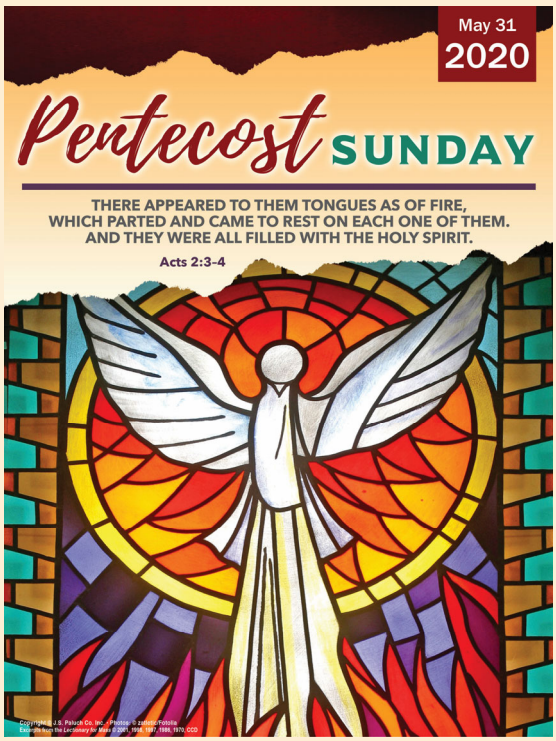
St. Agnes Catholic Community

Many Visions † One People

Pentecost Sunday — *May 31, 2020*



OUR PARISH MISSION

To know Christ, and to make Him better known by all, teaching and sharing the Faith, providing worship and spiritual growth opportunities, and serving those in need.

PARISH OFFICE

3966 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519
Tel: (925) 689-0838 **Fax:** (925) 689-7899
Website: www.stagnesparish.net
E-Mail: stagnesoffice@comcast.net
Instagram: stagnesparishconcord
Twitter: @stagnesparish

OFFICE HOURS

The Office is closed at the current time.

STAFF

Rev Fr. Johnson Abraham, Pastor
(925) 689-0838
chemans@gmail.com

Marlene McCann, Business Manager
marlene.stagnesparish@gmail.com

Deacon Tony Reyes
deacontonyr@gmail.com

Donna Roberts, Bulletin Editor and RCIA Coordinator
donnaroberts1956@gmail.com

Mike McDermott, Pastoral Council Chair
mtmcder@pacbell.net

MASS

Daily on Facebook: facebook.com/stagnesparish/

COMMUNION

Sunday from 10 am—11 am in the Church

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Chapel daily 6 am—9:00 pm

SCHOOL OFFICE

3886 Chestnut Ave., Concord
Tel: (925) 689-3990
Website: www.stagnesconcord.com

Jill Lucia, Principal
jlucia@csdo.org

Ana Kelley, Secretary
akelley@csdo.org

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 30, 2020
5:00 p.m. Chun Kam Jung—Repose

Sunday, May 31, 2020
7:00 a.m. Edna Low—Repose

9:00 a.m. Ed Lexon—Special Intention

11:00 a.m. The People of St. Agnes, Living and Deceased

5:00 p.m. Jim Armstrong—Repose

Monday, June 1, 2020
8:00 a.m. St. Vincent de Paul Clients—Special Int.

Tuesday, June 2, 2020
8:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes, Living and Deceased

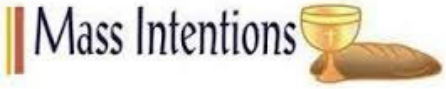
Wednesday, June 3, 2020
8:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes, Living and Deceased

Thursday, June 4, 2020
8:00 a.m. Joseph Joaquin—Repose

Friday, June 5, 2020
8:15 a.m. Marie Frisbie—Special Intention

Saturday, June 6, 2020
8:00 a.m. Stella Piazza—Repose

5:00 p.m. Elizabeth Quade—Repose



During this difficult time, and while our Parish Office is closed indefinitely, parishioners have the opportunity to send in requests for daily and weekend private Mass intentions. You could mail the request to our parish office or email *marlene.stagnesparish@gmail.com* and we will confirm your request via phone or email. The suggested stipend is $10 - please send your donation via mail or drop it through the mail slot in the Ministry Center door.

Parish Events and Meetings

All events and meetings are canceled until further notice.

Here at St. Agnes, we are keeping our chapel open daily (6 AM – 9 PM) for personal prayer.
The Ministry Center Office will remain closed until further notice. You can reach the office by telephone (925-689-0838) or email ***marlene.stagnesparish@gmail.com.***

Father Johnson has invited each of us to set aside a brief moment at 7 p.m. each evening, from our own locations, to reach out in prayer and care to surround each other with God's wisdom, healing power and peace. "We remain bound together during this time, which is both challenging and a moment of God's Grace, in our need for mutual support for each other in our lives and ministries...as well as for God's care for the people of our community and the world."

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday: Pentecost Sunday
Monday: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church; Ninth Week in Ordinary Time
Tuesday: Ss. Marcellinus and Peter
Wednesday: St. Charles Lwanga and Companions
Friday: St. Boniface; First Friday
Saturday: St. Norbert; First Saturday

PENTECOST

Unless the eye catch fire,
God will not be seen.
Unless the ear catch fire,
God will not be heard.
Unless the tongue catch fire,
God will not be named.
Unless the heart catch fire,
God will not be loved.
Unless the mind catch fire,
God will not be known.
—William Blake

Pastor's Reflection

St. Agnes Family,

Our drive-through Communion service last Sunday was very well attended, with over 250 people receiving Holy Communion between 10 AM and 11 AM. The line was never more than 10 cars long as people drove in steadily during the hour. So wonderful to see many of our parishioners! Thank you to the Knights of Columbus and our other volunteers who made this possible.

Here are the details of the next chapter of our gradual reopening:

Facebook live streaming of Pentecost Sunday Mass from St. Agnes. This coming Sunday I will be celebrating Mass starting at 8:30 AM. Although I cannot invite our parishioners to attend this Mass in person, I hope you will join us on Facebook and pray with us.

Live audio of Sunday Mass at 8.30 am will be available via conference call. For those who do not use Facebook, we will provide a moderated conference call line so you can listen to the Mass from home. The conference line will open up at 8:25 so you have time to dial in and not miss the start of the Mass. Call in number is **(425) 436-6358** and when prompted enter the access code **418980** followed by the pound (**#**) sign.

Holy Communion distribution on Sunday. Instead of doing a drive by communion, after watching (or listening) to Mass from home, we will invite you to come to St. Agnes and enter the church through the main (back) doors to receive Holy Communion. After Communion you will then exit out the vestibule (side) doors. I am looking forward to seeing you this Sunday!

- Communion will be continuously available on Sunday from 10AM to 11AM. There will be volunteers to greet you outside the church doors and provide you with further instructions.
- Our volunteers will assure no more than 10 communicants enter the church at a time. Please bring your mask. Hand sanitizer will be available, and social distancing will be observed.

Personal prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be available in our chapel on Sunday from 7:00 AM until Noon. If you want to spend time in personal prayer, please enter the chapel from the exterior door. Masks must be worn, and social distancing observed with a limit of 10 persons.

And finally here is another opportunity for daily prayer with our St. Agnes community:

Livestreaming of Daily Mass can be found at 9 am on Facebook: facebook.com/stagnesparish/

Live audio of Daily Mass at 9 am will be available via conference call. Starting immediately, we will provide a moderated conference call line so you can listen to the Daily Mass from home. The conference line will open up at 8:55 am so you have time to dial in and not miss the start of the Mass. Call in number is **(425) 436-6358** and when prompted enter the access code **418980** followed by the pound (**#**) sign.

Let us continue to support one another with our prayers.

Blessings,
Father Johnson

Parish News and Activities

FIFTH SUNDAY COLLECTION

This is the fifth Sunday of the month, in which we always have a 2nd collection for St. Vincent de Paul. St. Vincent de Paul uses these funds to help people in our community with rent, utilities, gas, or other needed items. At this particular moment in time, when so many people are sheltering-in-place in their homes and unable to work, there is a great deal of need for help. Those in lower paying jobs are the people who are usually unable to work from home and are in the most need.

Four of the Corporal Acts of Mercy are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, give alms to the poor, and shelter the homeless. Please help by donating to St. Vincent de Paul. You may donate through EFT, or by placing cash or a check in a special envelope marked for St. Vincent de Paul. Checks should be written to St. Agnes Church. Baskets for your donation will be at church on Sunday morning, you may mail it to St. Agnes Church, or you can drop it off in the mail slot in the Ministry Center Door.

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25)

JOIN OUR CHURCH AS WE CONTINUE TO PRAY NIGHTLY TO END CORONA VIRUS!

Fr. Johnson invites everyone to join our parish to pray for the End of Corona Virus. Please join by calling in nightly between 6:50 and 6:55pm. Here are the directions to join by calling Free Conference Call:

1. Call: (425) 436-6358.
2. When prompted, enter: 418980#
3. Once connected, and prompted, announce your name. However, if you call after we begin at 7, please enter silently.
4. Now place your phone on MUTE so everyone will only hear the hosts.

The Corona Virus is still prevalent throughout our state. Through your prayers and "sheltering-in-place" orders, plus the hard work of the front line workers, we are seeing an improvement and fewer new cases. But, we should not let up our prayers. Instead, we need your help to stop this virus from infecting any more people.
Please join us in this mission.

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING FOR:

Jim Adams
Dianna Andrews
Ron Artale
Paul Boback
Cara Carmody
Fr. Ricardo Chavez
Kandy Chhi
Marian Comber
Eileen Conti
Carmen Crisafulli
Zane Drobick
Marie Frisbee
Maria Luisa Garcia
Monica Garcia
Merv Hammond
Tony Harpouche
Todd Hurst
Janine Judge
Suzanne Klassen
Chris Klyse
Ed Lexon
Todd Long
Lorna Macadaeg
Joel Manalang
Tom McEachran
Sarah Meyer
Lisa O'Brien
Robert Rivera
Kayle Robinson
Nena Rofon
Ellie Rowe
Connie Schulte
Marsha Selhorn
Sophia Senh
Heather Solari
Shirley Spahl
Bill van Hattem
Lougene Simisim
Jeorge Villanueva
Betty Wilson

Parish News and Activities

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to thank all of you who have mailed your envelopes to the parish. I appreciate your support and generosity.

As we are not having our Sunday celebrations, we have already experienced decreased giving. If this continues, it will put the parish in an increasingly difficult financial position. Without your help, we will not be able to maintain our facilities and ministries and hire staff.

During this time, we ask that you consider enrolling in our Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) program. Or mail checks payable to "St. Agnes Church" to 3966 Chestnut Ave, Concord, CA, 94519.

Fr Johnson

MASS VIA MEDIA

EWTN offers mass on television. Bishop Robert Barron offers Mass daily online at ***https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass.***

And this Sunday St. Agnes will live-stream Mass at 8:30 a.m. on Facebook. If you do not have access to Facebook, you can call in via Conference Call. The call-in number is **(425) 436-6358**. When prompted enter the access code **418980** followed by the pound (**#**) sign.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Filled with the Holy Spirit, the apostles begin to speak in tongues (Acts 2:1-11).

Psalm — Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth (Psalm 104).

Second Reading — In one Spirit we are baptized into one body and given to drink of one Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13).

Gospel — Jesus Christ appears to the disciples and sends them on their mission with the power to forgive or retain sins through the Holy Spirit (John 20:19-23).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Ps 87:1-3, 5-7; Jn 19:25-34
Tuesday:	2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18; Ps 90:2-4, 10, 14, 16; Mk 12:13-17
Wednesday:	2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12; Ps 123:1b-2; Mk 12:18-27
Thursday:	2 Tm 2:8-15; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Mk 12:28-34
Friday:	2 Tm 3:10-17; Ps 119:157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168; 1-6; Mk 12:35-37
Saturday:	2 Tm 4:1-8; Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17, 22; Mk 12:38-44
Sunday:	Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9; Dn 3:52-55; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Jn 3:16-18

Pentecost Sunday

May 31, 2020

There appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them.

— Acts 2:3

Parish News and Activities

THE RICHNESS OF THE SPIRIT

Students, and most adults recalling their school days, are familiar with the phrase "compare and contrast" that shows up from time to time on tests. Today we hear two different accounts of the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church. Let's contrast, then compare. Luke's account from Acts is filled with arresting details: the mighty wind from heaven, the tongues of flame, the miracle of different languages. John's account seems timid: fearful disciples, the wounded Christ, the expelling of breath from his risen body, not from the sky. Our literal, modern minds wonder which way it happened; our noisy culture probably makes us prefer the former. But if we compare the two, we find that the dazzling richness of the Spirit fills both accounts, for it is the very breath of the risen Christ, ascended to the sky in Luke, that appears to his disciples in John and sends his followers forth to carry on his mission of forgiving sin and proclaiming the mighty acts of God.
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Thank you to the Sisters of the Holy Cross who maintain our altar and have provided beautiful flower arrangements.

SAINT CHARLES LWANGA AND HIS COMPANIONS (martyred 1886-87—June 3

"Master of Pages," reputedly the handsomest man in all Uganda, Charles Lwanga, lay catechist, courageously led about forty teenaged boys, Catholics and Anglicans, on a forty-mile forced march to martyrdom for their common Christian faith. Teaching each other the hymns of their different churches, they strengthened one another for the ordeal ahead. King Mwanga, himself barely twenty, had ordered them executed for being "those who pray." But these royal pages were the king's male harem, who, now Christians, refused what pious accounts demurely describe as his "unreasonable demands." Some were clubbed to death, most burned alive; the youngest, thirteen-year old Saint Kizito, whom Charles had often shielded from the King's lust; the most tragic, Saint Mbaga, whose father was his executioner! In 1964, Paul VI canonized the young Catholics and praised their Anglican companions, recalling the heroism of early Christianity's African martyrs, which we modern Christians of far less faith never expected to see repeated. Forty years after the pope's words, what does our faith cost us? Heroism aside, how generous is our response? —Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Happy Birthday wishes to Father Johnson who recently celebrated on May 20.

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WE HUNGER AND THIRST FOR YOU, LORD

During the coronavirus pandemic, we are having to make constant adjustments to be safe and remain healthy, but we still hunger to receive the Lord in the form of the Eucharist. Last weekend for the Feast of the Ascension, we experimented with Drive-Thru Communion. Thank you to everyone who helped—the Knights of Columbus who directed traffic, the Eucharistic Ministers who stood in the hot sun, Emily Hoshida who provided joyful music, and those who prepared gift packages. We are blessed with a community of disciples doing their best to do God's work.