



St. Agnes Catholic Community

A Perpetual Adoration and Stewardship Parish

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



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March 6, 2016

PARISH OFFICE 3966 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519

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Office Hours: 9:00am - Noon * 1:00pm - 4:30pm, M-F

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

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SCHOOL OFFICE

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

Principal: Jill Lucia

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Reflection on Mercy

The mystery of God's mercy is revealed in the history of the covenant between God and God's people, Israel. God is ever rich in mercy, ever ready to treat God's people with deep tenderness and compassion, especially when infidelity ruptures the bond of the covenant. Through the ages, God's mercy transforms human hearts; it enables us to become merciful in turn. In an ever new miracle, God's mercy shines forth in our lives, inspiring each of us to love our neighbor and to devote ourselves to works of mercy. Mercy is the work that summarizes the Gospel. We might say that it is the "face" of Christ, the face He showed when he touched all with his compassion and mercy, healing the sick, sharing a table meal with sinners, spending time with the outcasts and marginalized of society. As we walk this Lenten journey with Jesus, may we each accept his call to "be his face" and bring the miracle of God's mercy to all whose lives we touch.

Sr. Rosheen Glennon, CSJ

A SUNDAY FOR REJOICING

Today's Gospel story of the prodigal son is a favorite of many. We can identify with all the major figures and their crisscross of emotions. The father's initial grief over his young son's avarice is turned to relief at his return. The son's grief over his loss of fortune, family, and friends is turned to delirious joy at the sight of his father.

We understand the eldest son's bewilderment over his father's generosity. For the older son, virtue seems not to be its own reward. For all his honorable toil and loyalty, there seems to be no celebration. The father, however, is prodigal in his forgiveness and mercy. He expects the same generosity from his older son. He wants all to rejoice when the lost one is found.

This is a Sunday for rejoicing. It's time to pause, consider, and encourage one another. We are the prodigal children heading home. We are the elder siblings waiting with the eager Father, who scans the horizon. In Christ Jesus we are reconciled to the Father and one another. In his death and resurrection we have passed over. We are a new creation. In this we rejoice.

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Sunday Collection for February 28: \$9,629.00
We thank you for your Stewardship.

Calendar for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 5, 2016

5:00 p.m. Richard Fiscus—Repose
Doris Rygh—Repose
Cathy Ruhnke—Special Intention

Sunday, March 6, 2016

7:00 a.m. Margaret Stephens—Special Int.
9:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
10:45 a.m. Deceased Members of the
Farrington Family
5:00 p.m. Diana Paul—Repose

Monday, March 7, 2016

8:00 a.m. James Garry—Repose
Sotera Anteola—Repose
Salvacion Fajardo—Repose

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

8:00 a.m. Elpidio Santos—Repose
Zanoni Family—Repose

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

8:00 a.m. Communion Service Only

Thursday, March 10, 2016

8:00 a.m. Maria Teresa Legaspi—Repose
Juanita Pilar—Repose
Beatriz Salasao—Repose

Friday, March 11, 2016

8:15 a.m. Marcella Gaylord—Repose
Rudy Norona—Repose
Loreto Santos—Repose

Saturday, March 12, 2016, 2016

8:00 a.m. Felicisimo Santos—Repose
5:00 p.m. Richard Fiscus—Repose
Deceased Members of the
Grewis Family
Cathy Ruhnke—Special Intention

Sunday, March 13, 2016

7:00 a.m. Michael McCarthy—Special Intention
9:00 a.m. Margaret N. Archuleta—Repose
Hugh Murphy—Repose
10:45 p.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
5:00 p.m.

Parish Events and Meetings

Sunday, March 6, 2016

Sister Rosheen preaching at all Masses

Fair Trade after all Masses

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

Monday, March 7, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
5 & 6 p.m. Faith Formation—Classrooms
7:00 p.m. EDGE—Cauchi Hall
7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Officers
Meeting—A.R.

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
9:30 a.m. School Lenten Reconciliation
1:30 p.m. 8th Grade Practice Stations of Cross
6:00 p.m. PACE Meeting—8th Grade CR
7:30 p.m. Schola Practice—Music Room

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

8:00 a.m. Communion Service—Chapel
1:30 p.m. 8th Grade Practice Stations of Cross
6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper—Church Hall
6:00 p.m. School Development—Faculty Rm.
7:00 p.m. Bible Study—A.R.
7:30 p.m. Jim Gill Band Practice—Church

Thursday, March 10, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
9:30 a.m. Scripture Sharing—A.R.
1:30 p.m. 8th Grade Practice Stations of Cross
6:00 p.m. Children's Choir—Music Room
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir—Church

Friday, March 11, 2016

8:15 a.m. Daily Mass—Church
2:00 p.m. School Stations of the Cross—Church
5:30 p.m. Fish Fry—Church Hall
6:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet—Chapel
7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross—Church

Saturday, March 12, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
8:30 a.m. Lector Practice—Church
8:00 a.m. Mexico Youth Mission—Kitchen
6:00 p.m. St. Patrick's Dinner—Church

CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.—Thomas Edison

Parish News and Activities

FAIR TRADE SALES THIS WEEKEND

Our classic Coffees, Teas, and Chocolates share the spotlight with our Easter Favors filled with special sweets, mini chocolates and a fun treat. Small purchases—great results. Thanks for your support!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER MARCH 12, 2016, 6:00 P.M. IN THE CHURCH HALL



Wear a bit 'o green when you attend the St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Saturday, March 12 in the Church Hall. The evening opens at 6:00 p.m. with a no-host bar and is followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. The feast includes corned beef, cabbage, carrots and potatoes, along with salad, bread and dessert.

The price for adults is \$20, and for children 12 and under is \$5. Contact Lynda Conlow at 925-899-1911, Tim McGallian at 925-408-5349, or the church office for further information.

Ticket sales will start February 27-28 after Masses at the Welcoming Table in the back of the church. Tickets will also be available at the church office. The deadline for ticket sales is March 7th. There will be no tickets sold the day of the dinner.

There is also a way that you can make this dinner a wonderful event—by offering baskets or items for the Raffle Table. You can drop these at the church office.

WE OFFER SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

For those who may be new to our parish, we have many different Mass options from which to choose. Twice a month, on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 5:00 p.m., we have a Schola choir which sings Gregorian Chants along with the sound of our pipe organ. On the 2nd and 3rd Sundays, at the 5:00 p.m. evening Mass, our Youth Band, led by Jim Gill, offers more modern and lively music. For parents of young children, you may enjoy our 9:00 a.m. Sunday Masses, with our angelic children's choir, as well as a separate Liturgy of the Word for young children. Our 10:45 a.m. Mass offers a full, traditional choir. And for those who prefer no music at all, come to our 7:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. May you find spiritual renewal at whichever Mass you choose.

PARISH FISH FRIES DURING LENT



During the Lenten season, the St. Agnes Knights of Columbus will be hosting Friday Night Fish Fry. Please come out early (dinner is between 5:30 and 6:45 in the Church Hall) before you attend the Stations of the Cross program held in the Church at 7:00 p.m. The menu includes: your choice of fried fish (2 pieces) or grilled cheese sandwich, along with French fries, salad, and coleslaw. Beverages (soda or water) are available for \$1 each.

The Cost is \$7—kids 3 and under are Free.

The dates include each Friday through March 18.

For information, contact Carlos Garcia at cmgarcia@astound.net or Earl Koski at ekoski@astound.net.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS MARCH 2016

- 5 St. Agnes School Auction—Concord Hilton
- 7 Reconciliation for Children's Faith Formation and Edge, 5:15, 6:45 and 7:15 p.m.
- 9 Lenten Soup Meal—6:00 p.m.
- 11 Fish Fry, Church Hall—5:30 p.m.
Stations of the Cross—7:00 p.m.
- 12 St. Patrick's Day Dinner—6:00 p.m.
- 14 Parish Lenten Reconciliation—7:00 p.m.
- 16 Lenten Soup Meal—6:00 p.m.
- 18 Fish Fry, Church Hall—5:30 p.m.
Stations of the Cross—7:00 p.m.
- 19/20 Palm Sunday
- 23 Sedar Meal—5:00 p.m.
- 24 Holy Thursday—Mass 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Good Friday: Blood Drive 11:00 am-4:00 pm
Stations of the Cross—12:00 noon
Taize, Prayer around the Cross—2:00 p.m.
Good Friday Liturgy—7:00 p.m.
- 26 Easter Vigil—8:00 p.m.
- 27 Easter Sunday Mass Times:
7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
There is NO 5:00 p.m. Mass on Easter.
Easter Egg Hunt—12:00 noon

St. Agnes Church Annual Blood Drive
Good Friday, March 25, 2016
11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Cauchi Hall

We ask that you consider making a donation during the Good Friday Blood Drive. To schedule your life-saving appointment:

1. Sign up after all Masses the weekend of March 5th and 6th.
2. E-mail Pat Cesnik at *stag-nesblooddrive@gmail.com* or call 925-381-0526.
3. Visit *www.bloodheroes.com*, click "Donate Blood" and enter sponsor code: StAgnes

Every 3 seconds someone, somewhere, needs a blood transfusion—please be a lifesaver! Your one donation will save three lives and go to recipients at over 50 Bay Area hospitals!

JOIN THE ROUND TABLE PROJECT

St. Agnes parishioners, groups or organizations are invited to donate a new, lightweight, 60-inch round dining table. Check out the first new replacement table in the back of the church (behind the Welcome Table) for more details. The cost of the new tables is only \$110 each. If interested, contact the Parish Office, any STARS member, or call Bob Rigor at 202-6239. Yellow donation envelopes are on the Welcome Table.

Save the Date
CAR SHOW & BLESSING

The annual Spring Car Show and Blessing will take place on Sunday, April 10 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We are seeking 60 show cars for display (10 a.m. setup time). Blessings are at noon. Detailed flyers will be on the Welcome Table.

3 Simple steps to Reclaim your Family Life by Dr. Gregory Popcak

Moms and dads, I want to let you in on a secret. You don't need permission from your children's coaches, teachers, youth ministers, scout leaders, etc, etc, etc, to have a family life. All those people have to ask YOU permission to borrow your kids. NOT the other way around.

At my wife and my recent presentation at the World Meeting of Families, the above statement earned an unexpected ovation. In our talk, we asserted the completely counter-cultural and Catholic idea that family life, itself, *is an activity* and not an accessory. We are used to *having* a family life but *working* at everything else; school, sports, work, lessons, you name it. We have time for everything except working, praying, talking, and praying as a family. Worse, we have all come to accept this as normal and necessary when it is anything but.

Take Back Your Family in 3 Steps

First, ask yourselves, "If we were to carve out at least a little bit of time (say, 15-20 minutes each) to work, play, talk, and pray together, *each day*, what would we do?" Come up with a short list of ideas yourself, then discuss it as a family. Start doing some of those things now—even periodically—so that your family can get used to the idea of being intentional about being together.

Second, begin thinking of extra-curricular activities—including your own—as secondary to the need to make time to work, play, talk, and pray together as a family. If you actually gave yourself permission to prioritize your family life—as your Church asks you to—what else would there be time for? Perhaps the answer is "not much." That's OK. Your family is the single most important activity you can do in the course of your week. Start giving yourself permission to think of this as if it was.

Third, start setting boundaries. Tell your kids' coaches that your kids won't be attending practices or games when they conflict with family commitments—especially your family's commitment to attend mass together. Tell the various ministry heads to schedule you for reading, altar serving, and cantoring at the *same* Mass. You do not need their permission or approval. It is YOUR family that is at stake. Not theirs. Make them work around you, not the other way around.

It's time to start a revolution for the family. Chances are, the people you have let think they own your children won't like it. Tough. Revolutions are never easy. But in light of Pope Francis' witness at the World Meeting of Families, perhaps the best way to create a "Culture of Encounter" that brings Christ to the world is to simply do what he says and finally make time to "waste time with your children."

**523253
St. Agnes
Concord
(925) 689-0838**

Marlene McCann at 925-689-0838 or Donna Roberts at 925-890-4962.

Special Instructions: Gentle reminder.

Please allow the ink to dry before folding.

Colors need to not look washed out.

**Please make sure track or rolling marks are not visible.
Thank you.**

Ads are on Page 7; Page 8 is color.



Our RCIA Team, Candidates and Elect and their families
with Bishop Barber after the Rite of Election
at the Cathedral of Christ the Light on February 14.

We ask for your continued prayers for them as they
continue their spiritual journey through the Scrutinies and
culminating in joining the Catholic Church through receiving
the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation
at the Easter Vigil on March 26.