

# Advent



December 6, 2020

Advent

## ST. AGNES PARISH

### St. Agnes Church

245 N. Amos Ave., Springfield, IL 62702

Phone: 217-793-1330

Office Hours: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Mon-Fri

Rev. Daniel Bergbower, *Pastor*

[dbergbower@StAgnesCatholicParish.org](mailto:dbergbower@StAgnesCatholicParish.org)

Deacon Roy A. Harley

[rharley@StAgnesCatholicParish.org](mailto:rharley@StAgnesCatholicParish.org)

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[office@StAgnesCatholicParish.org](mailto:office@StAgnesCatholicParish.org)

Website: [www.StAgnesCatholicParish.org](http://www.StAgnesCatholicParish.org)

now on Facebook: [facebook.com/StAgnesParishSpringfieldil](https://facebook.com/StAgnesParishSpringfieldil)



### St. Agnes School

251 N. Amos Ave., Springfield, IL 62702

Phone: 217-793-1370

Office Hours: 7:30 am - 3:30 pm Mon-Fri  
Summer hours vary

Rachel Cunningham, *School Principal*

[rcunningham@StAgnesCatholicSchool.org](mailto:rcunningham@StAgnesCatholicSchool.org)

Karen White, *School Administrative Assistant*

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Website: [www.StAgnesCatholicSchool.org](http://www.StAgnesCatholicSchool.org)

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[www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org)



## ~ Mass Schedule ~

Weekday Masses will continue  
to be streamed online at:  
[Facebook.com/StAgnesParishSpringfieldil](https://www.facebook.com/StAgnesParishSpringfieldil)

Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am  
11:00 am

~ Sacrament of Reconciliation ~  
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm on Saturday or  
Anytime by Appointment



*"Comfort, give  
comfort to my  
people."  
Isaiah 40:1*

## A message from Fr. Dan

The Advent Scriptures bespeak the 2 Comings of Christ. The first two weeks look at the second coming of Christ at the end of time. The last two weeks focus upon Jesus' historical arrival as an infant in a stable at Bethlehem. As we journey toward this "Christ event" let us know of the redemptive power of Christ's dawn into humanity. Truly, it is only then we can say with the Israelites from Isaiah's reading today, "Comfort, give comfort to my people."

**NEW MISSALLETES (BREAKING BREAD)** These are available in the Gathering Space or just ask any staff member or give us a call at the Parish Office. These are a gift for individual personal use. You may recall during this pandemic these are not in the pews.

**FIVE MINUTES WITH THE WORD** These handy little Advent Reflections are available by the parish bulletins. 300 were ordered and they are available on a first come, first served basis. Enjoy!

### A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR YOU



We could all use some joy and hope this advent so Fr. Dan is gifting us with this new, excellent book by Matthew Kelly, *I HEARD GOD LAUGH*. Feel free to take your copy this weekend at Mass. Not getting to Mass? You can call the parish office and drop by to pick one up-contact free- during the week. We will hold a weekly BOOK CLUB via Zoom for those who would like to get together to share, reflect and pray on the reading. [http:// us02web.zoom.us/j/81419261931](http://us02web.zoom.us/j/81419261931)

**A CHRISTMAS TRADITION** Some parishes invite parishioners to consider an **ADDITIONAL Month's worth of their normal parish offering** to say thank you to God for another year of blessings. This also supports all the ministries at St. Agnes right here and right now. You may have notice that the parish budget is about a month or so behind. Your kindness is greatly appreciated and very much needed. Thank you for considering your parish as part of your Christmas Gifting!

**A GENTLE REMINDER** The City Mask Mandate includes both St. Agnes Church and School facilities from entering to exiting our parish facilities. Thank You for caring!

**And:** If at all possible, please continue to sign-up online for Masses.

## ~ Mass Intentions ~

**Tuesday, December 8**

5:30 pm Agnes Galligan †

**Wednesday, December 9**

8:15 am Joe Dold †

**Thursday, December 10**

9:00 am D.O.M.S. †

**Friday, December 11**

8:15 am Andrew Gazda †

**Saturday, December 12**

4:30 pm Donald Mucciante †  
Melissa Price †

**Sunday, December 13**

9:00 am Joseph McFadden †  
Frank "Sam" Hartl †

11:00 am Parishioners of  
St. Agnes



### Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00 am - Noon  
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

### Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday, 9:00 am  
[tdillon@StAgnesCatholicParish.org](mailto:tdillon@StAgnesCatholicParish.org)



We are in our second week of Advent. Before long we will be enjoying our Christmas break and the birth of Christ. Let's take the time these next few weeks to be thankful for what we have and let those around know how special they truly are. Christmas is a season of love and appreciation for our family and friends, who are our most beloved treasures.



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MARY  
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## ~ Important Dates ~

**Monday, December 7**  
1:30 pm **DISMISSAL**

**Wednesday, December 9**  
4th & 5th Grade Mass 8:15 am

**Thursday, December 10**  
6th/7th/8th Grade Mass  
8:15 am

**Friday, December 11**  
2nd & 3rd Grade Mass  
8:15 am

## December School Calendar Link

[www.stagnescatholicsschool.org/  
uploads/  
December2020UpdatedCalendar.pdf](http://www.stagnescatholicsschool.org/uploads/December2020UpdatedCalendar.pdf)

## December Lunch Calendar Link

[www.stagnescatholicsschool.org/  
uploads/  
DecemberLunchMenu.pdf](http://www.stagnescatholicsschool.org/uploads/DecemberLunchMenu.pdf)

## St. Agnes Catholic School

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Springfield, IL 62702  
Office: (217) 793-1370

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## Office Hours

8:00 am - 3:30 p.m.

Rachel Cunningham  
School Principal

Karen White  
School Administrative Assistant

Pam Kink  
School Secretary

Advent is the New Year of the Church so **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

There are lots of ways to celebrate and prepare for Jesus' coming at Christmas. See the attached pages for activities and prayers for you to use at home. Also, check out FORMED. Our parish subscription offers lots of video and media for you. There's even a special Advent daily reflection that can be sent to you directly. Check it out here: [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and at <https://advent.augustineinstitute.org/>.





# WEEKEND MINISTRIES

## December 5-6:

4:30 pm Reader: **Roslyn Brookens**  
 Euch. Minister: **Kathe Kraft**  
**Ralph Brookens**

Altar Server:

9:00 am Reader: **Vicki Bauer**  
 Euch. Minister: **Bob Sherman**  
**Kathy Sherman**  
 Altar Server: **Bartletti Family**

11:00 am Reader: **Jan Koltun**  
 Euch. Minister: **Meredith Koerper**  
**Rich Koerper**

Altar Server:

## December 12-13:



4:30 pm Reader: **Susan Dodson**  
 Euch. Minister: **Mary Mucciante**  
**Susan Dodson**

Altar Server:

9:00 am Reader: **Cindy Callan**  
 Euch. Minister: **Kathy Rubinkowski**  
**Conrad Rubinkowski**  
 Altar Server: **Ludolph Family**

11:00 am Reader: **Melissa Bland**  
 Euch. Minister: **Tricia Hopkins-Price**  
**Patrick Dennis**  
 Altar Server: **Josh Becker / Leah**



## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2020

### Christmas Eve Masses:

4:30 pm ~ 6:30 pm ~ 8:30 pm

### Christmas Day Mass:

10:00 am



They will be in both the MAIN CHURCH & PARISH CENTER (Livestreamed into the Parish Center). Sign-ups will be used beginning Dec. 15th.

Sign up to attend Weekend Masses at  
[www.StAgnesCatholicParish.org](http://www.StAgnesCatholicParish.org)

Continue watching our LIVE STREAM of  
 Weekday Masses

Tue: 5:30 pm

Wed, Thu & Fri: 8:15 am

Rosary livestreamed 30 minutes before Daily Mass

[Facebook.com/stagnesparishspringfieldil](https://www.facebook.com/stagnesparishspringfieldil)

## Prayer of Spiritual Communion

(for use during online Masses)

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen*

## Readings for the Week

May we find comfort in God's Word

### Monday, December 7

IS 35:1-10

LK 5:17-26

### The Immaculate Conception Of the Blessed Virgin Mary

GN 3:9-15, 20

EPH 1:3-6, 11-12

LK 1:26-38

### Wednesday, December 9

IS 40:25-31

MT 11:28-30

### Thursday, December 10

IS 41:13-20

MT 11:11-15

### Friday, December 11

IS 48:17-19

MT 11:16-19

### Saturday, December 12

ZEC 2:14-17

LK 1:26-38

### Third Sunday of Advent

IS 61:1-2a, 10-11

1 THES 5:16-24

JN 1:6-8, 19-28





A "Brick and Mortar" and a "Virtual" Parish.  
Meeting You Where You ARE!

## INCREASED OFFERING UPDATE

Pledge cards were mailed out to over 950 parishioners to invite everyone to consider a weekly increase of their current offering. As of this writing **over 160 parishioners** have graciously returned the Yellow Pledge Cards. THANK YOU! A secondary mailing has been sent out to those who have not returned their commitment card as a gentle reminder.

Our current parish deficit is about one month worth of weekly collections. Some parishes it is suggested that a possible Christmas Gift to the church would mirror that deficit. That means if you give \$100 per month perhaps you would consider donating an additional \$100 at Christmas Time? May God bless each of you as we journey toward the Birth of our Savior.

## Bible Good Deeds

We are about a third of the way towards providing a Bible for every child in the parish formation program. These Bibles cost about \$20 per student. We plan to purchase age appropriate Bibles for each child. For instance, *The Bible for Little Ones* (ages 4 to 7), *The St Mary's Press Children's Bible* (ages 8 to 11) and the *Fireside Catholic Youth Bible* for teens. With just 20 sponsors at \$40 each we would reach our goal. You can donate online, through the mail or in the weekly collection and mark your donation as Bibles for Kids.



## WEEKLY PARISH OFFERINGS

| Nov 21/22              | Weekly Total         | Total to Date          |
|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Regular Church Support | \$15,178.25          | \$386,820.34           |
| *Budget Goal ~ week 21 | \$25,100.00          | \$527,100.00           |
| <b>Difference</b>      | <b>(-\$9,921.75)</b> | <b>(-\$140,279.66)</b> |

## WEEKLY PARISH OFFERINGS

| Nov 28-29              | Weekly Total                        | Total to Date |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Regular Church Support | Updated in Dec 13th Bulletin        |               |
| *Budget Goal ~ week 21 | \$25,100.00                         | \$527,100.00  |
| <b>Difference</b>      | <b>Updated in Dec 13th Bulletin</b> |               |



Online Giving is a safe, secure and easy way to continue supporting you faith community. If you would like to sign up for online giving, please follow the link below.

**[www.givecentral.org/location/327/allevnts](http://www.givecentral.org/location/327/allevnts)**  
or call Tami in the parish office at 793-1330



## St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Says....



At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern.

Mother Teresa

## MASS ATTENDANCE

Church seating capacity = 180 (6' Distancing)  
Virtual Parish Capacity = Unlimited

| Date         | Church | Facebook | TOTALS      |
|--------------|--------|----------|-------------|
| Nov 21/22    | 276    | 553      | <b>829</b>  |
| Nov 14/15    | 479    | 533      | <b>1012</b> |
| Nov 7/8      | 528    | 444      | <b>972</b>  |
| Oct 31/Nov 1 | 472    | 443      | <b>915</b>  |

View this bulletin online at [www.DiscoverMass.com](http://www.DiscoverMass.com)



**FORMED** PICK OF THE WEEK December 6, 2020

**WATCH** **GUADALUPE: THE MIRACLE AND THE MESSAGE**  
As we celebrate the patroness of the Americas this week, enjoy this film narrated by Jim Caviezel that walks us through our Mother's miraculous appearance to Juan Diego—an encounter that has converted millions.

**LEARN** **FORMED NOW! DO WE MAKE TOO MUCH OF MARY?**  
Throughout our Marian feast days, you might wonder why Catholics think so highly of Mary. Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they discuss our Lady's esteemed place among the saints.

To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.



## COOKIES FOR THE HOMEBOUND

In the past, this Parish sponsored event provided a container of homemade cookies to our homebound senior parishioners. Due to the restrictions of Covid, we will not be organizing this event this year. We encourage you to reach out to any senior you know and acknowledge them in other ways this Christmas Season. Thank you for all your past support and we hope to bring this charitable outreach back again next year.

## December Family Formation

Dec 12-13

**First Eucharist and Confirmation Celebration #4 @ all Masses**

Dec 20

**Family Formation Session II**  
Advent/Christmas

## #StAgnesFaithFormation

This is shaping up to be a Christmas feast like never before. Families will be zooming, facetimeing and finding creative ways to celebrate. Isolation and grief is often difficult even in the best of times. So, we need to really commit to Advent and spend some good time "cleaning up". We need to be deliberate in opening our hearts for Christ because He will be found in some pretty hard situations and as always, in the least among us who need to stay connected. Here are some resources and ideas to help you move through Advent to Christmas Joy:



Virtual Advent Calendar and Catholic Gift Guide. Check out **Busted Halo** for their virtual Advent Calendar. You can use the calendar remotely with people who can't be with you! <https://bustedhalo.com/category/ministry-resources> Busted Halo also releases an annual gift guide for Catholics to help with creative and faithful giving.

Having virtual or in person visits with kids coming home from school? Want to have **good conversations** with people this year to really connect with them? Use this list of 2 question conversation starters at <https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/blog/family-holiday-conversations>



Say hello to our RCIA inquirers and candidates!

**Brett Dickerson, Mandy Dickerson, Amy Eddington, Brandon Foster, Brandon Potthoff**

Pray with and for them and welcome them to the journey. Invite them to join you at events or coffee! Or, take the next step and consider being a sponsor for one of them. Contact Cathy Becker if you are interested in sponsoring.

*RCIA Schedule (all are welcome to join us)*

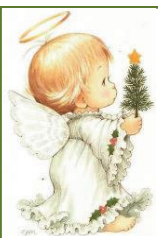
**Tuesday, December 15:**

Via Zoom, 6:00 pm - Incarnation

**STEWARDSHIP ADVENT CHALLENGE**

*Take time to reconnect with someone this week. Contact one person to join you for Mass, prayer, or a friendly phone call!*





### Catholic Charities "ANGEL TREE"

This is the last weekend to donate to the Angel Tree. Please help a family in need this year by taking a card from the tree, purchasing one or more items from that category, and bringing your **unwrapped** gifts back to the gathering space. Donations of Wrapping paper and gift bags are also welcome. To prevent loss, please place any purchased gift cards in the wrapped box next to the tree. All gifts must be returned by Noon on Sunday, December 6.



### Restore, Rekindle, Renew Enrichment (3RE)

#### 7-Session Virtual Enrichment Experience

Monday and Thursday Evenings  
January 18 - February 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Apply online: <https://stl-wwme.org>  
Or call: 314-649-7317 for more information



### Franciscan Nativity Events

Due to precautions in regard to COVID-19 and the restriction of visitors to Chiara Center, we are planning three Franciscan Nativity Events – an online experience via ZOOM on December 4, 5 and 6 from 7-8 p.m.. We begin by welcoming our participants back into a virtual experience of being inside the majestic St. Francis of Assisi Church to hear the story of what led to Francis dramatizing the nativity story. Five of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis will share stories and show nativities representing the international communities in Germany, Poland, India, Japan and the United States. Saturday night is a celebration of the nativity that will feature several families who welcome us into their home to share their stories of why these sets are part of their family's journey towards Christmas. Sunday's program will offer over 50 of the most notable nativities that were present in one of our on-site festivals from 2007 onward. The events will be free and open to the public, and guests will request a ZOOM link for each event by sending an email to [info@chiaracenter.org](mailto:info@chiaracenter.org) before 4 p.m. for the particular event that is of interest.

### Prayer Line Requests

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sheila Noonan 546-0012  
Barb Kern 546-7729

5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Maureen Brady 787-3423  
Cinda Steinkamp 787-6439



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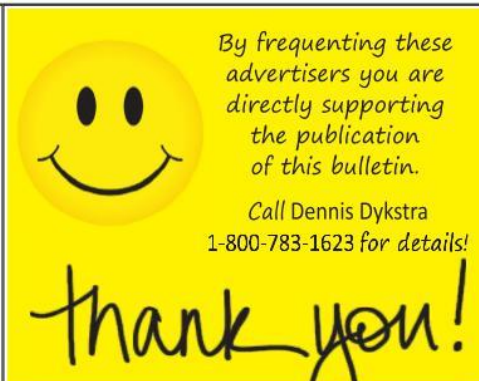
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