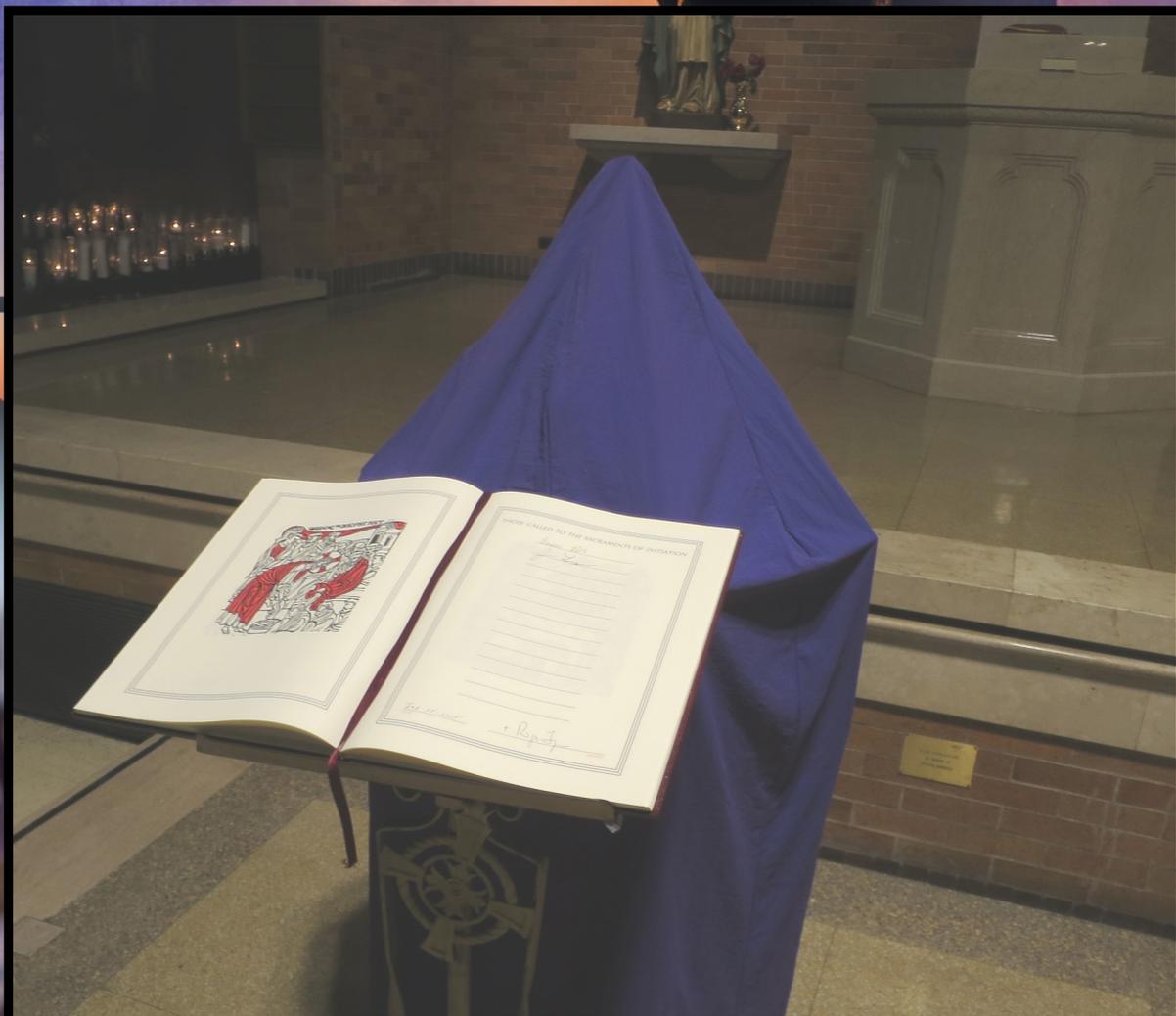


Third Sunday of
LENT



March 7, 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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 7-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Henny Mecklenberg
10:30 a.m. Grace Poncer

Monday, March 8-St. John of God

6:30 a.m. Communion Service
11:30 a.m. John LeVan

Tuesday, March 9-St. Frances of Rome

6:30 a.m. People of the Parish
11:30 a.m. Intention of Thomas Groh

Wednesday, March 10

6:30 a.m. All Clay Ministries Members &
Benefactors
9:30 a.m. Special Intention
11:30 a.m. Bill & Ann Boehmer

Thursday, March 11

6:30 a.m. Jean McCarthy
11:30 a.m. Judy Fewell

Friday, March 12

6:30 a.m. James Bayless
9:20 a.m. Special Intention
11:30 a.m. Sidney Trell

Saturday, March 13

8:30 a.m. Dec'd Members of Tepe & Wells Families
4:00 p.m. Grace Poncer

Sunday, March 14-Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Maggie O'Gorman
10:30 a.m. Tom Vogt

Rosary, Sunday, March 14th at 8:00 a.m.: Tony Summe

Staff Article

Reflections on St. Joseph

As we continue to honor our universal patron throughout this year, I'd like to share with you some excerpts from a series of reflections on St. Joseph. In an article from Feb. 9, 2016, entitled "Go to Joseph: Six Reflections on St. Joseph", Fr. Francis Peffley offers these reflections based on the letters of the patron's name. He writes:

J...Joseph the Just Man

John Paul II in his apostolic exhortation "The Guardian of the Redeemer" calls Joseph the just man. What does that mean? It means that he was a holy man. A righteous man. A man of honesty, integrity, and virtue. St. Joseph is the greatest and holiest saint after the Blessed Mother herself. In fact, some of the Doctors of the Church said that there was no grace ever given to any of the Saints (except Mary) that was not given to St. Joseph as well

O...Joseph the Obedient one.

Joseph was truly obedient to the will of God in his life. The Angel Said, "Have no fear about taking Mary to be

your wife." As soon as Joseph knew God's will for him, he obeyed. When the angel told Joseph that Herod was planning to destroy the child, Joseph immediately got up and began the flight to Egypt.

S...Joseph the Silent One.

There are no recorded words of St. Joseph in the entire Bible. There are words in the Old Testament for the great patriarch that we can apply to St. Joseph. But in the New Testament there are no recorded words for St. Joseph. He's always there, though, as a silent presence. In fact, even his death is wrapped in silence. There is no account as to how Joseph was buried. He's a man of silence. A strong man. A man with a deep interior life. Silence in our life helps us develop a life of prayer. Joseph was a man of prayer who listened to the word of God. He was not distracted by the many exterior things—he was always a man of interior life. Why? Because God lived in his very house.

E...Joseph the Example.

Imagine the kind of man Joseph was. God the Father picked Joseph out of the whole human race to be the man to raise his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. When you get a baby sitter you don't just pick anyone, even if it is for only a few hours. Imagine entrusting your only son to the care of another person...That is why God chose the very best. He chose St. Joseph to be a great example.

P...Joseph the Patron.

St. Joseph is our benefactor who prays for us. Joseph is the patron Saint of fathers, husbands, and workers. We should always pray that we will have the same kind of death that St. Joseph had, dying in the arms of Jesus and Mary. He is the patron Saint of a happy death, which means dying in the arms of Jesus and Mary and Holy Mother Church. Go to St. Joseph for the grace of a happy death.

H...St. Joseph the Helper of the Blessed Mother.

St. Joseph was the virginal spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In God's plan of salvation he was a loving husband, kind, considerate, affectionate, and self-sacrificing. St. Joseph had an awesome responsibility with the Blessed Virgin. They worked as a team.

St. Joseph, pray for us!!!
Fr. Trinity Knight



Parish Worship

Faith Sharing Questions

Theme of this week's Gospel: Jesus becomes angry when the temple which was meant to be a place of prayer, is turned into a place of

Parish Worship continued

business...He drives the merchants out.

Adults: Do you think Jesus was justified when He made a whip out of cords and drove out those who were selling animals and then spilled their coins and then overturned their tables? Do you ever feel so angry you want to lash out at someone? Do you ever feel your anger is justified? Under what circumstances?

Teens: Jesus told the Jews, "If you destroy the temple in three days, I will rebuild it!" Do you understand what Jesus meant when He said this? Do you always understand what you are expected to believe? What aspect of your faith do you find hardest to accept?

Children: Lent is now about halfway over. Are you trying to make this time special by doing good deeds for others? Can you try to do more?

Next Sunday, March 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday), Cycle B

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 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent, the Gospel Reading is from the Gospel of John. During Lent, the first reading—from the Old Testament—is always about the history of salvation. During Cycle B years, each week this reading is concerned with one of the five covenants of the Old Testament (with Noah, with Abraham, with Moses/The Ten Commandments, with David, and a covenant "inscribed in human hearts" [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.

The fourth Sunday in Lent is also known as Laetare Sunday". As Gaudete Sunday announces that we are better than half-way through Advent, Laetare Sunday tells us that we are more than half-way through Lent. As with Gaudete Sunday, the Liturgical color for Laetare Sunday is rose.

Gospel (John 3:14-21): This passage contains the now famous verse, "John 3:16": "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but might have eternal life." Jesus says this as part of his response to a certain Nicodemus' questions. Nicodemus was a Jew, a Pharisee and a member of the Sanhedrin or

ruling council. Nicodemus seems to be a symbolic figure in John's Gospel who appears three times. It is thought that he is symbolic of a disciple's progressive journey from darkness to enlightenment. Today's reading is from the first appearance which takes place at night (in darkness). In his third appearance, Nicodemus will bring an abundance of myrrh and aloes for Jesus as Joseph of Arimathea (another symbolic figure?) takes Jesus' body down from the cross. Nicodemus moves from a secretive, clandestine form of discipleship to a public form of discipleship.

First Reading (2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23): The Second Book of Chronicles is one of the "historical books" of the Old Testament. This reading is an excellent historical summation of the deterioration of the Land of Judah that led to its conquest by Babylon and the Babylonian Exile. This exile was followed by the rise to power of the Persians under King Cyrus who defeated the Babylonians. It is King Cyrus who issued an edict allowing the Jews to return home and to rebuild their Temple and religion. The underlying religious concern underlying these historical events is Yahweh's covenant with David. The reading ends hopefully as the Lord uses Cyrus (a pagan) to draw the people back to their covenant with Yahweh, symbolized in Cyrus' directive that the Temple in Jerusalem be rebuilt.

Second Reading (Ephesians 2:4-10): This reading from Ephesians is a reminder that everything is a gift—a grace—from God: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast."

Bulletin Cover Picture

The Book of the Elect next to our Baptismal Font. The book is currently open to the page that contains the name of this year's Elect from our parish: Charlie Caudill. Charlie celebrated the Rite of Election with Bishop Foys and the other catechumens in our diocese at our Cathedral on February 21st. At the Rite of Election, the catechumens (those not ever Baptized) become "Elect." Their election is the last step before they celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist) at the subsequent Easter Vigil. Those who are not Catholic but have already been Baptized in another Christian tradition are considered "Candidates." They are not re-Baptized but make a Profession of Faith in the Catholic Church, and then are Confirmed and make their First Eucharist. In both situations, as for all of us, Communion is THE SIGN of completed Sacramental Initiation in the Catholic Church. The act of receiving Communion is always a statement of belief in the Catholic Church and of a giving of ourselves to the witness of the Body of Christ that is the Catholic Church.

Parish Worship continued

Monthly Intention of Pope Francis

For use with The Morning Offering Prayer

MARCH 2021: Intention for Evangelization - Sacrament of Reconciliation: Let us pray that we may experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

Adorers Needed

Adorers are needed to fill the following hours in the Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel: Monday-12AM, 1AM & 2AM Wednesday-2AM Friday-4AM 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.

Easter Flowers: Gifts in Memory Of

Easter Season lasts from Easter Sunday (April 4th this year) through Pentecost Sunday (May 23rd this year). In past years we have used Easter Lilies, Mums, Hydrangeas, Azaleas and English Ivy to decorate our Sanctuary. We would like to continue this tradition.



Again this year, we would like to finance these flowers as we did at Advent/Christmas by providing the opportunity for people to donate flowers in memory of someone. Memorials can be made at two levels: \$40 and \$25, corresponding to flower sizes/prices.

If you would like to donate one or more of the Easter Flowers as a gift to the parish or in memory of someone, please clearly mark your gift and put it into the regular Sunday collection, or send your gift to the Parish Office. Please remember to indicate the memorial intention. The memorial intentions will be published in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. All donations must be received by Monday, March 15th. Thank you very much! -Father Mark Keene

2021 DPAA

“For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.” (John 3:17)

This past week parishioners should have received a letter or email from me regarding our 2021 Diocesan Parish Annual Appeal (2021 DPAA). As you pastor, I ask that you read this letter carefully. Likewise, all parishioners should receive a letter from Bishop Foys and myself this coming week. Included with this mailing will be information about this year’s DPAA. While our diocesan goal is the same as last year (\$2,600,000) our parish’s share in that goal increased somewhat from last year. This year our parish goal is \$160,500—an increase of \$1,800 or 1%.

Please read the materials you will be receiving, as well as articles in our diocesan newspaper Messenger and in the Sunday bulletin. I think we can be very proud of the work our diocese is trying to do in so many areas, from education to social services, and more. You can share in this work through your support of our 2021 DPAA. Please pray about making a sacrificial gift. I personally find it helpful to recall: The measure of your generosity is not how much you give, but how much you have left over after you give. -Father Mark Keene

Parish Budget Concerns

As you can see from “Status of Sunday Collection” section of this bulletin, our Sunday offerings are below budget by over \$55,000. The offertory budget for the current fiscal year contained a very modest increase over the 2019-2020 fiscal year. We are beginning to form our budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. We strive to be realistic about the support we will get from the offertory collection. The immediate consequence of this estimate is how much support the parish can allocate for the support of our school. With diocesan limitations on tuition increases, this boils down to making various decisions about which of the various educational programs in our school we can afford. Naturally, we want to offer the best education we can afford. If you can help us make up the difference, please do. -Father Mark Keene

Stewardship

Status of Sunday Collection

Actual Collections (07/01/20 thru 03/01/21) \$771,271
Budgeted Collections (07/01/20 thru 03/01/21) \$825,419

Parish News

New Parishioners

Welcome the newest members to Saint Agnes Parish: Mr. & Mrs. Bryan & Stephanie Bishop Mr. Christopher Dwyer Mr. & Mrs. Weston & Katherine Lawrence

Parish News continued

Deceased of our Parish

Please pray for the family and friends of the following parishioners who recently passed away:

Mrs. Judith Berling
Mr. William Boehmer
Mrs. Mary Ann Bowman
Mrs. Ann Egbers
Mrs. Judy Fewell
Mrs. Crystel Flick
Ms. Marian Gibson
Mrs. Carol Lynch



First Communion Candidates

Today would have been the Enrollment Ceremony for our second graders preparing to receive First Eucharist. Unfortunately, we are still in the COVID protocol which lessens our seating at Mass. We ask that you pray for these students as they continue their preparation to receive Jesus. Pray also that they have a beautiful day on May 2nd when He comes bodily into their lives.

First Communion Candidates 2021

Isabella Adkins, Ava Bacigalupo, Grace Bosse, Oliver Branham, Addie Brown, Henry Chevalier, Joseph Costin, Colin Delaney, Gwyneth Deye, Matthew Doyle, Alexander Frederic, George Gearing, Katrina Giancola, Meritt Harmeling, Evelyn Hasselbeck, Mallory Hoyt, Erin Jordan, Blake Kathman, Samuel Lawrie, Harper Lindloff, Julianna Link, Liam Martinkovic, Alexander McCoy, Paige McNeely, Caydence Mothershead, Suzanna Ramdass, Quinn Reardon, Lily Schaffer, Nicholas Schaffer, Logan Schrand, Teddy Sweet, Isabella Tape, Elias Thamann, Gabriel Thamann, Bentley Vieth, Jocelynn Vieth, Charles Weitzel, & Ruby Willig.

Spiritual Adoption

Month 2 - Developing Baby

"I'm dancing!" Your baby is making progress developing all of her external features and internal organs. Her brain is functioning at 40 days. Her mother can hear her heartbeat now on an ultrasonic stethoscope. Baby-teeth buds are presents at 6 ½ weeks. The central nervous system is functioning and 40 muscle sets begin their first exercises. From this moment, your spiritually adopted baby grows and refines her body. But everything she needs to survive after birth is already present by the end of the eighth week. She is now call a "fetus" a Latin word meaning "little one." Ultrasound reveals that this little one can now spring, flip and jump - her first dance steps!

Faith Formation

RCIA

Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Lent and the First of three Scrutiny Rites for our RCIA Elect. The Scrutinies are celebrated to help deliver the Elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life (RCIA 141). The Rites of Scrutiny are meant to uncover, and then heal, all that is wear, imperfect, or sinful in the Elect's heart and to bring out through repentance all that is strong, upright, and good. The Scrutinies are celebrated on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent. The Scripture readings for the Scrutinies ordinarily come from Cycle A of the Lectionary: the Gospel stories of the Samaritan women at the well, the healing of the blind man, and the raising of Lazarus. In addition, the Elect are presented with the Creed this weekend. The Church entrusts the words of the Creed to the Elect. Nearly seventeen centuries old, the Creed is recited by the faithful at every Sunday Mass and summarizes what we believe as Catholics. It is presented to the Elect to symbolize that our parish community is passing on and sharing the beliefs of our Catholic faith with them so they will embrace and treasure these venerable words as we do. Please continue to pray for our Elect, Charlie, as he prepares to be received into the Church this Easter.

If you or someone you know would like to explore the Catholic faith, please contact Paula Fritz at pfritz@saintagnes.com or call the parish office at 431-1802.

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. **Please register for FORMED (it's FREE)** by going to 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.