



**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, JANUARY 1**

10:00 a.m. Florencio Amaya & Agapita Bejarano (Leonie Rodgers)

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 2**

8:15 a.m. David Brenneisen (Mike & Patty Guignon)

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3**

6:30 a.m. John Baptist San Vu (John Pham)

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 4**

8:15 a.m. Lynda Evinsky-Krueger (Family)

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 5**

8:15 a.m. Leona Kervin (Maureen & Bryan Crowe)  
12:10 p.m. James Moore, Jr. (Marianne Weed)

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6**

4:30 p.m. Virginia Stannard (McConnell & Stannard Families)  
And Parishioners of St. Agnes

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 7**

8:00 a.m. Thomas Mizeur (Dianne Schuerman)  
9:30 a.m. Bill Becker (Ralph & Roslyn Brookens)  
11:30 a.m. Joe Dold (Mary Jo & Mo Egizii)

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21  
**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28  
**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34  
**Thursday:** 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42  
**Friday:** 1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51  
**Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11  
**Sunday:** Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

**ALTAR SERVERS**

**JANURAY 2, 4, 5:**

8:15 a.m. Jaycie Cole, Adeline Gilmore  
8:15 a.m. Jack Ludolph, Emma Markwell  
8:15 a.m. Kyle Ward, Rose Bartletti

**JANURAY 6-7:**

4:30 p.m. Matthew Johnson, Logan Smudde, Reagan Smudde  
8:00 a.m. Louis Kink, Don Steinkamp  
9:30 a.m. Kyle Ward, Noel Ward, Mary O'Brien  
11:30 a.m. Michael Enlow, Alison Enlow, Lindsey Ferguson

**READERS, JANUARY 6-7**

4:30 p.m. Ellen Kuntzi, Roslyn Brookens  
8:00 a.m. Jamie Greenwald, Tricia Hopkins-Price  
9:30 a.m. Marilyn Okon, Ed Cobau  
11:30 a.m. Kari Kelley, Sandra Kelley

**COMMUNION MINISTERS**

**JANUARY 6-7**

**4:30 p.m. Team C,** Carolyn Beeler, Mike & Dawn Caveny, Barb Kern, Mark & Ellen Kuntzi  
**8:00 a.m. Team H,** Lois Bloechle, Rita King, Al & Sharon Mast, Rosie McCormick, Chuck Murphy  
**9:30 a.m. Team N,** Mark Jarmer, Dave & Jan Kerwin, Nancy King, Conrad & Kathy Rubinkowski  
**11:30 a.m. Team U,** Sr. Angelene Biderbost, Jan Koltun, Kelle Lee, Phil & Leigh Reed

**SHARE THE WORD MINISTERS**

**JANUARY 7**

Pre K4 & K Gina & Nicole Swehla  
1st & 2nd Colleen Dunham  
3rd Eloise Baird

**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



**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.



**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.

**Baby Bottle Boomerang,** for First Step Women's Center (formerly Lifetime) will begin January 6-7. Debbie Shultz, Director, will share campaign details and will also provide a tour of the Mobile Medical Unit after each Mass. Bottles will be collected January 27-28. Help support a Culture of Life in your community. Contact Diane Blean, 725-0065, for further information.

**PARISH OFFICE NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE:**

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.



**FIRST FRIDAY—JANUARY**

First Friday this month will be on January 5. Masses will be celebrated at 8:15 a.m. and at 12:10 p.m. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the 8:15 Mass, with reposition at noon prior to 12:10 Mass.

**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. 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>.

**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. Classes for Cycle 1 are Jan. 14-Feb. 17. Register through January 10. For more info, visit [vlcff.udayton.edu](http://vlcff.udayton.edu) or contact the Office for Catechesis, 698-8500.



**RIGHT TO LIFE CORNER**

For families in time of illness: May they find strength and hope in the example of the Holy Family;

We pray to the Lord....



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**St. Agnes School Staff wishes you a Happy and Holy New Year!** May 2017 hold for you and your families a deep awareness of God's love and presence in your life.

**Thursday, January 4**

- Classes Resume for St. Agnes School students.
- Annual Fund Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**Friday, January 5**

- All-School Liturgy at 8:15 a.m.

**Monday, January 8**

- Dismissal at 1:30 p.m. for the monthly Faculty meeting.
- School Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the school office area.



**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>.



**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](http://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!

**From the Vatican** – Proclaiming the joy of the Gospel is the mission entrusted by the Lord to his Church. In keeping with this mission Pope Francis is introducing a new approach through a 2018 Bishops' Synod with the topic, "Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment." The Church has decided to examine herself on how she can lead young people to recognize and accept the call to the fullness of life and love, and to ask young people to help her in identifying the most effective ways to announce the Good News today. In terms of hearing directly from young people, the Vatican has launched a survey for youth and young adults. The goal of this questionnaire – aimed at young people throughout the world from 16 to 29 years of age – is to provide young people with the opportunity to communicate, express and recount who they are and what they want to say about themselves. Here is the link: <https://survey-synod2018.glauco.it/limesurvey/index.php/147718>.



**CONTRIBUTIONS, DECEMBER 23-24:**

**CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE POSTED IN A LATER BULLETIN DUE TO THE ACCELERATED HOLIDAY BULLETIN SCHEDULE.**

**MAY GOD BLESS YOUR GENEROSITY!**



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter:**

As we celebrate Holy Family Sunday, let us remember that God's love for us is reflected in the love for each other in our family.

Why not celebrate and encourage that love by giving your spouse the gift of a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend? The next Weekend in Springfield, IL is on March 23 – 25. The next Weekend in the St. Louis area is on February 2 – 4. To register or for more information, call 314-649-7317 or go online to [www.stl-wwme.org](http://www.stl-wwme.org).

**SHG Placement Test Makeup for 8th Grade Students:**

All area eighth graders are invited to Sacred Heart-Griffin on Saturday, January 6 from 8:30-11:00 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](mailto:phillips@shg.org) to register.

**Butler Funeral Home:**

January 11, An Open Door Session on Funerals, Cremation, Cemetery and Advance Planning. When it comes to burial, cremation and advance funeral planning, we know that people have many questions. As funeral and cremation specialists, we're happy to provide answers during our FREE program. Join us for a complimentary breakfast at MCL Restaurant & Bakery from 8:30-10:30 a.m. and a brief, interactive, and open discussion forum for questions regarding these and other topics. This event is free: no cost. Call 544-4646 to reserve your seat by January 8.

**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>

**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.



**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.

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH



**Sunday, December 31, 2017**  
**Wisdom**

*Today's Readings: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Colossians 3:12-21 or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Luke 2:22-40.* In today's Gospel, Simeon announces that Jesus is God's salvation for the world, and that many will oppose him. He even tells Mary that she, too, would be pierced, foreshadowing the sorrow that overcomes her during the Passion. On this feast of the Holy Family, the Church is asked to ponder the mystery of salvation. Jesus, who is the Light of the World, will suffer so that all can share in salvation. In this Gospel, we hear again of the fulfillment of God's promise that the prophets foretold.

While today's Gospel is certainly joyful, it also reminds families that suffering is part of the journey. Following the Gospel and working to reveal God's love and mercy in our world are often met with persecution and ridicule. The Holy Family teaches us that faith in God is necessary to endure suffering and to share the light of Christ.

As you discern the ways in which your family lives out the Gospel, take time to identify wisdom figures in your community and family. Listen to their stories and learn the ways their faith grew in the midst of joy and suffering. What can these wisdom figures teach you? Pray that your family remain strong in faith and trust in God's mercy.

**This Week at Home**

**Monday, January 1**

**Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

Today is the octave day of Christmas and the oldest Marian celebration in the Roman Catholic Church. The readings help us reflect on Mary's role in the Incarnation. Mary teaches us what it means to keep and contemplate the mystery of Christ within our heart. Because of her yes, we are no longer slaves but heirs to the Kingdom. Spend time in active, imaginative prayer today and dialogue with Mary to learn how to contemplate Jesus. *Today's Readings: Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:16-21.*

**Tuesday, January 2**

**Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzen**

Do you know when you fell in love with Christ? The First Reading tells us to keep within us what we heard from the beginning. What did you hear and when? Like Basil and Gregory, we rely on God's grace to help us witness to the truth of Christ and remain faithful. If the Gospel has taken root in our heart, then when it is proclaimed, we are roused to confess that Jesus is Lord. *Today's Readings: 1 John 2:22-28; Psalm 98:1, 2-ab, 3cd-4; John 1:19-28.*

**Wednesday, January 3 - Behold**

We hear the second line of today's Gospel just before we process to Communion. The words are a beautiful command to gaze upon Jesus and recognize him. John the Baptist knows that Jesus is the Messiah and wants others to encounter Jesus. Do you "behold" Christ in your daily life? Gather some friends and family to go Christmas caroling tonight to a nursing home or soup kitchen to help others behold the joy of the Incarnation. *Today's Readings: 1 John 2:29-3:6; Psalm 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; John 1:29-34.*

**Thursday, January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**

"Come and see" is the message found in today's Gospel. Jesus invited Andrew and the other disciple to follow him. Like the two disciples, we too are invited to follow and learn from the Teacher. St. Elizabeth heard this call and responded by opening schools and orphanages to aid her community. Christ has shown us how to live, but do we have the courage to follow him? Consider researching the Sisters of Charity today and preparing gift baskets for the poor in your community. *Today's Readings: 1 John 3:7-10; Psalm 98:1, 7-8, 9; John 1:35-42.*

**Friday, January 5 - St. John Neumann**

The First Letter of John continues to preach about God's love and the need to love one another. In the Gospel, new disciples continue to respond to the invitation to "come and see." In Baptism, we made our initial response. This response requires the type of love and action the saint we celebrate today personified. The love of Christ leads us to share the Good News. Reach out to the unloved in your community and see the face of Christ. *Today's Readings: 1 John 3:11-21; Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; John 1:43-51.*

**Saturday, January 6 - Faith**

In the First Reading, John turns his attention from the theme of love to the topic of faith. He tells his listeners that Jesus is truly God's Son, to which the Spirit, water (Baptism), and blood (Eucharist) continue to testify. When we look at this in light of the entire Epistle, we learn that those who have faith in God's Son, have eternal life. The Gospel affirms that Jesus is God's Son and so like Jesus, our Baptism calls us to proclaim God's Kingdom. Find a hymn in the parish's hymnal that speaks to the mission of Baptism and faith. Use this for prayer today. *Today's Readings: 1 John 5:5-13; Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Mark 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-38.*

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