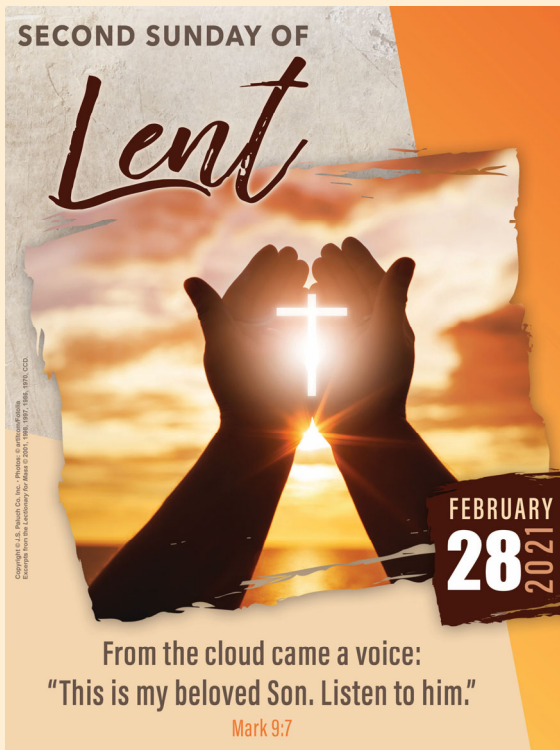


St. Agnes Catholic Community

Many Visions † One People

Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021



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.

MASS

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 p.m. and
Sunday at 8:00 a.m., both in the church.
Sunday Mass at 10:00 a.m. on the patio,
weather permitting. Bring your own chair.
Sunday Mass via live-stream at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.
Daily Mass both indoors and
via live-stream at 8:00 a.m.
No Daily Mass on Wednesdays.

Masses are live-streamed on Facebook
at facebook.com/stagnesparish/

COMMUNION

Sunday: 10:45-11:00 a.m.
for those not attending Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Chapel daily 6:00 am—9:00 pm

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](https://www.instagram.com/stagnesparishconcord)

Twitter: [@stagnesparish](https://twitter.com/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 Sumner Peery
sumnerpeery@yahoo.com

Deacon Tony Reyes (Retired)
deacontonyr@gmail.com

Donna Roberts, Bulletin Editor and RCIA Coordinator
donna roberts1956@gmail.com

Mike McDermott, Pastoral Council Chair
mtmcder@pacbell.net

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, February 27, 2021

5:00 p.m. Robert Auld—Repose
Paul Ho—Repose
Ed Lexon—Repose
Ed Nettleman—Repose

Sunday, February 28, 2021

8:00 a.m. Anne Cereghino—Repose
10:00 a.m. Celso Villaroman—Repose
Steven Low—Special Intention

Monday, March 1, 2021

8:00 a.m. Joseph Thomas—Repose

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

8:00 a.m. Sal & Irene LoGrasso—Repose
Ramon Santos—Repose

Thursday, March 4, 2021

8:00 a.m. Ramil Antonio Legaspi—Repose

Friday, March 5, 2021

8:00 a.m. Norma Harrison—Repose
Art Harrison—Repose
John Harrison—Repose
Loreto Santos—Repose

Saturday, March 6, 2021

8:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
5:00 p.m. Marion Comber—Repose
Edito Martelino—Repose



REGARDING MASS INTENTIONS

Since the parish office is closed, Mass Intention requests may be placed in the mail slot in the door of the Ministry Center. Please :

1. On a piece of paper, provide the name of the person for whom a mass is requested. Indicate either "Repose" or "Special Intention." Also: preferred date of mass. Provide the name and address of person to whom the card should be provided.
2. Provide YOUR name and phone # at the bottom of your note. Include \$10 per mass. (Requested by...)
3. Enclose note and cash/check in envelope: "Mass Request" Attn.: Marlene McCann

Parish Events and Meetings

Enhanced Safety Measures for indoor and outdoor Masses:

We will continue to follow and adhere to diocesan, county, and state COVID-19 guidelines:

1. Face coverings/masks are required at all times during Mass.
2. Six (6) feet of distance must be maintained between non-family members. (Families encouraged to sit closely together.)
3. Sanitize your hands upon entry into the church. (For outdoor Mass, hand sanitizer will be available in the Communion reception line.)
4. In order to maintain social distancing, do not congregate before or after Mass.
5. Ushers may ask you to move if it appears social distancing is not being maintained. Please respond graciously and cooperate with such requests.
6. Refrain from using the church restrooms except in emergency.
7. Only one person is allowed in the restroom at any time, unless a parent is accompanying a child or if you are assisting someone.
8. At the end of Mass please be attentive to social distancing as you exit.

Self-Assessment Before Coming to Mass:

1. Have you or a member of your household tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days (2 weeks)?
2. In the last 48 hours, have you had any of the following NEW symptoms: Fever (100 F or 37.8 C) and Chills | Cough | Trouble breathing or Shortness of Breath | Wheezing | Muscle Aches | Sore Throat | Loss of Smell or Taste | Nausea, Vomiting, or Diarrhea | Headache?
3. If you answered "YES" to any of the above questions and are experiencing any of the listed symptoms, you are strongly encouraged to seek medical help. in a spirit of charity towards others, please do not come for Mass.

To Attend Indoor Mass:

1. No registration is required to attend Masses at this time. As indoor Mass attendance increases, we may add a reservation process for certain popular weekend Masses. We will communicate changes via Flocknote and updates to our webpage (www.stagnesparish.net).
2. Please arrive 10-15 minutes before Mass to allow enough time to take your seat. Please note: the doors will be closed once Mass begins.
3. Mass attendees must enter the church through the back (patio) doors and exit through the side doors.

The indoor Mass experience:

1. No public singing.
2. No kneeling during the Mass.
3. No shaking of hands during the Sign of Peace or holding hands at the Lord's Prayer.
4. Holy Communion will be distributed at the conclusion of Mass.
5. Masks are to be kept on until you receive the Body of Christ and put them back after you consume the Eucharist.

Faith and Spirituality

FOR SPIRITUALITY:

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION - Chapel daily from 6 am—9 pm. Contact Veronica Peery at 925-286-6794 for scheduling.

RITE OF CATHOLIC INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA):
Please contact Donna Roberts by email at donnaroberts1956@gmail.com.

FOR MINISTRY:

PRAYER TREE: A ministry of people who pray specifically for those who are ill. Please notify the parish office if you or a member of your family are in, or going into, the hospital.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MINISTRY:
Please contact the **St. Vincent de Paul Hotline** at (925) 689-0838, Ext. 250.



Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021

If God is for us, who can be against us?

— *Romans 8:31b*

Pastors Reflection

We can understand the Transfiguration as a moment of divine revelation, but we can get a better appreciation of that event if we know what occurred earlier. Our understanding grows when we put the event in context.

In the preceding chapter of his Gospel, Mark tells us about the first prediction that Jesus made of his coming passion and death. Mark says that Jesus "began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days." On hearing this, Peter was so upset with Jesus that he "took him aside and began to rebuke him." A suffering Messiah was not what Peter had in mind when he professed, "You are the Messiah."

Not only that, but after predicting his passion, Jesus spoke of the suffering that awaited his disciples. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Obviously, Peter and the other disciples must have been confused and concerned upon hearing what Jesus was saying about himself and about their future.

So six days later, Jesus decides to take Peter, James, and John up a high mountain. There, Jesus is revealed in glory as God's beloved Son. In response, Peter exclaims "Rabbi, it is good that we are here!" Perhaps Peter spoke as he did because witnessing the transfiguration reaffirmed Peter's faith in Jesus. It also helped him to realize that the path Jesus was taking conformed to the Father's will. "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

Peter needed that mountaintop experience. As followers of Jesus, we also need experiences that reaffirm our faith. That is one of the reasons why we gather for Sunday Mass. We gather around the altar. Here we listen to the word of God. Here, Jesus reveals himself to us not in a blinding light but in consecrated bread and wine. Here we are strengthened to take up our cross and follow Jesus. If we truly understood and appreciated what happens at Mass, like Peter, we too would say, "Lord, it is good that we are here!"

Where can one get this Transfiguration experience? Everywhere. Our Sunday worship is a good starting point. At Mass we have the singular experience of looking at one another in the eye and calling them "brother and sister." This is indeed a Transfiguration. The challenge for us is to live in the light of this awareness until we come together again next Sunday to renew our faith vision.

Fr. Johnson

Parish News and Activities



Each Friday during Lent we will have Stations of the Cross at the church at 6:00 p.m. as well as live-streaming on Facebook.



We will have the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturdays of Lent from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the church in front of the sanctuary, observing all protocols. Kindly form the line at the church hall. If you are not well, stay home, and make the examination of conscience and do a genuine act of contrition. Kindly just confess **your** sins only. There will be no advice or counseling given during the confession, so as to minimize exposure. You confess your sins and the priest will give you absolution. As a parish we will do a common penance. In the footsteps of Veronica and Simon of Cyrene, do an act of kindness or mercy to someone during this season of Lent.

JOIN OUR CHURCH AS WE CONTINUE TO PRAY NIGHTLY



Please join our St Agnes Community every evening at 7 pm to pray with our pastor, Fr Johnson. Since April, 2020, our church has been praying each evening for the end to the Coronavirus pandemic and healing and special intentions of many of our parishioners, families and friends. We pray the Rosary from Monday to Thursday and the Divine Mercy Chaplet from Friday to Sunday. If you would like to join our prayer group of 20-40 people, please call Free Conference Call:

1. Call (425) 436-6358.
2. When prompted, enter: 418980#
3. Once connected, and prompted, announce your name; you will be given a personal welcome from the host!
4. Please turn off your TV and listen to all those entering after you.
5. You do not need to MUTE your phone, unless you are engaging in other activities at this time.
6. Prayers will begin at 7pm. At that time, the host will mute everyone.

It's a wonderful and peaceful way to end the day, connecting with one another and our Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING FOR:

Jim Adams	Sandra Debrichy	Tom McEachran	Marsha Selhorn
Dianna Andrews	Zane Drobick	Hugh McManus	Sophia Senh
Norm Andrews	Marie Frisbee	Ilia Minder	Heather Solari
Ron Artale	Maria Luisa Garcia	Lisa O'Brien	Shirley Spahl
Aurora Asprer	Monica Garcia	Sharon Ouimet	Josephina van Hattem
Joaquin Bigol	Merv Hammond	Gerardo Palomo	Lougene Simisim
Paul Boback	Tony Harpouche	Ricky Quintana	George Villanueva
Cara Carmody	Todd Hurst	Robert Rivera	Betty Wilson
Amber Carpenter	Suzanne Klassen	Steve Roberts	Dan Wormald
Fr. Ricardo Chavez	Chris Klyse	Kayle Robinson	
Kandy Chhi	Todd Long	Nena Rofon	
George Conlow, Jr.	Lorna Macadaeg	Maureen Ryan	
Eileen Conti	Joel Manalang	Connie Schulte	

Parish News and Activities

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent
Wednesday: St. Katharine Drexel
Thursday: St. Casimir
Friday: First Friday; World Day of Prayer;
Abstinence
Saturday: First Saturday

THANK YOU

Thank you for all who supported our Reaching Out Committee in donating Women's Hygiene Products at Mass last weekend. They will continue with this each month on the 3rd weekend of the month.

A NEW IDEA

Everybody thinks of changing humanity;
nobody thinks of changing themselves.

—Leo Tolstoy

THE ART OF LISTENING

If you want God to listen to you when you pray, shouldn't you listen to God when God speaks to you?

—Anonymous

MASS TIMES UPDATES

Masses are offered in the church at **5 p.m. on Saturdays and 8 a.m. on Sunday, and on the back patio at 10 a.m. on Sundays.** Please wear a mask and socially distance yourself from other families. Bring a chair for outdoor Mass. Daily Mass is offered at 8:00 a.m. in the Church. There is no Daily Mass on Wednesdays.



MASS VIA MEDIA—St. Agnes will live-stream daily and Sunday Masses on Facebook: facebook.com/stagnesparish/

COMMUNION—Those who have not attended Mass in person can receive Communion on the back patio of the church from **10:45-11:00 a.m. on Sundays.**

"If you can't feed one hundred people, feed just one."

—Mother Teresa



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

During the Lenten Season the St. Agnes Knights of Columbus Council will conduct a **"40 cans for Lent program"** within the school and parish. The goal of this program is for each parish family and each school family to contribute one can of food or dry good per day during the forty days of Lent. This is a positive way of doing something during Lent. *This program was particularly inspired by Christ's 40 days of fasting in the desert.*

Hunger knows no season. As the economy sputters along due to Covid19 many people are going hungry. Fortunately, through our Food for Families program, the Knights of Columbus is in a position to help. The food collected will go to Share (the food pantry) to help those in our community needing assistance. We will have collection receptacles outside of the church side exits beginning with Saturday February 20th throughout the Lenten Season.

Thank you for your participation in this program. It will make a positive impact in our community and give you the opportunity during Lent to make a difference. In prior years we collected over 2,000 lbs of food which was donated to the Food Pantry. This saved the Food Pantry over \$2,000 since they didn't have to purchase as much food during Lenten Season! Let's try and increase that total this year! If you have any questions please contact: David Wood - david@koc15344stagnes.org

SACRAMENTAL NEEDS

For any of your sacramental needs, please contact Father Johnson directly at chemans@gmail.com.

FAITH FORMATION/CONFIRMATION

We have not received any information/direction from the Diocese so far. And so we will have to wait patiently for the community health situation to improve, and the diocese to give us direction.

Parish News and Activities

St. Vincent de Paul Volunteer of the Month: Denise DalColletto

St. Vincent de Paul's "Vincentians" are trained volunteers who work from branches throughout the county providing aid to neighbors in need. They are the lifeblood of St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County. Through our 29 neighborhood branches, (called Conferences), SVdP Vincentians provide food, clothing, furniture, utility payments, and even emergency rental assistance to keep families in their homes and off the streets. The SVdP branch at St. Agnes is one of the most active and involved branches. This is thanks to the dedication of the Vincentian volunteers who are serving those in need in Concord, especially Conference President Denise DalColletto.



Denise is no stranger to volunteering. Denise started volunteering with SVdP at St. Agnes about 5 years ago when one of her friends invited her. A regular face at the SVdP thrift store in Pleasant Hill, Denise has a knack for organizing, so it is no surprise she is now in her first 3-year term as Conference President at St. Agnes.

A staple of the Vincentian mission, Denise said the home visits that she has performed have deeply touched her. “It’s scary, everyone is so vulnerable right now, it can be really overwhelming,” Denise said. “We’re seeing such an increase in need in Concord, it can start to become a little overwhelming and a little heart-breaking, but it’s so fulfilling when you’re able to help someone stay in their home, or to help parents feed their children. You know you’re really making a meaningful difference in people’s lives.” Denise said she is also often inspired by the resilience of the people she is able to help, and is moved by their perseverance. Denise also said she is thankful for all of the Vincentian volunteers at her Conference. “Everyone has a different specialty,” Denise said. “The Conference needs everyone, and I’m lucky to have such dedicated people to volunteer with. We only have a couple of members who speak Spanish, for example, without them we couldn’t help a lot of people.” She also said, “When you’re volunteering and helping people, you can really see Christ in the face of every person you help.”

If you would like to join the team of SVdP volunteers helping our neighbors-in need, please contact SVdP Vincentian Services Manager, Steve Krank at skrank@sudp-cc.org or call (925) 439-5060.

JUST FAITH VIRTUAL LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS PRESENT

*** Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti “On Fraternity and Social Friendship”

***Feed the hungry with the CRS Rice Bowls

We will meet for two Thursdays in Lent, **March 4 and 18**, for a discussion of Pope Francis' thoughts on the words and actions of St. Francis of Assisi. "Wherever he (Francis) went, he sowed seeds of peace and walked alongside the poor, the abandoned, the infirm and the outcast, the least of his brothers and sisters". For our action to help out brothers and sisters, we encourage everyone to participate in the Rice Bowl. If you don't have a Rice Bowl, you can always donate at the end of Lent. Feel free to enjoy a bowl of your own homemade soup as you join our conversation!

PROGRAM	6:00 – 6:15 PM	— CHECK IN AND CATCH UP SOCIALLY
	6:15 – 6:45 PM	-- OPENING PRAYER AND CONVERSATION ON POPE FRANCIS' <u>Fratelli Tutti</u>
	6:45 - 7:00 pm	— ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CLOSING PRAYER

THURSDAY, MARCH 4: SHORT PRESENTATION AND FOLLOW UP CONVERSATION ON CHAPTERS 1 AND 2 OF FRATELLI TUTTI.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82577300162?pwd=NKERZ2ZHMGFKMdRRZK14SHDDTLV3UT09>

Contact info: Jack and Donna Walton, djtcwalton@gmail.com or 925-212-7679 for questions or for Zoom Link to join our Virtual Soup Suppers!

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ASH WEDNESDAY AT ST. AGNES SCHOOL

Because of the pandemic, we have had to make many adjustments to the ways in which we worship and honor our Lord. Thank you to the teachers and staff at St. Agnes School who likewise are making many sacrifices and adjustments to educate our children and show them how to honor and praise our Lord.

