

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



January 17, 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 Office 431-1802
Parish Fax 291-7017
Email Address ... 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

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.

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

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS Intentions

Sunday, January 17-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Dec'd of Tepe & Wells Families
10:30 a.m. Marie Stachiera

Monday, January 18

6:30 a.m. T.J. Gleeson
11:30 a.m. Steve Miller

Tuesday, January 19

6:30 a.m. Loretta Van Lierop
11:30 a.m. Deacon Ralph M. Gutman

Wednesday, January 20-St. Fabian; St. Sebastian

6:30 a.m. Charles Dahlenburg
9:30 a.m. Special Intention
11:30 a.m. Mary Berling

Thursday, January 21-St. Agnes

6:30 a.m. Marilyn Stoeckle
11:30 a.m. Intention of Dolores Tedesco

Friday, January 22-Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection
of Unborn Children

6:30 a.m. William Sommerkamp
9:20 a.m. Special Intention
11:30 a.m. Hilda Keltz

Saturday, January 23-St. Vincent; St. Marianne Cope

8:30 a.m. Intention of Nancy Cetruo
4:00 p.m. Ann Dickman

Sunday, January 24-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Clem Hellmann
10:30 a.m. Martha Nutter

Rosary, Sunday, Jan. 24th at 8:00 a.m.: Tony Summe

Staff Article

Catholicism and Other Religions

Tomorrow, January 18th, we begin our observance of "Church Unity Octave" or "The Week of Prayer For Christian Unity" as it is sometimes referred to. Since 1908, these eight days, concluding with the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul (January 25th) have been set aside on our Year of Worship Calendar as a special time of prayer for unity among all Christians. As I often say: "If you want to know what is important, look at your calendar. That is where we mark off time for the things we want to make sure we do not forget." Unity among Christians is something we should always be praying for, but the fact that we have a special octave on our calendar each year says something of its importance to the Catholic Church and all of the Christian denominations that observe it.

Beyond unity among Christians however, is also the unity of all people of good will. Sometimes... often... the Catholic Church's position regarding non-Catholic or non-Christian religions is represented as negative and even hostile. While unfortunately there are

instances where this characterization is justified, based on the actions of some, I think it is important to look to the "most official and most authorized" source of teaching there is, which is contained in the documents of an ecumenical council. These teachings are teachings that have been approved by the world's bishops, gathered in council, and approved by the Bishop of Rome, the pope. Some words from "The Declaration On The Relation Of The Church To Non-Christian Religions" (*Nostra Aetate*) from the ecumenical, Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) are instructive.

The Catholic Church rejects nothing of what is true and holy in these religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, other non-Christian religions). She has a high regard for the manner of life and conduct, the precepts and doctrines which, although differing in many ways from her own teaching, nevertheless often reflect a ray of that truth which enlightens all men...

The Church, therefore, encourages her sons to enter with prudence and charity into discussion and collaboration with members of other religions. Let Christians, while witnessing to their own faith and way of life, acknowledge, preserve and encourage the spiritual and moral truths found among non-Christians, also their social life and culture...

Sounding the depths of the mystery which is the Church, this sacred Council [The Second Vatican Council] remembers the spiritual ties which link the people of the New Covenant to the stock of Abraham. The Church of Christ acknowledges that in God's plan of salvation the beginning of her faith and election is to be found in the patriarchs, Moses and the prophets. She professes that all Christ's faithful, who as men of faith are sons of Abraham, are included in the same patriarch's call and that the salvation of the Church is mystically prefigured in the Exodus of God's chosen people from the land of bondage...

Or as is stated so well in Saint Paul's letter to the Galatians (Galatians 3:28) "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus"... Or as stated in the introduction to the Nicene Creed from The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom from the Orthodox Tradition: "Let us love one another, that with one mind we may confess the Holy Trinity, one in essence and undivided."

Father Mark Keene



Parish Worship

Faith Sharing Questions

Theme of this week's Gospel: John the Baptist pointed out Jesus to two of his disciples and they followed Jesus. Then one of them, called Andrew, brought his brother, Simon and asked him to join them. Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter. How confusing was all of that?

Adults: Do you think the first apostles understood what was happening to them? Did Simon Peter realize he would be heading up a new church? Have you ever been asked to undertake a large task and feel "unsure" of where to begin? Can you trust that the Lord will be there when you need His help?

Teens: If you had been around when Jesus was choosing His first apostles, would you have gone with Him if asked? Why or why not? What would you do today if asked to work with some missionary group for the summer?

Children: How do you and your friends let Jesus know you love Him or love those who may not be easy to love?

Next Sunday, January 24, 2021

**Third 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) and the beginning of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday (February 14th this year). The priest wears green vestments during Ordinary Time, unless there is a special feast. The season is called "Ordinary" because it is "ordinated", that is, counted, second Sunday, third Sunday, etc.

We are in cycle B, and so our Gospel reading will be from Mark's Gospel 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 (Mark 1:14-20): Most scholars believe that the Gospel of Mark was the first of the Gospels to be written. It appears that it was used as a basis for the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. All three of these "synoptic Gospels" (so called because they "look alike") follow the same basic outline in describing Jesus' public ministry. The Gospel of John follows a very different outline in describing Jesus' public ministry. Mark tends to be "to-the-point"

without much elaboration. This reading is a good example. In a very succinct style, we hear that John the Baptist has been arrested, Jesus proclaims that the Kingdom of God is at hand, and immediately calls His disciples who immediately follow Him. There is an urgency that is almost palpable in Mark's Gospel that is perhaps reflective of the belief in Mark's day that Jesus would return soon... "The time is now to turn to the Lord!"

First Reading (Jonah 3:1-5,10): In our entire three-year cycle of readings for Sundays, this reading is the only reading from the Book of Jonah. In this reading we hear of Jonah's half-hearted effort to preach repentance to the people of Nineveh. Yet that proves to be enough and the people of Nineveh repent and God forgives them. It is sometimes quipped that Jonah is the only prophet in the Old Testament who is actually successful... the people of Nineveh listen and turn their lives around and God "repents of the evil that He had threatened to do to them."

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 7:29-31): In this reading, as in today's Gospel reading, we can clearly see the sense of urgency that derived from the belief of the first Christians that Christ would return soon, "I tell you brothers and sisters, the time is running out... For the world in its present form is passing away."

Christian Unity Octave

This ecumenical tradition on our Roman Catholic calendar began in 1908. January 25th is the "Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul." Beginning on January 18th, up to and including January 25th is a special "octave" or 8 days of special prayer for unity among all Christian peoples. The divisions that exists among the people who share "one Lord, one Faith and one Baptism" are a source of pain and wounded-ness in the Body of Christ. We pray for healing of this wound.

Adorers Needed

Adorers are needed to fill the following hours in the Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel:

Monday-12AM, 1AM & 2AM

Wednesday-2AM

Thursday-11PM

Friday-4AM & 10AM

Saturday-12AM



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

Father Quill after reviewing the "Birthday Parade" in his honor, this past December 29th, his 91st Birthday.

Parish Worship continued

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.

Saint of the Week

Saint Agnes

Saint Agnes, whose name means chaste, pure or sacred, was born in Rome around 291 AD to a noble Roman, Christian family. The story of her life and martyrdom are shrouded in legend but generally is as follows.



Agnes was beautiful and had many suitors of high rank. She would accept none of them. One of them angered by her refusal reported her as a Christian to the local government official, a prefect called Sempronius. This occurred during the reign of the Emperor Diocletian who is infamous for his persecution of Christians. To violate her chastity the prefect is said to have had her dragged naked through the streets to a brothel, but the legends say that she prayed and her hair grew and covered her body as she was being dragged through the streets and anyone who attempted to violate her was struck blind. It is also said that when the son of the prefect who had imprisoned her died, Agnes prayed for him and his life was restored. At that the prefect had her released. Since Agnes was a Christian she was not out of danger and she soon had to face the authorities again.

The second time she was placed on trial and the prefect, who's son she had prayed for, excused himself from judging her. Despite this another Roman judge convicted her and ordered that she be burned at the stake. However when they tried to burn her either the wood would not ignite or the flames would not touch her. In exasperation the executioner beheaded her. She was buried along the Via Nomentana in Rome and her sister suffered martyrdom for praying at her grave shortly after Agnes' death. Later Saint Constance was cured of leprosy at the gravesite. Today Agnes' bones are beneath the altar at the church of Sant'Agnese fuori le mura in Rome and her skull is at the church of Sant'Agnese in Agone (also in Rome). Her feast day is January 21st. She is the patron of betrothed couples, chastity, gardeners, virgins and victims of sexual assault.

Stewardship

Status of Sunday Collection

Actual Collections (07/01/20 thru 01/11/21)

\$596,405

Budgeted Collections (07/01/20 thru 01/11/21)

\$663,742

Parish News

Family of God

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

Wesley Edward Grimes

Child of Rob & Jackie Grimes

First Communion Parent Meeting

On January 21st at 7:00 p.m. there will be a meeting for parents about First Communion. The meeting will be in the main body of the Church. Meeting is to build appreciation of Eucharist and give ideas on preparing children. The meeting will last 45 to 60 minutes.

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.

Parish News continued

Kentucky Legislature and Educational Choice

It has been an exciting week for educational choice. Rep. Chad McCoy filed HB 149 and Senator Ralph Alvarado filed SB 25. The bills would create an Education Opportunity Account program which would provide financial assistance to families for K-12 educational expenses, including tuition at Catholic and other non-public schools. Please encourage your state representative and senator to co-sponsor HB 149 and SB 25. You can use the link on CCK's page to email your legislators or you can call the LRC message center at 1-800-372-7181 Monday-Friday. The current bill sponsors who have districts in the Diocese of Covington are below. If you see your representative or senator, be sure to send them an email to say "thank you" for standing with Kentucky families. If you do not see your legislators name, please continue to encourage them to co-sponsor this legislation. It would be great to see a united front from the Northern Kentucky Legislative Caucus on educational choice!

Rep. Kim Banta (Kenton, Boone) -
Kim.Banta@lrc.ky.gov

Rep. Kim Moser (Kenton, Campbell) -
Kimberly.Moser@lrc.ky.gov

Rep. Joe Fischer (Campbell) -
Joe.Fischer@lrc.ky.gov

Rep. Adam Koenig (Kenton, Boone) -
Adam.Koenig@lrc.ky.gov

Rep. William Lawrence (Bracken, Fleming, Mason, Robertson) - William.Lawrence@lrc.ky.gov

Rep. Savannah Maddox (Grant, Kenton) -
Savannah.Maddox@lrc.ky.gov

Rep. Felicia Rabourne (Carroll, Gallatin, Henry, Trimble) - Felicia.Rabourn@lrc.ky.gov

Monsignor Charles Towell, P.A.

This past Tuesday, January 12th, was the 50th anniversary of the death of Monsignor Charles Towell, P. A. He was the first pastor of Saint Agnes Parish, serving from 1953 until his death in 1971. Saint Agnes "Chapel" was a mission of Saint Mary Cathedral Parish from its founding in 1930 until it was established as a parish in 1953. Until then, it was served by priests assigned to the Cathedral. Many of our older parishioners remember Monsignor Towell. By the way, the "P. A." after his name stands for *Protonotary Apostolic*. There are several "types" of monsignor. All are honorary titles given by the pope at the suggestion of a priest's bishop. Monsignors are honorary members of the "Papal Court." As the title for Monsignor Towell suggests, he was an

honorary notary in the papal court. Strictly speaking, the title is withdrawn when the pope who bestows it dies, but that has largely been ignored in recent history. Other "types" of Monsignor are "Domestic Prelate" and "Papal Chaplain."

Spiritual Adoption

Spiritual Adoption Program

This month we are starting the Spiritual Adoption Program, a program of praying for the unborn who are in danger of being aborted. Due to COVID we will not have prayer cards as we had in past years. Below is a copy of the Spiritual Adoption prayer, written by Venerable Archbishop Sheen. You can also find a copy of the prayer on our parish app and the parish's Facebook page.

*"Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
I love you very much.
I beg you to spare the life of [baby's name]
the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted
who is in danger of abortion."*

Prayer of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Faith Formation

RCIA

In today's Scriptures, God calls Samuel and Samuel responds, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." Our RCIA catechumen has heard the voice of God calling him into a deeper relationship and he is responding through his commitment to learning more about the Catholic faith in the RCIA. Please keep Charlie in your prayers as he continues his journey to the Easter Sacraments.

FORMED

Now that 2021 is well under way and you are settling into the new year, have you considered adopting a plan for you and your family to grow in your love and knowledge of God and our Church? Formed.org provides a perfect resource in your own home for you and your family to enrich your faith. Check out under search *The Year of St. Joseph, Making Scripture Part of Your 2021*, and *Opening the Word*. For children, search *The Saints and Heroes Collection, The Jesus Stories*, and *The Animated Bible Stories*. There are incredible video, book, and study adventures at your fingertips, all free, when you register for formed.org. Go to formed.org and click "sign up." Choose St. Agnes Church, Ft. Wright and follow the instructions from there. You are ready to watch!