

Rev. Rayappa Konka Pastor Susan Flohr Pastoral Minister

<u>Mass Schedule:</u> Saturday: 5:00 pm Sunday: 8:00 & 10:00 am

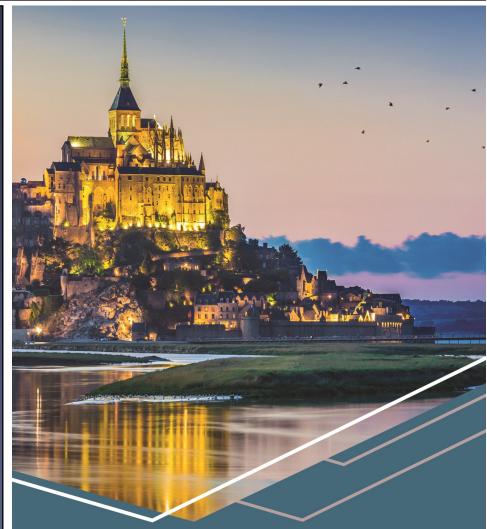
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 7:00 am Wed 8:15am

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays one hour prior to Mass or by appointment (632-2541)

Sacrament of Baptism Please call the Parish Office

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





5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

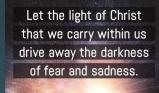
"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden." - Mt 5:14

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

Saint Agnes Catholic Church

Today's Readings

lsaiah 58:7-10 Psalm:112 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Matthew 5:13-16



Parish Administration (308) 632-2541 / (308) 632-2146 (Fax) office@st-agnes-church.com www.st-agnes-church.com

<u>Pastor</u>

Rev. Rayappa Konka (ext. 2) fatherkonka@st-agnes-church.com

<u>Church Office Manager</u> Theresa Trevino (ext. 3) office@st-agnes-church.com

<u>Pastoral Minister</u> Susan Flohr

pastoralcare@st-agnes-church.com Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Terri Calvert (ext.5)

dre@st-agnes-church.com

<u>School Head Teacher</u> Mrs. Julie Brown (632-6918) office@st-agnes-school.com

<u>School Office Manager</u>

Teresa Johnson (632-6918) office@st-agnes-school.com

Prayer Chain Coordinator

Jean Ahrens (308-672-4632) Music Ministry Director

Jessica Mikoloyck (308-631-6290) musicministry@st-agnes-church.com The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Everyday Stewardship

I recently watched the film adaptation of "Godspell" with my teenage daughter. I had such fond memories of watching it when I was young, back in the day. I listened to the soundtrack so many times and learned to play many of the songs on my guitar. The exclamation from the show, "You are the light of the world!" has always been firmly planted in my mind.

After about ten minutes, my daughter looked at me with that look only a teenage girl can display. "What is this?" she asked with a certain level of condescension. Yes, the film did not hold up so well in the eyes of the twenty-first-century critic. So we laughed most of the way through it.

What attracted me to the film and the soundtrack in the first place wasn't Jesus in a Superman shirt or the idea of the apostles wondering around the urban jungle. I was attracted to the message. I was attracted to that assertion in the song, "You are the light of the world."

There will always be people who see the Gospel of Jesus Christ as dated, irrelevant, and even hokey. You and I are called to be the light of the world? Good stewards must never shy away from living lives that truly bear witness to the reality of the Gospel. The parables of Jesus have as much meaning for us today as ever. Look around. The world we live in needs a little light for sure.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

© Liturgical Publications Inc

This Week's Schedule

Monday, February 6, 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, February 7, 2023 Daily Mass (7:00am) Intention: †Rick Hilzer by Deb Hilzer & Family Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm) Wednesday, February 8, 2023 Daily Mass (8:15am) Intention: The Hoesing Family by The Schiff Family Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm) Contemplative Prayer (6:00pm)

Thursday, February 9, 2023 Daily Mass (7:00am) Intention: Danny & Stella Lopez 50th Anniversary by Stan & Jeanie Kramer Liturgy of the Hours (5:15pm) Friday, February 10, 2023

Daily Mass (7:00am) Intention: †Wilma Kirchner by The Family of Wilma Liturgy of the Hours (5:15pm) Saturday, February 11, 2023

Weekend Mass (5:00pm) Intention: Caroline Guzman by Tara Longoria, Steven & Jonah Klaas **Sunday, February 12, 2023** Weekend Mass (8:00am) Intention: For Our Parish Weekend Mass (10:00am) Intention: †John Kissack Sr. & †John Kissack II by Marjorie Kissack

PAGE 2

YEAR A FEBRUARY 5, 2023

This Week's Readings Welcome Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5 Monday: -6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c/Mk 6:53-56 Tuesday: Gn 1:20-2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 7:1-13 Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps Wednesday: 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30/Mk 7:14-23 Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mk 7:24-30 Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, Friday: 7/Mk 7:31-37 Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/Mk 8:1 -10 Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 (1b)/1

Registration nformation

34a, 37

Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37

or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-

St. Agnes School will be holding Pre-K and Kindergarten registration during the week of February 13-16 from 7:30-11:00 a.m. and 12:30-4:00 p.m. Students must be 4 years old by August 1 to enroll in PK and 5 years old by August 1 to enroll in Kindergarten. A state embossed birth certificate and proof of current immunizations are required for enrollment. Scholarship assistance is available for those who qualify. Students who may be interested in other grades may also register at this time. Openings are available at all grades.

Please contact Julie Brown, jbrown@st-agnes-school.com or 308-632-6918 ext. #3 with questions.

Server Schedule Feb 11 5pm Emma Saucedo Jonah Klaas Feb 12 8am **Kensington Suhr** Lucas Esselstein Audrey Podlesak 10:00am Tristan Calvert

Lector Schedule

Feb 11 5pm Feb 12 8am 10:00am

Phillip Kelly Jordan Colwell Shelley Corr

Rosary Leader Schedule

Feb 11 5pm Feb 12 8am 10:00am

Carmen Trevino Addison Peck

OPEN POSITION

The St. Agnes Catholic School Foundation is seeking an executive director to lead the foundation's fund development, public relations, and administrative matters; notably, the director chairs the foundation's annual Premiere gala fundraiser. A bachelor's degree or equivalent in fundraising, grant writing, special events management, or marketing background is preferred. Excellent oral and written communication, organization and time management, and computer skills (Microsoft Office) are required. The successful candidate will be self-motivated and able to work independently. This position is part-time with flexible scheduling. Compensation is commensurate with qualifications. The full job description can be found here: https://www.st-agnes-school.com/ foundation director Please submit cover letter and resume

or inquiries to foundation president Bridget Peck at btroxel311@yahoo.com by February 15.

Finance Corner

Sunday Collections & ATW Giving

January 29, 2023

\$2126.00
\$740.50
\$9000.00
\$6133.50

January 2023 Totals

Actual	\$19930.75
ATW	\$7405.00
Online Giving	
0	\$4647.30
Budget	\$45000.00
Surplus <mark>(Deficit)</mark>	\$13016.95

There is no 2nd collection for next week.

Thank you for your continued giving!

One Rose, One Life



For more than 30 years, the Knights of Columbus in Nebraska has sponsored an annual fundraising project known as One Rose, One Life. This project raises money for Pro-life activities and organizations within the state. Our second collection for the weekend of February 1th & 12th will be for One Rose, One Life. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you!



Young at Heart

Parishioners 55ish and older are invited to the Young at Heart Potluck luncheon on Tuesday, February 21st 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.





DIOCESE OF GRAND ISLAND

2708 Old Fair Road ~ Grand Island, NE 68803 308-382-6565 • E-mail: gibishop8@gidiocese.org

To: The Faithful in the Diocese of Grand Island
From: Bishop Joseph G. Hanefeldt
Date: January 15, 2023
Re: Becoming disciples who are transformed by grace for mission

Dear Friends,

Last year, in late January, I wrote a letter to the faithful of our diocese about the critical shortage of priests and the pastoral care of souls in our parishes. Many thanked me for being open, honest and direct with them in that letter. This year, the Diocesan Pastoral Council (lay members from each of our four deaneries) have encouraged me to write another letter to all of you. This letter is about the vision and mission of the Catholic Church in our diocese and your participation in it.

In general, participation in the life of the Church among baptized Catholics has been declining in recent years. Fewer people are attending Sunday Mass on a regular basis. Fewer are serving on boards and councils and volunteering for other types of service as well. Fewer parents are giving their children faith formation, whether in religious education programs, our Catholic schools or at home. Many would suggest that people are just busy with too many activities. However, I believe it goes deeper than that. I believe it is a question of faith.

For decades, people have done the basics when it comes to living their lives as Catholics. They have gone to Mass, supported the parish financially, sent their children to religious education programs, helped with funeral lunches or parish grounds clean-up projects and supported parish festivals and other activities. While all that is good, a deeper commitment to living our faith must be ignited.

I believe participation in the life of the Church is most authentic when it comes as a *response of faith* which we first received in Baptism. Faith in God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit calls for *a response* of interior gratitude for creating us and saving us, which then sends us outward in service to others. In the gospel stories we see how many times people who encountered the love of Jesus and his gifts of healing and mercy led them to follow him, as his disciples. His teaching and his way of life *re-oriented* their way of living. This happens in most human relationships: an encounter leads to a response.

My point is that without being transformed by God's grace for the mission that our baptism requires, people are less committed to serve in our parishes. A deeper encounter with Christ is needed. When we become disciples who are so affected by God's love for us, our response is that of discipleship: actively being on mission with Jesus. Then we become actively engaged in *His* mission, but it necessarily must come as *a response* to his saving love for us.

On the enclosed page in this mailing, I have outlined a Pastoral Plan for our diocese. The overall theme comes from Jesus's Sermon on the Mount when he said, *"Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness."* (Matthew 6:33) The plan for our diocese has this vision: that through a spiritual transformation, all God's children will become active participants in the life of the Church. Our mission becomes that of forming disciples *who are capable of evangelizing the culture*. I have identified six principal initiatives going forward, each of which will require ongoing prayer and implementation.

We must be willing to allow the Holy Spirit to re-organize our lives for discipleship. This will require that we rethink how we use our time and our resources, both human and material, to staff and fund the mission. This will require that we take an honest look at how we exist as individuals and as a Church, on the parish level and what kind of support would be needed from the diocese. These are challenging times, but they are also exciting times.

With the growing secularization of our culture, Christianity is facing increasing persecution. Religion, once honored and respected, is less and less tolerated. In fact, having religious values is being viewed by many as 'the problem' in our world today. A proper Christian anthropology – understanding the human person based on the laws of nature and informed by faith – is widely being rejected and seen as judgmental and hateful. Human sexuality, sexual identity and sexual expression is confused and understood simply in terms of personal preference, denying scientific facts. Education seems less about gaining knowledge and developing the human mind. Rather, many centers of education (at all levels) are adopting a secular mission of transforming human minds to take on a specific type of world view, superseding the rights of parents who may object to this agenda. Furthermore, religious liberty is being denied to those who choose not to support these trends in our world today.

Thus, becoming disciples who are *capable of evangelizing the culture* is a formidable challenge. Yet, this has been the mission of Christians in every age since the day of Pentecost. It is the Holy Spirit who will not fail in leading and guiding us as we seek to live our faith in the world today. So much seems to be changing and converging just in the last 10 years. Thus, it requires that *how we live our faith* and *how we form others* to live this faith must also change. Doing "what we have always done" is bearing less fruit.

At our recent meeting of US bishops in Baltimore, several bishops were talking about pastoral planning and restructuring and making changes going forward. These changes are happening everywhere because parishes large and small are challenged to find people who are willing to be actively engaged in the mission of the Church.

That is why I am convinced that unless we "start over" by drawing people into a personal encounter with Jesus, one that so affects their lives that they embrace the faith with new energy, purpose and intentionality, we will only see a further decline in those who participate in the life of the Church.

I know this is a sobering outlook on things. At the same time, hope springs eternal in me because I believe in the power of God's grace in each of *us if we are open to and ask for it!* I believe the Lord wants us to be truly alive in our faith, to use each of us to help build up his kingdom, to transform the culture with the gospel, and enable each of us to become inspiring examples of faith in our world today.

Please join me in praying for this spiritual transformation not only in our diocese but more specifically in yourself, personally. **Trust in the power of God at work in you through faith.** Ask the Lord how he wants you to be engaged in the mission of the Church. Please join me in becoming disciples on mission with Jesus, disciples with a new passion for the salvation of all and for his praise and glory!

In Christ, our Hope!

+ Fourt & Hamfuldt

Most Reverend Joseph G. Hanefeldt Bishop of Grand Island

Religious Education Program

Email—dre@st-agnes-church.com

Religious Education Office—308-635-1362

Celebrating Sunday for <u>Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time</u> *Gospel:* Matthew 5:13-16

On the Way to Mass:

What does salt do to food? What could Jesus be asking of us when he calls us to be the salt of the earth?

On the Way Home From Mass:

What happens to a light placed under a bushel basket? What if light is placed on a lampstand? If your light is the love of Jesus that he has given us, what might he want us to do with it?

Living the Word:

Reread today's Gospel together with this visual: Light a candle and place it under a basket. With the lights in the room off, ask your family to share what they observe about the light. Then remove the candle from under the basket and place it on a counter or footrest or table and share your observations again. What new insights does anyone have about the Gospel when they see what happens to the lit candle?

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families 2022-2023

Find Us On

Facebook Twitter: st_agnes_church

Instagram: st.agnescatholicchurch

Parish Website www.st-agnes-church.com

myParish App In the App Store on your phone or tablet Save the Dates! March 26th - Confirmation Retreat

April 1st - First Communion Retreat

April 16th - 10:00 Mass Confirmation

April 23rd - 8&10 am Masses First Communion

Parent Talk:



My New Year's resolutions were not going well. I hadn't gotten to the gym, regularly attended daily Mass, cleaned the

house daily, *and* still be patient, loving, and kind! A few weeks after New Year's Day, I realized the rest of my family was struggling, too.

"How about," suggested my husband, "we each pick just one resolution on which to focus." "Something that's challenging, but doable," Kara chimed in.

"One is more doable than five," agreed my daughter, Tessa.

We each declared our resolutions: helping around the house, no TV during the week, no procrastinating, and going to Mass more often. I wrote our names next to our resolutions and taped the list to the refrigerator. Every week, we check in to see how our resolutions are going and offer encouragement when we struggle to keep them.

With God's grace, we are keeping our resolutions, one day at a time.

Partners in Faith - January 2023

Higher Ground Middle School Extreme Faith for Middle School

July 9-13, 2023

Higher Ground - Extreme Faith Middle School Retreat is a Catholic youth program for those who have completed sixth, seventh, or eighth grade in the spring of 2022 At Higher Ground -Extreme Faith, participants gather in an informal atmosphere to have a lot of fun. The group is encouraged to experience the joy of playing, praying, and working together as a community of faith. Extreme Faith is held at Camp Maranatha near Maxwell, NE. The dates are currently pending. For more information go to the Youth Ministry tab on the following website: www.gidiocese.org

Higher Ground Retreats

High School - 10th-12th grades Week 1: May 27 - June 1, 2023 Week 2: June 3-8, 2023

Higher Ground is a five-day Catholic youth program for those who will be juniors or seniors in high school. This program is sponsored by the Diocese of Grand Island's Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, with Fr. Josh Brown as the Diocesan Spiritual The purpose of Higher Director. Ground is to create an environment where Christian community may be experienced. The activities provide an enjoyable opportunity for the young people to develop a better sense of self, to build positive relationships with others and to grow closer to God.

Higher Ground is held at Fort Robinson State Park near Crawford, NE. The week begins on Sunday at 7:00 PM, and ends at 10:00 AM the following Friday.

For more information go to the Youth Ministry tab on the following website: www.gidiocese.org



Week of February 05, 2023



Bernadette

Millions of people each year go on pilgrimage to Lourdes, a place where miracles frequently occur. Explore the origins of this miraculous place of encounter with the Lord in this movie which depicts Mary's apparitions to St. Bernadette.



Bakhita: From Slave to Saint

Bahkita: From Slave to Saint tells the incredible story of St. Josephine Bakhita. Originally born in Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped by slavers and was eventually sold to a merchant in Italy. By the grace of God, she lived a heroic life of forgiveness and mercy which led her to become a saint.

DEVOTIONS How & Why to Pray the Rosary Dr. Tim Gray & Dr. John Schorn FORMEDNOW

How and Why to Pray the Rosary

As we celebrate Our Lady of Lourdes this week, we invite you to learn more about the Rosary! Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they discuss how they pray the Rosary and how it has changed their lives!

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the PAUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and Impactus press

PAGE 8

	Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Unscramble words from today's Gospel: Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Week and color the Image. Salt Image: Comparison of the Image. Salt </th
--	--

School Newsletter A Saint CATHOLIC SCHOOL A MARKEN ALLE MARKEN

Connecting Students and Families through Faith February 5, 2023





Wednesday February 8th Mass @ 8:15



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

Celebrating Catholic Schools Week

Bishop Hanefeldt celebrated Mass with St. Agnes School students at their Wednesday Mass held on February 1st. The Bishop presented the school with a check for \$15,031.78 from an anonymous Diocese donor. These funds assist with technology needs and support and other curriculum upgrades. The students enjoyed having doughnuts with their guests as well as having them visit their classrooms.

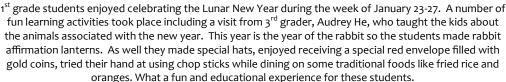






Classroom News.....

Celebrating the Lunar New Year











We Love Our School

Sunday January 20-Friday, February 3rd marked the annual celebration of Catholic Schools Week. St. Agnes students spent the week celebrating the many wonderful people who make our school an amazing place to learn and grow in faith and knowledge. They led the 10:00 Mass on Sunday, Jan. 29th. On Monday, they dressed in bright colors to show we let our light shine. A change war started between classes to raise funds to support a Seminarian scholarship. Tuesday students came to school in pj's and enjoyed playing board games together. Wednesday included Mass and a visit from the Bishop and diocesan superintendent. Thursday marked the return of our beloved family picnic and Friday we celebrated another fun Vocation Friday. We are grateful for our families, parish, volunteers, board members, benefactors, teachers, staff and friends who make St. Agnes School an amazing place!



Hot Lunch Menu for February 6th, 2023 - February 10th, 2023

Monday, Feb 6	Tuesday, Feb 7	Wednesday, Feb 8	Thursday, Feb 9	<u>Friday, Feb 10</u>
Chicken Strips French Fries Steamed Carrots Apricots	Corn Dog Tater Barrels Carrots w/ranch Peaches	Spaghetti w/meat sauce Broccoli w/ranch Applesauce Cookie	Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes w/gravy Mixed Vegetables Roll & Margarine Mandarin Oranges	Chicken Tortilla Soup Tortilla Chips Rolls & Margarine Cookie
Helpers: Kristin Schiff Adam Hoesing	Helpers: HELP NEEDED HELP NEEDED	Helpers: Kika Adam Hoesing	Helpers: Debie Dudden Adam Hoesing	Helpers: Heather Weitzel Andrew Dendinger

What's Happening at St. Agnes School





January has been an exciting month. The students seemed glad to be back to share and learn.

We discussed igloos, watched videos, looked at books, and each child made an igloo with marshmallows. The students were so glad to have Mrs. Brown come in to share in the learning excitement.

Using hot chocolate, marshmallows, and different water temperatures the students were scientists predicting and then observing. The young scientists were observing to find out which temperature would dissolve the marshmallows first and the changes in the marshmallows.

January was filled with learning and discussion on snowflakes. The students learned about Snowflake Bentley. We made snowflakes (our classroom floor was covered with bits of paper) but we had fun following directions which resulted in unique snowflakes.

The students continue to progress in reading. We are working on classroom plays from our reading series. We will perform these for Mrs. Brown and Mr. Polk.

We celebrated Chinese New Year. We were honored to have Audrey He speak to us about Chinese New Year and to have Mrs. Brown share information with us and a picture of her grandson. Many activities were planned. One of the activities was using chopsticks. Each child then took his/her chopsticks home.

Thank you parents, for reading and studying spelling words with your child. You are AMAZING! Your efforts will assist your child in

becoming successful.









Fourth Grade Class By Kristi Becker



The third quarter has started out busy in 4th grade. The students are focusing on working on harder assignments and projects. We recently did a small research paper on penguins. We will be starting a bigger research paper on the national park of their choice. The students have enjoyed just learning about the parks through videos and books, before they settle on their favorite. This class has turned into such creative writers. They really apply everything we learn in writing to make them better writers!

We started a new project in religion class. We began by looking up the miracles that Jesus performed. Students read 5 different miracles from the Bible. We then discussed, compared, and illustrated them. Some even created poems out of the word, "miracle". Students have also been busy creating a collaborative Eucharist poster and enjoying Catholic Schools week!

A recent activity the students enjoyed in science was making "soil layers" out of chocolate chips, pudding, Oreos, and dyed coconut. They topped their soil sample off with a gummy worm! This unit also teaches rocks and minerals which the students enjoy. It is a very hands-on lesson, with the students getting to observe and feel all the rocks and minerals.

In our morning reading, vocabulary, and language block, students have recently learned about independent and dependent clauses, commas, new vocabulary words, and story elements. This morning block is always jammed packed with lessons and books! One of my favorite things is having the students rush into me after reading with their book club, to tell me all about the event that just happened in their book. I love their excitement for reading!

I cannot thank this class of 15 for all their hard work in the classroom. We like to describe them as small but mighty!









