



PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert J. Jallas, Pastor
Rev. Pawel Augustyniak, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Roy A. Harley
Karen Ferguson, Music Director
Kathy Vizral, Parish Administrative Assistant
Nancy Wilderson, PSR Coordinator

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Parish Office ······793-1330
Parish Fax ······793-3212
Parish Email ······sac245@comcast.net
Parish Website ······stagnescatholicparish.org

SCHOOL STAFF

Sr. Joan Sorge, O.P., School Principal
Karen White, School Administrative Assistant
Sharon Swehla, School Secretary
Mathew Fitzgerald, Maintenance

School Office ······793-1370
School Fax ······793-1238
School Website ······stagnescatholicsschool.org
School Email ······info@stagnescatholicsschool.org

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS & CONTACT PERSONS

Caregiving Ministry ······ Barb Kern
Choir & Song Leaders ······ Karen Ferguson
Communion Ministers ······ Elaine Arisman
Gift Bearers ······ Debra Mann
Greeters ······ Barb Kern
Holy Name Society ······ Mike Noonan
Readers ······ Deacon Roy A. Harley
Parents' Club ······ Julie Ressler
Parish Council ······ Carrie Becker
Parish Finance Council ······ Tom Frost
Right to Life ······ Cliff Erwin
School Board ······ Ann Holtrop
St. Vincent de Paul Society ······ Jim Ketchum
Young at Heart ······ Jane Lacascio, Roslyn Brookens

ST. AGNES PARISH

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.
Monday 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday 8:15 a.m.
Wednesday 6:30 a.m.
Thursday 8:15 a.m.
First Friday 8:15 a.m., 12:10 p.m.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 8:15 Mass until noon.

(No daily Mass on Fridays except for First Fridays)

Holydays Consult the bulletin prior to the Holyday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Call the Parish Office to schedule other times.

ST. AGNES PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Loved and chosen by God, we are the St. Agnes Parish family. Through Baptism we share responsibility for continuing the mission of Jesus. We are called to be a community whose members enable and support the gifts given to each by the Spirit. We are sent to make Christ visible in our world through worship, proclamation of the Word, and service to all God's people. We, the people of God, in the Catholic Christian community of St. Agnes, in northwest Springfield, Illinois, commit ourselves to seek first the Kingdom of God in our life together.

WELCOME!

If you're new to our community and not yet registered, we invite you to call or stop by the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Call the Parish Office to arrange a time.

INFANT BAPTISMS

Infant Baptisms are celebrated on the **first and third Sundays of the month** at 12:30 p.m. Attendance at the Pre-Baptismal Preparation Class is required. Call the Parish Office to register for the class and to arrange for a Baptism.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is open to the unbaptized who are interested in joining the Catholic faith, those baptized Christian who are considering becoming a Catholic, and baptized Catholics who are not fully initiated. Inquiry sessions for those interested in joining the Catholic faith are held periodically throughout the year. Please call the Parish Office for additional information.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements for weddings must be made at least six (6) months in advance. Please contact the Parish Office.



ST. AGNES PARISH

245 North Amos Avenue
Springfield, IL 62702

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Agnes

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:15 a.m. No Mass

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

6:30 a.m. No Mass

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:15 a.m. No Mass

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

No Mass

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

4:30 p.m. Deceased Members of the
Vincent Connor Family (Mary Jo &
Mo Egizii)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:00 a.m. Judy Bennett - Mike Stewart
9:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Agnes
11:30 a.m. William Bennett - Jim & Vickie
Nash

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22
Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18
Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21;
Lk 2:22-40

ALTAR SERVERS

DECEMBER 26, 28:

8:15 a.m. No Mass
8:15 a.m. No Mass

DECEMBER 30-31:

4:30 p.m. Charlie Johnson, Steve Johnson,
Emma Markwell
8:00 a.m. Brad Loscher, Tony Mares
9:30 a.m. Beth VonBehren, Tucker Von
Behren, Matt VonBehren
11:30 a.m. Ben Griffin, Sophie Mayfield,
Jaycie Cole

READERS, DECEMBER 30-31

4:30 p.m. Susan Dodson, Kevin Klemm
8:00 a.m. Mary Ann Gatten, Sr. Joan Sorge
9:30 a.m. Julie Davis, Susan Hartl
11:30 a.m. Adrian Gandhi, Jan Mulrooney-
Kuhn

READERS, JANUARY 1

10:00 a.m. Mary Ann Gatten, Janet Kolton

COMMUNION MINISTERS

DECEMBER 30-31

4:30 p.m. Team B, Michael Farmer, Jim
Frank, Dan Punzak, Pat Steiren
8:00 a.m. Team G, Carolyn Chestnut, Donna
Chestnut, Tom Frost & Julie Davis, Brad &
Diane Loscher
9:30 a.m. Team M, Ralph & Roslyn
Brookens, Maribeth Farnham, Bob & Kathy
Sherman, Virginia Sprinkel
11:30 a.m. Team T, Eloise Baird, Jackie
Davis, Patrick Dennis, Linda Mueller, Don
Steinkamp

JANUARY 1, SOLEMNITY OF MARY

10:00 a.m. Team N, Mark Jarmer, Dave &
Jan Kerwin, Nancy King, Conrad & Kathy
Rubinkowski





REST IN PEACE

Please keep in your prayers **Margaret Reid** of our parish who died recently. May she know the fullness of joy that the Risen Lord desires to share with us.



Solemnity of Mary Mass Schedule:

Monday, January 1, New Year's Day: 10:00 a.m.

Please Note: The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day 2018) falls on a Monday. There is not the obligation to participate in Mass, nonetheless, Mass will be offered at 10:00 a.m.




Make a resolution to listen to AM 1410 & 88.9 FM WIHM Catholic Radio in the New Year.


Tune in to daily Holy Mass, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and the Rosary. Plus programs such as, Catholic Answers Live, Open Line, the Journey Home, and more. For a program schedule call (314) 752-7000 or toll free at (877) 305-1234.

Save the Date!
St. Agnes Grand Gala
Saturday, March 3, 2018
Abraham Lincoln Hotel

★
★ **Christmas Mass Schedule:** ★
★ **Sunday, December 24,** ★
★ Christmas Eve: 5:00 p.m. and ★
★ 10:00 p.m. (Choir begins at 9:30 ★
★ p.m.) ★
★ **Monday, December 25,** Christmas Day: ★
★ 10:00 a.m. ★
★ Due to Christmas falling on a Monday this ★
★ year and Christmas Eve Masses on Sunday ★
★ evening and night, we will not have 11:30 ★
★ a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 24. ★
★ *****



CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS:
 You may make a donation for Christmas decorations in memory of a loved one. There is a special envelope in your December packet for this purpose, "Christmas Flower Offering." Please put in the amount of donation, and **on the reverse side, who the donation is in memory of.** You may put the envelope in the collection or mail to the Rectory. A list of memorials will be in the bulletin in January.

BAPTISM
 We welcome into the Body of Christ, the Church, the following children who were recently baptized:
Baptism
Avery Shields
Charlotte Shields
May the Light of Christ shine brightly in and through them!

GREETERS - JANUARY
4:30 - Mike & Elizabeth Johnson
8:00 - Steve & Julie Johnson
If you are interested in being a greeter, please call the Church Office, 793-1330. Thank you!



ST. AGNES SCHOOL
catch our spirit

St. Agnes School Staff and students wish all of our Parish families a Merry Christmas. Thank you for the wonderful support you give to our Parish School. May you receive of the blessings of this holy season – gifts of peace, love, joy and hope.

Christmas vacation has started for St. Agnes students. Classes will resume on Monday, January 4.

*Let **Christmas** come into our world and bring us warmth and cheer, bring us **Faith** in place of doubt and strength in place of fear, bring us **Hope** and bring us **Love** to guide our hearts forever. Let **Christmas** come and bring us all together. May the joys and the blessings of the season be yours!*



The St. Agnes Scrip Program would like to wish you a Merry Christmas!

Wondering how Scrip works? The St. Agnes Parents' Club purchases gift cards from retailers at a discount and then sells the gift cards at face value. The difference is split between Parents' Club and our school families, or you can direct it to various funds such as tuition assistance or the Church. For example, we buy \$100 County Market gift cards for \$95, and then sell them at face value. The retailer provides the discount. There is no additional cost to YOU! Even if you do not have a student enrolled at the school, your support is welcome! We have gift cards to most major retailers, restaurants, and grocery stores on hand. For more information, or to purchase SCRIP cards, call the school office at 793-1370.



Illinois Scholarship Tax

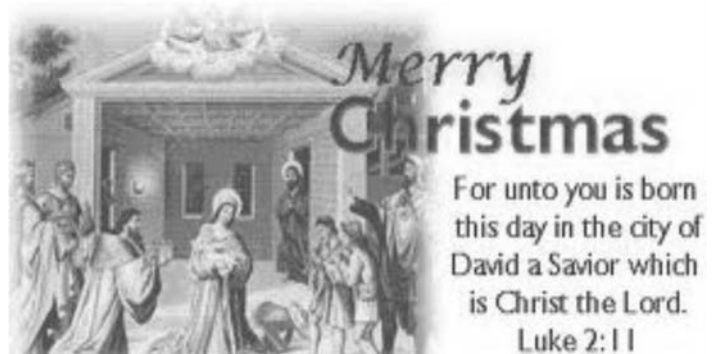
Credit: Did you know that your family might be eligible for an Illinois Scholarship Tax Credit?

Eligible students are members of a household whose federal adjusted gross income this year as determined by IDOR, does not exceed 300% of the federal poverty level. Empowerillinois.org will begin accepting students applications for scholarships on January 24, 2018. The application portal will be available at empowerillinois.org. Families can begin preparing for the application process by collecting the following documents:

- Copy of 2016 federal tax return, 1099, W-2, or year-end pay stubs.
- Verification of Illinois residence (utility bill, driver's license, etc.)
- Documentation of student age (birth certificate, federal/state ID or passport).
- Student's prior semester report card.
- If available, letter of acceptance or enrollment at an eligible school.

Students currently enrolled in Catholic schools can apply!

Signature Ads: We will have sign-ups for the annual Springfield Right to Life Signature ad in the Gathering Space after all Masses on the weekends of January 6-7 and January 13-14. This is a great opportunity to show your support for life on the anniversary of the infamous Supreme Court decision Roe v. Wade which legalized abortion on demand at any stage of pregnancy. Cost of one line is \$5.00 and can consist of a single name, several names, an org or a family name. Your participation will be appreciated.





CONTRIBUTIONS, DECEMBER 16-17:

Regular Contributions: \$19,313

St. Agnes Parish Capital
Improvements Fund: \$824

MAY GOD BLESS YOUR GENEROSITY!

Bulletin Schedule for the Holidays:

The bulletin of December 31 has already been submitted due to the holidays.

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

The Parish Office will be closed for Christmas from Friday, Dec. 22 thru Tuesday, Dec. 26.

For New Year's, the Parish Office will be closed Monday, January 1. The Parish Office will also be closed Thursday and Friday, January 11 and 12.



Memorial Bricks: When considering your Christmas gifts, don't forget the Peacebuilder Playground memorial bricks in honor of or memory of loved ones.

The bricks are available in three different sizes. The cost is \$100.00 for a 4x8 brick (3 lines); \$250.00 for an 8x8 brick (6 lines); or \$500.00 for a 12x12 brick (8 lines). 17 Characters are allowed per line. This includes spaces, commas and periods. Bricks may be purchased by calling the school or Parish Office.



*"Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God [in Christ] has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."
- Romans 5:5*

Dear Friends in Christ,

For all the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparations, the celebration of the Birth of Jesus is both a gift and a necessity. As a people of Christian faith, the Word made flesh is for us a source of light and hope, certainly qualities very much needed in our present-day world. In this holy season, let us rest, rejoice and give thanks for such great gifts given by our gracious God.

A blessed Christmas and peaceful new year to you and your loved ones!

Fr. Bob Fr. Paul

*"Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
—Merry Christmas!"*

SHG Placement Test Makeup for 8th Grade Students: All area eighth graders are invited to Sacred Heart-Griffin on Saturday, January 6 from 8:30 until 11:00 a.m. for the Placement Test makeup for incoming freshmen. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Students should enter through the circle drive entrance at 1200 W. Washington St. and bring two #2 pencils and a \$10 testing fee. Calculators are allowed. Pre-Registration for the makeup test is required. Please call Stephanie Phillips at 787-1595 ext. 126, or e-mail phillips@shg.org to register.

PRAYER LINE REQUESTS

8:00 AM-5:00 PM:	Sheila Noonan	546-0012
	Barb Kern	546-7729
5:00 PM-10:00 PM:	Maureen Brady	787-3423
	Cinda Steinkamp	787-6439



Young at Heart (YAH) Activities

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:

* Tuesday, January 9: Open meeting for YAH Planning Committee at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. All are invited to provide input on future activities. Contact Roslyn Brookens (622-6299) or Jane Locascio (306-3037) for more information.

* After the Holidays Gathering: Plan to join us for our 6th annual dinner event at Bella Milano's Restaurant on **Sunday, January 14, 2018** at 6:00 p.m. This event is open to all parishioners and their friends. Reservations are requested by Monday, January 8. For more information, call Cliff Erwin at 787-7017.

Courses for all Catholics – University of Dayton Online Learning

– Cycle 1 begins January 2018. The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF), is a program of the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives at the University of Dayton which offer adult faith formation classes. Our partnership with the University of Dayton allows the people of our diocese to take these classes at half price. These adult faith formation courses support the Church's catechetical ministry and are for all Catholics. This means that you can deepen your faith at a time and place convenient to you via the internet. Courses may be taken for undergraduate credit (for an additional fee) and all courses qualify for credit in our diocesan Catechist Formation Process. Classes for Cycle 1 are Jan. 14-Feb. 17. Register through January 10. For more info, visit vlcff.udayton.edu or contact the Office for Catechesis, 698-8500.

Fish Fry: Riverton K of C will hold a fish fry on January 5 from 4:30-7:00 p.m. at 335 S. 4th Street, Riverton. Menu includes walleye, shrimp, catfish, and baked fish dinners. Dinners include coleslaw, choice of fries, baked potato or potato salad. Carry-out orders are available by calling 629-7202 after 4:30 p.m.

St. Valentine's @ the Villa – Come celebrate St. Valentine's Day with other dating, engaged and married couples from throughout the diocese on Saturday, February 10 at 5:30 p.m. Drinks, dinner and comedy entertainment is only \$50 per couple! For more information and to register go to <http://www.dio.org/familylife/events.html>.

Living in Love Marriage Enrichment Retreat

– Couples who stay successfully and happily married make their marriage a priority. They are not content with having a marriage that is just 'okay', they want something much more. Living in Love provides an opportunity for couples to reconnect with their own personal love history and gain a renewed sense of purpose, hope and direction for their future. For more information and to register go to <http://www.dio.org/familylife/events.html>

Totus Tuus Team Applications for staff for the summer 2018 Totus Tuus season in the diocese are now being accepted. Totus Tuus hires college students and seminarians to staff teams that will travel throughout this diocese and neighboring dioceses over the course of the summer to present the Totus Tuus program with students in 1-12 grades. There is a 10-day training program that starts on May 30 at Villa Maria. The commitment is through July 28 with a break over the week of the Independence Day holiday. For more information about the role of the summer staff or to bring Totus Tuus to your parish, please contact Kyle Holtgrave at (217) 698-8500, ext. 154, or visit <http://www.dio.org/youthministry/staff-information.html>.



RIGHT TO LIFE CORNER

Trust in the mercy of God's love. Do you know someone who is carrying the grief and sorrow of past abortions? Share with them the Good News of God's merciful love. Call Project Rachel for a confidential referral to those who can help: 1-877-RACHEL-5.

12 Days of Christmas

From Christmas, December 25 to Epiphany, January 6, are celebrated the twelve days of Christmas. The famous song which offers a symbol for each of the twelve days has an origin few are aware of.

In England, after 1558, Roman Catholics were forbidden by law to practice their faith openly. To convey their beliefs to their children without arousing the suspicion of their Protestant neighbors, they put their teachings into a code that would sound harmless to the unawares.

Briefly, "my true love" is God. The "**partridge**" is a symbol of Christ. The partridge feigns injury to decoy a predator away from her nestlings who are defenseless as we are before Satan.

"**Two turtle doves**" symbolize the sacrifice Jewish families made in the Temple when a son was born. The Mass is the new sacrifice in Christ.

"**Three French hens**" were beautiful but expensive and symbolize the three Magi and their gifts. Also three prime virtues of faith, hope, charity.

"**Four calling birds**": the four major prophets and gospels.

"**Five golden rings**": Bible's first five books of the Law.

"**Six geese a-laying**": six days of creation.

"**Seven swans a-swimming**": seven gifts of the Spirit and seven works of mercy.

"**Eight maids a-milking**": the eight Beatitudes.

"**Nine ladies dancing**": the nine ranks of angel choir and nine fruits of the Spirit.

"**Ten lords a-leaping**": the Ten Commandments.

"**Eleven pipers piping**": Eleven Apostles left to announce the resurrection.

"**Twelve drummers drumming**": Twelve minor prophets, twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed and the twelve gates of the heavens.

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<p>Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator and liaison between the Diocese and anyone with an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor</p> <p>Mrs. Patricia Kornfeld 217-321-1155</p>		

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