



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.

Fifth Sunday of Lent



Photos above of a few of our Confirmandi receiving special crosses at Mass on February 18th. We ask for your prayers for all of our Confirmandi and their instructors as they maneuver through the Confirmation process.

Likewise, we ask for your prayers for our RCIA candidates as they move through the final weeks of their journey to the fulfillment of their sacraments. We have two candidates for Baptism, a third to receive First Eucharist and then join three other candidates for Confirmation at the Easter Vigil on March 31st.



March 18, 2018

PARISH OFFICE 3966 Chestnut Ave. Concord, CA 94519

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Office Hours: 9:00am - Noon * 1:00pm - 4:30pm, Monday-Thursday

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

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

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Confirmation/Life Teen Coordinator

Deacon Bill Drobick
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Secretary-Religious Education

Donna Cassianos
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Director of Music Ministry

Pete Frevele
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Liturgical Musician

Lily Melendrez
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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

Life's Journey is About Who We Are and What We Bring

There is a song from the musical, "A Chorus Line" and it starts out like this: "Who am I anyway, am I my resume, or am I a picture of a person I don't know?" This line of the song has always intrigued me. When I left high school and was on my way to college seminary, many of my classmates, especially the intellectual ones, ended up at the community college across from the high school. They had no idea who they were or where they were going in life. Oh, sure, eventually they found good jobs and had families, but many never followed their dreams, or at least the careers they intended. Our world values people based on how important they are in careers, what organizations they belong to, and how much money they make.

Jesus broke all those stereotypes, even for His time, and reached out to people. He healed the sick, forgave the sinner, ate with tax collectors and other sinners, made friends with prostitutes and made those who were ostracized a part of society. In other words, He made "nobodies somebodies." Jesus made a career of breaking down society's barriers and, ultimately, He died for it. We are surrounded by people who had or chose to dedicate their lives to others, such as those caring for sick relatives, those suffering crosses of life without grumbling, and those who bring encouragement to others by bringing God's love to them, when they feel most abandoned. Those who reach out don't do it for publicity or money or to be noticed, they do it because they are being Christ-like. Everything has its time, but we must hear the voice of God beckoning us to be Christ-like. It is only then that we know our purpose and where the journey will take us.

Christ's journey did not only just revolve around His ministry. Ultimately, it was His Passion and Death and, of course, His Resurrection that brought about change in the world. Today's Gospel has a very beautiful quote: "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains but a simple grain of wheat, but if it dies it bears much fruit." Jesus had to go through His Passion, Death and Resurrection in order for others to follow. His life on earth produced fruit that allowed apostles, disciples, prophets, deacons, and priests to carry on the work, which was later followed by sisters, brothers, and laity. We all are on a life journey to be Christ for those in need.

As we continue our journey through Lent and draw near to Holy Week, let us ponder on Jesus, the grain of wheat who fell onto the ground and died, yet yielded a great harvest. As we die to ourselves this Lent through our Penance, may we produce a rich harvest and celebrate that harvest during Easter Season, as proof of conversion that took place during our Lenten Journey.

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

SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR MARCH 11: \$10,800.00

Building Fund: \$2,142.00

Includes Faith Direct Giving

We thank you for your Stewardship.

Calendar for the Week

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 17, 2018

5:00 p.m. Goody Carino—Repose
John Ryan—Repose
The Dasilva Family—Special Intention

Sunday, March 18, 2018

7:00 a.m. Marie Costa—Repose
Jack Ryan—Repose

9:00 a.m. George Conlow—Repose
Joe Cornella—Repose
Marie Schmidt—Special Intention

11:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased

5:00 p.m. Ricardo Encarnacion, Jr.—Repose
Dianna Andrews—Special Intention
Gil Chavez—Special Intention

Monday, March 19, 2018

8:00 a.m. Norma Harrison—Repose
Maria Carmen Padilla—Repose
Carmen Santos—Repose

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

8:00 a.m. Goody Carino—Repose
Renato Miyamoto—Repose

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

8:00 a.m. Communion Service Only

Thursday, March 22, 2018

8:00 a.m. George Conlow—Repose
Sal Lo Grasso—Repose
Deceased Members of the Fenolio Family

Friday, March 23, 2018

8:15 a.m. Mary Delores Holt—Repose
Renato Miyamoto—Repose
Maria Corwen Padilla—Repose

Saturday, March 24, 2018

8:00 a.m. Homer Oca—Repose
Elvira Zenarosa—Repose

5:00 p.m. Goody Carino—Repose
Jack Ryan—Repose
Alfonso Samaniego—Repose

Sunday, March 25, 2018

7:00 a.m. George Conlow—Repose
Norma Harrison—Repose
Tess Belizario—Special Intention

9:00 a.m. For the People of St. Agnes,
Living and Deceased

11:00 a.m. Susan Snyder—Repose
Kathleen York—Repose
Greg Scaletti—Special Intention

5:00 p.m. Ricardo Encarnacion, Sr.—Repose
John & Geraldine Van Nieuwburg—Rep.
Sherly Weweng kang—Repose

Parish Events and Meetings

Sunday, March 18, 2018

10:30 a.m. RCIA—A.R.
12:00 noon Knights of Columbus Overview—
Cauchi Hall

3:00 p.m. Confirmation—Cauchi Hall

Monday, March 19, 2018

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass
6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus—Church Hall

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
7:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds—A.R.
7:00 p.m. La Morita General Meeting—Cauchi H.

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

8:00 a.m. Communion Service—Chapel
6:00 p.m. Lenten Soup Meal—Church Hall
7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul—A.R.
7:30 p.m. Jim Gill Band Practice—Church

Thursday, March 22, 2018

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
9:30 a.m. Bible Study—A.R.
6:30 p.m. Young Adult Meeting—Cauchi Hall
7:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting—A.R.
7:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Cenacle—EX

Friday, March 23, 2018

8:15 a.m. Daily Mass—Church
2:00 p.m. School Stations of the Cross—Church
5:30 p.m. 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. Endow Women's Meeting—EX

Saturday, March 24, 2018

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass—Chapel
8:30 a.m. Lector Practice for Holy Week—Church
6:30 p.m. Teams of Our Lady—A.R.

FAIR TRADE AFTER WEEKEND MASSES

**SINGERS
WANTED!
Love to Sing?**



If you are a singer, sign up to be a member of the St. Agnes Church Youth Choir. No experience necessary! Singers will perform at the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays.

If interested, contact Peter Frevele via email at petefrev@me.com or call at 925-914-0182.

Parish News and Activities

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Our LAST Lenten Soup Supper will be Wednesday, **March 21, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Church Hall. Bring a bowl and spoon and enjoy two great soups. The program this week is an interactive audience participation with your comments and views on homelessness. Supper begins at 6:00 p.m.; the program is from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.



St. Agnes Church Annual Blood Drive Good Friday, March 30, 2018 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Cauchi Hall

We ask that you consider making a donation during the Good Friday Blood Drive. To schedule your life-saving appointment:

1. Email Pat Cesnik at stagnesblooddrive@gmail.com or call her at 925-381-0526.
2. Visit www.bloodheroes.com, click “Donate Blood” and enter sponsor code: **StAgnes**.

Every 3 seconds someone, somewhere needs a blood transfusion—please be a lifesaver! Your 1 donation will save 3 lives and go to recipients at over 50 Bay Area hospitals!

FAIR TRADE SALES MARCH 24 & 25!

Our **EASTER Fair Trade Products** Sale is on! Alongside our specialty *Coffees, Teas, Hot Cocoas and Chocolate Bars*, we offer again our *whimsical Bunny and Chick favors* for the kids and our *delicious Brownie Cakes* made with our chocolatey Fair Trade Baking Cocoa! Any one of our choice products will make a fine addition to your Easter table or basket.



Visit our Easter table and help us support small, independent farmers who organically grow and produce the core ingredients in our Fair Trade items.

Thank you and Happy Easter, St. Agnes!

LENTEN FISH FRY DINNER ON FRIDAY

During the Lenten season, the St. Agnes Knights of Columbus will be hosting Fish Fry dinners each Friday, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Please come out early and enjoy a fish dinner before you attend the Stations of the Cross program held in the church at 7:00 p.m.



The Fish Fry Menu:

Fried Fish (2 pieces)

French Fries, Salad, Coleslaw

Beverage—Soda or Water available for added cost.

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

Any questions, contact Frank Mazzuca by email at Me@FrancisMazzuca.com.

CRS RICE BOWLS

We hope the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls have been an inspiration to you and your family this Lent. You will be able to turn in your donation starting on Good Friday. There will be a basket in the back of the church just for your Rice Bowl Donation. If you can, please keep the cash and write a check for the amount to “CRS Rice Bowl.” The basket will be there through Sunday, April 8.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

- 21 Lenten Soup Meal, 6:00 p.m.
- 23 Fish Fry, Knights of Columbus, 5:30 p.m.
- Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
- 24/25 Palm Sunday
- 28 Sedar Meal, 6:00 p.m.
- 30 Good Friday:
 - Blood Drive 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
 - Stations of the Cross, 12:00 noon
 - Taize, Prayer around the Cross, 2:00 p.m.
 - Good Friday Liturgy, 7:00 p.m.
- 31 Easter Vigil, 8:00 p.m.

APRIL

- 1 Easter Sunday Mass Times:
 - 7:00 am, 9:00 am & 11:00 am
 - Easter Egg Hunt, 12 noon
 - (BYOB—bring your own basket)
- NOTE: There will be no 5:00 pm Sunday Mass.



The next luncheon meeting of the St. Agnes Retired Seniors (StARS), is

Tuesday, **April 3 at 11:00 a.m.** in the Church Hall. This is a catered luncheon and you must have reservations. Lunch is catered by New Lim's Garden, with a menu of Chicken Chow Mein, Mongolian Beef, Sweet & Sour Pork, Broccoli Chicken, Salt & Pepper Rock Cod, BBQ Pork Fried Rice, Eggrolls, Potstickers and Fortune Cookies, all for only \$12.00 per person. **Send your reservation check to Eiko Asselin**, 3925 Ferndale Lane, Concord, CA 94519 or call her at 825-3982 no later than **Tuesday, March 27th.**

Also, there are tickets left for the **Thunder Valley Casino bus trip** on Tuesday, April 17. The Price is only \$29 per person. Call Bob Rigor at 925-202-6239 for more information and reservations.

DELIVER EASTER WEEK INVITATIONS TO YOUR CONCORD NEIGHBORS.

As Catholics, we are not only called to receive the grace of God in our lives, but we are called to share it. You don't have to be a great preacher or theologian to be an effective evangelist in your own family and neighborhood. You just have to care enough to make the invitation.

We have printed 1,000 door hangers with information about our Easter Week Services at St. Agnes. Pick some up at the Welcome Table after Mass this weekend. Take as many as you think you (or your kids) can distribute to your neighbors this week. Take 5, 10, 20, 30, or more if you have time. No need to knock on any doors or disturb anyone. Just place the door hanger on the door knob or under the edge of the door mat. (Note: if you notice a "no soliciting" sign posted, we ask that you respect that and not leave a door hanger.)

Community Activities

ST. AGNES YOUTH ARE READY TO HEAD TO TIJUANA TO BUILD HOMES, LEAVING SATURDAY, MARCH, 31. This is our fourth year under the sponsorship of our new non-profit corporation instead of the Oakland Diocese. There are 85 youth and adults ready to build three homes for deserving families. Thank you very much for all of your support, especially on the Mexican Dinner, "Help Us Build a Home" and our letter-writing campaign. Your financial and spiritual support is what allows us to build these homes. If you would still like to help out, here are some ideas:

- Pray for our youth and their adult sponsors for health, safety and energy!
- Bring homemade baked goods (cookies, brownies or breakfast breads, **without nuts**) either to the Ministry Center (by Wed., March 28) or when we are packing at Cauchi Hall on Good Friday, March 30 at 5 pm.
- Donate craft materials up through Monday, March 26. You may bring them to the Ministry Center. We can use beads, pencils, coloring books, crayons, photo paper, colored construction paper, sequins, stickers, stamps with pads, binder paper. Contact the Waltons at 925-825-7931 or jdwalton@astound.net for info.

QUO VADIS—Where are you going?

The Seminarians of the Diocese of Oakland present a 3-day camp to assist young men (ages 13-18) in discerning their vocation as they grow in relationship with Christ. Activities include fun, games, music, Mass, prayer and talks. The camp will be held July 15-18, 2018, at the Youth Retreat Center in Lafayette. For details, see your parish priest or call Ceilo Branco at 510-267-8356 or email cbranco@oakdiocese.org. For Registration Forms, visit www.oakdiocese.org/vocations.

BIRTHRIGHT ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

Birtheright of Concord Pregnancy Support Center would like to invite you to their "Spring Into Action" Luncheon on Thursday, April 19th at 11:30 a.m. at The Clubhouse Ballroom at Boundary Oak Golf Course, 3800 Valley Vista Road, Walnut Creek. Guest speaker will be Clare Caputi, an inspiring young leader, formerly President of Students for Life at UNLV. She is currently a co-coordinator for Gabriel Project. Cost is \$40 per person. Menu choices available when making reservations through contacting Pat or Libby at 925-689-7227 or on-line at birtherightluncheon2018.



St. Agnes Council #15344 of the Knights of Columbus has been extremely supportive of our parish through their many activities, such as hosting the Crab and Tri-Tip Dinners, Friday Fish Fries (see photo above), Pancake Breakfasts, the 4th of July Barbeque and many other events throughout the year.

The Knights continue to put on fun and profitable events. Our Grand Knight, Frank Mazzuca, is pictured to the right giving Father Johnson a check for over \$2,300 (proceeds from the crab dinner).

If you are interested in learning more about this Ministry, they are hosting an information meeting today, March 18th, after the 11 a.m. Mass in Cauchi Hall. It is open to all, and they will be discussing the benefits the Knights provide to the community, including Fellowship, Insurance, Service, Patriotism and Religious Education Support.

