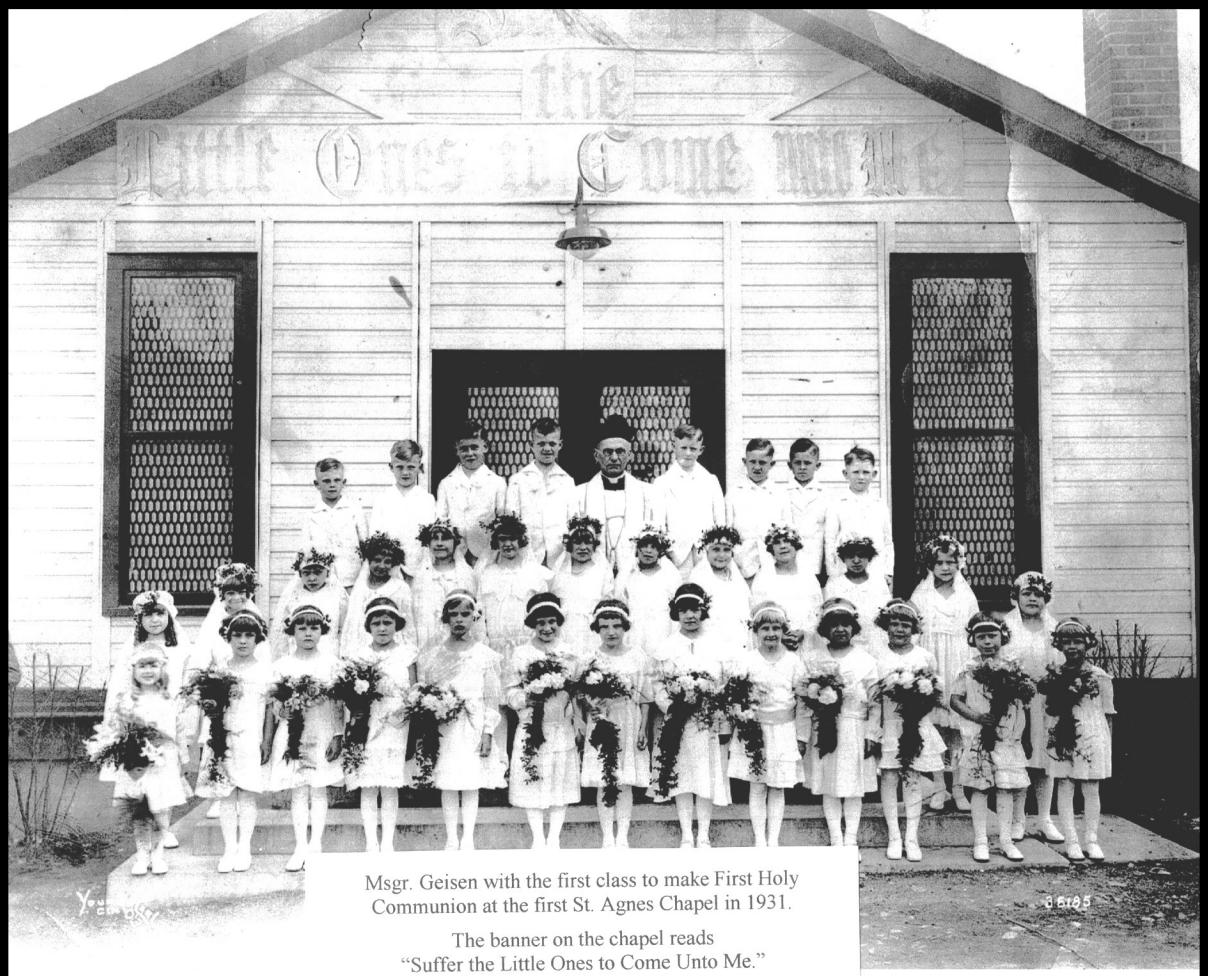


5th Sunday of Easter



May 2, 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.**

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass Intentions

Sunday, May 2-Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. James & Evelyn Berns
10:30 a.m. Mary, Marvin & Steve Wigger
12:30 p.m. First Communion

Monday, May 3-Sts. Philip & James

6:30 a.m. Communion Service
11:30 a.m. Intention of Daniel Cetrulo

Tuesday, May 4

6:30 a.m. Peggy Wigger Brockman
11:30 a.m. Gretchen Sassin

Wednesday, May 5

6:30 a.m. People of the Parish
9:30 a.m. Special Intention
11:30 a.m. Joan Bowman

Thursday, May 6

6:30 a.m. Bob Hebbeler-15th Anniversary
11:30 a.m. Dan Cahill-10th Anniversary

Friday, May 7

6:30 a.m. Mary Margaret Johnson
9:20 a.m. Brian Holtz
11:30 a.m. William & Frances Sommerkamp

Saturday, May 8

8:30 a.m. Intention of Maryann Curtin
4:00 p.m. Carol Lynch
6:00 p.m. Wedding: Brake/Grooms Families

Sunday, May 9-Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. Joan Bowman
10:30 a.m. Jane Menkhaus

Rosary, Sunday, May 9th at 8:00 a.m.: Tony Summe

Staff Article

May

May is the month of our Blessed Mother. This is an old tradition and dates back to the 13th century when Alfonso, the King of Castile, Leon and Aragon wrote the *Cantigas de Santa Maria*, a series of poems honoring Mary on special days in May. The tradition spread to other parts of Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Marian devotions consist of putting up a Mary Altar in the home, singing Marian songs, saying the Rosary with more intentions, making small sacrifices for her, dedicating special projects to her such as building a Mary garden. There is also the practice of May Crowning which takes place in parishes throughout the world. This practice began in the East and was introduced to the Roman Catholic world by Pope Clement VIII (reigned from 1592 to 1605). The first May Crowning was in Saint Mary Major in Rome.

While the practice of May Crowning fell out of use in many places during the 1970's and 1980's, it's now making a comeback.

In the Philippines there is a May custom called Flores de Mayo in which flowers are brought to church in honor of the Blessed Mother. There can be a communal Rosary, snacks and other foods and the people dress up. There can also be a procession representing the finding of the True Cross.

I think that May is Mary's month because as the English Jesuit poet, Gerald Manley Hopkins wrote in his poem *The May Magnificat*:

*"It is only its being brighter
than the most are must delight her?
It is opportunist
and flowers finds soonest?*

*Ask her, the mighty mother:
Her reply puts this other
Question: What is Spring?—
Growth in everything—"*

He goes on to describe the beauties of May and then says:

*"This ecstasy all through mothering earth
tells Mary her mirth till Christ's birth
To remember and exultation
in God who was her salvation."*

This is a beautiful poem and I encourage you to read it this May. You can find it online. Remember to honor Mary this month of growth and beauty.

Deacon Gary Scott



Parish Worship

Faith Sharing Questions

Theme of this week's Gospel: Jesus compares Himself and us to a vine and its branches and tells His disciples that unless they are united to Him and do good works, they will wither and die like a cut-off vine.

Adults: Do you feel you could do good works and bear good fruit and not be united to Jesus? Why or why not?

Parish Worship continued

Teens: How can you and your friends “remain in Jesus” so that you will bear good fruit? What does “good fruit” mean to you? What do you think Jesus meant when He talked about “good fruit?”

Children: Have you ever bit into a piece of “bad” fruit? Was it sour...mushy...maybe even smelled bad? Would you ever want to eat it again or do you only want to eat “good” fruit?

Next Sunday: May 9, 2021

The Sixth 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. On the Fifth and Sixth Sundays of Easter (and Seventh, when the Ascension of the Lord is not celebrated on the seventh Sunday), the Gospel reading is always an excerpt from the Lord’s discourse and prayer at the Last Supper in John’s Gospel.

Gospel Reading (John 15:9-17): As mentioned above, this passage is from the discourse and prayer that Jesus offers at the Last Supper for His disciples. It is worth reading this discourse in its entirety (John 14:1-16:33). The excerpt from this discourse that is this Sunday’s Gospel Reading is a good example of why the Gospel of John is sometimes referred to as the “Gospel of love.” Not that the other Gospels aren’t about love, but John more explicitly reflects upon love. Jesus speaks specifically of the Father’s love of the Son, the Son’s love of the Father and the Son’s love of His disciples. Jesus speaks of this love with the hope that this love and unity will characterize the lives of the disciples and permeate their relationships among themselves and those to whom they minister. The result is a bond of love and unity that binds God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit with the Church and all humanity.

First Reading (Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26,34-35,44-48): This reading is from the story of the conversion of Cornelius who is a Roman centurion and hence a Gentile. This is part of

one of the larger stories in Acts, one that describes the beginning of the spread of Christianity beyond Judaism into the Gentile (non-Jewish) world. Equally important in the story is the “ready ear” that so many Gentiles have for the Gospel. It is as if the world was “ripe” for the message of Jesus. In faith, we would say that the Holy Spirit had been at work preparing the world for the message of Jesus.

Second Reading (1 John 4:7-10): This reading continues with themes of love, similar to those found in the Gospel Reading for this Sunday. Love of God and love of God’s creatures (most notably human beings) are described as two facets of the same reality. For John, to love and to know love is what it means to have “life to the fullest.” To know love is to know God and vice versa: “God sent His only Son into the world so that we might have life through Him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as expiation for our sins.”

Live-Streaming Mass to Murphy Hall

We live-streamed the Masses on Easter Sunday into Murphy Hall. This worked out well. Large crowds were at both the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses on Easter Sunday. Several who saw the Mass live-streamed into Murphy Hall, received Communion, etc. commented to me how much they appreciated it. Some with younger children I think appreciated the less structured environment for Mass that allowed them to feel more comfortable. We plan to continue live-streaming the 10:30 Sunday morning Mass into Murphy Hall with the hope that it will encourage people to come to Sunday Mass without worrying about if there will be room. We extend a special invitation to families with younger children.

I wish to be clear however, that families with younger children are certainly always welcome in the church proper. We should always be welcoming to families with children of any age. Recently, one of our board members who brings his children to Mass, relayed that another parishioner told him “how nice it was to see him and his children together at Mass.” I share that sentiment as well, as do many others.

—Father Mark Keene

Parish Worship continued

Year of Saint Joseph: Prayer For Families

Yesterday, May 1st, was the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker. With this feast, in a particular way Saint Joseph is remembered as a laborer/tradesman and provider for The Holy Family. This feast reinforces Catholic teaching on the dignity and sanctity of labor. Here is a prayer for families that you may wish to include in your family's prayer life, particularly during this year dedicated to Saint Joseph.

Holy Saint Joseph, guardian of Jesus Christ, husband of the Blessed Mother and patron of the Catholic Church, we pray to you for guidance this "Year of Saint Joseph" proclaimed by Pope Francis.

You have showed us by your loving ways, the value of work and the joys of fatherhood. By teaching God's Son to do the will of His Father you have given us the path to do the same. By your example, you have encouraged us to accept others as they are, without exception.

To you Saint Joseph, our Heavenly Father entrusted his only Son, Jesus Christ to your tender care and upbringing. In you our Blessed Mother Mary placed her love and trust. Through your mentoring Jesus Christ became man.

We praise you and ask of you to defend us and our loved ones from every evil and guide us with your grace and Mercy. Amen.

Monthly Intention of Pope Francis

For use with The Morning Offering Prayer

MAY 2021: The World of Finance - Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

Adorers Needed

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

Monday-12AM, 1AM, 2AM

Tuesday-6PM

Wednesday-2AM

Friday-4AM, 7AM

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.



Stewardship

Status of Sunday Collection

Actual Collections (07/01/20 thru 04/21/21)

\$986,542

Budgeted Collections (07/01/20 thru 04/21/21)

\$1,029,000

2020 DPAA: Final Report

We have exceeded our parish goal of \$158,700 for the 2020 DPAA with gifts totaling \$163,534. All gifts received over our goal will be rebated back to Saint Agnes. Thanks so much to everyone who supported our 2020 DPAA and a special thanks to those who made additional gifts earlier this year to put us past our goal!

– 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)**

Regarding our 2021 DPAA, as of March 31st (the latest day we have figures for) our parish has \$89,318 in pledges with \$51,630 in actual funds collected. Our parish goal is \$160,500. So we are \$71,182 under our goal as of March 31st.



If you misplaced your pledge envelope, there are extras in the foyers of church, or call the parish office (431-1802) and we'll be happy to mail one to you. Thanks to everyone who has supported our appeal so far!

– Father Mark Keene

Bulletin Cover Picture

The very first "First Communion" class of Saint Agnes in 1931. We congratulate and pray for the boys and girls of this year's class, the 91st "First Communion" class of Saint Agnes Parish who are making their First Communion today!

Parish News

Wedding Banns

III-Jillian Brake, Saint Agnes & Deric Grooms
II-Kaitlin McMurry, Saint Agnes & Daniel Shore

First Thursday Rosary

Rosary Night is May 6th at 7:00

p.m. Please join us for 30 minutes of prayer and meditation. Pray to Mary, Our Mother, during this month dedicated to her to guide and protect our country.

Pray for those who have fallen from their faith. Spend time in the devotion Our Mother asked us to pray to achieve peace in the world. Rediscover the power and peace of prayer. *Enter by way of the annex door by Sleepy Hollow Road.*



First Communion Class 2021

This Sunday our 2nd graders receive their First Eucharist at a 12:30 p.m. Mass. Pray for them and their families at this joyful time. Give gratitude that they can have family with them. The Mass will be livestreamed.



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
Sarah Ramdass
Quinn Reardon
Lily Schaffer
Nicholas Schaffer
Logan Schrand
Teddy Sweet
Isabella Tepe
Elias Thamann
Gabriel Thamann
Bentley Veith
Jocelynn Veith
Charles Weitzel
Ruby Willig

Faith Formation

RCIA

Many new Catholics were drawn into the Church through witnessing the love of Jesus lived out in the lives of Catholics. Our new Catholic, Charlie, was led to the Catholic faith by his friends. In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges us to allow Him to live in us in order that we can become the beautiful, unique persons God created us to be. Our lives will, then, lead others to Him. To a person looking at your lifestyle, are you recognizable as a follower of Jesus? Is there something in your life you need to change so that others will know that you belong to Jesus, and will want to know Jesus because of you?

Please keep Charlie in your prayers throughout this Easter Season.

If you are a non-practicing Catholic, a Baptized non-Catholic, or are unbaptized and you are interested in learning more about Jesus and His Holy Catholic Church, please call the parish office at 431-1802 or email Paula at pfritz@saintagnes.com for information.

Our Lady's Blue Army

On Thursday, May 13th join the Covington Diocesan Division, World Apostolate of Fatima, USA, Our Lady's Blue Army at Our Lady's Farm, 5820 HWY 159 N. Falmouth, KY 41040 for Mass of The Ascension of The Lord. Rosary begins at 11:00 a.m. followed by Mass at 11:30 a.m. For any questions contact kathymgrace@gmail.com.

Spiritual Adoption

Month 4—Developing Baby

"I had a dream!" Well, your little baby now weighs six ounces. She has fingernails and eyelashes. She has her own unique fingerprints, which will remain the same until she dies. Her taste buds are working. Her sense of hearing is developing and present at 14 weeks. There are no major developments anymore. At this month rapid eye movements (REMs) can be detected - a sign of dreaming. Your spiritually adopted baby is already well-formed, internally and externally. All she needs now is time to gain weight and grow strong. What a miracle she is!