

*First Sunday of*

# LENT



*February 21, 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

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

### Mass Intentions

- Sunday, February 21**-First Sunday of Lent  
8:30 a.m. Bill Becker  
10:30 a.m. Marie Kreutzjans
- Monday, February 22**-The Chair of St. Peter  
6:30 a.m. Communion Service  
11:30 a.m. Intention of Thomas Groh
- Tuesday, February 23**-St. Polycarp  
6:30 a.m. Don & Lynne Able-40th Wedding Anniver  
11:30 a.m. Mel Weber
- Wednesday, February 24**  
6:30 a.m. People of the Parish  
9:30 a.m. Special Intention  
11:30 a.m. Harry Traynor
- Thursday, February 25**  
6:30 a.m. Souls in Purgatory  
11:30 a.m. Intention of Elaine Cetrulo
- Friday, February 26**  
6:30 a.m. Estelle McGrath Cetrulo  
9:20 a.m. Special Intention  
11:30 a.m. Rob Miller
- Saturday, February 27**  
8:30 a.m. Harold "Mac" McKinley  
4:00 p.m. John & Joyce Beasley LeVan-Anniver.
- Sunday, February 28**-Second Sunday of Lent  
8:30 a.m. Charlene Keltz  
10:30 a.m. Judith Ann Berling

Rosary, Sunday, Feb. 28th at 8:00 a.m.: Carl Stamm

### Staff Article

#### Dear Friends

Doesn't it seem odd to begin Lent with the story of Noah's ark? Could it be because Noah spent forty days riding out a huge flood and Jesus endured forty days "among wild beasts" (Mark 1:13)?

Well, that's part of the reason. But beyond that, there is a promise hidden in God's covenant with Noah. By vowing never again to destroy the earth in a flood, he pointed toward a *better* way to overcome sin and evil: Jesus' death and resurrection. And Lent gives us forty days to prepare for it!

In today's second reading, St. Peter tells us why Noah and his family are perfect Lenten companions for us. Through the flood, they escaped a sinful environment and entered a new life with God—just as we escape sin and enter new life through the floodwaters of Baptism.

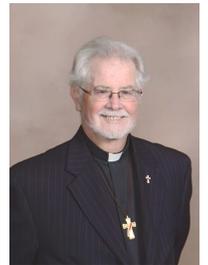
If you're preparing for Baptism this Lent, you have a special reason to rejoice. You will be passing through

Waters into salvation firsthand. But if you are already Baptized, you can rejoice too, especially if you spend these forty days renewing your Baptismal promises. Renounce the devil and all his temptations. Affirm your faith in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Recall God's covenant with you. As you dedicate yourself to God this Lent, you'll come to know the Lord better. And that will make you more confident in his love and his grace.

So find extra time to pray this Lent. Give more of your time and money to people in need. Choose to fast, either from food or from a negative activity or habit. You might feel like Noah on the ark sometimes, and it might get messy. But the journey is worth it because when you finally reach the joy of Easter Sunday, you'll be stepping into a fuller understanding and experience of God' faithfulness and his salvation.

Lent has just begun. Let's get on the boat!

God Bless,  
Deacon Bob



### Parish worship

#### Faith Sharing Questions

**Theme of this week's Gospel: Jesus prayed and fasted in the desert for forty days. After forty days He announced that the time of "fulfillment" was now! What did He mean by that?**

**Adults:** Can you pray for forty minutes without taking several breaks? Do you think Jesus suffered a lot during those 40 days or was He simply trying to discern what His Father wanted of Him? Do you ever ask for guidance that you will know what the Lord wants you to do with your life?

**Teens:** When Jesus was in the desert, He was tempted by Satan. How often does Satan tempt you? Can you think of how you can best deal with temptation?

**Children:** Can you imagine living with wild beasts in a desert? How scary would that be? Try to think of one sacrifice you can make and offer to Jesus today. Maybe you could give up a TV show or skip dessert or call someone you know who needs some "cheering up."

#### Next Sunday, February 28, 2021 Second Sunday of Lent, Cycle B

Each year at Easter we renew our Baptismal Promises. These promises reflect our commitment to be disciples of Jesus Christ and to strive literally and figuratively to embody his teachings in our individual lives and in our life as a church. Lent is a time set

## Parish Worship continued

aside by our church for the purpose of preparing ourselves to renew these promises. It is helpful to keep this in mind as we study the readings during Lent.

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 is from Mark. For the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Lent, the Gospel is from John. During Lent, the first reading — from the Old Testament — is always about the history of salvation. (One of the main topics of Lenten instruction.) In Cycle B, the first reading each Sunday is concerned with one of the covenants of the Old Testament, 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.

**Gospel (Mark 9:2-10):** The Gospel for the second Sunday in Lent is always either Matthew, Mark or Luke’s version of the “Transfiguration” event. Jesus takes Peter, James and John up “a high mountain” where they glimpse Jesus in his glorified (resurrected?) state. The scene depicted in the Transfiguration has parallels and contrasts with the crucifixion. Both are on mountains. On the Mount of the Transfiguration, Jesus is revealed in all his divinity: glorified between Moses and Elijah, clothed with light, and the voice of God affirms Jesus. On the mountain of Calvary, Jesus is revealed in all his humanity: crucified between two thieves, naked and God gives no answer at all to his cries of abandonment. It is helpful to look at these events more in terms of theology than history. The Transfiguration and the Crucifixion must be taken together in order to have a fuller understanding of who Jesus is in his divinity AND humanity. Over the centuries — but particularly during the first four centuries — there were great disputes over the human nature and divine nature of Jesus. In general, groups tended to deny the human nature of Jesus. However, other groups denied the divine nature of Jesus. Through it all, the church has always held that we have to hold to both natures as being manifest in Jesus. The Nicene Creed expresses the conclusion of this debate. The Transfiguration and the Crucifixion are Scriptural examples of why we have always held to this belief. (Interestingly enough, the Gospel of John does not describe a separate Transfiguration event. In John, Jesus on the cross on Calvary is at the same time both the Crucifixion and the “Glorification” of Jesus, revealing both his humanity and divinity.)

**First Reading (Genesis 22:1-2,9,10-13,15-18):** The first reading on the second Sunday of Lent is always about Abraham. This year’s first reading relates the strange story of God’s request that Abraham sacrifice his son. This story is meant as a demonstration of Abraham’s faith in God. This faith is vindicated in the covenant that God makes with Abraham, as described in the conclusion to this reading.

**Second Reading (Romans 8:3-34):** The second reading relates words of encouragement: That God’s love for us—a love that allowed God to give us his Son—could never waver or betray us. “If God is for us (which of course he is) then who can be against us?”

## 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](mailto:abledrky@gmail.com).



## 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 protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

## Bulletin Cover Picture

The crucifix over the altar in our Church: The Paschal Mystery which is made manifest “in an un-bloody manner” on the altar below it every time we celebrate the Eucharist. The Eucharist/Paschal Mystery is the Sacrament by which we renew our Covenant with the Lord. We do this every Sunday of course, because it is the Lord’s Day and Sunday is the day associated with the Resurrection and the “First Day” of the New Creation.

## Saint of the Week

### Saint Polycarp

The exact date of Polycarp’s birth is not known however it is believed that he was born in A.D. 69. He was born in Smyrna, now Izmir, a city on the west coast of Turkey. Very little is known of his life but it is believed

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

### Saint of the Week continued

that he was ordained a bishop by Saint John the Evangelist. He is considered one of the three main Apostolic Fathers of the Church, along with Saint Ignatius of Antioch and Saint Clement of Rome. The Apostolic Fathers are authors of writings that, although not included in the New Testament, were very important in the early Church and are important now for an understanding of the early Church.



Polycarp is famous for his writings, which are some of the earliest that survived in the Church. He wrote a letter to the Philippians, now known as Polycarp's Letter to the Philippians. The letter is a warning against apostasy (abandonment of the faith) and encourages good works by Christians. A letter to him is included in the Letters of Saint Ignatius of Antioch.

One of the few things that are known about Polycarp outside of his writings concerns a visit to Rome where he met with Pope Anicetus (later a saint). They met to discuss certain differences between the churches in Asia and those in Europe. One area of difference was the date of Easter. The Asian church based the determination of Easter on the Jewish Passover celebrating it on the same day regardless of the day of the week that it occurred, while the European church celebrated it on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is March 21st (as we do today).

Another early work on Polycarp is the Martyrdom of Polycarp written shortly after his death. It describes Polycarp's death at the hands of the Romans. He was martyred for refusing to burn incense to the emperor. He is reported to have asked, "How can I blaspheme my King and Savior? Bring forth what thou wilt." He was burned at the stake but the flames would not burn him so then he was stabbed. His feast day is February 23rd and he is honored because of his writings.

### Stewardship

#### Status of Sunday Collection

No totals due to bad weather.

### Parish News

#### Wedding Banns

Il-Madison Schuh, Saint Agnes & Jack Athenas

#### Family of God

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

Cameron James Reardon

Addison Jean Reardon

Children of Ryan & Emily Reardon

#### 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.

#### First Thursday Rosary Returns

Rosary Night will be on Thursday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m. Please join us for 30 minutes of prayer and meditation. A perfect time to pray as Lent progresses. Pray to Mary, Our Mother to guide and protect our country. Pray especially for those affected by COVID. Pray for an end to this and other problems in our world. Join your prayers for special intentions, world peace, our priests, and families. Rediscover the power and peace of prayer.

*Enter by way of the annex door by Sleepy Hollow Rd.*



#### 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!

#### Kentucky State Legislature Issues

The Legislative Session in Frankfort is moving fast. We are grateful that SB 9, the Born-Alive Infant Protection Act has already passed and become law! Because this year's session is so short, we have only

## Parish News continued

a few days to express our support for other important bills. Please call 800-372-7181 to leave a message for your state Representative. If you are unsure who your legislators are, the operator can tell you.

HB 91 is a proposed amendment to the state constitution that will protect the many pro-life laws Kentucky has adopted over the years. This amendment would make clear that our state constitution does not contain a right for abortion. Other states have adopted pro-life laws only to see their state courts strike them down by finding an implied right to abortion in the state constitution. If this amendment passes, that will not happen in Kentucky.

HB 149 (Education Opportunity Accounts) is on the move! Ask your State Representative to make sure HB 149 is passed out of committee as soon as possible and that they vote for the bill when it reaches the House floor. Families are depending on them to bring educational choice to Kentucky!

Education Opportunity Accounts are privately funded by citizens and businesses who donate to non-profit Account Granting Organizations (AGOs). The AGOs then use the donations to award needs-based funding to eligible families. Funding can be tailored to a student's specific needs and used for K-12 public and non-public school tuition and fees, online learning programs, tutoring services, therapy programs, transportation to and from school, and more.

You can send an email supporting either or both bills by using this link: <https://www.votervoicenet.com/CCKY/Campaigns/79053/Respond>. You can also call the number above (800-372-7181) and leave a message about both bills. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Faithful Citizenship!

## Faith Formation

### RCIA

This weekend, our RCIA catechumen, Charlie, celebrates the Rite of Sending at Saint Agnes in which he confirms his desire to make final preparations to enter the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil and we as his parish family give him our approval and assurance of our care and support. This Sunday afternoon, he will celebrate the Rite of Election at the Cathedral with Bishop Foys. It is appropriate that Charlie, who has been called by Christ and claimed by Christ to enter Heaven, be recognized by our



Bishop, who is a sign of the unity of our particular Church. From this point forward, Charlie is no longer called a catechumen, but is called the "Elect." Please pray for our Elect and his sponsor as Charlie enters this final period of intense spiritual preparation for reception of the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

### FORMED

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT THIS YEAR? LENT 2021 IS THE PERFECT TIME TO JOIN FORMED.ORG! NOW MORE THAN EVER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW AND LIVE YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH.**

Our parish has an online subscription to FORMED, which offers multiple Catholic resources for each of us to grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ and in our desire to share our faith with others. FORMED includes faith-based movies, documentaries, books, audios, children's resources, Lenten Bible studies, all beautifully presented to help you and your children grow in your love, understanding and zeal for our faith. Commit time this Lent to growing in your faith so that you can know, love and serve the Lord more intently each and every day. **Please register for FORMED (it's FREE)** by going to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and click on "sign up." That will take you to a page where you can enter and choose St. Agnes Church, Ft. Wright. Follow the instructions from there and you will be signed up. No password to remember.



### Word of Life Bulletin Brief

"Abortion affects countless marriages more than many people recognize. But there is no doubt that God will bring great healing to those who trust in his infinite mercy. If a past abortion can be acknowledged and addressed, a married couple can make great strides in experiencing even more fully God's design that 'the two shall become one' (Mt 19:5)."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
"Healing within Marriage from an Abortion"  
[Respectlife.org/healing-in-marriage](http://Respectlife.org/healing-in-marriage)

### Virtual Bible Study- The Book of Job

This Study will be held on March 9th, 16th and April 6th from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will be streamed live from Bishop Howard Memorial Auditorium through Google Meet. The cost for the study is \$35.

Course details and online registration is available at [covidio.org/catechesis-and-evangelization](http://covidio.org/catechesis-and-evangelization). For more information, email [dcooley@covidio.org](mailto:dcooley@covidio.org) or call 859-392-1500 ext. 1592.