a strength to deal with it. It can be for physical, mental, emotional or spiritual illness as well.

The oil used for the Sacrament of the Sick is the “Oil of the Sick” (abbreviated “O I” from the Latin for “Oil of the Infirm”) is olive oil that is blessed by our bishop every year at the diocesan Chrism Mass. So when this oil is used, whether at time of death or otherwise, it is the whole church that is present to the person in their need.

“Is there anyone sick among you? He should ask for the presbyters of the church. They in turn are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name [of the Lord]. This prayer uttered in faith will reclaim the one who is ill, and the Lord will restore him to health. If he has committed any sins, forgiveness will be his.” (James 5:14-15)

### Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

As in years past, we will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick at all of the Masses on the Third Sunday of Advent (*Gaudete* Sunday) which is next Sunday, December 17th.. Please let those whom you think could benefit from the Sacrament know about it. If they need transportation to Church, offer to bring them. The Sacrament is for all serious illnesses, chronic or acute, physical, emotional, mental and/or spiritual.

### Adoration of Our Lord

“*Truly, You are the Son of God.*

” (Matthew 14:33)

Visit Him in the Divine Mercy Eucharistic Adoration Chapel, open Sunday at 8:00 p.m. through Saturday at 3:00 p.m. Call 496-4149 for more information.

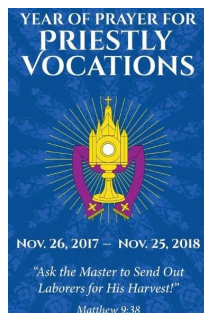




## Parish Worship continued

### Year of Prayer for Priestly Vocations

Parishioners should have received a letter from Bishop Foys describing this year. Included with the letter was a prayer card with the Prayer for Vocations that we will be praying at Mass. Please use this card in your household to pray for vocations this year. If you lost your card or want more for your personal and/or family use, please contact the Parish Office. *Please personally encourage men to consider a vocation to the priesthood.* Let us all strive to support a culture in our church that is much more supportive of vocations!



– Fr. Mark Keene

### Bulletin Picture

This past September our parish made a contribution of \$2,500 from our Tithing Fund to help pay for a newer, specially-equipped van for Matthew Cornett, pictured here with his mother, Terry, and his sister Meagan, in the new van. The van replaced a very old one that the family had used for years and which had become very unreliable as transportation. Matthew, who just turned “the big 4-0” has had special needs since birth. His mother and sister care for him in their home. You may recognize Meagan as one of our cantors on Sundays. Keep them all in your prayers.

### Weekday Rosary

The Rosary is prayed in Church every weekday at 11:00 a.m.

## Stewardship

### Status of Sunday Collection

Actual Collections (July thru 12/04/17)	\$499,320
Budgeted Collections (July thru December)	\$652,000
Budgeted Collections for Fiscal Year (2017/2018)	\$1,250,000

## Charitable Donations and Taxes

**Charitable Income Tax Deductions:** In order to obtain an income tax charitable deduction for 2017, gifts must be made prior to December 31, 2017. It may take several weeks for a transfer of stock via physical stock certificates or stock power to be completed, so you should plan ahead to ensure that the gift transactions are completed by year end. The information for electronic transfer of stocks or mutual funds to Saint Agnes Church can be obtained by contacting Tom Rasp, Parish Business Manager (431-1802) or [trasp@saintagnes.com](mailto:trasp@saintagnes.com)

**Selecting assets to give to charity.** Giving appreciated investments to Saint Agnes Church (as opposed to selling the investments, recognizing the gain and 3.8% net investment income tax, and contributing the cash proceeds to Saint Agnes) provides an income tax deduction equal to the fair market value of the investment (subject to AGI limitations). Saint Agnes Church can then sell the investment and pay no capital gains tax because it is a tax-exempt entity. It is critical that the investments qualify as long-term capital gains (i.e., the investments should be held for more than one year prior to the time it is gifted). Otherwise, the deduction will be limited to the donor’s basis in the investment.

**Charitable distributions from IRAs.** Congress made permanent the law enabling individuals over age 70½ to exclude up to \$100,000 of their required minimum distribution from income if the RMD is made payable directly to a qualified public charity.

## We Are His Hands

### Thanks From ACUE

I write to express my gratitude, and that of the Alliance for Catholic Urban Education, for the \$835.80 contribution made by Saint Agnes Church to the 2017-2018 ACUE Annual Appeal. Thank you for so kindly remembering our ACUE students. Blessed Advent to all! Gratefully, Beth Ruehlmann, Director of Development for Catholic Schools, Diocese of Covington

## We Are His Hands continued

### Thanks From NDUCEC

Thank you so much for your gift of \$585 to Notre Dame Urban Education Center. You provide for much needed tutoring and mentoring of children living in the urban core, many of whom come from fragile neighborhoods and households at or below the poverty level.

Gratefully, Paul Miller, Executive Director

## Saint of the Week

### Saint Lucy

Saint Lucy was born at Syracuse on the island of Sicily around 283. Her father died when she was 5 years old. On Sicily was the shrine of Saint Agatha who had been martyred fifty years before. Lucy consecrated her virginity to God. Then her mother tried to arrange a marriage for her. Her mother was ill and did not want Lucy to be without a family.



Saint Agatha came to Lucy in a dream and told her that her mother would be cured because of Lucy's faith. She also told her that she would be the glory of Syracuse. Lucy's mother was cured and Lucy convinced her to give much of her riches to the poor. Her mother told her that she thought the funds would be a fine inheritance. Lucy responded by saying "whatever you give away at death is because you cannot take it with you, give now to your Savior."

When the man she was supposed to marry heard of this, and knowing that she was a Christian, he turned her over to the governor of Syracuse. The governor ordered Lucy to burn a sacrifice to the emperor. She refused. The governor then sentenced her to be sent to a brothel where she would be "defiled." However when the guards came to take her away they could not move her. They even hooked a team of oxen to her and they could not move her either. Failing at the defilement it was decided to burn her. Wood was piled up around her and lit but the wood would not

burn, so she was put to death by the sword.

Lucy's story is famous for her eyes. It was said that she had her eyes put out by the governor because she said that he and the emperor would not be around much longer. The other tale is that she took them out herself because they were admired. This incident, plus the fact that her name has the same root as the Latin word for light (lux) has made her a patron for the blind and those with eye trouble.

Saint Lucy is particularly popular in Scandinavia where she is associated with light. Her feast day was once on the same day as the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year. In the Scandinavian celebration a young woman or a girl wears a wreath with candles on her head, wears a red sash and carries a palm, both symbols of martyrdom. Other girls, or young women, accompany her carrying baked goods. The ceremony is to help them survive the long winter.

In Italy feasts with a special dessert of wheat in hot chocolate celebrate her feast day. The wheat represents Lucy's eyes and is only eaten on Saint Lucy's Day. On the night of the feast day, in northern Italy, Saint Lucy brings gifts and treats to children who leave hay outside for her donkey. In Hungary a wheat kernel is planted in a pot on Saint Lucy's day, which sprouts by Christmas and is a symbol of life after death. The sprout is taken to the crèche to symbolize Christ in the Eucharist. In the Philippines a novena to Saint Lucy is held during the nine days before the feast. I like the Nordic version, which to me represents a glimmer of light in the darkness, which grows to a bright light on Christmas with the coming of the Light of the World. Saint Lucy's feast day is celebrated December 13th.

## Parish News

### Wedding Banns

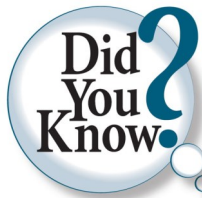
I-Lauren Warning, Saint Agnes &  
Robert Feather



## Parish News continued

### Did You Know?

The puck starts here....or at the U.S. Bank Arena! Our 6th graders recently attended a Cincinnati Cyclones field trip, which was sponsored by Mount Saint Joseph University. Students were taught common core standards in Math and Science with additional lessons in Health and Physical Education using hockey as the theme. The curriculum was addressed and taught during the course of a game against the Quad City Mallards. A hover board race on the ice during half time was fun to watch. The students continued their learning the following week when one of the Cyclones players came to school and played floor hockey during their PE class! As Ben Franklin said, "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."



### Pro-Life Committee Meeting

The Pro-Life Committee will meet on Monday, December 11th at 7:30 p.m. in Murphy Hall. We will share and discuss current Pro-Life events and plan for future activities. We welcome new members and hope to see you at the meeting!



### December Youth Group Meetings

Youth Group is scheduled to meet next Sunday, December 17th. Pray and be thankful for the birth of our Lord. Grades 7th and 8th come from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and high school come from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Join us in the school cafeteria.

### Christmas Giving Tree

Don't forget to have your Giving Tree gifts and stockings back to Saint Agnes by next Sunday, December 17th. This is the day we will be sorting, tagging and bagging the gifts after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. As always, we can use lots of help!



### Retirement Fund For Religious

This Sunday we welcome Sister Rite Geoppinger, SND to Saint Agnes to speak at all of the Sunday morning Masses on behalf of the Retirement Fund for Religious. The actual collection will be next Sunday.



It is important for us to support elderly religious. A parishioner writes, "As a Catholic school student from grades K-12, I was formed to be the person I am by many religious brothers and sisters, and I am forever grateful." Show your appreciation for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. (FYI, Last year, our parish collected \$12,956 or this collection.) Thank you! –Fr. Mark Keene

### Cookies and Coffee Anyone?

Ladies, you're invited to the first annual Cookie Exchange. There will be cookies to sample and cookies to trade. We ask that your cookies be only homemade. We also petition a sampling of 3 to be shared on this evening with those sipping coffee or tea.

The rules are quite simple and easy to follow, and know that these guidelines will be easy to swallow. If you bake 12 dozen, you'll take 12 dozen with you, if you bake 48, you'll take 4 dozen home with you.

Bring your cookies to the Saint Agnes undercroft wrapped in foil, on plates or in baggies. You must also bring a basket along to take home all your goodies. Bring you family, your friends and your neighbors, but please leave the kids home. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 12th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. We hope to start a tradition that makes memories long be remembered. If you plan to attend, please email one of the following:

Ginny Hamlin - [no1us@fuse.net](mailto:no1us@fuse.net)

Kristy Seither - [kristyseither@fuse.net](mailto:kristyseither@fuse.net)

Tiffany Pangallo Chalk - [allo1322@hotmail.com](mailto:allo1322@hotmail.com)



## Parish News continued

### Attention All Virtus Users

The December bulletin posted on December 3rd and is due on January 7th. Please check your account monthly. **During the month of December, ALL accounts will be open or un-suspended.** If you are not up-to-date on reading your monthly bulletins you can do so during December. If you have any questions, please contact Beth at the Parish Office (431-1802 or [parishoffice@saintagnes.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintagnes.com)).

### For Those Interested in Volunteering

Here is what you need to do:

1. Go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) and create an account.
2. Sign up for and attend a Live Training Session. Sessions are listed on the Virtus website.
3. Run a background check through Selection.com. Do this through your Virtus account by clicking on the Toolbox tab and click "Selection.com Background Check" in the upper left column.
4. Contact Msgr. Don Enzweiler at the Parish Office to set up a 15 minute meeting. He will give you two forms that you need to complete.
5. Once all of the above is done and the Diocese processes your forms, you will receive an email stating your account is now "active" and you will be able to volunteer.
6. To remain "active" you will be required to read a monthly bulletin and answer a question regarding the bulletin.

If you have any question about the process, please contact Beth at the Parish Office (431-1802 or [parishoffice@saintagnes.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintagnes.com)).

### Vallimar Jansen in Concert

On Friday, December 15th at 7:30 p.m. Vallimar Jansen will be returning to Saint Agnes for an Advent Concert. She'll be joined by members of the Saint Agnes Music Ministry and Children's Choir. Vallimar was very well received when she came to Saint Agnes in October. This is one you won't want to miss.

### Christian Service: Christmas Flowers

Volunteers are again needed to deliver a flower and a Christmas message from Fr. Keene to our shut-in, nursing home bound and elderly parishioners. The flowers will be ready by noon on Wednesday, December 13th and can be picked up and delivered any time before Christmas. The Parish Office is staffed from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you can help, please call the office at 431-1802 to make sure there are still flowers to be delivered

### Bulletin Sponsor of the Week

KW Mechanical, Inc.  
Electrical-Heating & Air-Plumbing  
859-261-1100  
[www.kwmechanical.com](http://www.kwmechanical.com)

## Faith Formation

### RCIA

Our RCIA catechumens are celebrating their first Season of Advent with us this year. They are learning that this holy Season is a time of preparation not only for Christmas celebrations, but more importantly for the Lord to enter our daily lives. It is a time to look at our lives and clear a way for the Lord to enter in. They are asking themselves: What paths in their lives do they need to straighten? What valleys need to be filled? What mountains need to be leveled? What winding ways need to be made straight and what rough ways need to be made smooth? This holy Advent Season challenges us all to reflect on these questions in our own lives, so that we will be prepared to receive Christ into our hearts at Christmas and keep Him there throughout the New Year. As you journey through Advent, invite someone who is not Catholic to attend Mass with you this Advent and Christmas. **Then, invite them to inquire into our RCIA process (see the front of our bulletin or website or call 431-1802).**

Please remember in your prayers our RCIA catechumens, Justin and Brandon.



## Faith Formation continued

### FORMED

Would like to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ? Do you know someone who has fallen away from the Church and you want reach them but you just don't know how?



This Christmas Saint Agnes Church is giving a very special gift to every family in the parish. That gift is a subscription to FORMED, a wonderful website that has been called a "Catholic Netflix." FORMED has inspiring movies and video based studies, audio presentations and e-books from the Church's most compelling speakers and authors.

Our parish has invested in FORMED so that each of us might grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ and in our desire to share our Faith with others, especially those closest to us.

With your free access to FORMED, 24/7 on your television, phone, laptop, iPad, or Kindle, you can:

- Prepare for Mass each week by watching an insightful five-minute video on the Sunday Readings.
- Enjoy movies as a family that are both nourishing and entertaining.
- Enrich your marriage with the award winning video program BELOVED.
- Learn more about the Bible, your Catholic faith, and how to live a Catholic life.
- Help your children grow in faith and character with engaging children's materials.

We will be launching FORMED next week with instructions on how to register. FORMED is a gift that will inspire and energize your Catholic faith!

### Word of Life Bulletin Brief

"If you know someone who has had an abortion, express your sympathy for her loss. Assure her of God's unconditional love, and encourage her to seek healing and forgiveness."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

### Attention Cursillo Alumni

*As mariners are guided into port by the shining of a star, so Christians are guided to heaven by Mary! —Saint Thomas Aquinas*

Come join the Restoration Retreat as we ask for guidance from the Blessed Virgin Mary as we journey on our Fourth Day.

Come join us at Saint Anne's Retreat Center Women's Retreat Weekend:

Friday 01/26/18 at 5:30 p.m. to Sunday 01/28/18 at 12 p.m.

Men's Retreat Weekend:

Friday 02/02/18 at 5:30 p.m. to Sunday 02/04/18 at 12 p.m.

Contact Ellen or Nut Zembrodt (859-331-3598) or Diane Eilerman (859-341-4342), Pat Johnston (859-331-0673), Mary Jo Rose (513-260-2323) Phil (513-305-7273) or Jen (859-322-0071) Ryan, or [restoration859@gmail.com](mailto:restoration859@gmail.com). Cost is \$155 per person.

## Diocesan News

### Christmas Concerts Today

The Covington Catholic High School and Notre Dame Academy Band will have a Christmas Concert at 4:00 p.m. today, December 10th at the Notre Dame Academy Performing Arts Center

The Covington Catholic High School Chamber Choir will have a Christmas Performance at 7:00 p.m. today, December 10th, at Saint Agnes Church.

Both Concerts promise to be beautiful and inspiring!

### International Nativity Sets Display

Again this year, Nativity Sets (over 130) from around the world (64 countries) will be on display at Bishop Brossart High School (4 Groves Street, Alexandria, KY). The display is free and open to the public on the following days: December 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and December 24th from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Visiting this display in a good Advent/Christmas activity for the whole family.