

BAPTISM of the LORD



January 10, 2021

The Church of Saint Agnes

1680 Dixie Highway, Fort Wright, KY 41011

859.431.1802

Website: www.saintagnes.com Email: 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 Office431-1802
Parish Fax291-7017
Email Address . . . parishoffice@saintagnes.com

Office Hours:

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

School261-0543
Hall Rental (Ron Lawson)803-3216

Prayer Line Requests331-1924
331-8562

Email: 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.

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 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 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 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Mass Intentions

- Sunday, January 10**-The Baptism of the Lord
8:30 a.m. Gizelda Albonetti
10:30 a.m. Theresa Mary Ryan
- Monday, January 11**
6:30 a.m. Peggy Wigger Brockman
11:30 a.m. Mary E. Nienaber
- Tuesday, January 12**
6:30 a.m. Joan Bischoff
11:30 a.m. Kevin McKinley
- Wednesday, January 13**-St. Hilary
6:30 a.m. Special Intention (MM)
9:30 a.m. Special Intention
11:30 a.m. John & Joyce Beasley LeVan-Anniver.
- Thursday, January 14**
6:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory
11:30 a.m. Ruth A. Sorrell
- Friday, January 15**
6:30 a.m. Anita Dodd Connelly
9:20 a.m. Special Intention
11:30 a.m. Staff Sargent Daniel Tyler Lee
- Saturday, January 16**
8:30 a.m. Louis Albonetti
4:00 p.m. Deacon Ralph Grieme, Jr.
- Sunday, January 17**-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 a.m. Dec'd of Tepe & Wells Families
10:30 a.m. Marie Stachiera

Rosary, Sunday, Jan. 17th at 8:00 a.m.: Frances Lee

Staff Article

Dear Friends

Psychologists agree it's important to hear words that affirm us. Not just empty compliments, but heartfelt words of love and appreciation. Such words can help us to know that the person speaking to us respects and honors us. Affirmation like these can improve our relationships and solidify our commitment to each other.

It's interesting then, that one of the few times we hear the voice of God in the scriptures directly, not through a prophet or vision, comes in today's Gospel. God the Father tells Jesus, "You are my beloved Son; with You I am well pleased." God was pleased that Jesus was taking the first step in His ministry, and He said so. Right there in front of John and His disciples, He revealed Jesus identity and His fatherly love for His Son.

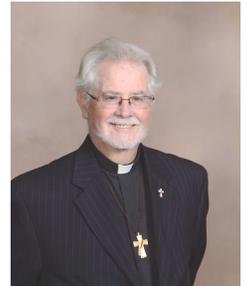
You need affirmation like that too. Every day. And it's available to you when you pray and worship God. As you acknowledge who you are in relation to Him. You open your ears to hear what He thinks about you. You

begin to understand that you are His beloved child. That He appreciates your concern to follow Him.

The people in your life need it as well, and some of them need it from you. It's not about saying something just to make them feel good. It's being alert to opportunities, especially unexpected ones, to point out something that you appreciate about them, their efforts to lead a Bible study. Their patient response to an unkind sibling... Their generosity and kindness. Tell them you are glad they are your brother or sister in Christ. Every time you do, you shine a light on the bigger picture of their lives.

Let God tell you how He loves you, how He is pleased with you. Then go and do the same thing for your neighbor. They would probably really like to hear it.

God Bless
Deacon Bob



Parish Worship

Faith Sharing Questions

Theme of this week's Gospel: Jesus came from Nazareth and was Baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan river...the heavens opened up when He came out of the water.

Adults: What do the symbols the heaven, the clouds and the dove tell you about who Jesus is? Do you think the people who witnessed His Baptism understood who He was? What kind of symbols do you need to believe?

Teens: Who called Jesus "his beloved child?" Whose "beloved child" are you?

Children: What happens in the Sacrament of Baptism? Who is the Holy Spirit?

Next Sunday, January 17, 2021 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B

We have a few weeks of the Liturgical Season called "Ordinary Time" between the end of the Christmas Season (the last day is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, January 10th this year) and the beginning of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday (February 17th this year). The priest wears green vestments during Ordinary Time, unless there is a special feast. The season is called "Ordinary" because it is "ordained", that is, counted, second Sunday, third Sunday, etc.

We are in cycle B, and so this year our Gospel

Parish Worship continued

reading will be from the Gospel of Saint Mark for the most part. However there are some exceptions when we will read from the Gospel of John. During Ordinary Time the first reading, from the Old Testament, is chosen because of a thematic relation to the Gospel reading. For the second reading, we continuously read from a New Testament letter, currently Paul's First Letter to the Church at Corinth (I Corinthians).

Gospel Reading (John 1:35-42): The Gospel of Mark will be featured this year, but today's Gospel reading is one of the exceptions. This reading "makes sense" as a follow-up to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In the days of the early church apparently there was some "competition" among the disciples of John the Baptist who considered him to be the Messiah and the disciples of Jesus. In this reading, John the Baptist is depicted as pointing out Jesus as "The Lamb of God." John says to his disciples, "Behold, the Lamb of God" and thereby John is directing his disciples to Jesus, indicating that he (John) is not the one they are to follow. The title "The Lamb of God" is also a premonition of the type of death Jesus would die, much like the sacrificial Passover lambs. These disciples of John ask Jesus "Where do you stay?" which is thought to mean, "What is the source of your spirituality?" or "What keeps you?" Jesus doesn't explain, he simply says "Come and you will see." This is true for all would-be disciples. In this reading, the emphasis is on the call and the response in faith to the One who is calling. Jesus and the Liturgy invites us to "come and see" as well.

First Reading (1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19): This reading is the account of Samuel being called as a boy by the Lord. Samuel will grow up to be the prophet who anoints Israel's first two kings: Saul and David. That a prophet anoints these kings is a way of showing that the initiation of a monarchy in Israel began with God's initiative. (The circumstances of Samuel's birth to very old parents also indicates that this monarchy is an initiative from God.) Also significant is that young Samuel is attentive and so hears the Lord's call. In the case of Eli, the old priest in the story, it takes three times before he catches on and tells Samuel how to respond to the Lord's call. Somewhat humorously, this indicates that the people, even the priests, had forgotten what the call of the Lord sounded like.

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20): Corinth was a seaport with all of a seaport's vices. Paul wrote this letter to the church there to address a number of issues. In this passage Paul reminds them

that because of their Baptism, their bodies are now "Temples of the Holy Spirit" and tells them that "you are not your own." They now belong to Christ, and therefore they should glorify Christ in their bodies, not use their bodies to use other people, sexually or in any other way. In our "Rite of Baptism for Infants and Children" we pray that they may be "Temples of the Holy Spirit" and during the Catholic Funeral Mass, we incense the body at the end of the Funeral Liturgy because it was a Temple of the Holy Spirit while the deceased was alive.

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.

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.



Bulletin Cover Picture

One of the "windowsill-scapes" in church this Christmas Season. Many thanks to Margie and Mike Witt and their family for arranging these beautiful decorations on the windowsills again this Christmas Season. -Father Mark Keene

Saint of the Week

Saint Hilary of Poitiers



Saint Hilary of Poitiers was born in what is today France in approximately 300 AD. His parents were well-to-do pagans and he received a pagan education albeit a good one with a great deal of Greek. His reading included the Old and New Testament. It was this reading that caused him to abandoned Greek philosophy for Christianity. He, his wife and daughter were Baptized and received into the Church.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saint of the Week continued

Hilary was so respected by the Christians of Arles that around 351-352 AD he was elected Bishop by the people of his diocese. He took over a diocese that was threatened by Arianism. Arianism is the heresy that says that while God always exists and existed, Jesus, the Son of God did not and was created by the Father and was separate from the Father. This is in opposition to the faith of the Church, which says that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are One God in three persons. He excommunicated several Arian Bishops and protested to the Roman Emperor of the persecution of orthodox Christians at the hands of the Arians. He also wrote a book condemning Arianism, which got him exiled by the Roman Emperor to what is now Turkey in 356, which lasted for four years.

While in exile he continued to administer his diocese and he continued to write books supporting the doctrine of the Trinity and opposing Arianism, and even opposing the Arian views of Emperor Constantius II, who had exiled him. In 361 when Constantius died Hilary's exile ended.

When he returned to his diocese in France he continued to battle Arianism. He was also instrumental in getting the future Saint Martin of Tours to found a monastery in France. Saint Hilary died in 367. He was canonized before the current method of canonization was in place. He was named a Doctor of the Church in 1851. His feast day was originally January 14th, but was moved in the adjustment of the Roman calendar in 1970 to January 13th.

Stewardship

Status of Sunday Collection

Actual Collections (07/01/20 thru 01/04/21)
\$580,559

Budgeted Collections (07/01/20 thru 01/04/21)
\$638,452

Parish News

Parish Pictorial Directories

Our 90th Anniversary, 2020 Parish Pictorial Directories have arrived. If you had your picture taken for the directory, you are entitled to a copy. For now, you can pick it up at the parish office. When the Covid-19 protocols are relaxed, we will have an opportunity for people to pick them up after Mass. They turned out very well. Thank you to Sue Sturgeon who created the layout. —Father Mark Keene

Big Blue Bash 2021

Save the date to please continue your support of Saint Agnes School! The Big Blue Bash is the Saint Agnes School Parent/Teacher Organizations biggest annual fundraiser. This year the event will take place on Friday, March 26th. Plan on joining us for a short online program complete with silent auction, raffles, entertainment, and lots of fun! This is the most important fundraiser of the year and we need your support now more than ever. There is no cost to attend but you will need to register for the event at www.BBB2021.givesmart.com.



The CASH! CASH! CASH! \$5,000 raffle tickets are now available. All proceeds go directly to the Big Blue Bash Event. Early bird prizes of \$100 to the winner and \$25 to the seller are offered on February 18th and March 11th, you are re-entered automatically for the big prize drawn at the event. Raffle tickets are available at the parish office, the school office, and online at www.BBB2021.givesmart.com. If you would like to make a in-kind donation to the event, all items are being accepted at the school office or arrangements can be made to the Big Blue Bash committee at saintagnesbigbluebash@gmail.com.

Faith Formation

RCIA

In our first reading today Samuel responds, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." Are you listening to the Lord's call in your life? Through daily prayer we listen to the Lord, and through prayer He will reveal to us what He is asking of us at this point in our lives. Our RCIA inquirer has heard the Lord call him to baptism and fullness of life within the Catholic faith. He is responding to His call through faithfulness to the RCIA process. Please keep him in your prayers. If you or someone you know would like to explore the Catholic faith, please contact Paula Fritz at pfritz@saintagnes.com or call 431-1802.

FORMED

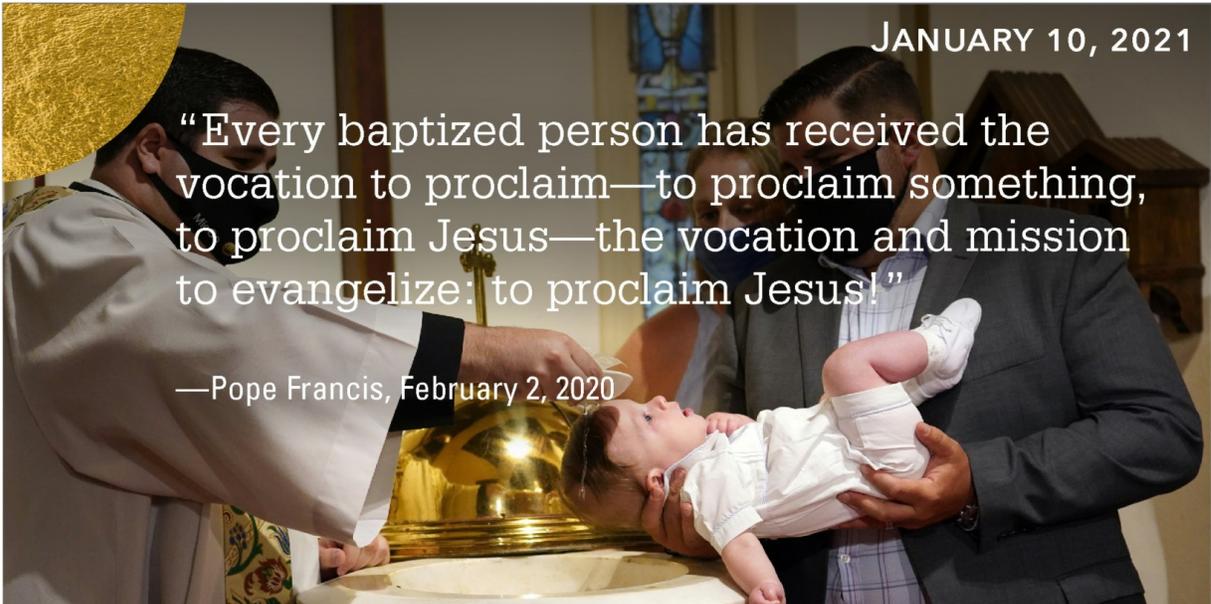
2021 has begun! Now is the time to resolve to grow in your faith and to commit to sharing your faith with others. Registering for our free parish subscription for FORMED will provide you with all the Catholic resources you need to become a more effective and powerful witness to our Catholic faith. It's EASY and FREE to register. Go to www.formed.org and click on sign in. Choose I belong to a parish and enter St. Agnes Church. Please sign up today!

The Baptism of the Lord

JANUARY 10, 2021

“Every baptized person has received the vocation to proclaim—to proclaim something, to proclaim Jesus—the vocation and mission to evangelize: to proclaim Jesus!”

—Pope Francis, February 2, 2020



Getty Images

Today, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord!

The **origin and foundation** of Christian Baptism is Jesus. Before starting his public ministry, Jesus submitted himself to the baptism given by John the Baptist. The waters did not purify him; he cleansed the waters. “He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake . . . to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water” (St. Gregory Nazianzen, Liturgy of the Hours, I, 634).

Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will. Jesus did not need to be baptized because he was totally faithful to the will of his Father and free from sin. However, he wanted to show his solidarity with human beings in order to reconcile them to the Father. By commanding his disciples to baptize all nations, he established the means by which people would die to sin—Original and actual—and begin to live a new life with God.



Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena, *9 Days for Life*, Thursday, January 21—Friday, January 29. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Sign up at 9daysforlife.com!