



St. Agnes Catholic Community

A Perpetual Adoration and Stewardship Parish

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



BLESSINGS ABOUND AT ST. AGNES PARISH

We welcome into our church community Aiden William McDevitt, Makenna Nicole Nava, Niccolo Charles Young and Nicholas Alberto Zamudio who were baptized on February 19th.

May they be blessed with grace, goodness and God's everlasting love.



March 5, 2017

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

Pastor

Rev. Fr. Johnson Abraham
chemans@gmail.com

Deacons

Bill Drobick—deaconbill3@gmail.com
Tony Reyes—deacontonyr@gmail.com

Business Manager

Marlene McCann
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Lila Rutkowska
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Donna Cassianos
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May Hembrador
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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 Chair

Linus Farias
linusfarias@sbcglobal.net

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

Dear Friends,

“Lent comes... to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy.” Pope Francis.

Lent has been the part of the church year from the earliest days. At the Council of Nicea in 325, the Bishops were already talking about the “40 days of Lent.” By the end of the 4th century, St. Cyril of Jerusalem was presenting pre-baptismal instructions called Catechetical lectures, and Pope St. Leo was teaching that the faithful must “fulfill with their fasts the apostolic institution of the 40 days.”

Forty days was chosen as the time of preparation because it was symbolic of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness before embarking on his public ministry. Forty days also recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert before entering the promised land.

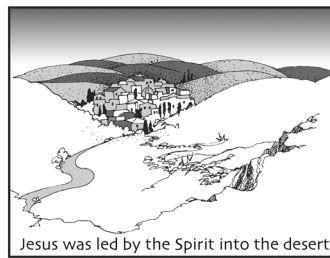
Lent is a time of sacrifice and discipline, but it should not be a time of sadness; instead, it should be a season of great Joy. As Christians we are stirring up our faith and love for God and each other so that on Easter we are ready to meet the risen Lord refreshed and restored.

We are not just spiritual beings, but also physical entities, and the way to the soul is through the body. That’s why the Lenten discipline has historically centered on the “Big Three” of fasting, almsgiving and prayer.

Fasting is not a spiritual diet. By denying our bodies, our physical hunger reminds us of the hunger of our souls for God and our longing for a deeper relationship with Him. Almsgiving teaches us to separate ourselves from material possessions. By freely giving, we learn to trust the Lord more deeply for our daily needs. An emphasis on Prayer is a way to stir up our love for God by having a deeper conversation with Him.

The best Lent is one in which we enter the season wholeheartedly. During this holy season, let us simplify our disciplines, focus on our intentions and concentrate more clearly on our spiritual goals.

Fr. Johnson



SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR FEBRUARY 26: \$13,018.00

Includes Faith Direct Giving

We thank you for your Stewardship.

Calendar for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 4, 2017

5:00 p.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased

Sunday, March 5, 2017

7:00 a.m. Milton Hain—Repose
Fr. Peter Loffredo—Special Intention
Peggy Stephens—Special Intention

9:00 a.m. Raymonde B. Hamel—Repose
Gloria Schmidt—Repose
Janine Snook—Repose

10:45 a.m. Arnulto Flores—Repose
Andres Maniti—Repose
Ron Artale—Special Intention

5:00 p.m. Audie Arenas-Vergara—Repose

Monday, March 6, 2017

8:00 a.m. Rudy Norona—Repose
Loreto Santos—Repose

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

8:00 a.m. Richard & Gloria Schmidt—Repose
Elpidio Santos—Repose

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

8:00 a.m. Communion Service Only

Thursday, March 9, 2017

8:00 a.m. Maria Theresa Legaspi—Repose

Friday, March 10, 2017

8:15 a.m. Ellen Anderson—Special Intention

Saturday, March 11, 2017

8:00 a.m. Andrew McGuirk—Repose

5:00 p.m. Louis Ferrari—Repose
Olga Ferrando—Repose
Mary Garaventa—Repose

Sunday, March 12, 2017

7:00 a.m. Michael McCarthy—Special Intention

9:00 a.m. Greg Scaletti—Special Intention

10:45 a.m. Marge Casey—Repose
Roberto Icaza—Repose
Deceased Members of the
Fenolio Family—Repose

5:00 p.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased

Parish Events and Meetings

Sunday, March 5, 2017

7:00 a.m. RCIA—First Scrutiny

Monday, March 6, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel

9:50 a.m. Just Faith—A.R.

5:00 p.m. CFF Catechists Meeting

7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Officers
Meeting—A.R.

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel

11:00 a.m. STARS Luncheon—Church Hall

6:30 p.m. 8th Grade Dance Mtg—Church Hall

6:30 p.m. CYO—G.P.

6:45 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul—A.R.

7:00 p.m. PACE—8th Grade Classroom

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel

All Day Catechetical In-Service—Church

10:30 a.m. Rosary Makers—G.P.

6:00 p.m. Development Meeting—School

6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper, Church Hall

7:00 p.m. La Morita Meeting—Cauchi Hall

7:30 p.m. Jim Gill Band Practice—Church

Thursday, March 9, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel

9:30 a.m. Bible Study—A.R.

6:00 p.m. Children's Choir Practice—Church

7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice—Church

Friday, March 10, 2017

8:15 a.m. Daily Mass—Church

2:00 p.m. School Stations of the Cross

5:30 p.m. Lenten Fish Fry—Church Hall

6:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet—Chapel

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross—Church

7:00 p.m. Couples for Christ—Cauchi Hall

Saturday, March 11, 2017

8:30 a.m. Lector Practice—Church

6:00 p.m. Retrovaille—A.R.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tuesday: Ss. Perpetua and Felicity

Wednesday: St. John of God

Thursday: St. Frances of Rome

Friday: Abstinence

Saturday: Purim (Jewish festival) begins at sunset

Parish News and Activities



NEXT MEETING: St. Agnes Retired Seniors (StARS) will meet next this Tuesday, March 7, at 11:00 AM, in the Church Hall. Our special guest for this meeting is Sister Ann Weltz, who will tell us the story of the Bay Area Crisis Nursery.

All seniors and their guests are invited to attend. There are no reservations necessary for this luncheon, and there are no fees or dues for belonging to this organization. March is a pot luck luncheon, so attendees are asked to bring a dish to share. Choose either a main dish, a side dish, a salad or a dessert.

CASINO BUS TRIP: StARS is planning a Bus day trip to Red Hawk Casino, near Placerville, on Tuesday, April 18.

For further information, stop by the Welcome Table after weekend Masses or the Church Office during the week.

STRENGTH AGAINST TEMPTATION

The first Sunday of the season of Lent always includes a Gospel account of the temptation of the Lord Jesus in the desert by the devil. This year, the story is set against the backdrop of the first reading from Genesis, which recounts the very first temptation by the devil. That story is set in a garden of delight. The Gospel story is set in the desert. As believers, we know that temptation comes our way in our own gardens of delight as well as the deserts of our lives. As Lent begins, our attention is drawn to that temptation within each of us to become like God—we want control, power, and answers to all of life’s difficult questions. As communities of faith, we are given this season of repentance so that we can join our hearts with others on the difficult journey of conversion. We look to God and to one another for strength against temptation.

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RICE BOWLS

Rice Bowls will be available after all Masses this weekend. Please take one home and enjoy the wonderful prayers and activities from the Rice Bowl Program.



SAVE THE DATE for our first Lenten Soup Supper, Wednesday, March 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Bring a bowl and spoon and enjoy two great soups and a presentation from our youth in the La Morita Mexico Youth Mission. Supper begins at 6:00 p.m.; the program is from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.

SHARE

SHARE—all non-perishable food items are being collected in our baskets. The focus for March is: canned vegetables, canned fruit or hominy.

LOVE AND DEEDS

God doesn’t want our deeds; God wants the love that prompts them.

—St. Teresa of Ávila

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

- 1 Ash Wednesday Mass Times: 7:00 am, 9:00 am (School) & 7:30 pm
- 3 Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus, 5:30 pm
- Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm
- 7 StARS Luncheon, 11:00 a.m.
- 8 Lenten Soup Meal, 6:00 p.m.
- 10 Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus, 5:30 p.m.
- Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Lenten Soup Meal, 6:00 p.m.
- 17 St. Patrick’s Day Dinner, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Divine Mercy Lenten Retreat, 9:00 a.m.
- 22 Lenten Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m.
- 24 Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus, 5:30 p.m.
- Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
- 25/26 Hospitality Weekend
- 26 Friends & Family Mass, 10:45 a.m.

Dining at St. Agnes

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY Friday, March 10, 5:30-6:45 p.m.

During the Lenten season, the St. Agnes Knights of Columbus will be hosting Friday Night Fish Fry in the Church Hall. Please come out early and enjoy a fish dinner before you attend the Stations of the Cross program held in the church.

The Fish Fry Menu:

Fried Fish (2 pieces)

French Fries, Salad, and Coleslaw

Beverage—Soda, water available for additional cost.

Cost: \$7, kids 3 and under are Free.



Other dates include March 24th, 31st and April 7th. For more information, contact Carlos Garcia at cmgarcia@astound or Earl Koski at ekoski@astound.net.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER Friday, March 17

Wear a bit 'o green when you attend the St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Friday, March 17th, in the Church Hall. The evening opens at 6 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 children 12 and under are \$5. Contact Lynda Conlow at 925-899-1911, Tim McGallian at 925-408-5349 or the church office for further information.

Tickets can be purchased after Masses at the Welcoming Table in the back of the church and weekdays at the church office. The deadline for ticket sales is March 6th. 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. Drop these items off at the church office.

School News



Saint Agnes' Parent Association of Catholic Education would like to invite you to attend a night at the Country Fair! The St. Agnes auction is the single largest fund-raising event of the year. It provides the school with critical funding, improving the quality of education for St. Agnes students. As a part of our shared community, it would be great to see parish members at the event. The Auction will be held on April 1st at 5:30pm, at the Pleasant Hill Community Center. Please visit stagnesconcord.schoolauction.net/auction for information on ticketing and how you can donate to the event. The St. Agnes students and parents thank you for your support.

Community Activities

Calling All Women!

Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Women invites you to join them at a Prayer Breakfast on April 1, 2017 9:30-12:30, Crowne Plaza, 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA

***Please note that we are returning to the Crowne Plaza!**

Please join us in welcoming **Sonja Corbitt** as our speaker! Sonia, the well-known talk show host of the Bible Study Evangelista, is a Southern girl with the gift of storytelling! She is also the best selling author of Unleashed and many bible study materials that "give you a bite of spinach that taste like cake!"

Bring your bibles and come join us as Sonja shares her message to "love and lift all you've been given." Tickets are \$33/\$40 after March 25. Go to www.magnificatsoti.org for more information about our guest and tickets or call Jennifer at [503-709-8449](tel:503-709-8449) for reservations.

ST. AGNES CHURCH

EVENTS FOR LENT 2017

- March 1 Ash Wednesday Mass Times: 7:00a, 9:00a & 7:30p
- March 3 5:30pm Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
- March 8 6:00pm Lenten Soup Meal
- March 10 5:30pm Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
- March 15 6:00pm Lenten Soup Meal
- March 17 6:00pm St. Patrick's Day Dinner
- March 18 9:00am Divine Mercy Lenten Retreat
- March 22 6:00pm Lenten Soup Meal
- March 24 5:30pm Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
- March 27-28 7:00pm Parish Lenten Retreat
- March 29 6:00pm Lenten Soup Meal
Parish Lenten Retreat
- March 31 5:30pm Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
- April 3 7:00pm Parish Lenten Reconciliation
- April 5 6:00pm Lenten Soup Meal 6:00p
- April 7 5:30pm Fish Fry, Knights of the Columbus
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
- April 8 5:00pm Palm Sunday Vigil
- April 9 Palm Sunday Mass Times: 7:00a, 9:00a, 10:45a, 5:00p
- April 12 5:00pm Seder Meal
- April 13 7:30pm Holy Thursday Mass
- April 14 11:00am – 4:00pm Blood Drive
12:00pm Stations of the Cross
2:00pm Taize, Prayer around the Cross
7:00pm Good Friday Liturgy
- April 15 8:00pm Easter Vigil
- April 16 Easter Sunday Mass Times: 7:00a, 9:00a & 10:45a
12:00pm Easter Egg Hunt