

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



February 14, 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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 14-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Earl Abeln
10:30 a.m. Rudy Pohlabein

Monday, February 15

6:30 a.m. Communion Service
11:30 a.m. Edward Stieby

Tuesday, February 16

6:30 a.m. LM "Mike" Poage
11:30 a.m. Judy Berling

Wednesday, February 17-Ash Wednesday

6:30 a.m. Etta Zembrodt
9:30 a.m. Special Intention
11:30 a.m. William Sommerkamp
7:00 p.m. Danny Perry

Thursday, February 18

6:30 a.m. Dec'd of the Tepe & Wells Families
11:30 a.m. Charles Brungs

Friday, February 19

6:30 a.m. People of the Parish
9:20 a.m. Special Intention
11:30 a.m. Kevin Macke

Saturday, February 20

8:30 a.m. Dec'd of Jack & Helen Grayson
4:00 p.m. Anne Droege

Sunday, February 21-First Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Bill Becker
10:30 a.m. Marie Kreutzjans

Rosary, Sunday, Feb. 21st at 8:00 a.m.: Fred Summe

Staff Article

"Lord If You Wish You Can Make Me Clean" (Matthew 8:1-4, Luke 5:12-16, Mark 1:40-45)

Today we hear the Lord, first telling Moses and Aaron to cast out the lepers as they were unclean until healed. Then in the Gospel we hear Jesus cleanse a leper. In our world today many may relate to the lepers being cast out or quarantined as the COVID virus has done. Surely, we all are praying to the Lord to cleanse the world of this virus!

We should take this time to examine our lives for other types of diseases of which we and others might need to be cleansed. Jealousy, greed, hate, pride and superiority are just a few of the diseases that might creep up on us. Are we aware of how those spread through our actions? Do we realize how terrible these characteristics and actions are? Do we realize we can go to Christ to help 'cleanse' us of these characteristics?

We enter Lent this Wednesday. Lent is a period when we should think of our ending—"ashes to ashes." Our aim at thinking of the end should be to examine

Ourselves for what we need to repent and cleanse ourselves of. Focusing on the suffering Christ endured for us during these 40 days of Lent should help us see the need to repent and be thankful for his reopening the gates of heaven for us.

Today is also Valentine's Day. Saint Valentine is the patron saint of love. Believers say God worked through his life to perform miracles and teach people how to recognize and experience true love. This famous saint, an Italian doctor who later became a priest, inspired the creation of the holiday of Valentine's Day. He was sent to jail for performing weddings for couples during a time when new marriages were outlawed in ancient Rome. Before he was killed for refusing to renounce his faith, he sent a loving note to a child he had been helping to teach—the daughter of his jailer—and that note eventually led to the tradition of sending Valentine's cards." (By Whitney Hopler. Updated January 31, 2019.)

Perhaps today we can think about how we might spread love as St. Valentine did, even if we are condemned for our good deeds.

Reach out to those who are lonely, those in need of love, those who need a sudden smile, and those who would get joy from a Valentine. Spread love to heal our world.



Anita Dunn, DRE, CRE

Parish Worship

Faith Sharing Questions

Theme of this week's Gospel: Jesus cured a leper and told him to tell no one about the healing...then the leper spread the news of his cure to everyone he met and Jesus could no longer openly enter a town.

Adults: Why do you think Jesus asked the leper not to tell anyone about his healing? Do you think you could have kept the secret if you had been the leper? Why do you think Jesus wanted the healing kept quiet?

Teens: Do you believe in miracles? Has anything ever happened to you or one of your friends that you think may have been miraculous? Ask your parents if they have ever encountered anything miraculous.

Children: If you could ask Jesus to perform a miracle for you what would you ask for? Why?

Next Sunday, February 21, 2021 First Sunday of Lent, Cycle B

This coming Wednesday, February 17th is Ash Wednesday, the day we begin the Liturgical Season

Parish Worship continued

of Lent. Each year at Easter we renew our Baptismal Promises. Lent is a time set aside by our church for the purpose of preparing ourselves to renew these promises. Our Baptismal Promises express our desire for our lives to be configured to Christ's, "who though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped, rather he emptied himself... becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." (Philippians 2:6-11, Second Reading on Palm Sunday). Prayer, almsgiving and fasting are three "tried and true" disciplines to help us prepare ourselves to live more deeply the life of sacrifice that our Baptismal Promises call us to.

We are in "Year B" and in Year B the Gospel of Mark is featured in our readings at Sunday Mass, though not without exceptions. For the first two Sunday's of Lent, the Gospel reading at Sunday Mass is from the Gospel of Saint Mark. For the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent, the Gospel reading is from the Gospel of John. In general, during Lent, the first reading—from the Old Testament—is always about the history of salvation (One of the traditional main topics of Lenten instruction). In particular, in Cycle B years, the first reading each Sunday is concerned with one of the Covenants of the Old Testament (Noah, Abraham, Moses, Return from the Babylonian Exile, New Covenant described by Jeremiah) which point to the final covenant in Jesus which we commemorate at the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter). The second reading—from the New Testament writings—is chosen because of thematic relations to the Old Testament and Gospel readings of each particular Sunday.

Gospel (Mark 1:12-15): The Gospel for the first Sunday in Lent is always either Matthew, Mark or Luke's version of Jesus' stay in the desert and His temptations from the devil. In all three of these "synoptic" Gospels this event occurs just before Jesus begins His public ministry. Jesus is driven into the dessert by the Spirit. He stays (is kept by the Spirit?) there for "40 days." In the Bible the number "40" is a number that seems to indicate the time it takes for God's will to be accomplished. We see the effects of Jesus' time spent with the Spirit in the desert in His response to temptation, indicating that the Spirit has in fact prepared Him and He is ready for His public ministry which seems to be precipitated by the arrest of John the Baptist. Typical of Mark, details of the temptations are not given as fully as they are in Matthew and Luke.

First Reading (Genesis 9:8-15): This reading from Genesis is from the story of Noah. The setting is after Noah, his family and all the creatures have been

in the ark during the "40 days and 40 nights" of rain. God initiates a covenant with Noah and the rainbow is the sign of this new pledge of God to humanity.

Second Reading (1 Peter 3:18-22): 1 Peter is a letter of encouragement to Christians in Asia Minor in the first century. In this passage the writer speaks of the flood in Noah's time as a pre-figuring of Baptism in Christ.

Ash Wednesday, The Distribution of Ashes and Covid-19

We begin the Liturgical Season of Lent this Wednesday, February 17th. We will be having the distribution of ashes at all Masses on Wednesday. However, the minister will not be tracing the cross on foreheads. Rather, the minister will "sprinkle" some of the ashes over the recipient's head and not making any physical contact with the recipient. The words that normally accompany the distribution of ashes will be said once at the beginning, but not in each individual case. – Father Mark Keene

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

On Ash Wednesday, February 17th we will have three Masses: 6:30am, 11:30am and 7:00pm.

Bulletin Cover Picture

Bishop Foys "installs" Adam Feinauer in the Ministry of Acolyte. (See article below).

Adam Feinauer Advances Toward the Permanent Diaconate

Last Sunday, during a Sunday Liturgy at our Cathedral, our brother parishioner Adam Feinauer was "installed" in the Ministry of Acolyte, along with two other men from our diocese, and 13 men from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Bishop Foys presided. This is the last liturgical/ministerial step before Adam will be ordained a Permanent Deacon in service to our Diocese of Covington. Please God, that will be in the Spring of 2022. Adam has taught in our Evening Religion Program for well over 20 years. He has already completed nearly two years in his diaconal formation. We congratulate Adam, his wife Sherri, and their children: Adam, Hope and Noah. –Father Mark Keene

Monthly Intention of Pope Francis

For use with The Morning Offering Prayer
FEBRUARY 2021: Universal Intention - "Violence Against Woman": We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protested by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Worship continued

A Slight Change in Wording

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 17, there will be a slight change in the wording of the doxology of the opening prayer of Mass. It will change from "In the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever" to "In the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever." The word "one" was erroneously added to English Translations of the Latin Roman Missal, which is the standard from which all translations are made. This change corrects the error.

Lent Begins this Week

A little research shows that the season Lent has a very complicated history. The practice of having a period of fasting before the annual celebration of Easter is very old. In the earliest days of the Church, the weekly Sunday celebration of the Eucharist was seen as THE commemoration of Easter and it was preceded by a day of fast on the Friday of each week. So the Church's practice of the celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday and fasting on Friday are among the oldest of our traditions.

There have been many variations of the season that we now call Lent. An exact count of 40 days does not seem to have been important. In some areas, Sundays were expected to be days of fasting like any other day of Lent. In other areas, Sundays weren't fast days. In some areas, neither Sundays nor Saturdays were counted, but Lent lasted for eight weeks ($8 \times 5 = 40$). One form of Lent consisted of the six weeks before Easter, but not counting Sundays. These 36 days amounted to a spiritual tithing (10% of the 365 days of the year). Later, to make it 40, so as to be similar to Christ's 40 days in the desert, four more days were added at the beginning (Ash Wednesday through Saturday).

In our age, with better communications, it is easier for us all to be on the same page. Currently, officially Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the evening of Holy Thursday. If you count all the days -- including Sundays -- that will add up to 44 days. The evening of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Saturday are no longer part of "Lent." They form what is called the "Triduum" or "the three days" which form the summit of our year of worship, commemorating Jesus' crucifixion, death and resurrection.

Regardless of the length, the reason for Lent is to provide a time when together as a church we prepare to renew our Baptismal Promises. As a church we will do that at Easter as we commemorate the Paschal Mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, recalling that in our Baptism we died with Christ so that one day

we may share Christ's resurrection. Our lives, lived united with Christ through Baptism, are lives of sacrifice for others. The ashes with which we begin this season remind us that our lives and this world are ephemeral. Life with God is eternal.

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.

We Are His Hands

Thank You's

We recently received acknowledgments from Bishop Foy's for our parish support of our diocesan inner-city schools through our donations to the Alliance for Catholic Urban Education (ACUE). Each month we contribute a percentage of our Sunday offertory collection to ACUE.

Stewardship

Status of Sunday Collection

Actual Collections (07/01/20 thru 02/08/21)

\$688,044

Budgeted Collections (07/01/20 thru 02/08/21)

\$751,286

Parish News

Wedding Banns

I-Madison Schuh, Saint Agnes & Jack Athenas

Family of God

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

Matilda Laine Feldmann

Child of Ed & Lainey Feldmann

Holden Bradley Tanner

Child of William & Jill Tanner

Parish News continued

Teaching Mass-All Invited

On Monday, February 22nd at 7:00 p.m. our Evening Religion Program will celebrate a special Mass, the feast of the Chair of St. Peter. During Mass, Fr. Keene explains the elements of the Mass. In normal times, children are invited around the altar during the Consecration, but perhaps not this year. All in the parish are welcome to join us as we enter the first full week of Lent.

Big Blue Bash Still Needs Your Help

St. Agnes School PTO's virtual Big Blue Bash this year is on March 26, 2021. Please consider helping out in any way! The best ways to help and show support for our school:

1. **Make a monetary donation.** Send cash or checks to the school office at 1322 Sleepy Hollow Road, Ft. Wright, KY 41011. Or go to www.BBB2021.givesmart.com to donate.
2. **Donate an item.** Drop off any new/unused items to the school office. Suggestions include but not limited to are household/décor items, gift cards, make a themed basket, it's all up to you.
3. **Be an event sponsor.** Place your company logo or family name on our event website. For more info email amykilgore18@gmail.com or call the school office at 859-261-0543.
4. **Buy a raffle ticket.** CASH! CASH! CASH! \$5,000 Grand Prize raffle proceeds go directly to the Big Blue Bash event. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the school office or at www.BBB2021.givesmart.com.

The volunteers on the Big Blue Bash Committee want to thank you for your continued support!

Baseball/Softball Registration

Spring sports and baseball have been approved! With that, it's time to get registrations going. There's nothing like playing baseball (a VERY socially distanced team sport) with friends and classmates for the Wildcats!

St. Agnes offers teams from Pre-K T-ball through 8th grade including girls softball where there is enough interest to field a team. Instructional fees (Pre-K through 1st) are \$35 and baseball/softball fees are \$90. The season typically runs from mid-March through mid-June.

Registration remains online at:
<http://tshq.bluesombrebro.com/saintagnesboosters>.
We're looking forward to an amazing season!

Faith Formation

RCIA

Next weekend, February 20th/21st, our RCIA catechumen, Charlie, will celebrate the Rite of Sending in our parish. Across the world, Catholic Bishops on the First Sunday of Lent, welcome those sent by the parish to gather with their sponsors in what is known as the Rite of Election. The Rite of Sending, celebrated in the parish, offers the parish community the opportunity to acknowledge the spiritual progress the catechumens have made, to express approval of their recognition and readiness to enter the Catholic Church, and to send forth to our bishop with assurance of the parish's care and support. Please pray for Charlie and all RCIA catechumens as they celebrate this last major Rite and so begin a period of more intense spiritual preparation before entering the Church at the Easter Vigil.

Formed

Is this the year you will turn off the TV and social media to enjoy a faith-filler night each week? If your family is up for sharing some relaxing time together, then formed.org is for you. Register now to enjoy Catholic films, Bible studies, documentaries, book and more for adults and children. Go to formed.org and click "sign up." That will take you to a page where you enter St. Agnes Church, Ft. Wright. Follow the instructions from there and you will be signed up. No password to remember. You are ready to watch!

Diocesan News

40 Days for Life

Help Save Lives! Ash Wednesday, February 17th through Palm Sunday, March 28th.

This spring, Greater Cincinnati is uniting with hundreds of cities around the world for the 40 Days for Life campaign. Believers throughout our community are invited to join together for 40 days of fervent prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil for an end to abortion in front of Planned Parenthood on Auburn Avenue in Cincinnati.

Join us for our Kickoff Rally today, Sunday, February 14th at 2:00 p.m. at Holy Name Church, 2422 Auburn Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45219, for prayer and information about how to get involved.

Learn more at www.40daysforlife.com/cincinnati or contact Mary Clark at 513-791-4039 or cincy40days@fuse.net.