

# The Epiphany of the Lord



Come,  
let us  
adore  
Him.



January 3, 2021

*The Church of Saint Agnes*

1680 Dixie Highway, Fort Wright, KY 41011

859.431.1802

Website: [www.saintagnes.com](http://www.saintagnes.com) Email: [parishoffice@saintagnes.com](mailto:parishoffice@saintagnes.com)

**STAFF:**

Rev. Mark Keene, Pastor  
Rev. Trinity Knight, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. James Quill, Retired  
Rev. Mr. Bob Stoeckle, Deacon/Pastoral Assoc.  
Rev. Mr. Gary Scott, Deacon  
Bobby Fisher, Director of Music Ministries  
Anita Dunn, Coordinator of Religious Education  
Pat Cunningham, Parish Business Manager  
Denise Graves, Bookkeeper  
Paula Fritz, Coordinator of RCIA  
Beth Love, 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  
331-8562

Email: [stagnesprayerline@gmail.com](mailto:stagnesprayerline@gmail.com)

Adoration Chapel, Don Able.....513-403-5242

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

Saturday: 8:30 a.m. & 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday : 8:30 & 10:30 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 & 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 12:00 p.m. except during Lent.

**PARISH FACILITIES MAY NOT BE USED FOR GATHERINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**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 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 10:30 a.m. Mass from September thru April. Contact Maureen Osterhaus at 859-803-0458 or [mosterhaus8@gmail.com](mailto:mosterhaus8@gmail.com) for more information.

**MEETINGS:**

Athletic Boosters-3rd Monday at 7:30 p.m.  
in the Parish Conference Room  
Board of Education-2nd Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.  
in the Library/Media (School) Center  
Finance Committee-1st Thursday at 7:00 p.m.  
in Feb., May, Aug. & Nov. in the Parish Conference Room  
Parish Council-1st Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish 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 Parish Conference Room

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, January 3-The Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 a.m. Hilda Keltz  
10:30 a.m. William Bohman

#### Monday, January 4-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

6:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory  
11:30 a.m. Charles K. Sassin

#### Tuesday, January 5-St. John Neumann

6:30 a.m. Joan Bischoff  
11:30 a.m. Charles Dahlenburg

#### Wednesday, January 6-St. Andre Bessette

6:30 a.m. Chad McCord  
11:30 a.m. Rob Miller

#### Thursday, January 7-St. Raymond

6:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory  
11:30 a.m. Ann Egbers

#### Friday, January 8

6:30 a.m. Joseph Connelly  
9:20 a.m. Special Intention  
11:30 a.m. Ruth Dahlenburg

#### Saturday, January 9

8:30 a.m. Ron Kenning  
4:00 p.m. Paul McDonald

#### Sunday, January 10-The Baptism of the Lord

8:30 a.m. Gizelda Albonetti  
10:30 a.m. Theresa Mary Ryan

Rosary, Sunday, Jan. 10th at 8:00 a.m.: Carl Stamm

### Staff Article

#### Epiphany from 2020?

Well, here we are 3 days into 2021! We made it! Has anything changed since last March when our lives seemed to come to a sudden stop? Still isolating, wearing masks, social distancing, having small gatherings, missing family members and friends, watching Mass on TV or Facebook.... the list can go on and on. With today's feast, The Epiphany, we celebrate the Three Kings or Wise men seeking a newborn King designated by the star. Finding Him they recognize the *true identity* of the child Jesus. They protect Him by ignoring King Herod's request to come back and tell him when they find the prophesized King.

Reflecting on the past 9 or 10 months, we need to look at ourselves to see if we have had any epiphanies. What have we learned from this past year? What had we started taking for granted? What habits have we fallen into? Are they good or bad? Is being with God in prayer one of them?

I wrote on this same feast two years ago and gave these definitions of epiphany from the Cambridge English Dictionary:

1. A moment when you suddenly feel that you understand or suddenly become conscious of something that is especially important to you.
2. A powerful religious experience.

I pray these past months of Mass over the screen and no actual Eucharist to receive, the pain and deaths that have occurred, and all the inconveniences of stay safe and healthy might lead all to a true epiphany – WE NEED CHRIST JESUS IN OUR LIVES! We need to share Him throughout our days with all we meet. We need to spend quiet, quality time with Him daily. We need to protect and proclaim the glory of Christ and give thanks to Him in the Eucharist!

With the vaccine being given throughout our world's population and as hope for an end builds, are we coming back to Mass to thank our Lord? Watching our congregations makes us wonder where people are. We know who are vulnerable and need to stay at home, but we know there are many others not showing up. Why has the Mass become such a secondary need to so many? Are we falling into a sense of not needing Christ in our lives?

As we ponder over this past year we should reflect and ask, why did God have us go through what has been happening? What was He expecting us to learn? Perhaps that without Him we are to have gloom and destruction? Perhaps we have learned to turn to Him in quiet, personal prayer that is put in place of other busy times in our life? Have we had that life-changing epiphany yet? Let us all think on that in this New Year. May God once again take precedence in our lives.

Anita Dunn, DRE/CRE



### Parish Worship

#### Faith Sharing Questions

**Theme of this week's Gospel: King Herod felt threatened when he heard another king had been born and told the Magi, who were following the star, they should tell him when they found the newborn king.**

Adults: Who or what in your life today presents a threat to you? Why? How can you resolve your concerns?

Teens: Can you imagine what Mary and Joseph thought when the Magi came and brought expensive gifts for their baby? Is there someone you could visit and take something to?

Children: If you could visit Baby Jesus today what would you bring to Him?

## Parish Worship continued

### Next Sunday, January 10, 2021 The Baptism of the Lord, Christmas Season (Cycle B)

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is the last day of the Christmas Season. The day after this feast (Monday, January 11th) we will begin Ordinary Time. This "Winter Ordinary Time" will last until Ash Wednesday, which this year is February 17th.

**Gospel Reading (Mark 1:7-11):** This Gospel reading is the account of Jesus' Baptism from Mark's Gospel. Accompanying Jesus' Baptism by John the Baptist, there is this great sign as the Holy Spirit breaks through into this created world and rests upon Jesus. It is important to note that the "Baptism" that John administered is not altogether the same "Baptism" that is a Sacrament of our Church.

**First Reading (Isaiah 55:1-11):** In this reading Isaiah encourages his people to return to the Lord. The exile in Babylon is over and the people can return home. Many learned how to prosper economically and otherwise in Babylon however and were reluctant to leave. Isaiah is trying to provide a religious motivation for people to return to their homeland and their religious practices. Much as Baptism represents a new beginning and a new initiative on God's part in our lives, so too was God's providing of a way home to the Promised Land after the Babylonian Exile.

**Second Reading (1 John 5:1-9):** This reading is toward the end of the First Letter of John. It encourages faith in Jesus Christ and following the commandments of God: "Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?"

## Catholic Traditions

**The Sacrament of Baptism:** With all of the Sacraments of our Faith, it is of utmost importance to understand them as they relate to the community of faith, the Church. None of the Sacraments—including Baptism—are rituals that just "stand by themselves." Baptism is not a spiritual or religious thing to do simply because a child has been born, as momentous a spiritual and religious event as that may be. Baptism is not a ritual whose main purpose is to affirm the goodness of a person (baby) in God's sight. The act of Creation itself would seem to provide all the affirmation we need of a person's desirability in the sight of God.

Baptism is a ritual that initiates one into the church. Baptism formally connects a person with a community

of faith, with the "Body of Christ," with the Church. Hence, the meaning of Baptism, as with all Sacraments, is found in what it means to be a member of the Church. Among the aspects to be considered regarding belonging to the Church is "witness." By our Baptism, we become part of the communal witness of the Church. This witness involves remembering what God has done for humanity in and through Jesus' death and Resurrection. This witness involves a "keeping vigil" with the rest of the community. We keep vigil by celebrating the Eucharist and by living lives with a faith and trust in God that leads to a radical generosity of our time, talent and treasure out of love for all men and women. In this love we are one with Christ: in His Baptism, His death and one day His Resurrection.

## A BIG "THANK YOU" to Many

It has taken a lot to get our church ready to resume public worship, which we did back on May 24, 2020. While we are not through all of this, as we begin a new calendar year 2021, we should take time to thank the many people who need to be acknowledged for making this happen in as safe a way as possible.

- Rick Wolking our Maintenance Supervisor and Dan Lee his assistant for taping off the pews in church, marking the six foot separations on the church floor, ordering and organizing the disinfectant, spray bottles, rags, gloves etc. for disinfecting pews after Mass... and for having the foresight to order all of these things in advance.
- All Volunteers who have been staying after Mass and doing the actual wiping down of pews, especially the many who do it every weekday and/or Sunday Mass.
- Everyone for helping by leaving your kneeler down so we know where to sanitize.
- Everyone for wearing masks and otherwise abiding by the protocols.

Thank you everyone... and to anyone we might have missed. You all are a true blessing!

## Adorers Needed

Adorers are needed to fill the following hours in the Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel:  
Monday-12AM, 1AM, 2AM, 1PM & 4PM  
Wednesday-2AM & 5PM  
Thursday-11PM  
Friday-4AM & 10AM  
Saturday-12AM & 11AM

If you are interested in helping to fill these open times or have any questions please contact Don Able at 513-403-5242 or [abledrky@gmail.com](mailto:abledrky@gmail.com).



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### Parish Worship continued

## Year of Saint Joseph:

### Prayer For Families

Last Sunday, December 27th, was the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and the first major feast associated with Saint Joseph during this special year dedicated to Saint Joseph. Here is a prayer for families that you may wish to include in your family's prayer life, particularly during this year dedicated to Saint Joseph.

*Loving God, during this holy season of Christmas, we ask for your blessing on all families. Let Mary's openness to your wondrous ways be an inspiration to place all trust in you. Let Joseph's courage provide hope during times of anxiety and uncertainty. Let Jesus' life ignite all families with a spirit of light and love. May the grace that encircled the Holy Family widen to embrace all families. For this we pray. Amen.*

## Monthly Intention of Pope Francis

### For use with The Morning Offering Prayer

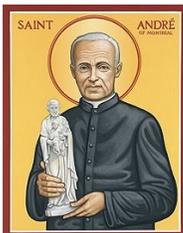
JANUARY 2021: For "Evangelization– Human Fraternity"... May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

## Bulletin Cover Picture

Our Nativity Scene in the sanctuary: The Three Kings

### Saint of the Week

## Andre Bessette



Andre Bessette was born Alfred Bessette in the small Canadian town of Mont-Saint-Gregoire in Quebec on August 9, 1845. He was such a frail child that he was "conditionally" Baptized. He was the eighth of 12 children. His father was a carpenter and lumberman and in 1849, due to economic factors, the family moved to the city of Farnham in Quebec. In 1854 a falling tree killed Andre's father and three years later his mother died of tuberculosis. Andre was an orphan at the age of 12.

His parish priest noticed that the young Andre was a devoted and religious young man and sent him to the Congregation of the Sacred Cross in Montreal with a note that said, "I am sending you a saint." He was rejected by the order because of his health. However

the Bishop of Montreal intervened and he was accepted. He entered the order in 1872 where he took the name of Andre. He made his final vows on February 2, 1874. He was 28.

Andre was given the job of porter, the brother who meets and interacts with the public. He was stationed at Notre Dame College in Cote-des Neiges, Quebec. This is a very important position and many porters have become saints. (cf. Blessed Solanus Casey, OFM of Detroit, Michigan.) He said, "when I joined the order the brothers showed me the door and I remained 40 years."

Andre Bessette is widely known for his devotion to Saint Joseph. He encouraged devotion to this saint to all that he met. He visited the sick with oil from a lamp in the chapel, which he rubbed on the patient. He also prayed for the sick. Many were cured, but Brother Andre refused to take credit. He also began an effort to erect a chapel to Saint Joseph at the Notre Dame College.

While at the college an epidemic broke out nearby. Brother Andre volunteered to nurse the sick. Not one person died. More and more people came to him, so many that the authorities became nervous. Andre always said, "I do not cure, Saint Joseph cures." He eventually needed three secretaries to answer the mail he received. In 1924 construction began on Saint Joseph's Oratory, a basilica near the original chapel that Brother Andre built.

Brother Andre died on January 6, 1937. Over a million people passed by his coffin at his visitation. His body minus the heart lies in the Oratory of Saint Joseph; his heart is preserved there in a reliquary. His heart was stolen in 1973 and recovered a year and a half later.

Brother Andre was beatified by John Paul II on May 23, 1982 and canonized in October 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI. He is the first and only saint from the Congregation of the Holy Cross. His feast day is January 6th.

### Stewardship

## Status of Sunday Collection

Actual Collections (07/01/20 thru 12/28/20)  
\$547,739

Budgeted Collections (07/01/20 thru 12/28/20)  
\$607,548

## Stewardship continued

### 2020 Virtual Smiles and Miles Check Presentation

On Friday, December 18 we had a live-streamed Mass for our school children. After the Mass we had "check presentation" (also live-streamed) in which it was announced that the "2020 Smiles and Miles 5K Run/Walk" in honor of Maria Schaffstein and the "Katie Stewart Memorial FROG (Forever Relying on God) Hop" for children age 6 and under had raised \$8,971 for the students of Saint Agnes School. From these funds, a \$500 scholarship will be awarded to each of two boys and two girls, to a Catholic High School. The remaining funds were distributed to the school and to our Athletic Boosters for future needs, and to the parish tuition assistance fund to help with tuition to our school. We thank all of the event sponsors and the school corporate sponsors as well. Since the Smiles and Miles 5K and FROG Hop events were virtual, there were participants from all over the United States. A special thanks to all who participated. This was the tenth annual Smiles and Miles 5K. –Father Mark Keene and the Smiles and Miles/FROG Hop Committee

## We Are His Hands

### Thanks From NDUEC and Family Promise

We received nice acknowledgments from the Notre Dame Urban Education Center and from Family Promise of Northern Kentucky for the donations we sent each of them in November. We send them a percentage of our Sunday collection each month.

## Parish News

### Family of God

We welcome into the Family of God the following infants who were baptized recently at St. Agnes:

Hayden Emma Wight  
Chad & Maiah Wight

### Evening Religion Classes Update

Due to the governor's recommendation, classes will be virtual on January 4th. We will resume in person on January 11th...we hope!

### Happy 91st Birthday Father Quill

This past Tuesday, December 29th, our Father Jim Quill celebrated his 91st birthday! We had a "birthday parade" at 3 PM that day, with parishioners invited to drive by the deck on the back of the rectory. We congratulate Fr. Quill! May 30th of this year will be the 67th anniversary of Fr. Quill's ordination to the priesthood. We are grateful that he has spent 27 of those years (since July, 1994) here at Saint Agnes.

### First Thursday Rosary Cancelled

Sadly, in these times of needing prayer, we are cancelling our First Thursday Rosary on January 7th. As we take precautions following the Christmas celebrations, we are postponing gatherings here too. You can take part in the Rosary anytime on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). Just search Rosary. EWTN has the Rosary daily at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Pray that we get back in February.

## Faith Formation

### RCIA

Today we celebrate the manifestation of Christ to all people. Our RCIA inquirer, and all of us, are seeking the same Lord who the three kings found in the manger. We are all on our own journey to the same Lord who leads us out of darkness and even accompanies us along the way. Do you know anyone who is seeking the Lord in their lives? In this New Year, be the light that leads someone to the Lord. Our RCIA process is a wonderful opportunity to unwrap the gifts God has ready for all of us. **Please invite someone to inquire about the Catholic faith at Saint Agnes. Call the Parish Office at 431-1802 or email Paula at [pfritz@saintagnes.com](mailto:pfritz@saintagnes.com).** Please continue to pray for our current inquirer.

### FORMED

2021 has begun! Now is the time to resolve to grow in your faith and to commit to sharing your faith with others. Registering for our free parish subscription for FORMED will provide you with all the Catholic resources you need to become a more effective and powerful witness to our Catholic faith. It's EASY and FREE to register! Go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org). Click the "sign in" button. Next choose "I belong to a parish..." Then enter St. Agnes Church Ft. Wright Kentucky, select our parish, and follow the instructions. Every time you go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) you will be sent to the sign in page. No password needed, just click sign in and you are there. Please sign up today.