



# Saint Agnes

CATHOLIC CHURCH



December 10, 2023

Rev. Rayappa Konka  
Pastor

Susan Flohr  
Pastoral Minister

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 pm  
Sunday: 8:00 & 10:00 am  
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri  
7:00 am  
Wed 8:15am

Advent Communal  
Reconciliation Service

Will be today, Sunday,  
December 10th at 3:00 pm  
The Examination of  
Conscience can be found on  
page 5

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*A VOICE OF ONE CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT:*

*"PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD,*

*MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.*

*EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED*

*AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW."*

—LUKE 3:4-5



2314 Third Avenue, Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69361

(308)632-2541 Fax: (308)632-2146

Mailing address: PO Box 349, Scottsbluff, NE 69363-0349

Website: [www.st-agnes-church.com](http://www.st-agnes-church.com)

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9am-Noon & 1pm - 4pm

# Saint Agnes Catholic Church

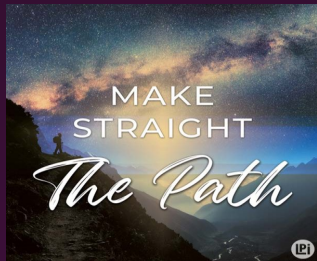
## Today's Readings

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Psalm: 85

2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8



### Parish Administration

(308) 632-2541 / (308) 632-2146 (Fax)  
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www.st-agnes-church.com

### Pastor

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### Church Office Manager

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### Pastoral Minister

Susan Flohr

### Director of Religious Education

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dre@st-agnes-church.com

### School Head Teacher

Mrs. Julie Brown (632-6918)  
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### School Office Manager

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### School Foundation

### Executive Director

Isabel Moreno (632-6918)  
imoreno@st-agnes-school.com

### Prayer Chain Coordinator

Jean Ahrens (308-672-4632)

### Music Ministry Director

Jessica Mikoloyck (308-631-6290)  
jes.mikoloyck@gmail.com

## The Second Sunday of Advent

### The World Is Pregnant

There is a character, Rose of Sharon, in John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* who is pregnant with her first child. As her impoverished family migrates from their native Oklahoma to California, Rose of Sharon's all-consuming preoccupation is her unborn child. Everything she eats, every drink she lets pass her lips, every action she takes — none of it is done without thought for the child that is still so small as to make his mother's expectancy barely discernible to the naked eye.

"For Rose of Sharon was pregnant," wrote Steinbeck. "And the world was pregnant to her."

It is the same for us Christians in the Advent season. We can feel a change coming, and the hope of this change consumes us. It shapes our actions and our plans, we feel it in our hearts and in our souls and in our limbs. From the food we eat to the clothing we wear to the words we use, the unseen Child lives and breathes and works in every small part of this blessed season.

Even the commercial clamor that is the secular "Christmas holiday" cannot fully distract us from the holy sense of anticipation we have. We are baptized, and so it is inside of us, this voice that cries out in the desert. When we hear it, we cannot help but listen.

The Virgin is pregnant, and the world is pregnant to us.

"We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." — 2 Peter 3:13

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS - By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## This Week's Schedule

### Monday, December 11, 2023

Daily Mass (7:00am)  
Intention: † Fr. Donald J. O'Brien & Family  
by The Diocese of Grand Island  
Communal Rosary (4:45pm)  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm)

### Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Daily Mass (7:00am)  
Intention: †Richard D. Hafer by Rod & Ellen  
Ramig  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm)

### Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Daily Mass (8:15am)  
Intention: Pro-Populo  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm)  
Contemplative Prayer (6:00pm)

### Thursday, December 14, 2023

Daily Mass (7:00am)  
Intention: Wilma Kirchner by The Kirchner  
Family  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15pm)

### Friday, December 15, 2023

Daily Mass (7:00am)  
Intention: Special Intention by The  
Heumesser Family  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15pm)

### Saturday, December 16, 2023

Weekend Mass (5:00pm)  
Intention: For Our Parish

### Sunday, December 17, 2023

Weekend Mass (8:00am)  
Intention: †Rita Brown by Pete, Joel &  
Justin  
Weekend Mass (10:00am)  
Intention: Lee Tschacher by Lynda  
Montague

## December Schedule

### Advent Communal Reconciliation Services

December 10th- 3:00pm  
St. Agnes Church

December 10th - 6pm  
Christ the King Church

### Individual Reconciliation

Thursday, Dec 21st - 6pm-7pm

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### Mass Times

Saturday, Dec 23rd - 5pm

Sunday, Dec 24th - 9am

### Holy Days of Obligation

#### Mass Schedule

#### Christmas Eve

4pm & 8pm

#### Christmas Day

9am

New Year's Eve 8am & 10am

New Year's Day 9am

(\*No 7am daily mass\*)

## Server Schedule

Dec 16 5pm Grant Celli  
Morgan Celli  
Dec 17 8am Carson Windhorst  
Andrew Peck  
10:00am Alyck Rodriguez  
Logan Zulkoski

## Lector Schedule

Dec 16 5pm Steve Viessman  
Dec 17 8am David Nash  
10:00am Mark Loose

## Rosary Leader Schedule

Dec 16 5pm Diana Rohrick  
Dec 17 8am Addison Peck  
10:00am Jackie Seymour

## This Week's Readings



Monday Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26  
Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13: 18 bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47  
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30  
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15  
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19  
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-1  
Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## Finance Corner

### Sunday Collections & ATW Giving

#### December 2023 Totals

Actual	\$5962.51
ATW	\$3495.00
Online Giving	\$770.50
Budget	\$10000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$228.01
Christmas Flowers	\$1499.00

Next Sunday's 2nd collection is for Haiti/Uganda

Thank you for your continued giving!

## Young at Heart

Parishioners 55ish and older are invited to the Young at Heart Potluck luncheon on Tuesday, December 19st at noon in the St. Agnes Church Garden Room. Please bring a dish to share and join your church family friends for good food, fellowship.



## VCNIN CHRISTMAS SHARING PROGRAM

Since 1983 Valley Christian Neighbors in Need (VCNIN) has coordinated a Christmas Sharing Program every year for families in need in the Panhandle. This program provides food and gifts through an application process with Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska (CAPWN) and in collaboration with Knights of Columbus Council 2681 "Toys for Tots" and First State Bank's "Gift of Love" programs. Volunteer opportunities abound in order to make this program successful!

*Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works. James 2:18*

**November 2 – December 31:** Coats 4 Kids @ Riverstone Bank, Scottsbluff & Gering. Collecting new or gently used coats to be given to CAPWN for distribution.

**December 12 – 14:** Gift wrapping @ Knights of Columbus Hall, 1719 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Scottsbluff. Open to the public, bring a pair of scissors and practice your wrapping skills. All the unwrapped gifts collected must be wrapped before delivery. Show up any time after 5 p.m. and stay as long as you can.

**Saturday, December 16, 9 a.m. :** Gift basket sorting @ St. Agnes School Gym.

**Sunday, December 17, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. :** Gift Basket Drive Thru @ St. Agnes School Gym. Volunteers needed to distribute food baskets, toys, and bikes to recipients of the Christmas Sharing Program.





## The Liturgy Corner

### **An Advent book to begin your Advent Season!**

*Beautiful Eucharist* is an invitation to encounter the life-giving presence of Jesus in the Eucharist so you can be a life-giving presence in the world.

Nothing will transform your life quite like a personal encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist. When we encounter Jesus, he changes us in powerful and unexpected ways. He heals us, brings us peace and clarity, models how to relate with others, and teaches us the lessons we need to learn to navigate the everyday situations of our lives. In the Eucharist we meet with the same Jesus who healed the blind, forgave sins, and rose from the dead. Are you ready to discover how he can transform your life too?

*Beautiful Eucharist* is a stunning collection of life-changing reflections about Jesus truly present in the Eucharist and wonderfully present in our lives.

The world needs the healing and hope only Jesus can provide. He is waiting in the Eucharist to transform families, Churches, communities, and the culture as a whole. And all of that begins with your own life-changing encounter with him today.

*Beautiful Eucharist* is an invitation to encounter the life-giving presence of Jesus in the Eucharist so you can be a life-giving presence in the world.

Please pick up your copy this weekend in the St. Agnes Gathering Space!



### [St. Agnes Church Pew Renovation Project](#)

The original pews at St. Agnes Church are in need of some attention. As a result, the pews have been beautifully recovered by Doug's Upholstery, a local business. In addition, new hymnal pocket racks have been installed. Further work is to be completed on supporting the middle brace of the pews, fixing kneelers and stabilizing backs. This work is being completed by another local business—Cowan's Custom Cabinetry. And lastly, the Music Ministry would like to order new Gather Music Books to replace our ageing Gather Books. The new Gather books are larger than the current volumes, thus the reason for replacing the Hymnal pockets.

- Total Estimated Cost of the entire project is \$45,000.
- Gracious Donations of \$20,000 have been received from:
  - The Church Foundation
  - The Altar Society
  - The Knights of Columbus
  - Memorials from Theresa Rezac
- Funds to finish the project: \$25,000 - which includes the final payments for Upholstery, Cowen's Custom Woodworking and purchasing the Gather Books. (Which will cost approximately \$4500.00)



Please consider donating to this project. The donation can be placed in an envelope with this form with "Pew Renovation Project" written on it. You may place your envelope in the collection or leave it at the Parish Office. Your donation to this entire project will also be recognized in the new hymnals. We greatly appreciate your donation!!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Name in Hymnal? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

# A Brief Examination of Conscience

## Based on the Ten Commandments

**I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.**

Have I treated people, events, or things as more important than God?

**You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.**

Have my words, actively or passively, put down God, the Church, or people?

**Remember to keep holy the LORD's Day.**

Do I go to Mass every Sunday (or Saturday Vigil) and on Holy Days of Obligation (Jan. 1; the Ascension; Aug. 15; Nov. 1; Dec. 8; Dec. 25)? Do I avoid, when possible, work that impedes worship to God, joy for the Lord's Day, and proper relaxation of mind and body? Do I look for ways to spend time with family or in service on Sunday?

**Honor your father and your mother.**

Do I show my parents due respect? Do I seek to maintain good communication with my parents where possible? Do I criticize them for lacking skills I think they should have?

**You shall not kill.**

Have I harmed another through physical, verbal, or emotional means, including gossip or manipulation of any kind?

**You shall not commit adultery.**

Have I respected the physical and sexual dignity of others and of myself?

**You shall not steal.**

Have I taken or wasted time or resources that belonged to another?

**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

Have I gossiped, told lies, or embellished stories at the expense of another?

**You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse.**

Have I honored my spouse with my full affection and exclusive love?

**You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.**

Am I content with my own means and needs, or do I compare myself to others unnecessarily?

**Christ's Two Commandments**

How well do we love God and others? Do we love as Christ calls us to? In the Gospel of Matthew, Christ gives us Two Commandments: "He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments'" (Mt 22:37-40).

Not sure what love is? St. Paul describes it for us in his Letter to the Corinthians. Is this how you love God and others? "Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails" (1 Cor 13:4-8).



## Knights of Columbus

Members of the Student Council from St. Agnes Catholic School helped to organized new and used toys for the Knights of Columbus "Toys for Tots" project. The best part was the kids had fun while helping with the project. Special thanks to Mrs. Brown and the parents who supported us with this project.



### Upcoming Important Schedule for Toys for Toys – K of C.

December 9<sup>th</sup>, Saturday – 10 am – Setup Knights of Columbus Hall.

December 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday – 10 am – Pull toys for the kid's gifts.

December 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday to Thursday)– 5 pm Gift Wrapping (This is the best part).

The Knights of Columbus has partnered with the Scotts Bluff Country Club who were able to collect 300+ lbs. of canned goods from their "Food Drive" Initiatives from their club members! We will add these collected goods and give them out to VCIN which will be distributed on December 17th to the families in need in our local community!

We had another successful **Monthly Breakfast Buffet** with a total of 149 patrons. What a great turn out! Thank you for your continuous support of our Knights of Columbus projects! Special thanks to all the helpers today, especially the St Agnes Catholic School kids! "Many hands make light work"!

### Knights of Columbus in Action!

Scottsbluff K of C members provided and served food to the people in need in our local community. This is a council's monthly project.



## Religious Education Program

Email—[dre@st-agnes-church.com](mailto:dre@st-agnes-church.com)

Religious Education Office—308-635-1362

Celebrating Sunday  
Second Sunday of Advent  
**Gospel:** *Mark 11-5, 7-8*

### ***On the Way to Mass:***

To prepare means to make something ready. What could it mean to “Prepare the way of Lord”?

### ***On the Way Home From Mass:***

“I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” What does your baptism have to do with your task of preparing the way of the Lord?

### ***Living the Word:***

John the Baptist prepared the way for the coming of the Messiah. How can we prepare our hearts and our homes for the coming of Jesus? At this time of year, many families are putting up decorations to prepare for Christmas. Take some time to pray together and bless your Christmas tree or Nativity scene. You can bless your tree using a simple prayer service like the one found here: [www.usccb.org/prayers/blessings-christmas-tree](http://www.usccb.org/prayers/blessings-christmas-tree).

*Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families  
2023-2024*

### ***Find Us On***



**Parish Website**

[www.st-agnes-church.com](http://www.st-agnes-church.com)

**myParish App**

*In the App Store on your phone or tablet*

*Facebook*

## Meet the Confirmation Candidates



**Henry Blanco**

My name is Henry Blanco. My parents name's are Angie and Jason Blanco. I have 3 siblings named, Mia, Isaac, and Elena. I'm an eighth grader currently attending Bluffs Middle School. I do some sports including football, baseball, wrestling, and track.

Some of my goals for Confirmation is to grow closer to God. After I receive Confirmation I hope to volunteer and help to do church related things. I also would volunteer to help do stuff at church and grow close to God.

*Photo by Sunnyfreckles Photography*

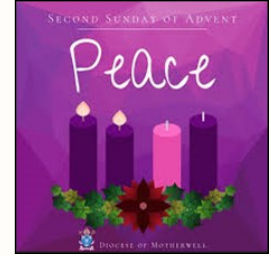


### **Communal Penance Service**

**Sunday**

**December 10th - 3:00 PM  
St. Agnes Church**

## Family Advent Calendar



### ***Sunday, December 10th***

#### **Second Sunday of Advent**

Light two violet candles nightly this week. Sing “O Come, O come Emmanuel.”

### ***Monday, December 11th***

Call or email your parish office and ask how your family can help with upcoming preparations for Christmas.

### ***Tuesday, December 12th***

#### **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Put a vase of flowers before a stature of Mary and sing “Hail, Holy Queen” to celebrate.

### ***Wednesday, December 13th***

At dinner, ask each person to share one way God blessed him or her that day.

### ***Thursday, December 14th***

Before bedtime, perform an examination of conscience using the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-11)

### ***Friday, December 15th***

Contact Catholic Relief Services (877-HELP- CRS or [www.catholicrelief.org](http://www.catholicrelief.org)). Ask how you can help.

### ***Saturday, December 16th***

Seek God’s mercy in Confession as a family to greet the Savior with clean souls.



# THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

## Week of December 10, 2023



### The Spirituality of Advent

Dr. Tim Gray discusses the spirituality of Advent and the joy of waiting for Christ.



### Our Lady of Guadalupe | Littlest Saints

A boy, his sneakers, and a giant sombrero take up the story of St. Juan Diego's miraculous encounter with the Blessed Virgin Mary. How far will Our Lady ask him to reach out in faith, trust, and confidence?



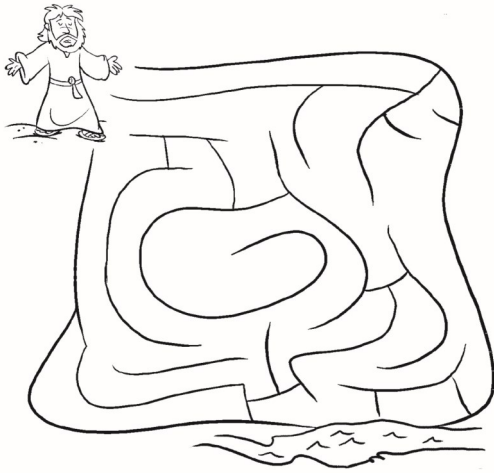
### Yakhal/Hope | Advent: Word Studies | The Bible Project

In the Bible people who have hope are very different from optimists! In this video, we'll explore how biblical hope looks to God's character alone as a basis for trusting that the future will be better than the present.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

**PUZZLE**

Help John the Baptist find his way to the Jordan River.



**MISSION**

Every day I will tell God that I am sorry for my sins.

**PUZZLE**

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

Mary	Judea	baby
town	home	Spirit
country	Elizabeth	blessed

- Myra    M a r y
- belssde    \_\_\_\_\_
- Ezilabeht    \_\_\_\_\_
- cuntory    \_\_\_\_\_
- byba    \_\_\_\_\_
- tnow    \_\_\_\_\_
- hemo    \_\_\_\_\_
- Siptir    \_\_\_\_\_
- Jedua    \_\_\_\_\_

**MISSION**

Say a special prayer for missionary families. People all around the world need Jesus.





Connecting Students and Families through Faith  
December 10, 2023



## Upcoming Events

### Tuesday, December 12th

Advent Celebration - 8:15 3rd Gr. leads

### Wednesday, December 13th

Mass @ 8:15

K Polar Express Day

3rd & 5th wrap toys for

Knights of Columbus

### Thursday, December 14th

Advent Celebration - 8:15 1st Gr. Leads

### Friday, December 15th

Grinch Day

### Saturday, December 16th

Singspirations perform at

Legacy of the Plains - 4:30



## November Virtuous Students



Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, marked the day for honoring the November golden rule winners and the virtuous students of the month. Over 100 golden rules were awarded for good deeds done during the month. Tristan Hoelsing(5<sup>th</sup>), Wyatt Visage(4<sup>th</sup>), Bryn Calvert(K) and Matilda Kosman (4<sup>th</sup>) were recognized as the Virtuous students of the month. Grand Knight, John Songco, and Knight member, Chris Calvert, were on hand to present the students with their certificates and a rosary.

St. Agnes Catholic School  
205 E 23rd, Scottsbluff, NE  
Ph: 308-632-6918



# Classroom News.....

## Leader in Me Students of the Month

Put 1<sup>st</sup> Things 1<sup>st</sup> was the Leader in Me habit for the month of November. Students who understand and implement this habit know that important things like work come before socializing and playing. They work to stay focused and complete work in a timely fashion. They keep their priorities straight. Students recognized include:

Rachel Schiff (PK), Bryn Calvert(K), Arabella Gurrola (1<sup>st</sup>), Rose Schiff (2<sup>nd</sup>), Lewis Merrigan(3<sup>rd</sup>), Carson Windhorst(4<sup>th</sup>), and Rheanne Owens(5<sup>th</sup>).



## Service for Others:

St. Agnes Student Council has committed to preparing their hearts for Christ's coming by participating in a number of service projects during the month of December. The students cleaned toys at the Knights of Columbus, rang bells for the Salvation Army, served at the Guadalupe soup kitchen, sorted food for VCNIN group and will wrap gifts for the Knight's toy distribution. The students love the opportunity to help when help is needed. Their hearts are full this advent season as they make a difference for others.



## Congratulations to Mrs. Calvert

After 4 years of very hard work, Mrs. Meghan Calvert will graduate from UNK during the winter commencement exercises to be held on December 14<sup>th</sup>. She will receive an Early Childhood Inclusive degree and graduate with honors. We are extremely proud of her as she attended school full-time while working and raising 3 kids. Quite a feat! Way to go Mrs. Calvert! We are proud of you!



## Change of Lunch Vendor

After 13 years of amazing meals and service provided by the Meat Shoppe, our contract will end with them effective December 20<sup>th</sup>. Owners Rick & Judy Keller will be moving into retirement beginning December 31<sup>st</sup>. We are so grateful to them for their wonderful service all these years and wish them the very best in the years to come.

We are excited to announce a new contract has been signed with the Hampton Inn who will begin providing our hot lunch services upon our return from Christmas vacation on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Hot Lunch Menu for December 11th, 2023 - December 15th, 2023

<u>Monday, Dec 11</u>	<u>Tuesday, Dec 12</u>	<u>Wednesday, Dec 13</u>	<u>Thursday, Dec 14</u>	<u>Friday, Dec 15</u>
Pancakes Scrambled Eggs w/red pepper Spinach Potato Triangle Apricots	Chicken Pot Pie w/ potatoes, vegetables Biscuits Peaches Cookie	<b>NO HOT LUNCH BRING A SACK LUNCH</b>	Grilled Cheese Sandwich Fresh Chips Tomato Soup Pears	Tacos w/salsa Lettuce, Cheese Black Beans & Corn Carrots w/ranch Fruit
<b>Helpers:</b> Jordan McBride Kelce McBride	<b>Helpers:</b> Toni Warburton Kelly Beeber	<b>Helpers:</b> Kika Kelly Beeber	<b>Helpers:</b> Veronica Ramirez Tiah Alvizar	<b>Helpers:</b> Jordan Colwell Kristen Bauer



# What's Happening at St. Agnes School.....



## Kindergarten Class By Teri Ramirez



The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!!!

As we move into a new month, we celebrate ourselves as well as our children. Together, we have helped our children progress a little further. It always amazes me how much the students learn within a few months. I am very proud of my students progress, and can't wait to see the end results come May.

December is such a short month for us, but it seems like it's the busiest month because there are so many activities going on in kindergarten.

Over the past week we have been traveling around the world exploring how other children celebrate Christmas. We will start off with some of our own traditions, and then jet off to Mexico, Sweden, Germany, England and Italy. We will end our journey as we travel to the North Pole.

The kindergarten students will also be performing The Nativity play for their parents and the entire school, so we have been practicing for that special event. They are so excited!

From the entire kindergarten class, we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!!



## Fourth Grade Class By Kristie Becker



Fourth grade has been preparing for Christ in this Advent season. We have been enjoying following an Advent directed draw on Formed. Each week, students have watched a video and followed along on various events leading up to the birth of Jesus. We also made a collaborative Advent poster to display in the hall and have been learning the meaning of the Advent wreath and candles and what they symbolize. We were also the first class to present at the school- wide Advent celebrations.



We are almost coming to the end of our science unit on Human Uses of Energy. Students even made windmills that show how wind energy is formed and used. They learned new forms of energy called biomass and geothermal energy.

We have finished 5 units in math and are really loving this math curriculum! Students enjoy the fun hands-on activities, like games, that help them review their new concepts. We recently talked about patterns, the relationship between patterns, and extending patterns.

One thing the students really look forward to is art with Marilyn Ramig. We appreciate her coming in to teach art! They recently created a drawing of a Christmas window scene.

I want to wish everyone Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

