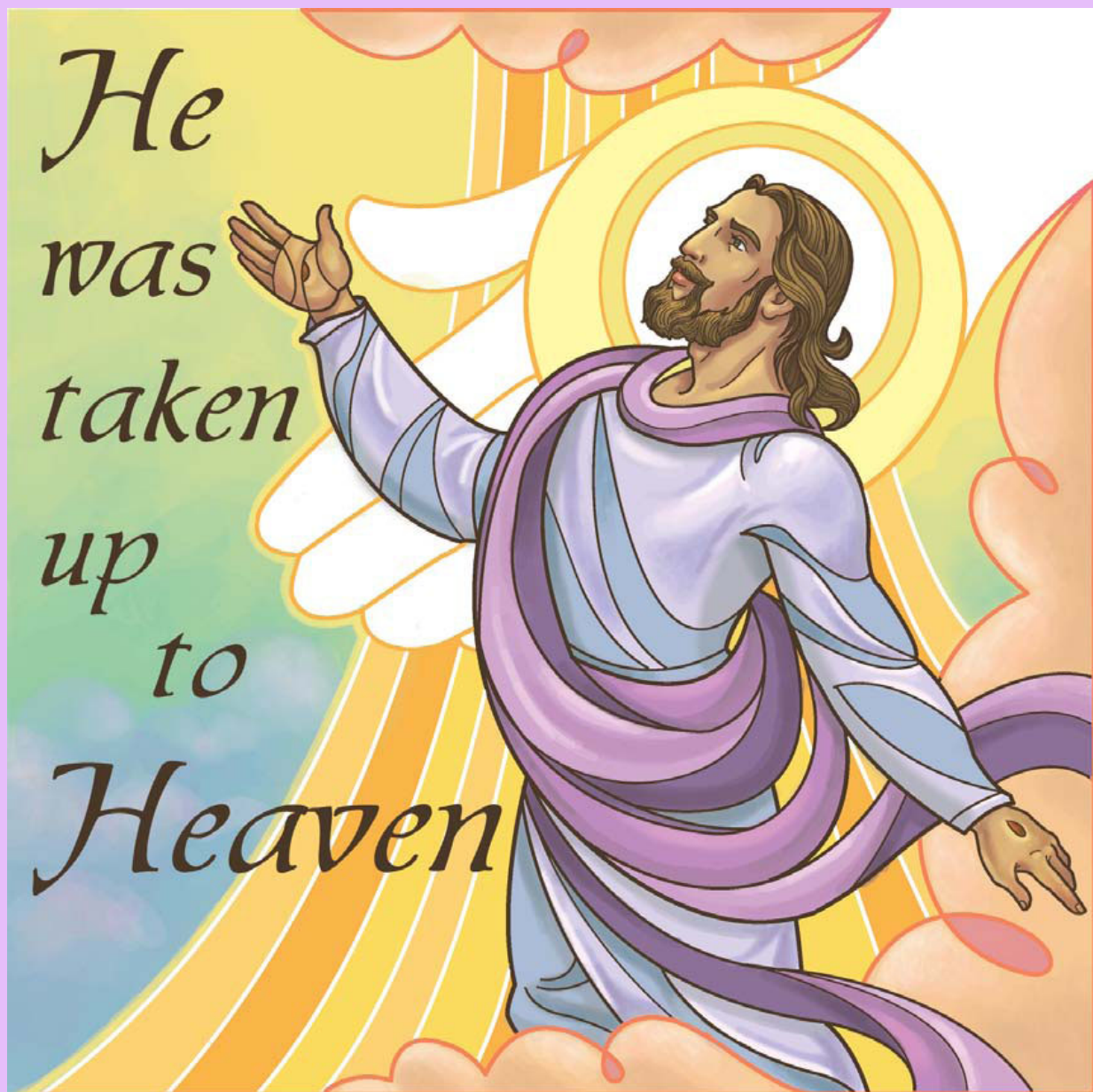




St. Agnes Catholic Community

A Perpetual Adoration and Stewardship Parish

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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May 8, 2016

PARISH OFFICE 3966 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519

Tel: (925) 689-0838 Fax: (925) 689-7899

Office Hours: 9:00am - Noon * 1:00pm - 4:30pm, Monday-Thursday

Website: www.stagnesparish.net * E-Mail: stagnesoffice@comcast.net

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5PM

Sunday: 7AM, 9AM, 10:45AM & 5PM

Daily Mass in the Chapel at 8AM

Monday - Saturday

(Communion Service on Wed.)

Confessions: Saturday 3:30PM

PASTORAL STAFF

Parochial Administrator

Rev. Fr. Johnson Abraham
chemans@gmail.com

Business Manager

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Liturgical Musician

Lily Melendrez

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Linda D'Souza
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Bulletins

Please submit your articles to:
donnaroberts1956@gmail.com

Pastoral Council President

David Wood
david@koc15344stagnes.org

SCHOOL OFFICE

3886 Chestnut Ave., Concord

Tel.: (925) 689-3990

Office Hours: 7:30 - 4:00 M-F

Principal: Jill Lucia

jlucia@csdo.org

Secretary: Ana Kelley

akelley@csdo.org

Website:

www.stagnesconcord.com

“As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven.” (Luke 24:51)

The Gospel of St. Luke ends with the Ascension of the Lord. This scene is also the transition to St. Luke's Acts of the Apostles. As we hear in Acts 1:10, the apostles are staring into the sky watching Jesus ascend. A couple of men dressed in white garments ask them who they are looking for.

This amazing scene can serve as an allegory, a spiritual picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning. It might be fun to see this in a little humor. When I was in chaplaincy training, one of the chaplains who embraced Buddhism as her primary belief told us this joke:

A monk was riding an ox and a group of people humbly asked who he was looking for. He answered: “I am looking for an ox.” They all laughed and he continued on his way up the road, where he was again asked the same question only to start people laughing. Finally, he came to a Christian mission where they told him he was being ridiculous, that he was already riding on an ox. He answered: “So it is with you looking for God.” Hmm. The story might serve to illustrate how the early church had to find its way building up the Kingdom of God here on earth, and not stare at the heavens waiting for Jesus to return. We might also see the story as a reminder of what we seek being part of our *everyday call* to serve others. How do we view the elderly or infirmed? Are they who we are seeking?

I've got one more story. Perhaps you've heard it—but it still works: After a parish evening meeting, a guy lost his car keys and was looking for them under a streetlight. A parishioner came out of the hall and offered to help him. Pretty soon he had lots of helpers and one person asked him to retrace his steps—“where exactly, do you think you lost them?” He answered: “Probably over there by the statue where I said a prayer.” “Then why are you looking for them over here?” He answered: “The light's better over here.”

Sometimes we may be looking for God in all the wrong places. I think some country singer gave me that idea. But the truth is, Christ is found in all the places we may have decided to avoid. Let us grow beyond the idea that God is only found in the sky or bright lights of fun projects. Let us realize that the call to service is not about seeking rewards. But when we bring *The Light of Christ* into the hearts of others, we find Jesus.

Postscript: I have always loved a little saying from Mother Teresa: “You don't have to do great things—just small things with great love.”

Deacon Bill

SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR MAY 1: \$12,214.00

We thank you for your Stewardship.

Calendar for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 7, 2016

5:00 p.m. Mary Garaventa—Repose
Just Faith Group—Special
Intention

Sunday, May 8, 2016

Sunday Masses are offered for all Mothers of
St. Agnes Parish, Living and Deceased

Monday, May 9, 2016

8:00 a.m. Mary Garaventa—Repose
Keith Slingerland—Repose
Elipidio Santos—Repose

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

8:00 a.m. Mary Garaventa—Repose
Pasquito Degala—Repose
Maria Teresa Legaspi—Repose

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

8:00 a.m. Communion Service Only

Thursday, May 12, 2016

8:00 a.m. Mary Garaventa—Repose
Sal & Irene Lo Grasso—Repose
Loreto Santos—repose

Friday, May 13, 2016

8:15 a.m. Mary Garaventa—Repose
Dunhill David—Repose
Felicisimo Santos—repose

Saturday, May 14, 2016

8:00 a.m. Mary Garaventa—Repose
5:00 p.m. Doris Rygh—Repose
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Paolecchi—Repose
Holy Cross Sisters—Special Intention

Sunday, May 15, 2016

7:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
9:00 a.m. “Mike” O’Gorman—Repose
Margaret N. Archuleta—repose
Brigide Digon Maniti—Repose
10:45 a.m. Sal & Irene Lo Grasso—Repose
Angelo Messina—Repose
Santo Toribio Romo—Special Int.
5:00 p.m. Mary Garaventa—Repose
Lot Sangalang Castro—Repose
Alex & Millie Pletkin—Special Int.

Parish Events and Meetings

Sunday, May 8, 2016

6:00 p.m. Life Teen—Cauchi Hall

Monday, May 9, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
11:00 a.m. Liturgy Committee Meeting—A.R.
1:00 p.m. Environment—Church
5 & 6 p.m. Faith Formation—Classrooms
and Church/Hall—Last Session
7:00 p.m. EDGE—Cauchi Hall
7:00 p.m. Social Ministries—G.P.

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
3:00 p.m. Little Vinnie’s Meeting—A.R.
6:00 p.m. Appreciation Gathering for CFF
Catechists—A.R.
6:00 p.m. PACE—8th Grade Classroom
7:00 p.m. Baptism Class—G.P.
7:30 p.m. Schola Practice—Music Room

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

8:00 a.m. Communion Service—Chapel
10:30 a.m. Rosary Making—G.P.
6:00 p.m. School Development—Faculty Room
7:30 p.m. Jim Gill Band Practice—Church

Thursday, May 12, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
9:30 a.m. Scripture Sharing—A.R.
12:00 noon Decorating for 8th Grade Dance -
Church Hall
6:00 p.m. Children’s Choir Practice
6:30 p.m. Ladies’ Night (preschool)—
Cauchi Hall
7:00 p.m. Flores de Mayo Meeting—G.P.
7:00 p.m. Novena—Flores de Mayo—Chapel
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice

Friday, May 13, 2016

8:15 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
6:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet—Chapel
7:00 p.m. Novena—Flores de Mayo—Chapel

Saturday, May 14, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
8:30 a.m. Lector Practice—Church
2:00 p.m. Baby Shower—Cauchi Hall
7:00 p.m. Novena—Flores de Mayo—Chapel

Parish News and Activities

ST. AGNES COOKBOOKS

(Don't forget to submit your recipes!)

The St. Agnes Cookbook Committee is collecting favorite recipes through May 31. Forms and a collection box are on the Welcome Table in the back of the Church and will be in the Ministry Center during the week. You may also submit your recipes on-line at: www.sacookbook2016@gmail.com.

We will have the printed cookbooks for sale this fall. You can even pre-order and have them wrapped for Christmas. Questions? Contact Sally Chavez at 925-687-9317 or e-mail gilsal2@sbcglobal.net.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL BUNDLE SUNDAY

Save the date for St. Vincent de Paul's Bundle Sunday on June 4 and 5. The St. Agnes conference will be sponsoring a Bundle Sunday before and after all masses the weekend of June 4 and 5. There will be a trailer in the parking lot behind the church to collect your donations of clothing, bedding, towels and linens. Bags will be distributed after Masses on May 28 and May 29. If you wish to donate large items such as furniture or automobiles, please call St. Vincent de Paul at 925-439-5060 and arrange for a pickup. Your continued generosity in assisting our mission of helping those in need is very much appreciated. If you or anyone you know could use help, call the St. Agnes office at 925-689-0838 and leave a message for "St. Vincent de Paul" at extension 250.



MOTHER LOVE

There is only one pretty child in the world, and every mother has it.—Chinese proverb

A MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING

"May those with children feel appreciated. May those with grieving empty arms be comforted. May those mourning and missing the ones who gave them life be wrapped in goodness and love today."

—Tamara Rice

ST. AGNES ANNUAL BABY SHOWER



All are invited to attend our Annual May Baby Shower in Cauchi Hall on **Saturday, May 14th from 2pm-4pm**. Join us for games, prizes, fun, and refreshments free of charge. This event will benefit local pregnancy resource centers and will feature a speaker from Birthright. Please bring donations of new or gently used baby and maternity items. Monetary donations and gift cards will also be accepted.

To reserve your seat at the Baby Shower, email Gia at: giabehrens@gmail.com or call her at [925-209-3439](tel:925-209-3439). Space is limited.

If you are unable to attend the Baby Shower in Cauchi Hall but wish to contribute, please place donations in the bassinet that will be placed at the back of the church between **May 7th and May 15th**.

Items specifically requested by the pregnancy resource centers include: Maternity clothes, diapers (size newborn - 6), baby wipes, Enfamil formula, pacifiers, teething rings, soft toys or books, rattles, onesies, bottles, hygiene products (i.e., shampoo, lotion, baby oil, A & D ointment etc.), blankets, burping cloths, sleepers, hats, socks, bottles, sipper cups, and whatever else you feel like you want to contribute.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 2016

- 8 Mother's Day
- 12-20 Novena for the Blessed Mother, 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel
- 21 Festival Devotion to Blessed Mother, 6:30p.m.
- 21-22 Hospitality Weekend
- 22 Children's Donut Mass, 10:45 a.m.
- 26 Spring Play (School)

Community Activities

SAFE ENVIRONMENT: Ministering to children and young people is the heart of what Jesus calls His people to do. The mission of the Safe Environment office is to assist the Church in creating a safe haven for children, young people and vulnerable adults. The risk of child abuse is greatly reduced by breaking the silence about abuse, especially sexual abuse. Breaking the silence is a critical first step to begin the process of education, prevention and healing.

The Diocesan office of Victim's Assistance offers a variety of avenues for victims and family members to report their experiences to our Office of Victim Assistance and to be welcomed, to receive pastoral care, and to learn about and access much-needed services. Diocesan staff serving in the Office of Victim Assistance believe that individuals and communities are best served through a prompt response to requests for help, respectful listening, attention to their needs, and services to help them in the healing process. If you, or someone you know would like to report or seek help with an allegation of sexual misconduct by clergy or diocesan employees, please contact the following: Office of Victim's Assistance, Fr. Robert M. Herbst, OFM Conv, Victim's Assistance Coordinator, [\(510\)267-8373](tel:5102678373) or rherbst@oakdiocese.org.



The Catholic Daughters of America, St. John Baptist de la Salle—Court 1934 invite you to join them for a Hawaiian Tea Fund Raiser on

Saturday, May 14, 2016
11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Cost: \$20

St. Francis of Assisi Gym
860 Oak Grove Road
Concord, CA 94518

Please RSVP no later than May 9, 2016. For ticket reservations, call Eiko Asselin at 925-825-3982.

Make checks payable to: CDA #1934 and mail to: Eiko Asselin, 3925 Ferndale Lane, Concord, CA 94519-1713.

REVISITING OUR BAPTISM

A mere seven weeks ago thousands of new Church members were baptized. Their new life in Christ has once again infused new life into the Church. Their new-found faith has inspired and bolstered the faith of those who have followed Christ for many years. As the Easter season nears its end, we revisit the scene of our baptisms. In the second reading we hear Christ calling us: "Come. . . . Let . . . the one who wants it receive the gift of life-giving water" (Revelation 22:17).

But our baptism is not one of water only. John refers to washed robes, and we know that this washing is to be "in the blood of the Lamb." To make sure we get this message, we have today's first reading from Acts. It is the story of Stephen, the first Christian to be killed for his faith in Jesus. We remember the promise and also the cost of being a disciple of Christ.

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CONTRA COSTA CHORALE SPRING CONCERT

The Contra Costa Chorale, directed by Cindy Beitmen, present "In Praise of Music," celebrating the Chorale's Golden Anniversary. The concert will feature Haydn's "Lord Nelson Mass," Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Serenade to Music," and "Where Everything is Music" by Stephen Main.

Saturday, May 14, at 8:00 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington, CA.

Sunday, May 15, at 5:00 p.m., Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, 1801 Lacassie Ave., Walnut Creek.

Reception to follow each concert—all are welcome.

Tickets: \$25 General, \$20 Students/Seniors or Disabled. Children under 12—free admission.

Tickets may be purchased through Brown Paper Tickets or at the door on the days of the concerts.

For further information and detailed directions, visit www.ccchorale.org, e-mail ccchorale@att.net, or call 510-255-0703.



**Patty Jarrett and Roberta Healy welcome new members
Jim and Yvonne Farrington, Maria Marshall, and
Kathleen and Jim Whirlow to Branch 214 of the
Italian Catholic Federation at St. Agnes Parish.**

The ICF is a social group of Catholics who get together to preserve the Italian Catholic heritage while raising money for different charities. They meet at Cauchi Hall at 6:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. While being Italian is not required for membership, you should be friendly and enjoy good food and fellowship.