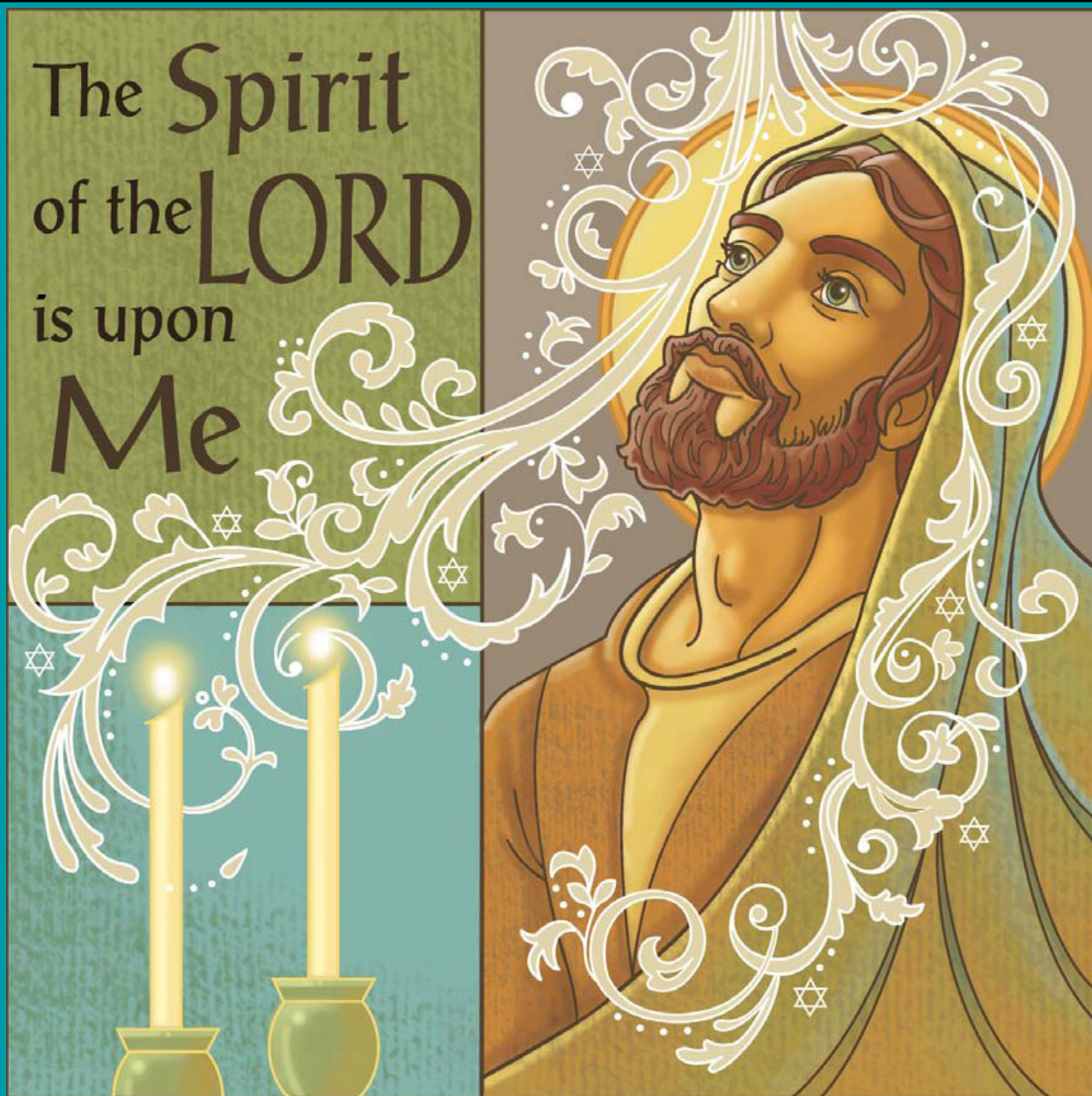




St. Agnes Catholic Community

A Perpetual Adoration and Stewardship Parish

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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January 24, 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, M-F

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

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jnmh143@hotmail.com

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

jluca@csdo.org

Secretary: Ana Kelley

akelley@csdo.org

Website:

www.stagnesconcord.com

“Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit.” (Luke 4:14)

The Gospel of St. Luke proclaims the presence and action of the Holy Spirit as it unfolds. It is one of his trademarks as a storyteller. Luke is not himself an eyewitness to the ministry of Jesus. But he decided to do a fresh review of the stories in circulation and deliver an orderly sequence of events. We might ask: “If he didn’t see it himself, how does he know what’s true?”

Luke is an accomplished writer, but most importantly he recognizes the power of the Holy Spirit. He helps shape biblical doctrine of the Action of the Holy Spirit by his account. We can observe Mary’s visit by the angel (1:35), her greeting to Elizabeth (1:41), and encounters with Zechariah (1:61) and Simeon (2:25-27) and find stories rich with presence of the Holy Spirit. He is so polished as a writer, we might overlook these details.

In his introduction, Luke dedicates his work to Theophilus. Who was he? Scripture scholars are not sure if this was a reference to Luke’s patron, a Roman official, or just a symbolic name. I like the third choice. The Greek word “theos” means God and “phileo” means to love. So this could be a symbolic name for anyone who loves God—like us Catholic Christians!

At the end of today’s gospel we hear: “Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.” Can it be fulfilled again today? If the Holy Spirit empowered and inspired the original witness of this Gospel, could it work again? By opening ourselves to God’s Word in our prayer today, we can be guided by God’s Spirit to be a part of the ongoing work of saving souls.

It’s not too late for a New Year’s resolution is it? It’s not a difficult one. How about being resolved to *listen* to Luke’s stories intently? What might happen if we hear the sights and sounds of Jesus’ ministry as if we had been among the original eyewitnesses? That’s it. Resolved: we promise to listen very, very carefully. Then what?

If the Holy Spirit guided the disciples, could that same Spirit help us to see the implications of the Gospel in our own lives? Jesus spoke of being sent by the Spirit of the Lord “to proclaim liberty to captives” (Luke 4:18). Are we “captives” to a way of life that keeps us from getting closer to God? Jesus calls us to recover our sight and be liberated from all that enslaves us. The Holy Spirit calls us to share that liberation with those who most need to hear the Good News.

St. Luke has parables not found in the other gospels. His style and content is different, too. He refers to *sinner*s more than any other evangelist. He shows the *Samaritans* in a positive light. *Women* play a significant role. He often features men and women in *pairs*. Luke likes *food*! One scripture scholar says Jesus is either “going to a meal, at a meal, or coming from a meal.” So--I hope I have whetted your appetite! You surely don’t want to miss any of these stories! — Deacon Bill

Sunday Collection for January 17: \$8,328.00
We thank you for your Stewardship.

Calendar for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 23, 2016

5:00 p.m. Richard Fiscus—Repose
Mary Navin—Repose
Rosalia Messina—Special Intention

Sunday, January 24, 2016

7:00 a.m. Edward McCarthy—Special Intention
9:00 a.m. Minnie H. Zelnik—Repose
For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
10:45 a.m. Marcial Penaranda—Repose
Gloria Rueca Mayor—Repose
Joe Vibal—Repose
5:00 p.m. Marilou & Marco Villanueva -
Special Intention

Monday, January 25, 2016

8:00 a.m. Tomas Legaspi—Repose

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

8:00 a.m. Veronica Manalong—Repose

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

8:00 a.m. Communion Service Only

Thursday, January 28, 2016

8:00 a.m. Ernest Cornella—Repose

Friday, January 29, 2016

8:15 a.m. Annette Bradstreet—Repose
John Auld—Repose

Saturday, January 30, 2016

8:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m. Mary Garaventa—Repose
Olga Ferrando—Repose
Richard Fiscus—Repose

Sunday, January 31, 2016

7:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
9:00 a.m. Roland Hamel—Repose
Minnie H. Zelnik—Repose
10:45 a.m. Peggy Coenen—Repose
Elizabeth Laird—Repose
5:00 p.m.

Parish Events and Meetings

Sunday, January 24, 2016

3:00 p.m. Confirmation—Cauchi Hall
6:00 p.m. Life Teen—Cauchi Hall

Monday, January 25, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
5 & 6 p.m. Faith Formation—Classrooms
7:00 p.m. EDGE—Cauchi Hall

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

8:00 a.m. Communion Service—Chapel
All Day School Pictures in Church & Hall
7:00 p.m. Jim Gill Band Practice—Church
7:00 p.m. Bible Study—A.R.

Thursday, January 28, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
9:30 a.m. Scripture Sharing—A.R.
6:00 p.m. Children's Choir—Music Room
7:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting—A.R.
7:00 p.m. CYO Meeting—G.P.
7:00 p.m. EDGE Core Team Meeting—EX
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir—Church

Friday, January 29, 2016

8:15 a.m. Friday Mass—Church

Saturday, January 30, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
8:30 a.m. Lector Practice—Church
12:00 noon Teams of Our Lady—A.R.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
Tuesday: Ss. Timothy and Titus
Wednesday: St. Angela Merici
Thursday: St. Thomas Aquinas
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

ELUSIVE HAPPINESS

Happiness will never be ours if we do not recognize to some degree that God's blessings were given us for the well-being of all.

—Anonymous

Parish News and Activities



I LOVE THE 80's.

Bring out the neon! Dust off the Hair Crimper! Pull the Op shirt and overalls out of the depths of your drawer, because it's time for the first ever —

ST. AGNES SCHOOL 80'S PROM!

Saturday, January 30th at 6:30 p.m.

Carondelet High School

Tickets: \$20 per person

Tickets will be available at the doors. More details and ticket sales start next week. Just like Prom in High School—grab your friends and hit up a restaurant for dinner before. And freak your kids out because you are going out “dressed like that.” Food and beverages will be available at the event.

Questions? Contact Nina Conneally@pace-special-events@stagnesconcord.com or Meghan Chisholm at 925-324-0072.



STARS February Meeting—The next meeting of the St. Agnes Retired Seniors will be on Tuesday, February 2, at 11:00 a.m. in the Church Hall. This luncheon meeting will be a catered event to celebrate Mardi Gras.

Lunch will be catered by Parma Delicatessen and the menu will include Meat Lasagna, Veggie Lasagna, Green Salad, Bread & Butter and Dessert. Cost is \$11 per person.

Wear your Mardi Gras masks and beads and invite a friend for a great lunch. All seniors and guests are invited to attend.

RSVP by January 26, 2016, to Gerry Rugani at 686-3142. Make check payable to Robert Rugani and mail it to him at 1701 Pepperwood Ct., Concord, CA 94521.

PARDON QUICKLY

If you have anything to pardon, pardon quickly. Slow forgiveness is little better than no forgiveness.

—Sir Arthur Pinero

ST. AGNES SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE January 31, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon



Please join us for the St. Agnes School Open House on January 31 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. There will be refreshments and a Book Fair. Applications for the upcoming school year will be available.

ATTENTION ALL SCOUTS!



All members of scouting organizations, such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, Daisies, Venture Scouts, Sea Scouts, American Heritage Girls, 4-H, etc., and their adult leaders, are invited to participate in a special Scout Sunday celebration at the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, February 7. **Wear your uniforms** and arrive early. Hospitality will be served after Mass.

TUTORING MINISTRY NEEDS TUTOR

St. Agnes Parish offers tutoring to children in grades 1 to 3. We are now in need of volunteer tutors who have experience as teachers or teacher's aides. If you are able to help on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., please contact Sandi Rigor at 682-0387 or e-mail sandirigor@aol.com.



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus reads the words of scripture: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.” **Your gift next week in the fifth Sunday collection for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul enables us to “bring glad tidings to the poor” in times of need and give them reason to believe and to trust.** Your parish Vincentians thank you in advance for your generosity and continued support.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS JANUARY

- 23 Mexico Dinner—6:00 pm
- 24 Hospitality after all Sunday Masses
Friends & Family Donut Mass—9:00 am
- 31 Catholic School Week—Celebration with
School at 9:00 am Mass

Community Activities

FREE FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAX PREPARATION FOR THE YEAR 2015

AARP's Tax-Aide program offers **free** Federal and State Income tax preparation to middle- and low-income taxpayers, with special attention to seniors.

All AARP's Tax-Aide counselors are IRS and State trained, tested, and certified.

For appointments at the Concord United Methodist Church, 1645 West Street, Concord, call **925-405-5234** (leave your name & number, and an appointment scheduler will return your call). Appointments are available **Wednesdays** and **Thursdays** starting February 3, 2016, between the hours of 8:45 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Bring all your 2015 tax information, Photo ID, Social Security Cards and Health Care information for everyone on your return, and a copy of your 2014 Federal and State returns.

For other Tax-Aide locations, call 925-726-3199.

Lenten Opportunity—BEST LENT EVER

This Lent, Dynamic Catholic has a great opportunity for our parish—a free e-mail program called “Best Lent Ever.” The program is based on Matthew Kelly’s new bestseller *Rediscover Jesus*—that’s the same book you all received before Christmas this past year. If you did not receive a copy, there are a few left on the Welcome Table in the back of the church. Please take one.

Each day through Lent you will receive an inspirational e-mail with a short video featuring Matthew Kelly and a member of the Dynamic Catholic Team. Throughout Lent, they will guide you through each of the 40 chapters in *Rediscover Jesus* and share simple ways to bring Jesus into your everyday life.

All you have to do is sign up at DynamicCatholic.com/Lent. Let’s do something life-changing this Lent. Let’s take a 40-day spiritual journey to encounter Jesus—and ourselves—in a deeply personal way.

INDULGENCES 101—An excerpt from an article by Fr. Alexander Castillo, Office of Worship, Diocese of Oakland

What are indulgences? The doctrine about indulgences is part of our Catholic faith. However, it remains unclear and clouded in the minds of most of the faithful. For some people, this doctrine is something from the Middle Ages, something passe, or even worse, something “a modern believer should not accept.” The Jubilee of Mercy is giving us a new opportunity to reflect upon indulgences, and to experience them as part of “the holiness of the Church, who bestows upon all the fruits of Christ’s redemption, so that God’s love and forgiveness may extend everywhere” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, n. 22).

...the Catechism of the Catholic Church explains “that sin has a **double consequence**.”...”Grave sin deprives us of communication with God and therefore makes us incapable of eternal life, the privation of which is called the ‘eternal punishment’ of sin...every sin, even venial, entails an unhealthy attachment to creatures, which must be purified here on earth, or after death in the state called Purgatory...”

Partial Indulgences and Plenary Indulgences—“An indulgence is partial or plenary according to whether it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due sin.”

Indulgences for the Living and for the Dead—The power to grant indulgences belongs to the Roman Pontiff. His Holiness Pope Francis gave the conditions to obtain these indulgences during the year of Mercy. For able-bodied Catholics, all the following conditions are to be fulfilled: (1) Make a pilgrimage and pass through the Holy Door. In the Diocese of Oakland, Bishop Barber designated the Cathedral of Christ the Light as the only Holy Door in the Diocese; (2) Go to confession; (3) Receive Holy Communion “with a reflection of mercy.”; (4) Make a profession of faith (Credo); and (5) Pray for the Pope and his intentions (i.e., One Our Father, three Hail Mary and Gloria).

For the elderly, confined and the ill—by “living with faith and joyful hope in this moment of trial”...

For those in prison—The grace of the indulgence will be available for them in their prison chapels...

For the deceased—The deceased can benefit from the indulgences we apply for them through the prayers of the faithful.

The entire text can be read on the Diocesan web site, www.oakdiocese.org.

DIVINE MERCY PARISH MISSION

SATURDAY, FEB. 6 thru
SUNDAY, FEB. 7, 2016

ST. AGNES CATHOLIC CHURCH

3966 Chestnut Ave., Concord, CA 94519

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, FEB. 6

- 9:00am: Introduction, entrance songs, opening prayers
- 10:00am: Divine Mercy Presentation #1
- 11:00am: Divine Mercy Presentation #2
- 12:00pm: Lunch Break and songs
- 1:45pm: Divine Mercy Presentation #3
- 3:00pm: Chaplet of The Divine Mercy (end)

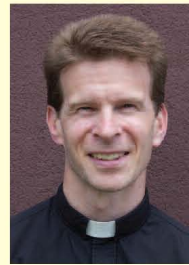
Materials available for purchase

For More Information Contact
Marie Rojo at 925-689-8814 or 925-639-9901
or Pat Jung at 925-639-7271
or see www.thedivinemercy.org/events



**MARIAN FATHERS OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

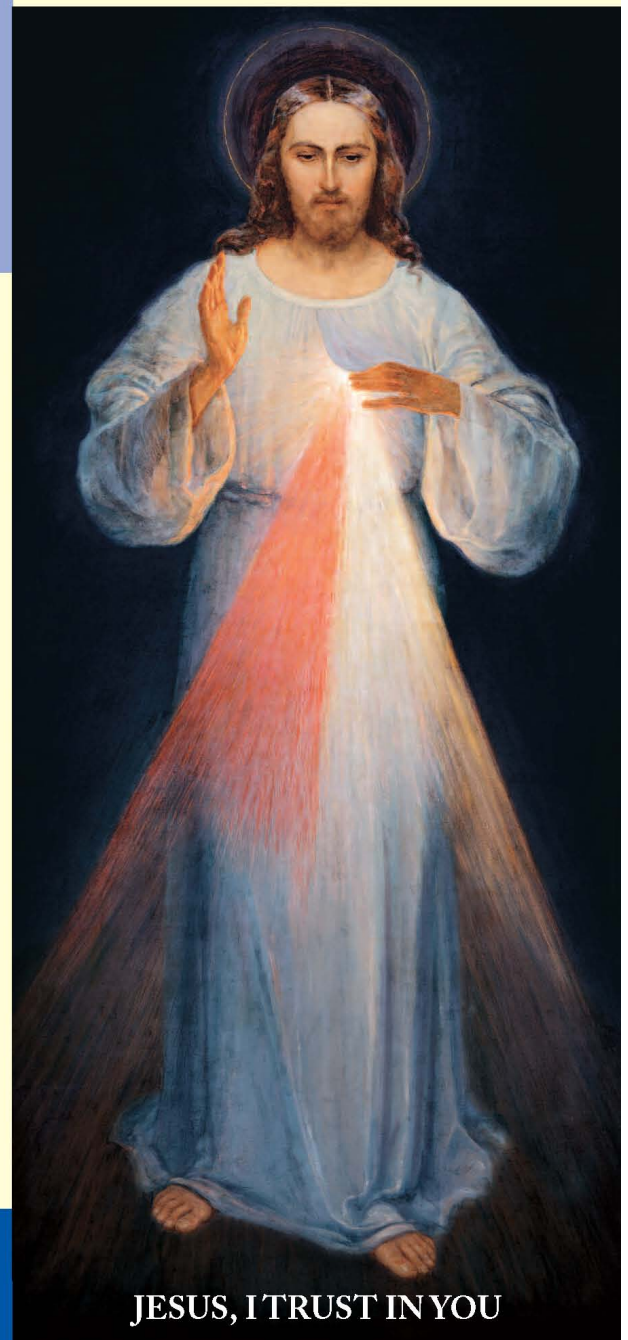
FEATURED SPEAKER



Fr. Mark Baron, MIC

A member of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception, the Religious Community entrusted with spreading the Message and Devotion of Divine Mercy.

Fr. Mark will celebrate all the weekend Masses.



JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU

\$15 is requested to cover the cost of the lunch and a gift for the speaker.