



St. Agnes Catholic Community

A Perpetual Adoration and Stewardship Parish

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



Today at St. Agnes we celebrate

SCOUT SUNDAY.

We congratulate Eagle Scout Jiancarlos Benavente who celebrated his Eagle Court of Honor at St. Agnes Church on Saturday, January 16.

For his Eagle Project, Jiancarlos built the sandbox at St. Agnes School.



GIRL SCOUTS



February 7, 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

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

Parochial Administrator

Rev. Fr. Johnson Abraham
chemans@gmail.com

Business Manager

Marlene McCann
marlene.stagneparish@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education

Lila Rutkowska
lilar.stagneparish@gmail.com

Secretary-Religious Education

Donna Cassianos
donna.stagneparish@gmail.com

Director of Music Ministry

May Hembrador
may@stagneparish.net or
jnmh143@hotmail.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 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

jlucia@csdo.org

Secretary: Ana Kelley

akelley@csdo.org

Website:

www.stagnesconcord.com

Dear Friends,

February 10th is Ash Wednesday! It is the beginning of the season of Lent; a special season of renewal and conversion.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that Jesus' call to conversion and penance leads interior conversion. Conversion, argues Saint Thomas Aquinas, means a change in the deepest part of our heart. Therefore, to convert ourselves, we need to change our way of life and our way of thinking so that our soul can become closer to God. And as Pope Francis says, "Conversion means breaking with idols to turn to the living God in a personal encounter" (cf. Lumen Fidei, 13).

Interior repentance is a radical reorientation of our whole life, a return, a conversion to God with all our heart, an end to sin, a turning away from evil, with repugnance toward the evil actions we have committed. And at the same time, it entails the desire and resolution to change one's life, with hope in God's mercy and trust in the help of his grace.

In order to renew ourselves, we need the following convictions:

- 1) The conviction of the primacy of God in our lives. God is the first. The first and greatest commandment is the love of God above all things.
- 2) The second conviction we need is that we must recognize ourselves as sinners. And this is a truth of our lives. We are sinners; we belong to a sinful race. Our first fathers were sinners, and we are members of the same nature. We must be humble, because God resists the proud and gives his grace to the humble.
- 3) Finally, we must be convinced that we need a Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Therefore, we must follow Him, follow his commandments and his teachings so that at the end of life we might live with Him forever in heaven.

Conversion is a gift from God. Conversion is first of all a work of the grace of God who makes our hearts return to him. He gives us the strength to begin anew. It is in discovering the greatness of God's love that our heart is shaken by the horror and weight of sin and begins to fear offending God by sin and being separated from him. The human heart is converted by looking upon him whom our sins have pierced.

We see how the Church with maternal solicitude tries to help us understand that the true joy springs from a heart in friendship with God, that is, in God's grace. There cannot be true lasting joy in a heart full of sin; simply, because sin carries with it sadness, and separation. Let us make this Holy season of Lent a season of Love of God and our neighbor.

Fr. Johnson

Sunday Collection for January 31: \$11,000.00

St. Vincent de Paul: \$2,581.00

We thank you for your Stewardship.

Calendar for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 6, 2016

5:00 p.m. Richard Fiscus—Repose
David Basada—Repose
Rudy Norona—Repose

Sunday, February 7, 2016

7:00 a.m. Peggy Coenen—Repose
9:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
10:45 a.m. Ed Cullinan—Repose
Bob E. Wolfson—Repose
Terry Cullinan—Special Intention
5:00 p.m. The Salinas Family—Special Intention

Monday, February 8, 2016

8:00 a.m. Elpidio Santos—Repose

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

8:00 a.m. Sal & Irene LoGrasso—Repose
Maria Teresa Legaspi—Repose

Wednesday, February 10, 2016—Ash Wednesday

7:00 a.m. The People of St. Agnes
Living and Deceased
9:00 a.m. The Jung Family—Special Intention
7:30 p.m. Virginia Sarrano—Repose

Thursday, February 11, 2016

8:00 a.m. Katherine Auld—Repose
Loreto Santos—Repose
Jaime Velasco, Sr.—Repose

Friday, February 12, 2016

8:15 a.m. Mary Williams—Repose

Saturday, February 13, 2016

8:00 a.m. Felicisimo Santos—Repose
5:00 p.m. Richard Fiscus—Repose
Goody Carino—Special Intention

Sunday, February 14, 2016

7:00 a.m. Chachi Abraham—Repose
9:00 a.m. Santo Toribio Romo—
Special Intention
10:45 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
5:00 p.m. The D'Souza Family—
Special Intention

Parish Events and Meetings

Sunday, February 7, 2016

**Father Mark Baron to speak at all Masses.
Life Teen Bake Sale after all Masses**

9:00 a.m. Scout Sunday Mass
Hospitality after 9:00 a.m. Mass

Monday, February 8, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
All afternoon—Science Fair Set up in Church/Hall
7:00 p.m. Social Ministries—G.P.

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
11:00 a.m. Liturgy Committee—A.R.
6:00 p.m. PACE Mtg. in 8th Grade Classroom
6:00 p.m. School Science Fair in Church/Hall
7:30 p.m. Schola Practice—Music Room

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

7:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday Mass in Church
9:00 a.m. School Mass
6:00 p.m. School Development Meeting -
Faculty Room
7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Mass in Church

Thursday, February 11, 2016

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

Friday, February 12, 2016

8:15 a.m. First Friday Mass—Church
5:30 p.m. Fish Fry—Church Hall
7:00 p.m. Station of the Cross—Church
7:00 p.m. Fil-Am Meeting—A.R.

Saturday, February 13, 2016

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
8:30 a.m. Lector Practice—Church
1:00 p.m. Worldwide Marriage Encounter
Enrichment—Church Hall
5:00 p.m. Mass—Renewal of Marriage Vows
Reception following Mass

**Parish Financial Update at 5:00 p.m. Mass
Fair Trade Sales after 5:00 p.m. Mass**

Parish News and Activities



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 beginning February 12 through March 18.

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

POST VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE



Can you think of a better way to get rid of the post-holiday blues than to get into your dancing shoes, enjoy a sumptuous dinner and connect with old and newly made friends? Then come to the St. Agnes Post Valentine's Dinner Dance on Saturday, February 20, 2016, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Church Hall. The St. Agnes Filipino-American Community surely knows how to host a fun-filled evening with music provided by our local DJ, Michael Calpito. So, get out of the seasonal slump, don your best attire, and join this party crowd for an evening to remember.

For ticket information, contact Precy Fiscus at 925-787-1363 or Joel Manalang at 925-876-5199. Raffle tickets are also being sold at \$2 per ticket or \$5 for 3 tickets. First prize winner gets \$500, 2nd prize is \$300, and 3rd prize is \$200. The more you buy, the more chances you have to win, even if you have left for the evening or not present at the drawing.

St. Agnes Parish and
Worldwide Marriage Encounter
cordially invite you to an

ENRICHMENT FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Saturday, February 13, 2016

1:00 p.m. and concluding with 5:00 p.m. Mass
St. Agnes Church Hall

Based on the book written by Dr. Frank W. Nelson "Love Never Ends," concluding with Mass and Renewal of Vows. Reception immediately following Mass.

Advanced registration required: E-mail mikerhodowwme@yahoo.com or mail your registration (with parish, name, address, e-mail and phone number) to: Mike & Rhoda Pereira, 1234 Kings River Rd., Livermore, CA 94550

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FIRST LENTEN SOUP SUPPER—Wednesday, February 17 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Bring a bowl and spoon and enjoy 2 great soups and a presentation from our youth in the La Morita Mexico Youth Mission. Supper begins at 6 p.m., and the program is from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FEBRUARY

- 10 Ash Wednesday Mass Times:
7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (School) & 7:30 p.m.
- 12 Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus, 5:30 p.m.
Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Marriage Encounter and Renewal of Vows
1:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
- 17 Lenten Soup Meal, 6:00 p.m.
- 19 Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus, 5:30 p.m.
Salesian H.S. Mystery Players, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Post Valentine's Day Dinner-Dance, 6:30 p.m.
- 24 Lenten Soup Meal, 6:00 p.m.
- 26 Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus, 5:30 p.m.
Station of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Donut Mass, 9:00 a.m.
- 29 Parish Lenten Retreat, 7:00 p.m.

SHARING GOD'S MERCY: BISHOP'S APPEAL 2016

Pope Francis has declared 2016 a "Holy Year of Mercy." This is why Bishop Michael C. Barber has chosen "Sharing God's Mercy" as the theme for the 2016 Bishop's Appeal. As Bishop Barber has written, "Sharing God's Mercy starts with God's love for us, which moves us to share His love with all our sisters and brothers, and is the cornerstone of Pope Francis' vision for our Church."

Through your donation to the 2016 Bishop's Appeal, you enable Bishop Barber to financially assist our Catholic schools located in some of the poorest and most crime-ridden communities in the state. Also, you enable him to help parishes address emergency needs and to provide for our seminarians and retired clergy. Your donation enables Bishop Barber to provide funds for marriage and family-life ministries, lifelong faith formation, outreach to those who have drifted away from the Church, works of mercy to the imprisoned, and outreach through our ethnic ministries to the many people who make our Church of the East Bay so diverse and a true reflection of God's love and mercy. Finally, with Pope Francis as our model, we are embracing his message of love and mercy with all our sisters and brothers.

By sharing your time, talent and treasure with our sisters and brothers and our Church of the East Bay, you are making a sacrifice and returning to God a small portion of the many gifts he has given to you. By "Sharing God's Mercy" through the 2016 Bishop's Appeal, you are contributing greatly to building up the Kingdom of God here in the Church of the East Bay.

Your Generosity in Action

The Bishop's Appeal provides funds to offset some of the following expenses:

- Parishes and Schools in Need - \$913,000
- Pastoral Ministries and Services - \$2,031,000
- Clergy Formation and Retirement - \$3,511,000
- Religious Education and Formation - \$1,014,000

We will kick off the Bishop's appeal on February 14th at St. Agnes.

LA MORITA MEXICO YOUTH MISSION

Thank you so much to all of the parishioners who supported our youth as they held their fundraiser under the sponsorship of the new non-profit corporation, "La Morita Mexico Youth Mission." Over 300 guests enjoyed a delicious Mexican meal (thanks to the New Mecca and Las Montanas Grocery), music by Mariachi Ortega, and a wonderful raffle. Our next fundraiser will be "Help Us Build a Home," to be held after all Masses February 20-21. You can see our model home and purchase a door, a wall panel, or even a cement slab! Donate on the spot or mail us in your donation later. No donations will be collected in the collection or at the Ministry Center. For more information, contact the Waltons at 925-212-7679 or e-mail jdwalton@astound.net.

MERCY AND RECONCILIATION: HOW WE EXPERIENCE AND LIVE THEM IN OUR LIVES

During the Lenten Season, Fr. Mark Wiesner, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo in Livermore, will offer presentations on mercy and reconciliation as part of his Lenten Mission for the Jubilee of Mercy. Presentations will happen in multiple parishes throughout the Diocese of Oakland, including:

St. Bonaventure Parish, 5562 Clayton Valley Rd.

Monday, February 22, 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m. and again at 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 23, 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m. and again at 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

The presentations at St. Charles Borromeo, which are scheduled for February 29 through March 2, will be available via livestream on StCharlesLivermore.org. You may also check that website for additional information on times and dates.



A YEAR OF MERCY

The St. Agnes St. Vincent de Paul Conference made donations to the Homeless Service Center on January 15.

St. Agnes Parish welcomes Ann Kihagi's family—husband John Wachira and children Kelvin, Adrian, Derick and Deborah.

St. Agnes Parishioners stepped forward to help bring Ann's family here to the United States to reunite them.

Ann is a religious refugee from Kenya and has been a member of our parish for three years.



In 2015, St. Agnes Parish generously gave \$42,627 in donations to the following organizations:

Bay Area Crisis Center	Birthright	Catholic Charities
Campaign for Human Development	Catholic University Latin America	Catholic Relief Services
Contra Costa Interfaith	Contra Costa County	Concord Share
Food Bank of Contra Costa County	Loaves & Fishes	Family Justice Center
Monument Crisis Center	Social Concerns	Holy Father (Peter Pence)
		Mission Coop Appeal
		St. Vincent de Paul
		World Mission

Thank you very much for your generosity. May God bless you.