

# Divine Mercy



April 11, 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

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, April 11-Divine Mercy Sunday

8:30 a.m. James Martin  
10:30 a.m. Raymond Grogan

#### Monday, April 12

6:30 a.m. Communion Service  
11:30 a.m. Frances Sommerkamp

#### Tuesday, April 13-St. Martin I

6:30 a.m. Communion Service  
11:30 a.m. Bill Boehmer

#### Wednesday, April 14

6:30 a.m. Communion Service  
9:30 a.m. Special Intention  
11:30 a.m. Anthony Siegrist

#### Thursday, April 15

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

#### Friday, April 16

6:30 a.m. Communion Service  
9:20 a.m. Special Intention  
11:30 a.m. Deacon Joe Cleves

#### Saturday, April 17

8:30 a.m. Communion Service  
4:00 p.m. Vincent Melching

#### Sunday, April 18-Third Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. Bob & Ritz McAtee  
10:30 a.m. Dave Mullen

Rosary, Sunday, April 18th at 8:00 a.m.: Fred Summe

### Staff Article

## Some Reflections on Rituals: Beware of Liturgies

Last week during Holy Week I began to reflect upon rituals and how important and enriching they are for our lives... at least they have been for my life. In my homily on Easter I related how attending the Easter Vigil at Saint Monica's in Bardstown with my father was a very rich and profound experience... and I was only about eight years old. That, coupled with experiences of the Easter Vigil at a number of parishes over the years—as well as at the seminary and at Gethsemane Monastery near Bardstown—have provided me with a sense of how rituals can and do bring a sense of unity that can be shared by very different types of faith communities.

Of course, over the years I've participated in Eucharistic Liturgies (the Mass) in any number of places with any number of communities. Not only does the Mass provide an manifestation of a unity between these different communities, but also provides a sense of unity and continuity with past communities... in some cases very distant past. I recall being in the catacombs of Saint Callixtus near Rome where over

500,000 Christians are buried including many martyrs and 16 popes, mostly during the second and third century. There was a chapel there where several martyred popes are buried (Chapel of the Popes) and apparently where Mass was celebrated during those times of persecution. It was moving to realize that only a few inches of stone separated me from the earthly remains of these pope/martyrs. As I recall, Mass is still celebrated in this chapel... the same Mass that these Popes would have presided over.

The rituals of Catholic worship give us our identity as Catholics. By acknowledging the tenets of our faith in such a deeply ritualized way, these tenets become the way through which we see the world and its history. They also become the way through which we gain some access to the experience of the Mystery we call "God."

The word "Liturgy" has to do with an activity or "work" that engenders and cultivates an identity in a person. Liturgies also engender and cultivate a way of looking at the world. The Liturgies of the Catholic Church (Catholic Faith Tradition) engender and cultivate a way of understanding Creation and God's relationship to that Creation which we sometimes call "Salvation History." I find it immensely moving to realize that the Creeds we recite on Sunday (and other times) are also very ancient. They are a summation of that Salvation History... both what has come to pass and what will come to pass. The Creeds (Apostles, Nicene) represent the result of long deliberations, debates and struggles over the meaning and substance of our religion. They present an invitation to a goodness and a holiness that is compelling.

For these reasons and others, regular celebration of the Eucharistic Liturgy (the Mass) is a requisite for "being Catholic." If we enter these ritual Liturgies with an attention and an openness, with time we just might be surprised how they change the way we look at ourselves, others and OUR role in Salvation History. In any event, these rituals... these Liturgies connect us to an amazing history and amazing people... who were at the same time sinners and saints... and we can become better for it.

Father Mark Keene



### Parish Worship

## Faith Sharing Questions

**Theme of this week's Gospel: Jesus has risen and He comes through locked doors! He stands before His disciples and encourages them, strengthens them, and shows them the nail marks**

## Parish Worship continued

### on His hands and sides.

Adults: Can you imagine what emotions the disciples felt when Jesus entered the room that had the doors locked...surprise...relief...maybe fear? Why do you think they had locked the doors?

Teens: Remember the apostle Thomas who had not been in the room the first time Jesus came and he doubted that Jesus had actually been there? Is there anything about your faith that you doubt? Ask your friends and teachers what they think.

Children: If Jesus were to come to your home or school what would you say to him? What questions would you ask?

## Next Sunday: April 18, 2021

### The Third Sunday of Easter Season, Cycle B

During the Easter Season, the First Reading comes from The Acts of the Apostles and we read about the early, post-resurrection days of our Church. In Cycle B years, the Second Reading is from the First Letter of John. The Gospel Readings for the first three Sundays of Easter recount disciples' experiences of the Risen Christ.

**Gospel Reading (Luke 24:35-48):** This Gospel passage comes right after the "Emmaus Story" from the Gospel of Luke. The Emmaus Story is not found in any Gospel except Luke. The story tells of two disciples leaving Jerusalem heading toward the town of Emmaus. On the way, they encounter a stranger and they engage him in a lively conversation about Jesus and the Scriptures. As they walk the stranger "opens their minds" to understand the Scriptures. The disciples don't realize that the stranger is in fact Jesus, until at a meal that night. They "recognize Him when he breaks the bread"—an obvious reference to the Eucharist. With this recognition, Jesus vanishes from their midst. Immediately after this, these disciples head back to Jerusalem.

This is where the Gospel passage for this Sunday takes up. The two disciples who experienced Jesus on the road to Emmaus and then at a meal, rush back to Jerusalem to the other disciples and tell them of their experience. While they are doing this, Jesus Himself appears. The details of the this story—Jesus' wounds, his eating, etc.—emphasize that this is not the appearance of a ghost, but of something more substantial and in some way corporeal. As with the two disciples on the road, Jesus seems to be explaining to them that Scripture can only be properly understood in light of His resurrection. He "opens their minds" as well to the meaning of Scripture and

all that they have experienced, charging them "You are witnesses of these things." This "apostolic witness" of those who experienced the risen Lord—many ultimately giving their lives for Him—is foundational to the life of Christianity.

### **First Reading (Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19):**

The Acts of the Apostles is thought to have been written by Saint Luke, who was a disciple of Saint Paul (the "Apostle to the Gentiles"). This reading from Acts is from a speech that is depicted as being given by Saint Peter to a Jewish assembly. Perhaps this reading, which is both accusatory toward the Jews and exhortatory toward repentance, summarizes well the attitude of Luke's Christian Community (about 80 AD) toward the Jewish community. Apparently there were many Gentiles in Luke's community.

**Second Reading (1 John 2:1-5):** Echoing a theme from John's Gospel, this reading speaks in terms of equating true knowledge of God with keeping God's commandments: The love of God is perfected in the one who keeps God's Word.

## Monthly Intention of Pope Francis

### For use with The Morning Offering Prayer

APRIL 2021: Fundamental Rights - We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

## Bulletin Cover Picture

The Image of Divine Mercy in our Sanctuary. Today is Divine Mercy Sunday.

## Adorers Needed

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

Monday-12AM, 1AM & 2AM  
Wednesday-2AM, 1PM & 5PM  
Thursday-11PM  
Friday-4AM  
Saturday-12AM  
Sunday-8PM



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).

## Saint of the Week

### Saint Martin I

The future Pope Martin was born in the Umbrian city of Todi, which is located in central Italy. The actual year of his birth is not known. He was a high official in the Church before he was elected pope on July 21,

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

### Saint of the Week continued



649. He had been a deacon and was the only pope during the period called the Byzantine papacy (537-752) to be elected without imperial approval. His election was seen as a "Battle Cry" against Constantinople (Byzantium). As soon as he became pope he called the Lateran Council of 649.

The Lateran Council was called to deal with the heresy of the Monothelites, who stated that Christ had one will even though he had two natures (human and divine). The Church holds that Jesus had two wills, human and divine, to correspond to his two natures, human and divine, which is called dyothelitism. The council condemned the monothelites and those who promulgated it. This included the Patriarch of Constantinople and Patriarch Paul II, both of whom had support from the Byzantine emperor.

The emperor Constans ordered that Martin be arrested. He was arrested and was charged with collaborating with the Muslim caliphate that was threatening the Byzantine empire (in addition to attacking the Emperor's friends). Martin was first taken to the Greek island of Naxos in 653. During the same year he was taken to Constantinople and then in 655 he was sent to the Crimea (currently southern Russia or Ukraine) where he died on September 16th of the same year. His feast day is April 13th.

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 as well as articles in our diocesan newspaper *Messenger*. This year's video can be viewed via our diocesan website: <https://covdio.org/stewardship-missions/>. This year's video is the best one yet I think. 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. As Catholics, "It's what we do!" You can share in this work through your support of our 2021 DPAA. Thank you if you have already made a pledge or gift. If not, please pray about making a sacrificial gift. "Don't give till it hurts... give till it feels good!"

—Father Mark Keene

### 2021 DPAA Electronic Donations

Point the camera on your smart device at the QR code below and then tap on the message that says "tap here to go to [eservicepayments.com](https://eservicepayments.com)." The [eservicepayments.com](https://eservicepayments.com) is the Diocese of Covington's website where you can donate securely online (via credit card, direct debit, or electronic funds transfer) or visit [www.covdio.org](http://www.covdio.org).



### Stewardship

#### Status of Sunday Collection

Actual Collections (07/01/20 thru 04/05/21)	\$890,640
Budgeted Collections (07/01/20 thru 04/05/21)	\$944,833

#### 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)**

By now all registered parishioners should have received a letter from Bishop Foys and me regarding our 2021 Diocesan Parish Annual Appeal (2021 DPAA). As your pastor, I ask that you read this letter carefully. Included with this mailing was information about this year's DPAA. While our diocesan goal is the same as last year (\$2,600,000)



#### Evening Religion Program Final Tally

Ms. Anita Dunn, our Director of Religious Education, reports that their final collection total for Saint Julie Mission is \$351.63! Anita thinks "that is more than double any we have had in 20 years of collecting except for our first year" when they raised funds to purchase cows for the Saint Julie Mission.



The Evening Religion Program Students received a nice thank you from Saint Vincent de Paul for the 160 items the kids collected for our St. Joseph Food Drive.

Also, they were able to send 50 cards out to those at Highland Crossing and in Saint Charles community and home, plus to some of those alone at home.

Thanks to Ms. Dunn and our Evening Religion Program teachers for their leadership in these Lenten collections and drives. —Father Mark Keene

## We Are His Hands

### Thanks from ACUE

We received a nice acknowledgment from Beth Ruehlmann, the Director of Development for our Diocese's Department of Catholic Schools, for our monthly gift to the Alliance for Catholic Urban Education (ACUE). "Truly we are grateful!" and Prayers for a Blessed Holy Week and Easter."

## Parish News

### SVDP Update

Thank you so much for your continued support of our St. Agnes conference. As you may well imagine, we have been very, very busy during the COVID crisis. Calls for assistance are greater than we have ever witnessed, both in volume and in amount of assistance needed. Requests for assistance with food, rent, and utilities have skyrocketed. Because of the decreased in-person attendance at Mass, food and monetary donations are lower than usual. Our conference serves everyone within the parish boundaries of both St. Agnes and St. Ann in West Covington regardless of race or religion. Under normal circumstances we visit clients in their homes and sit down and talk to them. Due to COVID, we conduct our visits to clients by phone and bring food and household items to them on their doorstep.

Please know that we pray for you as our benefactors every day, and we ask your prayerful support as well. **Please continue to pick-up the blue SVDP bags in the back of church and return them with the items requested on the list in the bag.** Thanks again for your support!



experience, for appreciation of the sacramental life, for spiritual growth as a Catholic, and for entering more fully into the life and unity of the Catholic community. We, as his parish family, are called to help him grow and mature in the Christian life and to develop a genuine Catholic world view. Please continue to pray for Charlie and introduce yourself to him when you see him at Mass.

**Calling All St. Agnes parishioners!** During this Easter Season, live the Easter Alleluias by inviting someone to learn more about the Catholic faith. If you are interested in learning about the Catholic faith or if you know anyone who might be interested, please contact Paula at [pfritz@saintagnes.com](mailto:pfritz@saintagnes.com) or call the parish office at 431-1802.

### FORMED

ALLELUIA! The Lord has risen! He is inviting you to follow Him, to truly live as His disciples, to announce in 2021 His Good News of eternal life for all people. Are you prepared to accept and live His mission? Formed.org provides a perfect resource in your own home for you and your family to enrich your faith in order that you may live as intentional disciples of our Risen Lord. There are incredible video, book, and study adventures at your fingertips, all free, when you register for [formed.org](http://formed.org). Go to [formed.org](http://formed.org) and click "sign-up." That will take you to a page where you enter and choose St. Agnes Church, Ft. Wright. Follow the instructions from there and you will be signed up. No password to remember. Just go to [formed.org](http://formed.org) and click on "sign-in" located in the upper right of your screen. You are ready to watch/read, study, and grow!

## Christian Outreach

### Sunday of Divine Mercy

This weekend we celebrate the Sunday of Divine Mercy. God's greatest desire is to forgive us, pouring our His infinite mercy upon us so that we may be healed. Women and men alike who have been involved in an abortion may feel deep grief, guilt, anxiety, depression, broken relationships and a sense of alienation from God and the Church. They may experience anniversary reactions to the date of the abortion or what would have been the baby's due date. For anyone struggling with this, the Church cares. It's never too late to seek the Lord's mercy and healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Consider confidential, compassionate help from our diocesan abortion healing ministry. It's open to those of any faith or no faith, offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions. Call or email Project Rachel at 859-392-1547 or [projectrachel@covdio.org](http://projectrachel@covdio.org).

## Formed

### RCIA

Our new Catholic, Charlie, has reached the final phase of the RCIA process, Mystagogy. The word Mystagogy, comes from a Greek word that means "to initiate people into the mysteries of Christ"

(Catechism of the Catholic #1075). From now until Pentecost, Charlie will continue to study weekly to break open the mysteries of our faith. This is a time for deepening the Christian

