



DECEMBER 10 , 2023

Advent

SECOND WEEK

ST. AGNES PARISH

ST. AGNES CHURCH

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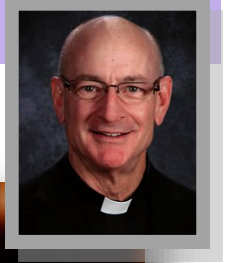
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~ MASS SCHEDULE ~

Monday	NO Mass
Tuesday	5:30 pm
Wed - Thurs - Fri	8:15 am
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

~ Eucharistic Adoration ~

Tuesday: 2:30 - 3:30 pm

~ Rosary ~

Tuesday - Friday
30 minutes before start of Mass



Find HOPE first, then you will find PEACE!

First things first! The first week of Advent we are called to look for Hope by being our best selves in imitation of Christ. As you may recall, hope is more powerful than fear! Now that we have hope we can begin to experience peace. Peace comes in many differing forms. A good nights sleep, a feeling of calmness, mental focus, and an absence of malice or grumpiness are all signs that we are heading in the correct direction. Peace is a by-product of focused hope. That means as we begin to more closely live and relate in a manner that mirrors that of Jesus Christ, we too become more at peace with ourselves and others. Peace does not mean perfection though. It means right relationship with God and others. Though broken, we are focused on the goal of meeting our God by living that in the present moment. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me!

END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS Many parishioners have asked me if there is anything specific we need at St. Agnes. The answer is YES! We need to get rid of the \$300,000 debt! And the great news is we already have \$152,000 pledged to this final phase of our capital campaign extension which will formally end on March 30, 2024. That day just happens to be the Easter Vigil! What a perfect day to mark this milestone and perhaps have a parish event sometime soon after that!

ANointing OF THE SICK This beautiful Sacrament of physical, emotional, relational and Spiritual Healing is available after any parish Mass. Just ask the priest after Mass.

RECONCILIATION Prepare the way of the Lord at Christmas by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession). Saturdays from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Or ask the priest after any Mass.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! December Mass Schedule

- December 23: 4:30 pm Mass (4th Sunday of Advent)
- December 24: 10:00 am only (4th Sunday of Advent)
- December 24: Christmas Eve Masses
4:30pm Family Mass / 8:30pm Choir Mass
- December 25: Christmas Day Mass, 10:00 am
- January 1: 10:00 am Mass (Not a Holy Day this Year)

Thank You Lord for your abundant blessings! Fr. Dan

~ MASS INTENTIONS ~

Tuesday, December 12

5:30 pm Dennis Eck †

Wednesday, December 13

8:15 am Janice Kelly †

Thursday, December 14

8:15 am Alice Dempsey †
Dr. Kevin Vost †

Friday, December 15

8:15 am Robert Pary †

Saturday, December 16

4:30 pm Robert Pary †
John Cummins †

Sunday, December 17

9:00 am Tom Domagalski †
Gene & Margaret
Domiani †

11:00 am Emily Vincent †
Parishioners of St. Agnes



We are excited to say our annual Christmas program will take place on Thursday, December 14 at 6:30 pm in the school gym. Ms. Cicely McCain and Ms. Jessica Smith, our music instructors, have been busy preparing our K - 4 students and the Singing Aces Choir for this evening of Christmas music. We hope to see you there!!

And so the Second Week of Advent begins. We've got two more very busy weeks before the Christmas break. Remember during these hectic and busy days to take time and remember the "reason for the season".

Rachel Cunningham, Principal
St. Agnes School



**Look for the SCRIP table
in the Gathering Space after weekend Masses!**

From now until December 17 extra SCRIP cards are on hand to many of your favorite places. Take advantage of these extra stocking stuffers!

Reminder: Orders are filled once weekly. Cut off date to place an order in time for Christmas is Thursday December 14.

14 shopping days 'til Christmas. Are you ready?



~ IN THE NEWS ~

For up to date information visit:
<https://stagnescatholicparish.org/school>

Monday, December 11

- Advent Prayer Service, 8:15am - Gym
- Student Council Meeting, Noon - School Meeting Rm

Tuesday, December 12

- Class Adoration, 2:50pm (3rd)

Wednesday, December 13

- Penance Service, 9:15am (gr. 3rd-8th)

Thursday, December 14

- Pre-K4 - 8th Mass, 8:15am
- Christmas Program, 7:00 pm - Gym

For up to date info be sure to check emails or visit us at
[Facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/stagnescatholicparish)

Daily recess will take place outside as much as possible and weather permitting. With the weather becoming much colder we would like everyone to be covered and warm while they are outside. Girls that wear uniform skirts to school may wear a pair of pants underneath their skirts to protect their legs while outside. When inside pants may be kept in the student's book-bag. All students should come to school with a warm coat, hat and gloves during this time of year.

ST. AGNES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

251 N. Amos Ave
Springfield, IL 62702
Office: (217) 793-1370

Rachel Cunningham
School Principal

Karen White
School Administrative Assistant

Pam Kink
School Secretary

**DECEMBER 16/17:**

- 4:30 pm Readers: Sr. Angelene Biderbost, Ellen Kuntzi
 Euch. Ministers: Kelle Lee, Rita Messinger
 Lee Bloome, Pam Patton
 Altar Servers: Isabelle Robinson, Paityn Brady
 Caleb Eck
- 9:00 am Readers: Susan Hartl, Rick Wilderson
 Euch. Ministers: Mike & Vicki Bauer
 Bob & Nancy Gorman
 Altar Servers: Zak Family
- 11:00 am Readers: Cyndi Calla, Rob Fafoglia
 Euch. Ministers: Sr. Joan Sorge, Patrick Dennis
 Leigh Reed, Linda Mueller
 Altar Servers: Maggie Dunham, John Cuyugan
 Lizzie Fafoglia

Parish Office Hours

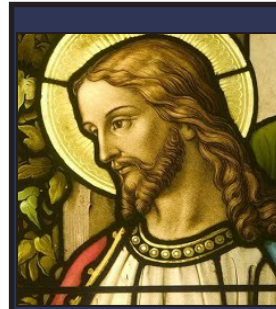
Monday - Friday
 8:00 am - Noon **AND** 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 Staff takes a lunch break Noon-1:00pm

Bulletin Deadline

Monday, 3:00 pm
 tdillon@StAgnesCatholicParish.org

Second Sunday of Advent, December 10

IS 40:1-5, 9-11 ~ 2 PT 3:8-14 ~ MK 1:1-8



"As it is written in Isaiah the Prophet,
 "Behold, I am sending
 my messenger ahead
 of you; he will prepare
 the way""

- Mark 1:2

Monday, December 11

IS 35:1-10 ~ LK 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 12

ZEC 2:14-17 ~ LK 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 13

IS 40:25-31 ~ MT 11:28-30

Thursday, December 14

IS 41:13-20 ~ MT 11:11-15

Friday, December 15

IS 48:17-19 ~ MT 11:16-19

Saturday, December 16

SIR 48:1-4, 9-11 ~ MT 17:9a, 10-13

Third Sunday of Advent, December 17

IS 61:1-2a, 10-11 ~ 1 THES 5:16-24
 JN 1:6-8, 19-28

What's Happening this week

Mon Dec 11	RCIA Session	6:30 pm Parish Center
Tues Dec 12	Staff Meeting Afternoon Adoration Music Lessons Men's Group	1:00 pm Rectory Meeting Rm 2:30 - 3:30 pm 3:15 pm Choir Room 6:00 pm Parish Center Rm B
Wed Dec 13	Sanctuary Course on Mental Health & Spirituality	2:00 pm 6:30 pm Parish Center
Thu Dec 14	Executive/Business Staff Meeting Music Lessons Synod: Conversations in Communion	9:00 am Rectory Meeting Rm 3:15 pm Choir Room 6:30 pm Parish Center
Sat Dec 16	Choir Warm-up	3:45 pm Choir Room
Sun Dec 17	Choir Warm-up Breakfast w/ Santa Teen Caf�� Flute Group Practice	8:30 & 10:30 am Choir Room After Masses, Parish Center 4:00 pm Parish Center 6:30 pm Choir Room

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CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 24 MORNING MASS:

10:00 am ONLY

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES:

4:30 pm (FAMILY MASS)

8:30 pm (CHOIR MASS W/ 8:00PM PRELUDE)

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS:

10:00 am



Heading out for the winter?

If you would like to still receive Parish mailings while you're gone, please let us know your temporary address and all mailings will then reach your winter destination. Otherwise just let us know your away dates and we will hold any mailings (including envelopes) until you return.



Ask the Padre...

Question: Father Dan, I need to make an end of the year donation. Do you have any areas of concern?

Answer: The short answer is YES! We currently have \$152,000 pledged to our parish debt of \$300,000. This would be an outstanding opportunity! We are over halfway to our goal. This Capital Campaign Extension official concludes March 30, 2024.

The St. Agnes Finance Council Members are:

Mark Kuchar - chair

Tom Arisman

Kathe Kraft

Melissa Bland

Andy Lascody

Mike Caveny

Kathy Robinson

ad hoc members: Rachel Cunningham - School Principal; Fr. Dan Bergbower - Pastor



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location/327/allevants](http://www.givecentral.org/location/327/allevants)

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WEEKLY PARISH OFFERINGS

Dec 2/3	Weekly Total	Total to Date
Church Support	\$21,015	\$497,994
Weekly Goal - wk 23	\$23,000	\$529,000
Difference	(-\$1,985)	(-\$31,006)

TIME and TALENT of ST AGNES

Nov 28-Dec 3

Liturgical Ministries (Readers, Servers, Euch. Ministers, Rosary):	30
Hospitality (Videography, Greeters, Ushers, etc):	14
Choir/Musicians:	22
Faith Formation / RCIA:	25
Office Volunteers / Collection Counters:	55
Heavenly Dusters (includes Altar Linens):	15
Parish Center	35
Parish Grounds	0
School Volunteers (Cafeteria, Recess, Classroom)	20
School Athletics	20
School Committees	35
Total Volunteer hours:	271
YTD (7/1/2023 - present)	4,359

MASS ATTENDANCE

Date	4:30 pm	9:00 am	11:00 am	TOTAL
Dec 2/3	263	288	226	777
Nov 25/26	252	228	431	911
Nov 18/19	212	270	238	720
Nov 10/11	257	297	188	742

FAMILY FORMATION

Coming up...

- Sunday, Dec 17, 10:00am
- Family Brunch / Breaksfast w/ Santa
- Sunday, Jan 7, 10:00am
- Coaching & Parent Session
- Sunday, Jan 14, 10:00am
- First Reconciliation Parent Meeting
- Sunday, Jan 21, 10:00am
- Family Brunch



Earn Saint Badges!!

Wednesdays 3:15-4:45pm

- January 17:
St. Agnes
- April 24:
St. Kateri



"Wasn't it
like a fire
burning
within us
when he
talked to
us"

Volunteer Sign up
Breakfast w/ Santa



Or use this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4FA5AF2FAAFB6-breakfast1#/>

Family Service Samplers

Ronald McDonald House
March 10

Dominican Mother House
January 17 & April 14

St. Martin DePorres Pantry
February 24

Sign up here



Emmaus Teens

- Sunday, Dec. 10, 4:00 pm
- Role Play Game Group
- Sunday, Dec. 17
4:00-7:00pm
- Christmas Party & Gift Exchange



LAST RCIA SESSION OF 2023

Dec. 11: Prayer and Meditation

...Sessions will resume in January

Jan 8: Catch Up Review of Previous Sessions
Jan 22: Sacraments and Grace

The Sanctuary Course for Catholics

Wednesdays
2:30pm &
6:30pm
Now - Dec 20



St. Agnes
Parish Center
Prayer - Video
Conversation

On Mental Health and Faith

Announcing...

Naomi and Ruth WOMEN'S MINISTRY @ ST. AGNES



"I Will Never Leave You"
Commissioned by Paul Clever
Kelly Latimore Icons

Naomi and Ruth were mother-in-law and daughter-in-law who stayed together even when their son/husband died and Ruth re-married. They journeyed together and we will too; older, younger, married, single, mothers, grandmothers, all of us!

Our first event will be a **PAINT AND SIP NIGHT**
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024 @ 6:30pm
Look for registration soon!

To sign up, use this QRcode or link:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/756056223517?aff=oddttdcreator>



PLAYLIST for Christmas

Christmas Music, Movies and fun to
focus our gaze on God with Us!

ST AGNES EMMAUS TEENS

**CHRISTMAS
LOCK-IN RETREAT
DECEMBER 29-30
7PM TO 8AM**

GROUPS FOR 6-8 GRADERS AND
HIGH SCHOOL

REGISTER HERE:





COOKIES FOR OUR SENIORS

Cookie Donations need to be brought in this weekend. We are happy to bring back this wonderful Cookie Event to St. Agnes. Cookies made by members of our Parish are packaged up and delivered to senior parishioners and area nursing homes. Volunteers will meet at 8:30 am to package and deliver the cookies on Monday, December 11. If you know of someone who is homebound or in a nursing home that would appreciate cookies or for volunteer sign up to help with deliveries, please call Rita Gill at 217-638-7618.



Looking for **NEW Homebound Communion Ministers!** These ministers bring communion to our homebound or ill parishioners on a weekly basis. Schedule can be flexible based on availability and who is in need. Training is provided. Contact Cathy Becker (cbecker@stagnescatholicparish.org or 217-793-1330) if you are interested or have questions.

St. Monica Ministry

Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00 pm
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Are you heartbroken because your loved ones have left the Church? You are invited to the inaugural gathering of Springfield-area St. Monica Ministry. This ministry is a dedicated prayer network offering hope and support to families and friends of Catholics who have walked away from the practice of the Faith. Please join us for prayer, conversation and solidarity. Animated by hope and grounded in faith, we rest secure in the knowledge that, in the words of St. Monica, "Nothing is far from God."



Mass Intentions: During the celebration of Mass, those wishing to honor a loved one who has passed or celebrate a special milestone may offer a "special intention". These intentions are offered to God as prayers of intercession and thanksgiving. Intentions can be offered for anyone. They do not need to be parishioners or even catholic. A stipend of \$10 per intention is suggested, specific dates may not be available. To schedule a Mass Intention, stop in the Church Office and speak to Tami or call 217- 793-1330 for more information.

When calling one of our Prayer Line Leaders, please leave your name and contact number along with your requested prayer line message.

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

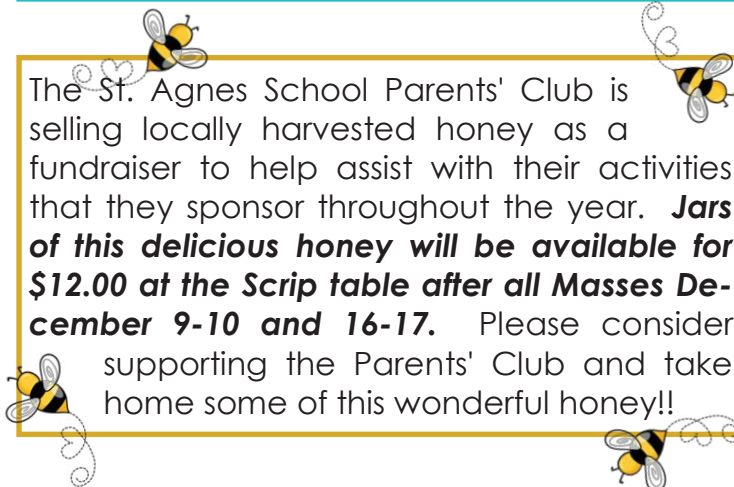
Sheila Noonan 217-546-0012
Barb Kern 217-546-7729

Catholic Charities
Christmas Donations
DUE THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10
By end of 11:00am Mass



Breakfast with Santa

Bring the kids to the Parish Hall after both Masses on **Sunday, December 17** for our Annual Breakfast with Santa Event.



The St. Agnes School Parents' Club is selling locally harvested honey as a fundraiser to help assist with their activities that they sponsor throughout the year. **Jars of this delicious honey will be available for \$12.00 at the Scrip table after all Masses December 9-10 and 16-17.** Please consider supporting the Parents' Club and take home some of this wonderful honey!!

Simbang Gabi 2023
A Filipino Christmas Mass Novena
December 9-17, 2023
St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1345 N 6th St, Springfield, IL

Sat 12/9 at 4:30PM	Thurs 12/14 at 6:00PM
Sun 12/10 at 6:00PM	Fri 12/15 at 6:00PM
Mon 12/11 at 6:00PM	Sat 12/16 at 8:00AM*
Tues 12/12 at 6:00PM	Sun 12/17 at 6:00PM
Wed 12/13 at 5:30PM	

Potluck to follow each Mass
*12/16 coffee + donuts provided by CIPAS
12/17 is Bishop Paprocki's Mass

For any questions, contact
Mila: 646-258-8381 / Elvie: 217-257-7643

Simbang Gabi (literally "Night Mass") is a 9-day series of Masses that lead up to Christmas Day and celebrated in the Philippines since the late 17th century. **All are invited** to this Advent devotion.



Maureen Brady 217-787-3423
Cinda Steinkamp 217-787-6439



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