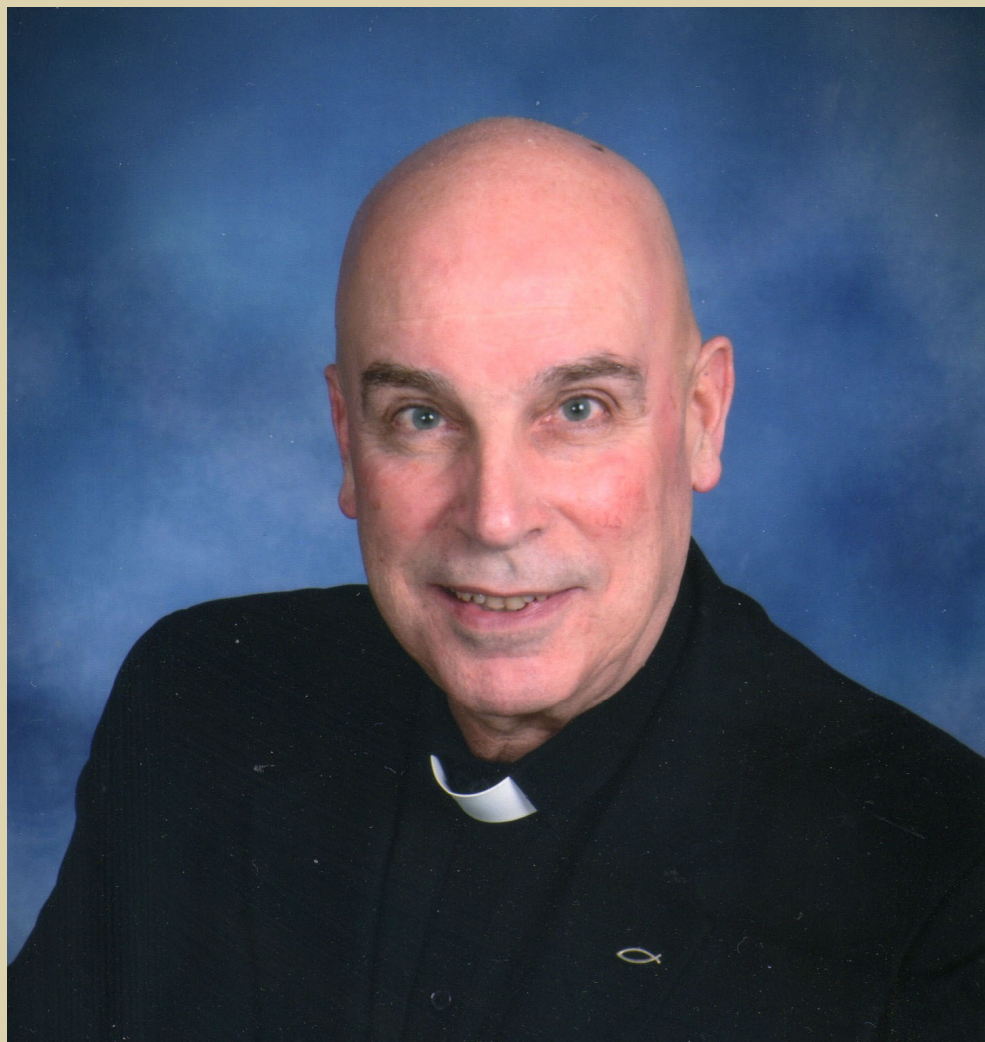




# *St. Agnes* Catholic Community

*A Perpetual Adoration and Stewardship Parish*

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT



*Rest in Peace, Fr. Peter Loffredo*

*March 12, 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](http://www.stagnesparish.net) \* E-Mail: [stagnesoffice@comcast.net](mailto: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  
marlene.stagnesparish@gmail.com

### Director of Religious Education

Lila Rutkowska  
lilar.stagnesparish@gmail.com

### Secretary-Religious Education

Donna Cassianos  
donna.stagnesparish@gmail.com

### Director of Music Ministry

May Hembrador  
may.stagnesparish@gmail.com

### Liturgical Musician

Lily Melendrez

### Youth Ministry Coordinator

Linda D'Souza  
lindastagnes@gmail.com

### 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

## "Lord, How Good It Is For Us To Be Here"

We know the story of the Transfiguration very well. Jesus takes His closest disciples, Peter, James and John, up a high mountain. As we so often heard "suddenly Moses and Elijah appear and were talking to Jesus." Peter, caught up in the moment, says "Master, how wonderful it is for us to be here. If you want me to, I will put up three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

If we think about it, we have all, at one time or another, had a profound moment in our lives. I like to call them, "graced moments" or "God moments." These moments can vary for each of us. It could be absorbing God's natural beauty in places such as the Yosemite, Grand Canyon, or Niagara Falls. It could be prayerful moments, where there is deep connection with God. Perhaps an incident where your life seems to pass before you due to illness or accident and you were spared. It can also be as simple as looking into the eyes of your children or other family members and having a sense of all how blessed you are to have them. These are all amazing moments that are few and far between, and we want more of them. This is actually how Peter felt when he says to Jesus, "how good it is for us to be here"!!!

The word Transfiguration is defined as a complete change of form or appearance into a more beautiful or spiritual state. Who would not want to experience those moments much more frequently? The problem with Peter, and often with us, is we want to stay on the mountain top. We want to hoard those moments and keep them to ourselves. God wants us to bring these "graced" or "God moments" down the mountain. These moments give us the courage and grace to see and believe no matter what comes our way in life. The Transfiguration was a moment that would guide the disciples through Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection and eventually their public ministry and persecution.

Each "grace" or "God moment" gets us through moments of life. It is necessary for us to come down from the mountain tops of our lives. If we stay there we miss out in the "grace" and "God moments" of everyday life. I guess what I am trying to say is the more we stay in the mountain tops of life, the less we see God in the everyday moments. The one thing I personally take away from Peter's statement, "how good it is so be here," is he had three years of Jesus' teaching, preaching, healing, forgiving and mentoring. Are those not "grace" and "God moments"?

Yes we need mountain top moments, but "grace" and "God" are in so many moments. We need to see that and stop minimizing God's presence in our lives. If Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and penance, aren't these acts done to help us recognize God in our lives by focusing more on His presence? Though we can often be negative about our world, we fail to see God's many blessings. Lent should be a time of recognizing God's presence and his hand in our lives. The more we see God at work in everyday life, the more we can say "how good it is for us to be here."

Lenten Blessings,

Fr Jeffrey J. Finley, C.P.P.S.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR MARCH 5: \$12,347.00**

**Includes Faith Direct Giving**

**We thank you for your Stewardship.**



# Calendar for the Week

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, March 11, 2017

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

### Sunday, March 12, 2017

7:00 a.m. Anthony Ortega—Repose  
Michael McCarthy—Special Intention  
9:00 a.m. Mary Francisco—Repose  
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

### Monday, March 13, 2017

8:00 a.m. Dolores Callegari—Repose  
Mary Francisco—Repose  
Felicisimo Santos—Repose

### Tuesday, March 14, 2017

8:00 a.m. Manolo Hume—Repose  
Telesfora Santos—Repose

### Wednesday, March 15, 2017

8:00 a.m. Communion Service Only

### Thursday, March 16, 2017

8:00 a.m. Richard Fiscus—Repose  
Tomas Santos, Jr.—Repose

### Friday, March 17, 2017

8:15 a.m. Oscar & Kay Grewis—Repose  
Carmen Santos—Repose

### Saturday, March 18, 2017

8:00 a.m. Joe Cornella—Repose  
Janet & Jun Duldulao—Special Intention  
5:00 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. Armando Ferrari—Repose  
Roberto Icaza—Repose  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Pacchetti—Repose

### Sunday, March 19, 2017

7:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes  
Living and Deceased  
9:00 a.m. Mary Bettencourt—Repose  
Ludwik Fidelus—Repose  
Gloria Schmidt—Repose  
10:45 a.m. Peggy, Cy & Neal Coenen—Repose  
Deceased Members of the  
Lo Grasso Family—Repose  
Allison McGuirk—Special Intention  
5:00 p.m. Margaret N. Archuleta—Repose  
Anne Carey—Repose

## Parish Events and Meetings

### Sunday, March 12, 2017

8:30 a.m. RCIA—A.R.  
3:00 p.m. Confirmation—Cauchi Hall  
5:00 p.m. Youth Mass  
5:00 p.m. Teams of Our Lady—A.R.  
6:00 p.m. Life Teen—Cauchi Hall

### Monday, March 13, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel  
5:00 p.m. Children's Faith Formation—School  
7:00 p.m. EDGE—Cauchi Hall  
7:00 p.m. Pastoral Council—A.R.  
7:00 p.m. Reaching Out Committee—G.P.

### Tuesday, March 14, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel  
7:00 p.m. Fil-Am Meeting—A.R.

### Wednesday, March 15, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel  
10:30 a.m. Rosary Makers—G.P.  
6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper—Church Hall  
7:00 p.m. Young Adult Ministry—Cauchi Hall  
7:30 p.m. Jim Gill Band Practice—Church

### Thursday, March 16, 2017

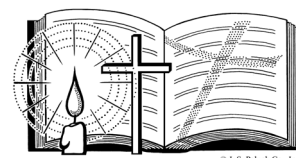
8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel  
9:30 a.m. Bible Study—A.R.  
6:00 p.m. Children's Choir Practice—Church  
6:30 p.m. ICF Meeting—Cauchi Hall  
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice—Church

### Friday, March 17, 2017

8:15 a.m. Daily Mass—Church  
2:00 p.m. School Stations of the Cross—Church  
6:00 p.m. St. Patrick's Day Dinner  
6:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet—Chapel

### Saturday, March 18, 2017

8:30 a.m. Lector Practice—Church  
9:00 a.m. Work Party  
9:00 a.m. Divine Mercy Recollection—Church  
6:00 p.m. La Morita Retreat—Cauchi Hall



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# Parish News and Activities



**NEXT MEETING:** The April meeting of the St. Agnes Seniors will take place on April 4 at 11:00 a.m. in the Church Hall. This will be a catered luncheon from New Lim's Garden, and paid reservations are required. All seniors and guests are invited to attend. There are no membership requirements. An information flyer is available at the Welcome Table or at the Parish Office.

**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.

## FAIR TRADE SALE MARCH 18 & 19

Our Fair Trade Products just keep growing. We carry 10 varieties of Coffees (Ground, Whole Beans); 9 different Teas (Black, Green, Flavored, Herbal); 10 types of Chocolate Bars (Milk to Extreme Dark); 2 boxes Mini Chocolates (Milk, Dark, 150 pc. ea.); 2 Hot Cocoas (Regular, Dark) and our newest addition: Baking Cocoa.



Many choices bring many delights. We hope you enjoy our Fair Trade products as much as we enjoy bringing them to you in support of the small farmer cooperatives around the world. Thank You!

## RICE BOWLS

Rice Bowls are available at the church and Ministry Center. Please take one home and enjoy the wonderful prayers and activities from the Rice Bowl Program. Seventy-five percent of your Rice Bowl donation supports Catholic Relief Services' programs around the world, while the other twenty-five percent helps to ease hunger and poverty in our own diocese. To learn more about the program, visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org).

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 5:30 pm at the Pleasant Hill Community Center. Please visit [stagnesconcord.schoolauktion.net/auction](http://stagnesconcord.schoolauktion.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.

## GOOD TIMING

The best time to do something worthwhile is between yesterday and tomorrow.

—Anonymous

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH

- 15 Lenten Soup Meal, 6:00 p.m.
- 17 St. Patrick's Day Dinner, 6:00 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.
- 27-29 Parish Lenten Retreat, 7:00 p.m.
- 29 Lenten Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m.
- 31 Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus, 5:30 p.m.
- Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.

## Community Activities

### IMMIGRATION COMMUNITY MEETING

Catholics United for Social Justice, Concord Police Department, Catholic Charities of the East Bay, and Mt. Diablo Unified School District invite immigrant families to an informal gathering to offer a forum for you to converse and obtain information. Three events will be offered:

**March 16, 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.**

St. Francis of Assisi Parish, 860 Oak Grove Rd., Concord

**March 28, 6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.**

Cambridge Elementary School Cafeteria, 1135 Lacey Lane, Concord

**April 19, 6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m.**

Meadow Homes Elementary School Cafeteria, 1371 Detroit Ave., Concord

### FREE FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAX PREPATION FOR THE YEAR 2016

AARP's Tax-Aide program offers **free** Federal and State Income tax preparation for all taxpayers who need help filing a tax return, with special attention to seniors over 50. 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 and phone number and an appointment scheduler will return your call). Appointments are available **Wednesdays and Thursdays** starting February 1, 2017, between the hours of 8:45 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Bring all your **2016** tax information, photo ID, Social Security Cards, medical insurance, deductions, broker statements and education expenses **for everyone on your tax return**. Also bring a copy of your 2015 Federal and State returns.

For other Tax-Aide locations, call 925-726-3199. Any questions, call Walt Hubrig at 925-685-0260.

### WHAT DOES SANCTUARY LOOK LIKE TODAY

**Friday, March 31**

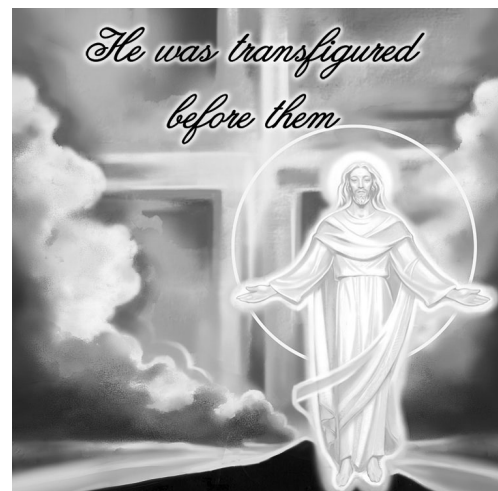
**7:30-9:00 p.m.—Christ the King Parish Hall  
199 Brandon Road, Pleasant Hill**

Come and learn why we need sanctuary and understand the root causes of migration. Pope Francis calls upon us to respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters who are forced to leave their homes to survive the dangers they face. Presented by: Rev. Deborah Lee, Director of the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity, and Suzanne Llewellyn, MDUUC.

### QUO VADIS CAMP, JULY 9-12 Diocesan Youth Retreat House, Lafayette

Young men ages 13-18 years old are invited to join this event, aimed to assist young men to recognize and respond to their own vocation invitation from our Lord and grow in their relationship with Christ. There will be priests, seminarians, and other young men gathered together for these days. Activities include a great deal of fun, prayer, games, music, discussions and talks. The fee is \$50, and financial assistance will be available to those who need it.

More information, including registration forms, is on the diocesan website, [www.oakdiocese.org](http://www.oakdiocese.org) under Vocations, then Quo Vadis. You may also contact Fr. Neil Clemens at [nclemens@oakdiocese.org](mailto:nclemens@oakdiocese.org).





## DINING OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. AGNES PARISH

**Feed your belly and feed your soul**

### **Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers -**

Wednesdays during Lent at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. No charge. Just bring a bowl and spoon.



### **Friday Fish Fry -**

During the Lenten season, the St. Agnes Knights of Columbus will be hosting Friday Night Fish Fry. Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. in the Church Hall. Cost is \$7, kids 3 and under eat Free. Sodas and water are available at an extra cost. The menu includes 2 pieces of delicious fried fish (battered and fried by our own Knights), French fries, salad and coleslaw. Dinner is followed at 7:00 p.m. by Stations of the Cross.

### **St. Patrick's Day Dinner -**

Bishop Barber has given us special dispensation to enjoy our traditional corned beef dinner on Friday, March 17. For only \$20 (children 12 & under are \$5), you can enjoy a home-cooked meal of corned beef, cabbage, carrots and potatoes, along with salad, bread and dessert, and you don't even have to clean up or do the dishes. No-host bar opens at 6:00 p.m., with dinner beginning at 7:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at the Welcome Table this weekend or at the Ministry Center Monday-Wednesday.

