



St. Agnes Catholic Community

Our Mission Statement: To know Christ and make Him known by welcoming all, teaching and sharing the Faith, and providing worship and spiritual growth opportunities and serving those in need.

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Thank you to the Encarnacion Family
who donated our new statue of St. Agnes.

November 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 * **E-Mail:** stagnesoffice@comcast.net

Instagram: [stagnesparishconcord](https://www.instagram.com/stagnesparishconcord) * **Twitter:** [@stagnesparish](https://twitter.com/stagnesparish)

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5PM

Sunday: 7AM, 9AM, 11AM & 5PM

Daily Mass in the Chapel at 8AM

Monday - Saturday

(Communion Service on Wed.)

Adoration in the Chapel Daily

6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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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Confirmation/Life Teen Coordinator

Deacon Bill Drobick

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Linda D'Souza

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Secretary-Religious Education

Donna Cassianos

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Director of Music Ministry

Pete Frevele

petefrev@me.com

Liturgical Musician

Lily Melendrez

Lily.stagnesparish@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

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Secretary: Ana Kelley

akelley@csdo.org

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There Might Only Be One Opportunity—Be Aware

In the Parable of ten bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom to arrive, we see that five were ready and five were not. This passage is often used to explain what it means to be Wise and what it means to be Foolish. This parable is about making choices through life and the consequences of those choices. The truth of the matter is, there is no getting away from making choices. We have to make decisions; the options we have are to choose wisely or poorly. Whatever we choose, we will have to live with the outcome. In this parable five of the bridesmaids made poor decisions regarding enough oil for their lanterns. They expected the other five bridesmaids to supply them with oil, but they would not. We need always be ready, because in life sometimes we may only be given one opportunity. Yes, God is loving and forgiving and gives us many opportunities to encounter Him, but missing even one encounter with God is too many. With God we must always be ready and alert.

When you think about it, what did these bridesmaids have to do while they were waiting? They were there to be present. What does it mean to be present? To be fully present means we fully listen with eyes, ears, mind and heart. This is how prayer is supposed to be for us. We need to come before God, simply being before Him, attentive, open and simply be with God. I think that was a difference between the Wise bridesmaids and the Foolish ones. The Wise ones came attentive, open before God; the Foolish were seldom attentive if at all with God.

As we get ready for Advent, we are reminded of the importance of being prepared and alert. We are reminded to make room for God in our hearts. We need to set our minds to invite God more into our hearts, by spending more quiet time with Him, so we can listen to what He wants of us. The more Jesus is in our lives, the more control we have and the more we live the way He asks us to live. When we allow Jesus to be the focus of our lives we become more connected to Him. The Gospel shows what happens when His followers were not focused. They missed out on the feast. We want to always be aware of the Lord. If we take time to be quiet with Him, we will find Him. In finding Him, he will lead us to those He wants us to minister to, for that is where He is.

This is our mission. This is the opportunity to find God, for He dwells in others. The foolish bridesmaids missed seeing God in all who were at the feast. God gave us life, and He is in all life. That is why we don't even want to miss one opportunity, so stay aware!!!

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

SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 5: \$12,970.00

Northern California Wildfire Collection: \$4,400.00

Includes Faith Direct Giving

We thank you for your Stewardship.

Calendar for the Week

Mass Intentions

Parish Events and Meetings

Saturday, November 11, 2017

5:00 p.m. George Conlow—Repose
Godofredo Reyes—Repose
May Hembrador—Special Intention

Sunday, November 12, 2017

7:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes
9:00 a.m. Marcella Colarich—Repose
George Conlow—Repose
Thomas Quesada—Repose
11:00 a.m. Oscar & Kay Grewis—Repose
Elizabeth Teng Jok Eng—Repose
Joseph Ang Le Tja—Repose
5:00 p.m. Pat Conroy—Repose
Gloria De Santos—Repose
Carlos Villaroman—Repose

Monday, November 13, 2017

8:00 a.m. Beatriz Legaspi—Repose
Raymond Low—Repose
Carlos Villaroman—Repose

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

8:00 a.m. Felicísimo Santos—Repose
Carlos Villaroman—Repose

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

8:00 a.m. Communion Service Only

Thursday, November 16, 2017

8:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Fenolio Family
Telesfora Legaspi—Repose
Carlos Villaroman—Repose

Friday, November 17, 2017

8:15 a.m. Deceased members of the Lo Grasso Family
Tomas Legaspi, Jr.—Repose
Carlos Villaroman—Repose

Saturday, November 18, 2017

8:00 a.m. Joe Cornella—Repose
5:00 p.m. Julia Esquerria—Repose
Joy Himsl—Repose
Dr. Filipe Roque—Repose

Sunday, November 19, 2017

7:00 a.m. Floraida Freznoza—Repose
9:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased
11:00 a.m. Marcella Colarich—Repose
George Conlow—Repose
Deceased Members of the Fenolio Family
5:00 p.m. Derek James Hills—Repose
Nelson Salva—Special Intention

Sunday, November 12, 2017

Knights of Columbus will sell Christmas Cards after Weekend Masses

1:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Adoration Chaplet—Church
3:00 p.m. Confirmation—Cauchi Hall

Monday, November 13, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
11:00 a.m. Liturgy Committee—A.R.
5:00 p.m. Children's Faith Formation—Classrooms
7:00 p.m. EDGE—Cauchi Hall
7:00 p.m. Pastoral Council—A.R.

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
6:00 p.m. PACE Meeting—School
6:00 p.m. CYO Make-up Photos—Cauchi Hall
7:00 p.m. Baptism Prep Class—G.P.
7:00 p.m. Reaching Out Committee—A.R.

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
10:30 a.m. Rosary Makers—G.P.
4:00 p.m. Altar Server Training—Church
4:45 p.m. Altar Server Review Session
6:00 p.m. Development Meeting—School

Thursday, November 16, 2017

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

Friday, November 17, 2017

8:15 a.m. Daily Mass—Church
6:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet—Chapel

Saturday, November 18, 2017

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
8:30 a.m. Lector Practice—Church
9:00 a.m. Work Party
1:00 p.m. Medical Issues Forum—Cauchi Hall
“Preventing Teen Suicide”

Hospitality and Fair Trade Weekend.

Knights of Columbus selling Christmas Cards after Mass.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
Wednesday: St. Albert the Great
Thursday: St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude
Friday: St. Elizabeth of Hungary
Saturday: The Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter and Paul; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne; Blessed Virgin Mary



Parish News and Activities

ALTAR SERVERS

Thank you to all of our current Altar Servers. To show you our appreciation, you are invited to a Pizza Party and Game Time on Wednesday, November 15th from 4:45p.m. to 6:00p.m. in the Church Hall.

WANT TO BE AN ALTAR SERVER?

Are you in third grade or older and have made your First Holy Communion? If so, we would like to invite you to join our Altar Server Ministry. The next training will be held on Wednesday, November 15th at 4:00p in the church. After the training, you are invited to stay for a Pizza Party where you will get a chance to meet other current Altar Servers. For more information or to sign up, please contact Linda at lindastagnes@gmail.com or call her at (925) 689-0838.

VINNIE'S LITTLE HELPERS

Vinnie's Little Helpers, the St. Agnes Youth Conference of St. Vincent de Paul, are collecting items for **Hygiene Kits** that they will be assembling and handing out on Thanksgiving. They are requesting donations of travel size toothpaste, dental floss, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, shavers, bar soap and hand sanitizer. A donation box is at the back of the church. Items can also be dropped off at the Ministry Center through Monday, November 13. Thank you for your support.

CHRISTMAS DINNER/DANCE

Saturday, December 9, 2017
No Host Cocktails at 6:00 p.m.
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.—\$25 each



Dinner Menu: Salad, Veggies, Tri-tip and Chicken
Entertainment: Ladies First Choir
From Concord High School
Dancing begins after Dinner.

Tickets are on sale now until December 3 at the Welcome Table and in the Ministry Center

Raffle donations are greatly appreciated.
Questions—Call Kathey at 798-7936.

GIVING TREE

The Giving Trees are up and loaded with “Stars”! Please take one (or several) to help make Christmas happier for the needy of our community. Individuals receiving your gifts have been carefully screened and are very deserving. The return date for gifts (which is on the back of each star) is the weekend of December 9/10, no later than after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Please bring your gifts, with the stars attached, to Mass that weekend. Gifts will be distributed to agencies at 12:00 noon on Sunday, December 10th.

If you are a member of the St. Agnes Parish Family and are having a difficult time financially this season, the St. Agnes Giving Tree could help make you or your family’s Christmas a little brighter. Stop by the Ministry Center and complete a short form by Thursday, December 7. The information you provide will be kept confidential.

ST. MARY’S CHRISTMAS DINNER



On December 17th, St. Agnes will once again provide a Christmas dinner for the seniors at St. Mary’s Center in downtown Oakland. If you would be willing to roast a turkey and deliver it to the church kitchen on the morning of December 17th, please call Mary McCarthy at 925-673-8881.

FAIR TRADE SALES NOVEMBER 18 & 19!

Surprised! Happy! Smiling!
A Fair Trade gift is so beguiling!
Coffee, Chocolates, Cocoa or Tea;
Give 1 or 2 or maybe 3!
To someone weary who needs a Smile
Of Appreciation once-in-awhile.
Will you be the One to play the role
Of lifting the Heart of a worried Soul?
It's Done! You're the One!
BE YOU!! THANK YOU!!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS NOVEMBER

- 18 Respect Life Forum “Preventing Teen Suicide,” 1:00 p.m., Cauchi Hall
- 18/19 Hospitality Weekend/Fair Trade
- 23 Thanksgiving Day Mass, 9:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS CARD SALE
By Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are selling “Keep Christ” in Christmas cards after all Masses in November. They have a wide assortment of cards as well as car magnets. Stop by their table after Mass.

SAVE THE DATE
CRAB DINNER—JANUARY 20, 2017

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting their next Crab Dinner on Saturday, January 20th. Tickets will go on sale the weekend of December 16th.

ARE YOU REGISTERED?
DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS?

If you didn't receive a letter from Father Johnson this Fall with a Stewardship of Treasure brochure, and if you never receive the Catholic Voice from the Diocese, there's a good chance you are not currently registered as a parishioner. Please stop by the Welcome Table after Mass and ask for a Registration Form. Likewise, if you have moved or changed your telephone number, we also have forms on the table specifically for changes. You can also register on-line at our website: www.stagneparish.net.

Also, please let us know if you are moving out of the area, in order to update our records and cancel church envelopes, if needed. Thank you!

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We had sixteen hundred years' experience with one Eucharistic Prayer in our repertoire, and the liturgical reforms of the Council of Trent shaped the way we worshiped for four hundred years. In the last years of the Tridentine Mass, the early 1960s, we tended to see children as miniature adults. Fully rooted in the Sunday assembly by the decision of Pope Saint Pius X to push Communion back to the age of seven or so from the standard age of twelve to fourteen years during the early 1900s, children were still more tolerated than acknowledged. The Mass was in Latin, and by the 1960s the people had begun to regain their voices in the “dialogue Mass,” so the focus was on training little children to recite or sing in Latin.

The new attention to the experience of children, their ability to enter into ritual, their spontaneity, their ability to grasp key concepts in faith, felt “untraditional.” Yet we can trace in our tradition the ways in which children have long been given a special place in the assembly. From earliest times, boys have served in choirs and certain ministries in monasteries and in parish churches. Girls were sometimes entrusted to nuns, learning liturgical chants and the arts. Yet, in our day, the formation of a Lectionary for children and Eucharistic Prayers suited to them are truly tremendous breakthroughs in our treasury of prayer.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Community Activities

MEDICAL ISSUES FORUM

Preventing Teen Suicide

Saturday, November 18 from 1-3 p.m., Cauchi Hall

Join us for a panel discussion on preventing teen suicide, the HIPPA Privacy Authorization Form, and Q&A time. To register, contact Diana Farias at sairafL@yahoo.com or [925-825-7123](tel:925-825-7123). Refreshments provided. Hosted by the St. Agnes Respect Life Committee.

PANEL

Mrs. Lesley Garcia, MS
Crisis and 211 Call Center Manager
and St. Agnes Parishioner
Contra Costa Crisis Center
www.crisis-center.org

Cecilia Cody
California Right to Life
www.calright2life.org



St. Agnes is blessed by spirited and talented youth in our parish.

Above—the 3rd Grade Class helps to celebrate All Saints Day. **Below Right**—A 3rd grader as St. Agnes.

Left—Our St. Agnes Youth Band, which includes Mimi Andrada, Nicole D’Souza, Rachel Encarnacion, Pete Frevele, Jim Gill, Gabby Mazzuca, Divina Reyes and Paul York.

Below Left—The St. Agnes 8th grade American boys won the pre-season CYO Bishop O’Dowd basketball tournament.

