

Saint Agnes Catholic Church

Pro-Life, Pro-Family, Stewardship Parish 49th Street and Staunton Avenue, Charleston WV 25304 Phone: 304-925-2836 www.stagnescharlestonwv.org Vol. 3439

PARISH OFFICE AND STAFF

Rev. Phillip Szabo

Administrator.....pszabo@dwc.org

Mrs. Pat Fulcher

Secretary..... stap1101char@dwc.org

Mr. Aaron Allred

Bookkeeper.....stap1101char@dwc.org

Mrs. Rosemary Severn

Music Director..... ratkinson57@gmail.com

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 12:00 P.M. , 5:00 P.M.
Sunday 08:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M., AND
12:30 P.M. (in Spanish)
Monday No Mass
Tuesday 06:00 P.M.
Wednesday 06:00 P.M.
Thursday 06:00 P.M.
Friday 08:30 A.M.

(For holy days, see pg. 2 or check our website.)

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENEDICTION

THURSDAYS 5:00 P.M. - 5:45 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS FOLLOWING 6:00 P.M. MASS -
12:00 MIDNIGHT

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

30 minutes prior to Daily Mass, Thursdays from
5:00 P.M. - 5:45 P.M. and
Saturdays from 3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.
or by appointment.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address: 4807 Staunton Avenue
Charleston, WV 25304

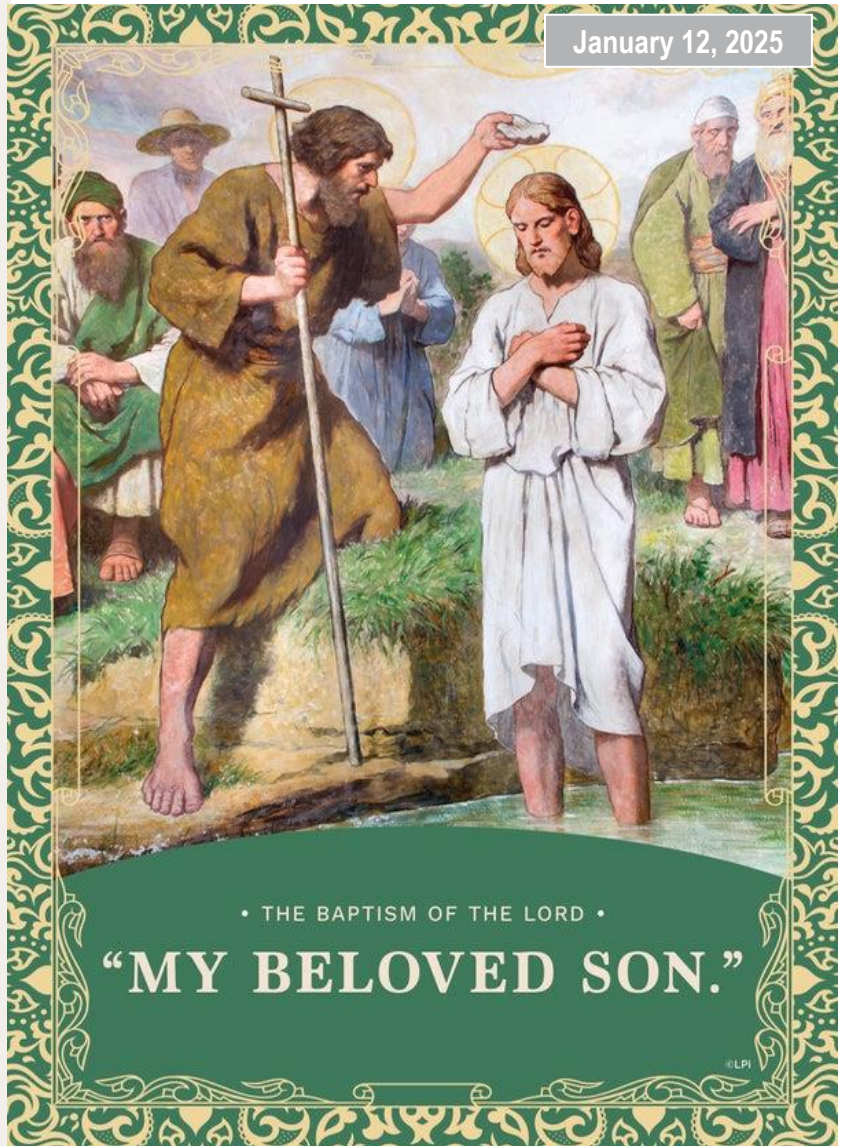
Phone: 304-925-2836

Email: stap1101char@dwc.org

Website: www.stagnescharlestonwv.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stagnescharlestonwv

January 12, 2025



See the link below (or find it on our website/Facebook page) to fill out the survey so that your voice will be heard!

<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/xdg4d6>

WEEKEND ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING

MASS INTENTIONS (JAN. 13 - JAN. 19)

January 4 - January 5

Weekend Attendance: **218**

5:00 P.M. **53**; 8:00 A.M. **47**; 10:30 A.M. **80**; 12:30 P.M. **38**

Mary Mother of God: Vigil **48**; January 1 - **67**

1st Collection	\$ 3,972 ^{.50}
2nd Collection-St. Agnes Bldg. & Maintenance	\$ 797 ^{.00}
Other Collections	\$ 1,024 ^{.63}

Total **\$ 5,794.¹³**

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Jan. 1) **\$ 834.⁷²**

Upcoming: January 19 - Church In Developing World

January 26 - Renovation

Thank you for your generosity!

SACRED SILENCE IN THE CHURCH

Please remember to maintain a sacred silence when you are in the main body of the church, especially before and after Mass. This allows others to pray and sets a very important example for the younger members of our community who are still learning about the sacred nature of the church. If you need to talk with someone, simply move to the vestibule, or into one of the side areas and make sure that the door is closed behind you. Thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass is the greatest prayer we can offer to God. It is customary for the faithful of a parish to have Masses offered for their own intentions, especially for loved ones who have passed away. If you would like to have a Mass offered for a loved one or a special intention, please contact the parish office or fill out the Mass Intention envelope from the narthex of the church. The suggested donation is \$10.00 for a daily Mass and \$20.00 for a weekend Mass.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

If you or someone you know will be going through a life-threatening surgery in the near future, or is at an age where it is unclear how much more time God has planned for them to spend here on this Earth, please contact the office as soon as possible so that Fr. Szabo can hear their confession and anoint them.

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Mass Time	January 11 -12	January 18 - 19
5:00 p.m.	Sarah Casey	
8:00 a.m.	Dana Fox	Dana Fox
10:30 a.m.	Ashley Murphy	Lou Dent Smith
12:30 p.m.	Jesus Torres	Juanita Mata

MON 13	6:00 P.M.	No Mass
TUE 14	6:00 P.M.	Javier Nain Cadavid (D) by Linda Cadavid-Karcz
WED 15	6:00 P.M.	Therese Rhee (D) by Agnes Rhee
THU 16	6:00 P.M.	People of the Parish
FRI 17	8:30 A.M.	People of the Parish
SAT 18	12:00 P.M.	People of the Parish
	5:00 P.M.	People of the Parish
SUN 19	8:00 A.M.	Maddox Potter by Dana Fox
	10:30 A.M.	People of the Parish
	12:30 P.M.	Jackie Mata Lopez by Maria G. Lopes

WELCOME TO ST. AGNES!

If you are new to our area or parish & have not registered, we invite you to do so. You can find parish registration forms in the church narthex and online at <https://stagnescharlestonwv.org>. Paper forms can be dropped off at the parish office or place it in the mail.

FUNERAL PREPARATION

If you or a loved one is planning a funeral that will be held at St. Agnes or celebrated by Fr. Szabo, please contact the Parish Office before speaking to the Funeral Home. This will ensure that Fr. Szabo will be available and will make your meeting with the funeral home much easier.

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Agnes Parish, a Christian family located in Kanawha City, is a multi-generational community committed to Catholic spiritual and moral values. We Share the Gospel of Christ through the liturgical, charitable and social efforts as we endeavor to live out our baptismal call. All are welcome, especially visitors, guests and those new to the community.

Comunidad Hispana de Santa Inés

Dirección de envío
4807 Staunton Avenue
Charleston, WV 25304
Teléfono: 304-925-2836

OFICINA PARROQUIAL Y PERSONAL

Padre Phillip Szabo

Administrador..... pszabo@dwc.org

Mrs. Pat Fulcher

Secretaria..... stap1101char@dwc.org

Aaron Allred

Contador..... stap1101char@dwc.org

Rosemary Severn

Directora de Música..... ratkinson57@gmail.com

Email de Oficina: stap1101char@dwc.org

Website: www.stagnescharlestonwv.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stagnescharlestonwv

HORARIO REGULAR DE MISAS

LUNES	SIN MISA
MARTES	06:00P.M.
MIÉRCOLES	06:00P.M.
JUEVES	06:00P.M.
VIERNES	08:30A.M.
Sábado	12:00P.M. , 5:00 P.M. (Misa de Vigilia)
DOMINGO	08:00A.M., 10:30A.M.,AND 12:30P.M. (EN ESPAÑOL)

SACRAMENTO DE LA RECONCILIACIÓN

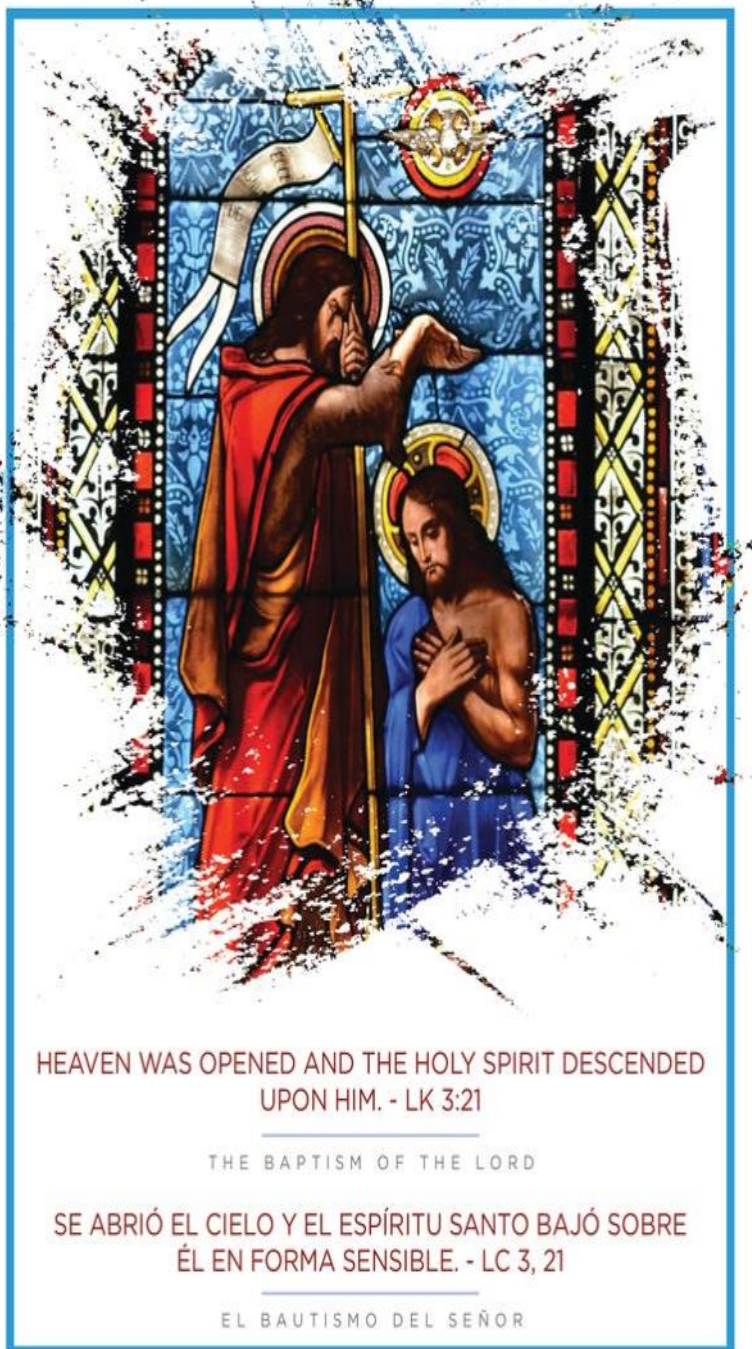
30 minutos antes de cada Misa Diaria,
Sábados de 3:30 P.M. a 4:30 P.M.
Jueves de 5:00 P.M. a 5:45 P.M.
o con cita previa.



ADORACION EUCARISTICA

Jueves a las 5:00pm-5:45pm,
antes de la Santa Misa a las
6:00pm

Miércoles después de la misa a
las 6:00 pm hasta 12:00 am



HEAVEN WAS OPENED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDED
UPON HIM. - LK 3:21

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

SE ABRIÓ EL CIELO Y EL ESPÍRITU SANTO BAJÓ SOBRE
ÉL EN FORMA SENSIBLE. - LC 3, 21

EL BAUTISMO DEL SEÑOR

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS (2002, 1988, 1970 EDITION) LECCIONARIO © 1987 COMISIÓN EPISCOPAL DE PASTORAL LITÚRGICA DE LA CONFERENCIA DEL EPISCOPADO MEXICANO (CELM)

MISIÓN PARROQUIAL

Nuestra Comunidad Hispana de Santa Inés, localizada en Kanawha City, es una familia multicultural comprometida a fomentar los valores espirituales y morales de nuestra fe Católica. Como bautizados, nos esforzamos a vivir el Evangelio de Cristo en nuestra liturgia y obras de caridad. Si quieres ser parte de nuestra familia, te invitamos a que nos acompañes a la Misa Dominical, la Hora Santa y a todas las actividades que tenemos durante el año.

¡Bienvenido a nuestra familia!

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

ATTENTION PARENTS WITH KIDS IN RELIGIOUS ED!

We are well into our Sacramental Formation classes for those intending to receive the Sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation in the Spring and it is time to make sure that we are all on the same page. First of all, we need reliable email addresses for every family to ensure that upcoming information will make it to each family in a timely manner. Please email Fr. Szabo at pszabo@dwc.org as soon as you can with 1) a reliable email address, 2) your name and the name(s) of your child/children involved, and 3) the Sacrament(s) they intend to receive. Once we double check our list to make sure that everyone is accounted for, we will reach out to you with more instructions. Also, don't delay! If we don't hear from you, we cannot guarantee that your child will be able to complete their Sacramental Formation this year. Thank you!

LADIES GUILD

Due to the snow weather we are currently experiencing, Ladies' Guild for Tuesday, January 14 has been cancelled. Any questions contact Ann (304-552 7434) or Pat (304-382-5311).

SAINT AGNES DAY

We will celebrate the feast of St. Agnes on Tuesday, January 21st during the 6:00pm Mass. A pot luck will follow at 7:00pm in the school gym. The Church will provide the main dish of barbeque. Sign up sheets are in the main narthex to get a head count for the food. If you can bring a side dish (cornbread, salad, beans, dessert), you can list it when you sign up. If you can't provide a side dish, don't let that prevent you from coming.



Friday, January 24th!

Email Fr. Szabo at pszabo@dwc.org and ask him to send you more details and the registration link for this year's March 4 Life Trip!



Polar Plunge in Honor of Jesus' Baptism!

From ancient times, Eastern Rite as well as Orthodox Christians have gathered at a lake, a river, or even the sea to bless water during this time of year in commemoration of the Baptism of Jesus. Most Roman Catholics will simply attend Mass on this day like any other, but this year we are offering everyone a chance to celebrate this special season with a little more excitement! Join us on Sunday, January 26th at Susie Fox's dock (4908 Kanawa Ave. SE) at 3:00PM where we will bless the river and take a quick swim before enjoying some hot refreshments and lunch!



My Dear St. Agnes Family,

I have missed you all! I had a wonderful week with my family back in eastern WV, but I am glad to be back. I was very sad to miss sled riding with our St. Agnes youth during this magnificent snow storm, but I did have a blast skiing in it with my brother and sister. They had never been skiing before and I had not been skiing since the very first priestly discernment retreat that I attended almost ten years ago!

Although I spent most of my time home working, praying and relaxing with my family, I couldn't help checking in on how things were going at St. Agnes, especially because of bishop Brennan's recent letter, which I know has left some of you confused and/or upset. I am, therefore, dedicating this week's bulletin blurb to this topic in hopes that you will find it enlightening, encouraging, perhaps challenging, or at least a little interesting!

First of all, I must say that I am grateful for those of you who are praying and working to promote greater reverence in the Mass. There is no greater activity that we can participate in here on earth than the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and so it should be the activity that we treat with the greatest care and concern. We should all, myself included, constantly strive to participate more worthily at Mass both by our humility and attentiveness, as well as by our strict obedience to the instructions given to us by the Church. This is what it means to be Catholic after all. We believe that it is up to God to decide how He wants to be worshipped, not us!

Now, the particular issue at hand here has to do with Bishop Brennan's decision to reaffirm the more recent practice here in our diocese of standing during the entirety of the Communion Rite at Mass, all the way until after one has had the chance to receive Communion. Practically speaking, this means that Catholics in WV are no longer permitted to kneel after singing or reciting the "Lamb of God..." or "Agnus Dei..." but rather are to remain standing until they have the chance to receive Communion. In response to this decision, many in our state are wondering, "Is Bishop Brennan commanding us to be irreverent at Mass because he is telling to stand instead of kneel before the Eucharist?"

It is worth noting right away that this is an excellent question, and one that indicates a keen awareness of the structure of the Mass itself. In the rules for the celebration of the Mass, found in a text known as the "General Instruction of the Roman Missal," it says, "The faithful kneel after the Agnus Dei..." (GIRM #43). However, there is more that needs to be examined here and we will do it by breaking down this question into three parts. 1) Does Bishop Brennan have the authority to command us to stand after the Lamb of God? 2) Is standing an objectively irreverent gesture to maintain after the Lamb of God? And finally, 3) Was this the proper time for Bishop Brennan to have made a decision such as this?

First of all, does Bishop Brennan have the authority to command us to stand after the Lamb of God? As tough as this may be to read, he clearly does have this authority. As we saw earlier, the GIRM states that "The faithful kneel after the Agnus Dei...", "but you may have noticed the three dots at the end of that sentence. Here is the sentence in its entirety, "The faithful kneel after the Agnus Dei unless the diocesan bishop determines otherwise (GIRM #43). Therefore, while our bishop does not have the authority to command us to stand when we receive Communion or to remain standing after we have received Communion, Holy Mother Church, speaking with the voice of Jesus Himself, has given bishops the authority to choose whether their people stand or kneel after the Lamb of God. Bishop Brennan, therefore, was operating well within his rights as our bishop when he decided that we would all remain standing after the Lamb of God, and he also shared this decision with us in no uncertain terms when he wrote, "I ask you, the Catholic faithful and the priests and deacons serving in this Diocese, to receive with sincere obedience my affirmation of a good Bishop's decision on this matter."

Secondly, is standing an objectively irreverent gesture to maintain after the Lamb of God? Although the norm in the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church is to kneel during this period, the Church has given bishops the authority to choose another posture for their people to maintain during this period of the Mass, which means that kneeling is not the only reverent option available. Standing, although it does certainly feel less reverent at times, is not objectively irreverent. Consider for example, the fact that we are standing in front of our Eucharistic Lord for most of the Communion Rite already. All during the Our Father, the Sign of Peace, and the singing of the Lamb of God, we stand as the Church tells us to, and then we stand up to walk in procession towards our Lord when it is time for us to receive Communion. Although it would be a beautiful thing if we were all on our knees for the entirety of the Mass, and then crawled up to receive Jesus, the fact is that the Church commands us to stand at these times and it is actually our obedience to this command that makes our hearts worthy of our Lord rather than any particular posture that we assume with our bodies. Ironically, many who leave the Roman Rite of the Church in search of more reverent liturgy have found themselves in the Byzantine Rite where standing up is the primary posture of adoration!

Third, and last of all, was last week the best time for Bishop Brennan to render his decision to reaffirm the practice of standing together after the Lamb of God? Our own experience of Mass seems to be the answer to this question. After we sing or recite the Lamb of God at St. Agnes, many people would kneel, most would stand, and some would squat half-way down and then look around with a confused expression on their face. Frankly, it was awkward, and something

needed to be done by someone who has the authority to do it.

The timeliness of this decision may be difficult to understand for those in our community who were already firm in their decision to stand or kneel. However, we must consider the experience of those who had not made up their minds personally because they just wanted to know and follow what the Church wants us to do. Again, we are Catholics. We don't worship God however and whenever we feel like it. All of us follow the same instructions and find great peace in the harmony that it brings to our worship. So, when Catholics find themselves surrounded by people who are doing strikingly different things, it is awkward, and rightly so! Many in our own parish have found themselves between a rock and a hard place right at that time when it is most important for us to prepare our hearts for Communion. Although I would have certainly preferred that we return to the more traditional practice of kneeling after the Lamb of God, I am still glad that we have at least received a clear and authoritative command that, through our humble obedience, will bring us back into unity during this most precious time of the Mass. Although this is difficult, I must share this with you as your priest because I do not want you to miss out on the tremendous grace that God will give to us all if we humbly submit to our bishop's decision on this matter.

In summary, although Bishop Brennan's decision to reaffirm the practice of standing after the Lamb of God does depart from the more common and traditional practice in the Roman Rite, it is nonetheless a decision that we must accept and obey with the same humble obedience that we give to Jesus Christ Himself. The reasons for this are, 1) Bishop Brennan has the authority to make this command, 2) standing is not objectively irreverent posture to assume during this part of the Mass, and 3) this is a timely answer to an issue that was disturbing the peace of many people right before Communion. Despite what we may think or feel personally, our obedience to this command will be the greatest way for us to restore reverence to the liturgy and prepare our hearts to receive our Lord worthily in Communion.

Please do remember, however, that every diocese that borders WV maintains the traditional posture of kneeling after the Lamb of God. So, if you see folks kneeling around you at St. Agnes, don't worry and definitely don't bother them! Just assume they are visitors and keep your eyes on Jesus!

So, if you were confused about Bishop Brennan's recent letter, I hope that this helps clarify things a little, or at least gives you some better questions to ask. If you were upset about his letter, then I hope that this has encouraged you and/or challenged you to more fully embrace the virtue of obedience to Jesus even when He gives us difficult directions to follow. And, if you really weren't bothered at all by the bishop's letter, I hope that this was at least an interesting reflection on the Mass, the authority of the bishop, and the role of Christian obedience.

Last of all, remember that Catholics are still free to receive Communion kneeling! Not only is this the right of every Catholic in good standing with the Church, but Bishop Brennan also reiterated this in his letter saying, "...no one will be denied the Eucharist who chooses to kneel (GIRM #160)." Although our faith demands that we now stand together after the Lamb of God, I encourage you to prayerfully consider kneeling for Communion and receiving our Lord on your tongue, especially if you have never seriously considered this before.

May God bless you all, and please know that I would be very glad to discuss this matter further with you if you would like!

Fr. Szabo

IT'S SNOWING! SHOULD I COME TO MASS?

Please remember that, if the road conditions ever make driving an unreasonable risk to your life, then your obligation to attend Mass is automatically dispensed. Of course, what is "unsafe" for one person may be considered "safe" for another depending on various conditions. Just ask yourself, "Would I go to a restaurant, the grocery store, or my doctor's appointment in this weather?" If you would, then come to Mass. If not, then stay home and watch it on EWTN!

MARCH FOR LIFE 2024

Join us for a great adventure to D.C. on Friday, Jan. 24th where we will join thousands of other people who choose to show their love and support of unborn children and their mothers by peacefully marching through the streets of our nation's capital. Email Fr. Szabo at pszabo@dwc.org and ask him to send you more information as well as the link to sign up!

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

To report suspected cases of child sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888 434-2637 or 30) 233-0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304 230-1504.

ST. AGNES MINISTRIES

Family Ministries

FAMILY ADORATION

Family Adoration is held at St. Agnes every First Saturday from 10:00AM until 10:30AM. This period of Adoration directed specifically towards the youngest members of our community. Interested families can join us anytime or contact Aisling Whelan at aislingterese@gmail.com for more information.

FRIDAY FAMILY PLAY DATE

Families with young children are invited to gather after Daily Mass on Fridays. Come & enjoy fellowship with other Catholic parents while the kids play!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

We have an extended period of Adoration on Wednesdays following the 6:00PM Mass & continuing until 12:00AM midnight. We are still looking for more people to commit to at least one 30-minute slot each week to ensure that Our Lord is always accompanied by at least one person. Please prayerfully consider signing up in the vestibule!

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

A Montessori approach to Catholic catechesis which is shaped to the needs of children 3-6 years old. If you have a child who will be between the ages of 3 & 6 in January, and you are interested in enrolling them in our CGS program, please email our catechist Terese Aisling at aislingterese@gmail.com, so we can build a class list.

Men's Ministry

MONTHLY MENS NIGHT

St. Agnes offers a monthly gathering for men who are 21 years or older on the last Saturday of each month. This is a time of fellowship, discussion, and prayer for men who are ready to grow closer to God and one another. This month's gathering: Saturday, January 25th at 6:30PM. Email Fr. Szabo for more info.

Young Adult Ministry



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays right after 6:00pm Mass in the St. Agnes Parish Office. Dinner is provided! If you are a young adult (at least 18+) and interested in this Bible Study, just show up or scan the QR code for more information!

The Sacraments

WEDDING PREPARATION

Marriage is a wonderful Sacrament that we here at St. Agnes are happy to help you prepare for. Please contact the Parish Office at least 6 months before your scheduled wedding date so that we will have enough time to complete the preparation and paperwork.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you or a loved one is preparing for serious surgery, undergoing a life-threatening illness, or getting to the age where you are not sure how much more time God has for you on this Earth, contact the parish office to arrange a time when Fr. Szabo can celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

1ST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION & OCIA

Sacramental preparation for First Communion & Confirmation, as well as OCIA, continues Sundays 9:15am-10:15am. First Communion meets in the gathering room through the left door of the church. Confirmation & OCIA are meeting in the Church office.

Social Outreach

COMMON GROUNDS

If you would like to volunteer or donate, drop by Common Grounds Food Pantry at 6600 MacCorkle Ave., on Tues. or Thurs. 10:00am - 2:00pm. A basket is in the Church narthex for food donations. For more information: call (304) 720-9690 or (304) 552-5286.

Vocations

JOIN THE SERRA CLUB OF CHARLESTON!

Serra International is a global lay apostolate for vocations in the Catholic Church. The Charleston Club is growing & welcomes new members for its important mission of prayer & work for the Church. For more information: contact Mark Sadd at (304) 345-2000 ext/1101 or msadd@lewisglasser.com.

Women's Ministry

LADIES GUILD

All women of the parish are invited to Ladies' Guild. We usually meet the second Tuesday of the month. To play an optional game, please bring a \$5-\$10 wrapped/bagged gift. RSVP or questions: Ann (304-552 7434) or Pat (304-382-5311) We will not be meeting 1/14. Our next meeting will be 2/10.

DIOCESAN COMMUNICATION

Contacting Father for Emergencies



I would like everyone in the parish to be able to get ahold of me day or night in the event that you or someone you know experience a family emergency and need me for any reason. At your earliest convenience, please email me and I will send you my cellphone number so you can have it handy. God bless you all!



PO Box 11687 Charleston, WV 25339
304-346-9779 • reception.womhc@aol.com

Woman's Choice Pregnancy Resource Center is a pro-life organization which has been helping women and families since 1977.

Our FREE services include:

- Pregnancy Tests
- Limited Ultrasounds
- Parenting Classes
- Registered Nurse Counseling
- Community Resource Referrals
- Maternity Clothing and Supplies
- "Kids' Kloset" (diapers, wipes, clothing, & baby essentials)



Find us on

Volunteers needed! Give us a call!



205 Merchants walk sh.
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Fax: (304) 965-6496

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