



St. Agnes Catholic Community

A Perpetual Adoration and Stewardship Parish

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Saint Teresa of Calcutta

On September 4, Mother Teresa was canonized as a saint. How appropriate that in Pope Francis' Extraordinary Year of Mercy, this small Albanian nun, with 69 years as a model of God's love and mercy, should be recognized as a saint. She left behind a legacy of 4,500 Missionaries of Charity worldwide and is a reminder that each of us can accomplish so much, as long as we prayerfully listen to what God calls us to do. *"God doesn't require us to succeed, he only requires that you try."*—Mother Teresa

September 11, 2016

PARISH OFFICE 3966 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519

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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

Pastor

Rev. Fr. Johnson Abraham
chemans@gmail.com

Deacons

Bill Drobick—deaconbill3@gmail.com
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Liturgical Musician

Lily Melendrez

Youth Ministry Coordinator

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Bulletins

Please submit your articles to:
donnaroberts1956@gmail.com

Pastoral Council Chair

Linus Farias
linusfarias@sbcglobal.net

SCHOOL OFFICE

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

Principal: Jill Lucia

jlucia@csdo.org

Secretary: Ana Kelley

akelley@csdo.org

Website:

www.stagnesconcord.com

Dear Friends,

We often hear: 'Does God love you?' Yes. And God demonstrated His love for you even while you were a sinner, He sent His Son Jesus to die for you. Let me tell you some good news: in spite of the fact that God is no fool, and in spite of the fact that we sometimes are, God really does love us. He really loves us, no matter who we are, or what we have done, or even how long we have done it. And He will gladly forgive and accept us if we would come home to Him.

That's what Luke 15 is all about. We see the context in the first two verses: "All the tax collectors and sinners were drawing near to listen to Him. And the Pharisees and Scribes were complaining, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them!'. In other words, Jesus got into trouble with the Pharisees because He hung around sinful people. And it was in response to that accusation that Jesus told these three stories: the story of the lost sheep, the story of the lost coin, and the story of the lost son. Jesus was using these three stories to say, "Listen guys, I hang around with sinful people because God loves them and wants them to come home." In fact, Jesus said on another occasion, "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost".

In these three stories in Luke 15, Jesus shows us who God is and how He feels about His lost people. In the first story, we are the sheep and God is the Shepherd. In the second story, we are the coin and God is the widow. In the third story, we are the son and God is the Father. By looking at these three stories we find proofs of God's love for us.

God values us. When something is lost, its value is always intensified, isn't it? Sheep are always important to a shepherd, but when one is lost, its value is intensified. Money is always important to a person on a fixed income, but when a significant portion is lost, it is sorely missed. Our children are always precious to us, but imagine how our love for them would become almost a crushing weight if one of them were lost.

If we are away from God, rest assured that He not only loves us, He is looking for us. But He is not looking for us in order to punish us - He is looking for us in order to rescue us. In fact, that is why Jesus Christ came to earth. He said that He had come to "seek and save those . . . who are lost". Let us allow Him to find and restore us. Amen.

Fr. Johnson

SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR SEPTEMBER 4: \$11,554.00

Includes Faith Direct Giving

We thank you for your Stewardship.

Calendar for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 10, 2016

5:00 p.m. Patricia & Frances Afinowicz—Rep.
Emily & Robert Honniball—Repose
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Paolicchi—Repose

Sunday, September 11, 2016

7:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
9:00 a.m. Margaret N. Archuleta—Repose
10:45 a.m. Peggy, Cy & Neal Coenen—Repose
Yvette Farrington—Repose
Amanda Rubio—Repose
5:00 p.m. Norman Nunes—Repose
Leroy & Dena Overbey—Repose
Zola & Tessie Wright—Repose

Monday, September 12, 2016

8:00 a.m. Jim Narbares—Repose
Loreto Santos—Repose

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

8:00 a.m. Felicisimo Santos—Repose
Angie Randall—Special Intention

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

8:00 a.m. Communion Service Only

Thursday, September 15, 2016

8:00 a.m. Mary Harry—Repose
Telesfora Legaspi—Repose

Friday, September 16, 2016

8:15 a.m. Thomas Legaspi, Jr.—Repose
James Narbares—Repose

Saturday, September 17, 2016

8:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m. Louie Ferrari—Repose
Marina & Armando Ferrari—Repose
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Greenwood—Repose

Sunday, September 18, 2016

7:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
10:45 a.m. Paulina Balmeseda—Repose
Amanda Rubio—Repose
Louis Ruybalid—Repose
5:00 p.m.

Parish Events and Meetings

Sunday, September 11, 2016

8:30 a.m. RCIA—A.R.
Pancake Breakfast after 9 & 10:45 a.m. Masses.
5:00 p.m. Youth Mass

Monday, September 12, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
10:00 a.m. JustFaith—G.P.
7:00 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting—A.R.
7:00 p.m. Reaching Out Committee—G.P.
7:00 p.m. Edge Planning Meeting—EX

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
3:00 p.m. Vinnie's Little Helpers—A.R.
7:00 p.m. Baptism Class—G.P.

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

8:00 a.m. Communion Service—Chapel
8:00 p.m. Young Adult Ministry—Cauchi Hall
7:30 p.m. Jim Gill Band Practice—Church

Thursday, September 15, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
9:30 a.m. Scripture Study—A.R.
6:00 p.m. Children's Choir—Church
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice—Church

Friday, September 16, 2016

8:15 a.m. Daily Mass—Church
6:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet—Chapel
7:30 p.m. Fil Am Meeting—A.R.

Saturday, September 17, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
8:30 a.m. Lector Practice—Church
9:00 a.m. Work Party—Grounds
9:00 a.m. Catechist Retreat—Cauchi Hall

Fair Trade offered for sale after 5:00 p.m. Mass.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Patriot Day; Grandparents Day
Monday: The Most Holy Name of Mary
Tuesday: St. John Chrysostom
Wednesday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Thursday: Our Lady of Sorrows
Friday: Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian
Saturday: St. Robert Bellarmine; Blessed Virgin Mary

Parish News and Activities

4th Annual St. Agnes School Fall Fest & Costume Parade

The St. Agnes School P.A.C.E. Board invites you to join us on Friday, October 14th from 5:00 - 8:00 pm for our Fall Fest Extravaganza! The event offers taco dinner catered by our own Los Rancheros, Costume Parade for the kids, Vendor Fair, Carnival Style Games and Trunk or Treat fun!

Dinner **MUST** be PRE-ORDERED and PAID for in the school office by Noon on Friday, October 7th. Game Tickets can be purchased at the event - CASH ONLY. Dinner will not be sold the night of. Additional information along with the PRE-ORDER FORM can be found on our school website at www.stagnesconcord.com.

Please contact Kristina Long with any questions at Pace-President@stagnesconcord.com. We look forward to seeing all of you there!

FAIR TRADE SALES SEPTEMBER 17-18

St Agnes parishioners' willingness and openness to purchasing Fair Trade Coffees, Teas, Hot Cocoa and Chocolates grown and produced by small farmers in Latin/South America, Africa and India, have kept our Fair Trade Sales growing and expanding for the past 7 years! Your mindful purchases have results. Small farmers live decent independent lives, over a dozen charitable organizations, local and international, and CRS (Catholic Relief Services) have benefitted from our sales. Best of all, you have put broad smiles on the JustFaith Volunteers' faces!

We acknowledge your generosity with grateful hearts! Thank you, St. Agnes!

SAVE THE DATE— Octoberfest German Dinner

Saturday, October 8, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

More information will be in next weekend's bulletin. Tickets will be on sale next weekend through October 2.



Pilgrimage to the Cathedral and Transportation

During this Extraordinary Year of Mercy all parishes in the Oakland Diocese have been invited to make a pilgrimage to the Cathedral. St. Agnes will be making this pilgrimage on Saturday, October 1.

As a parish we will have the opportunity to participate in a docent-led tour of the Cathedral at 10:00 am. (Alternatively to the tour, you can spend time in prayer in one of the chapels.) At 10:45 am we will gather and process through the "Holy Door" into the Cathedral for a special Group Mass at 11:00 am.

For those needing transportation, a charter bus will be available from St. Agnes. There are a limited number of seats and the cost for roundtrip transportation is \$20.00 a person. **So that we will have an idea of how many parishioners will be making this beautiful pilgrimage, there are sign-up sheets at the welcoming table.** One is for those who would like to take the charter bus, and the second sheet is for parishioners to sign that are providing their own transportation. All are welcome and encouraged to participate. For more information please call Ron Schmidt at 932-1007.

SAVE THE DATE— Women's Guild Autumn Tea Saturday, October 22, 2016

Tickets sell out fast. Flyers are on the Welcome Table in the back of the Church.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 11 Pancake Breakfast after 9 & 10:45 am Masses
- 11 RCIA Begins—8:30 a.m., Ministry Center
- 18 Friends and Family Mass at 10:45 a.m.
and SVDP Commissioning
- 18 Life Teen Kick-Off Night—6:00 p.m.,
Cauchi Hall
- 23 Wheel-a-Thon—School
- 24 SVDP—Friends of the Poor Walk—9:00 a.m.
- 24/25 Stewardship Ministry Enrollment Weekend
Hospitality Weekend
- 28 Bible Study Starts—7:00 p.m. Ministry Center

Stewardship Enrollment

Following are descriptions of five more ministries which will have representatives after Masses at the Enrollment Weekend on September 24-25.

JUSTFAITH

Provides a format to read about and experience justice that changes the lives of people who are poor and face many daily challenges. On-going activities include: monthly Fair Trade sales, monthly breakfast with Monument Impact Day Laborers, and the Lenten Soup Suppers. (Monthly meetings and varying levels of day time commitment)

LOAVES AND FISHES

Provides hot lunches to the needy of the community. Volunteers help prepare and serve meals at the Pittsburg Dining Room. Others help in the Pittsburg Central Kitchen assisting the chef in food preparation. (Monthly daytime commitment)

PRAYER TREE

Provides prayers for those who have requested special intentions. Volunteers are updated weekly of new intentions via e-mail. (Commitment time is open to fit each person's availability)

RESPECT LIFE/GABRIEL PROJECT

Promotes and upholds the sanctity of life from conception until natural death. Volunteers plan events throughout the year to focus on the family as the foundation of physical and spiritual life in the Church. Gabriel Project specifically works to protect the unborn and support the expectant mother. (Varying levels of commitment both day and evening)

SAINT MARY'S CHRISTMAS DINNER

Provides 'Christmas Dinner', and entertainment to the needy seniors at the Center in Oakland each December. Volunteers help prepare, cook, and serve dinner. (Seasonal)

TUTORING

Registered St. Agnes Church Parishioners or School Families who would like to have their 1st, 2nd or 3rd grade children tutored in reading or math at no cost to parents, may get registration forms after all the Masses at the Welcome Table in the back of the church. Forms will also be available at both the school and church offices. Forms must be returned to the Welcome Table, the Ministry Center or the school office no later than September 30. Classes will begin Wednesday, October 12.

We still need teachers. If you have teaching or para-professional experience in your background, please contact Bev or Sandi. **For more information call Bev Atchison at 925-676-9711 or Sandi Rigor at 925-282-0387.**

JustFaith Ministry

You are invited to come celebrate 16 years of JustFaith in the Diocese of Oakland. There are two different locations and date with the same evening of celebration and planning our future. Choose one:

Wed., Sept. 14, 7 pm, St. John Vianney Church, Walnut Creek (Mullen Commons) *or*

Tues., Sept. 20, 7 pm, St. Mary Magdalen Church, Berkeley (Norton Hall)

Wine, cheese, prayer and conversation about the needs in our area and working together to reach others. RSVP: Meg Bowerman, Volunteer Coordinator for JustFaith in the East Bay: (510) 684-7139 or e-mail megbowerman@gmail.com.

Bishop John Oyejola sent these pictures of his former church in the Oyo Diocese of Nigeria. Thank you to the parishioners in our parish who helped to contribute to this project.



This Church (above left), is in the process of being transformed (above right), through your donations. It was here in Oyo Diocese of Nigeria that Bishop John was a Parish priest before becoming Bishop of Osogbo, Nigeria, a neighboring Diocese.



Other views of the partially completed church.



Bishop Emmanuel Badajo



Bishop John Oyejola

**THANK YOU, ST AGNES PARISHIONERS!
BISHOP EMMANUEL AND BISHOP JOHN**