



# Saint Agnes

CATHOLIC CHURCH



September 17, 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**

**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



## 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?”  
- Mt 18:33-35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI



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)

# Saint Agnes Catholic Church

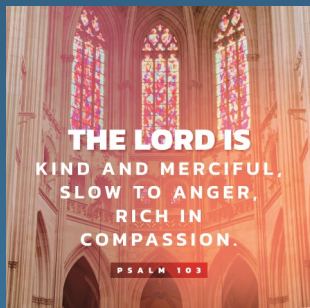
## Today's Readings

Sirach 27:30-28

Psalm: 103

Romans 14:7-9

Matthew 18:21-35



## Parish Administration

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

## Pastor

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

## Church Office Manager

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office@st-agnes-church.com

## Pastoral Minister

Susan Flohr  
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## Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Terri Calvert (ext.5)  
dre@st-agnes-church.com

## School Head Teacher

Mrs. Julie Brown (632-6918)  
office@st-agnes-school.com

## School Office Manager

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)  
jes.mikoloyck@gmail.com

## The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### The Hateful Things We Hug Tight

At the end of “Lord of the Rings: Return of the King,” Gollum fights with Frodo for possession of the One Ring. He wins the fight, but in doing so topples over the edge of the mountain ledge, falling into the cavernous fires of Mount Doom. As he falls, we see him smile, and clutch the ring to his chest. He is happy. He has won what he spent his life pursuing.

It is only in the last millisecond before his face slips below the lava that we see his eyes widen in terror as he realizes the truth: the thing he clutches to his heart is the thing that killed him. In choosing the ring, he chooses death.

Sin, and the fallen nature of this world, makes us addicted to something that kills us.

Like any addiction, it is a vicious cycle. The less we forgive, the more hardhearted we become ... and the less we seek forgiveness ourselves.

What breaks the cycle? Reconciliation with God — or, Confession, as we call it. In fact, it does more than break the cycle. It turns it backward. Not only does it detoxify our souls of sin, it weakens our addiction to sin's effects — anger, vengeance, unforgiveness. The confession of evil works is the first beginning of good works, said St. Augustine.

Ultimately, I view our whole human life as a struggle on the ledge of a mountaintop. It is certain that we will choose sin — we always do. We will tumble over the side, toward ruin. But let us be Frodo, and not Gollum. Let us cling to the rock of the sacraments and accept the hand that would drag us away from the flames.

“Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight.” — Sirach 27:30

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS - By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## This Week's Schedule

### **Monday, September 18, 2023**

Daily Mass (7:00am)  
Intention: John & Helen Kuntz by Michelle Lissolo  
Communal Rosary (4:45pm)  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm)  
**Tuesday, September 19, 2023**  
Daily Mass (7:00am)  
Intention: †Lynnett Rotert by Rod & Ellen Ramig  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm)  
**Wednesday, September 20, 2023**  
Daily Mass (8:15am)  
Intention: †Leo C. Trautman Sr. by The Windhorst Family  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm)  
Contemplative Prayer (6:00pm)

### **Thursday, September 21, 2023**

Daily Mass (7:00am)  
Intention: †Paul Urdiales by Annie Urdiales & Roman Cano  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15pm)  
**Friday, September 22, 2023**  
Daily Mass (7:00am)  
Intention: †Felix Koenig by Lucille Koenig  
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15pm)  
**Saturday, September 23, 2023**  
Weekend Mass (5:00pm)  
Intention: Mike Koeteman by Margie Rood

### **Sunday, September 24, 2023**

Weekend Mass (8:00am)  
Intention: †Janet Trautman by The Windhorst Family  
Weekend Mass (10:00am)  
Intention: For Our Parish

## This Week's Readings



Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Lk 7:1-10  
 Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17  
 Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35  
 Thursday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13  
 Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3  
 Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2,3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15  
 Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

Fr. Konka will be gone for a family visit to India on September 25th and will return on October 28th. Fr. Neal Nollette and Fr. Deaver will be covering for Fr. Konka while he is in India. Please keep Fr. Konka in your prayers for safe travels.

## Server Schedule

Sept 23 5pm Ashanti Acosta  
Tea Hill  
 Sept 24 8am Tristan Hoelsing  
Thomas Esselstein  
 10:00am Traxton Adams  
Yvonne Kreiling

## Lector Schedule

Sept 23 5pm Steve Viessman  
 Sept 24 8am Bridget Peck  
 10:00am St. Agnes Students

## Rosary Leader Schedule

Sept 23 5pm Ellen Ramig  
 Sept 24 8am Adam & Nicole Hoelsing  
 10:00am NOT FILLED



## Young at Heart

Parishioners 55ish and older are invited to the Young at Heart Potluck luncheon on Tuesday, September 19th 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.



## Finance Corner

### Sunday Collections & ATW Giving

#### September 10, 2023

Actual	\$4674.36
Online Giving	\$1090.50
Gen. Church Support	\$4500.00
Budget	\$10000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$264.86

#### September 2023 Totals

Actual	\$10370.74
ATW	\$2495.00
Online Giving	\$2662.00
Gen. Church Support	\$5800.00
Budget	\$20000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$1327.74

Next Sunday's 2nd collection is for VCNIN

Thank you for your continued giving!



## Knights of Columbus

**What:** The Knights of Columbus are hosting an induction of new members.

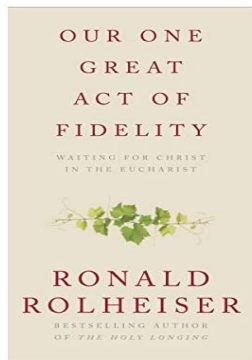
**When:** September 24th, Sunday at 11:30 am (Lunch to Follow).

**Where:** St Agnes Church with Fr. Konka.

**Who:** If you are a Catholic man and over 18 years old, and never been asked to join, this is your chance to be a member of one of the biggest organizations in the world with over 2 million members.

**How:** Please call John @615-9429

The St. Agnes Parish BBQ Picnic hosted by the Knights of Columbus for the St. Joseph Children had a successful turnout. The 2 inches rain in the morning went away and became sunny all of a sudden! St Agnes Kids and St. Joseph kids played tag of war, egg toss, sack race and soccer. **This is the longest on going project of the Knights of Columbus in the State of Nebraska (since 1928)!** Special thanks to Paul Peiper and Pete Wylie for leading this project. And also, to Scott Schiff for bringing his BBQ trailer! And thank you to all St. Agnes Parishioners that showed up for the picnic!



“Our One Great Act of Fidelity - waiting for Christ in the Eucharist” -- an investigation into the ways people secure their faith and belief, and discover true intimacy with God and one another. This is the name of the book we will be using this fall for the Monday evening discussion group. The book was written by Ronald Rolheiser, well known Catholic priest, theologian, columnist, and author. The cost of the book is about \$14.00 and can be found on Amazon and other sites. You just need a book and the commitment to meetings at 7:00pm on Monday evenings this fall. **We will begin on Monday, September 25th in the Garden Room.**

Take a look at the book on the internet. We think it will be a great source of faith for this year and our ongoing focus on the Eucharist and the importance it plays in the life of each of us.

**All are welcome.**



## The Liturgy Corner

### The Ambo

What is the difference between an ambo, podium, and lectern?

A *podium* is a small platform on a stage. You stand on a podium. A *lectern* is the piece of furniture that often supports a microphone and usually has space for a speaker to place his or her notes. An *ambo* is a Greek word which means, “reading table.”

It was not until the liturgical renewal movement precipitated by Vatican II that the word “ambo” become part of the average Catholic’s vocabulary. Today the word, “ambo” is used to denote a special place for the proclamation of the Sacred Scripture, which is the central action of the Liturgy of the Word.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) is the detailed document governing the celebration of Mass of the Roman Rite. The GIRM promotes more conscious, active, and full participation of the faithful in the mystery of the Eucharist. The GIRM provides specific detail about each element of the Order of Mass as well as other information related to the Mass.

This is what the GIRM has to say about the ambo:

“It is appropriate that generally this place be a stationary ambo and not simply a movable lectern. The ambo must be located in keeping with the design of each church in such a way that the ordained ministers and readers may be clearly seen and heard by the faithful. From the ambo only the readings, the Responsorial Psalm, and the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet) are to be proclaimed; likewise, it may be used for giving the Homily and for announcing the intentions of the Universal Prayer. The dignity of the ambo requires that only a minister of the word should stand at it.” (GIRM 309)

Some historians believe it is connected to the platform used by Jewish rabbis to read the scriptures before the people. Spiritually, it is derived from the action of Jesus when he “went up on the mountain, and ... opened his mouth and taught them” (Matthew 5:1,2)

### Reflection for this week:

With only few liturgical elements taking place at the ambo, we are alerted to how important these are. The ambo deserves to be dignified, for this is the place from where God’s word is proclaimed! In preparing for Sunday’s liturgy, spend time reflecting on the importance of the ambo in the sacred liturgy.



# St. Agnes Altar Society Fall Dinner

Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup> 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

St. Agnes School Gym

**Tickets: Adults - \$10.00; Children 4-10 yrs. - \$5.00; 3 & under - free**

**Gather for food, fellowship, a 50/50 raffle, and a bake sale. All proceeds of this fundraiser go to enable the Altar Society to provide support for the church and its needs – the building and the people!**

**This event is not possible without your support! Check your mail for a list of all the help needed and for forms to pre-order your dinner and raffle tickets. Extra forms available at the information centers in the church. Online volunteer signup @**

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A054AAAAD23A7FF2-fall1>**

**Menu: Turkey & noodles, mashed potatoes, sides and desserts.**

## ST. AGNES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM



**Please use this form to select your nominations for these two prestigious awards.** These awards will be presented at the 2023 St. Agnes Premiere Dinner and Auction at the Civic Center in Gering, Nebraska.

#### ***Distinguished Alumni Award***

This prestigious award is bestowed to a former St. Agnes student in recognition of outstanding achievement through his or her contributions to the arts, business, education, government, humanities, science and philanthropies. The recipient must be an individual who, in deed or action, has brought honor to themselves, to St. Agnes School and to their community.

Nomination Criteria:

◇ Must have attended St. Agnes School ◇ Must be at least 25 years old ◇ Nominee may be deceased

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 St. Agnes Student: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ Attendance Dates: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Qualifications/Achievements: (Please use additional paper.)

#### ***Friend of St. Agnes Award***

This service award is given in honor and recognition of an individual that has provided extraordinary service through volunteerism and support to St. Agnes School. The recipient can be alumni, faculty, support staff, clergy, parents, parishioners or community members.

Nomination Criteria: ◇ Must be at least 25 years old ◇ Nominee may be deceased

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication & Service to St. Agnes: (Please use additional paper.)

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Return form by October 1, 2023\*\* to:**

St. Agnes School Foundation \* PO Box 2214 \* Scottsbluff, NE 69363-2214

## Religious Education Program

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

Religious Education Office—308-635-1362

Celebrating Sunday  
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
**Gospel:** *Matthew 18:21-22*

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

The Mass is one great prayer made up of many prayers. Let us listen for the words sorry, forgive, mercy, and *peace* in today's liturgy. Are they words proclaimed by the priest, spoken by the assembly (us), or both?

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

How can we bring our experience of conflict to Jesus and ask him for help in our time of need?

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

Each night this week, talk with your children about the moments during the day that they either asked someone for forgiveness or forgave someone. Did they ask Jesus for forgiveness? How do they feel after forgiving someone? How does it feel to know that Jesus forgives them?

*Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families  
2023-2024*

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



**Facebook**

**Twitter:** *st\_agnes\_church*

**Instagram:** *st.agnesatholicchurch*

**Parish Website**

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

**myParish App**

*In the App Store on your phone or  
tablet*



### ***What does the ministry of Altar Servers consist of?***

Simply put, our altar servers assist the priest at Mass. They take part in carry the cross or candles in procession, hold the book for the presider's prayers, assist with setting and removing things to and from the altar table, and serve as role models for participation in the mass.

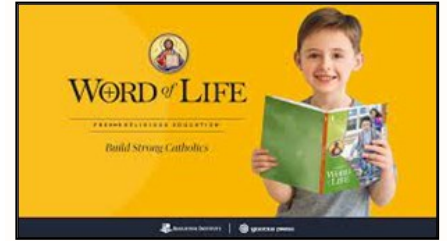
### **Who can be an Altar Server?**

Here at St. Agnes, altar servers consist of boys and girls from our parish who are grades 4th -12th and have been trained.

**Altar Server Training** will be held on Wednesday, September 20th at 6pm in the church. Pizza will be served following the training in the St. Agnes Garden Room. Following dinner they will be dismissed to the formation sessions.

**Note:** **This training is for new and ongoing servers.**

**You can register** your child(ren) on-line today for the RE sessions by scanning the QR Code below.



### **St. Agnes Religious Education**

is raising the bar in Catholic formation. The **Word of Life** curriculum published by Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press will be implemented this Fall.

### **A New Vision for Catechesis**

An authentic catechetical renewal requires new catechetical models that help children, teachers, parents, and families discover their authentic Catholic identity to reinvigorate fruitful participation in the Church's life and mission. The Church needs new catechetical resources to not only provide faithful teaching, we must be able to explain why the faith is relevant in our modern culture.

### **An Integrated Approach to**

**Catechesis** An engaging and relevant kerygmatic catechesis young learners enjoy through a blended learning model of textbook, online learning interactions, and engaging video enhancements.

State-of-the-art digital components allow young learners and parents to interact with dynamic faith formation materials in the classroom and at home.

An authentic and comprehensive program for children and parents, providing a complete family faith formation with *Word of Life* materials and the expansive digital library of the Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press.

**Religious Education**  
Catechists

**Kindergarten**

Elizabeth Kreiling

**First Grade**

Lisa Gass

**Second Grade**

JoAnn Nash

**Third Grade**

Jamie Weingart

**Fourth Grade**

John Songco

**Fifth Grade**

Ann Anderson

**Sixth Grade**

Scott Schiff

Casey Seymour

**Seventh Grade**

Ellen Ramig

Alex Ascherl

**Confirmation (8th Grade)**

Michael Calvert

Mike Esselstein

Travis Gould

**Ignite Youth Group**

Jeff Gion

**RE Office**

Ethan Gion

Marvin Anderson

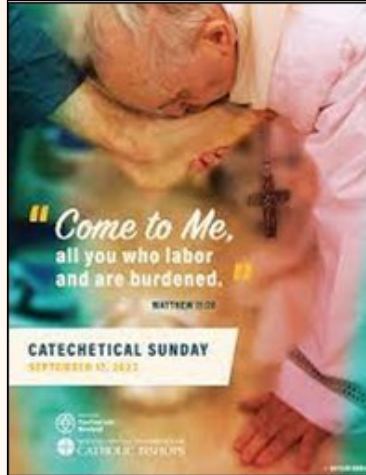
**Director of Religious Education**

Terri Calvert

**Adult Faith Formation**

Fr. Konka

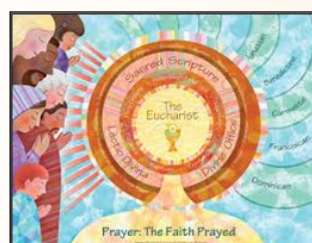
Kathleen Roehl



**Catechetical Sunday** This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 17, 2023 and will focus on the theme "*Come to me all who labor and are burdened.*"

Those who the community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

On this page you will find a list of catechists who will be serving St. Agnes Catholic Church. Please keep these catechists in your prayers as a new formation year begins.



**St. Agnes School**  
Teachers

**Pre-K**

Nicole Boness

**Kindergarten**

Teri Ramriez

**First Grade**

Sharon Brid

**Second Grade**

Lori Svitak

**Third Grade**

Meghan Calvert

**Fourth Grade**

Kristie Becker

**Fifth Grade**

Lynsey Ayers

**Music**

Cori Taedter

**Library**

Lana Payne

**Para Educators**

Rachael Ascherl

Chelsie Perez

**Interventionalist**

Rob Polk

**Social Worker**

Kelly Beeber

**After-Three Director**

Melissa Dudley

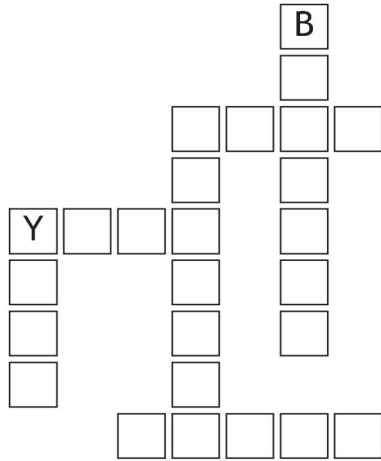
**Administrator**

Julie Brown

# Kids' Corner

## PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:  
**Forgive your brother from your heart.**



## MISSION

Name one person you are angry with. Pray to God. Ask God to help you let go of your anger and really forgive.

## PUZZLE

Circle the group in each row that has **more**. Then color in all the pictures.



## MISSION

I will forgive those who hurt me because God has forgiven me.





Connecting Students and Families through Faith  
September 17, 2023



## Upcoming Events

**Monday, September 18th**

Lions Club Vision & Hearing Screenings  
MAP testing begins - Gr 1-5

**Wednesday, September 20th**

Mass @ 8:15

**Thursday, September 21st**

Ag Safety Day Fieldtrip Gr. 3-5

**Friday, September 22nd**

Mid-Quarter Reports go home  
Grades 3-5



## Budding Scientists

Back to school means back to lots of fun and challenging learning. One activity that is loved by all are the fun experiments involved in science. The week of Sept 4-8, Mrs. Brown enjoyed watching the hands-on learning of the kindergarten mad scientists who were making alka seltzer rockets, first grade scientists who were making predictions about the best solution to dissolve candy and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders who were testing various surfaces in school to see the amount of germs growing there. The excitement of these young learners as they made predictions, observed data then compiled final results was inspiring. Perhaps the next Albert Einstein is among our youngsters.



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



## MAP Testing

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) is a computer adapted skills assessment that provides parents and teachers with metrics to measure a student's growth and progress. The MAP test is adaptive, meaning that the computer allows for test questions to adapt to an individual's skill level. The test covers reading, language and mathematics and helps teachers determine what skills need to be taught and how best to group children in the classroom.

Students in grades 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade will be taking Map tests beginning Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> -Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. We ask that you not schedule appointments during your child's scheduled testing time. If you have a need for your child to be gone, please contact the classroom teacher to attain their individual test schedule and work to avoid these times.

## MAP Testing Schedule - Fall 2023

Date	8:30 Session	10:00 Session
Mon. Sept 18	2nd Gr. - Math	5th Gr. - Math
Tues. Sept 19	3rd Gr. - Math 1st Gr. - Math	4th Gr. - Math
Wed. Sept 20	-----	3rd. Gr. -Reading
Thurs. Sept 21	1st Gr. - Reading	2nd Gr. - Reading
Fri. Sept 22	5th. Gr. - Lang.	-----
Mon. Sept 25	4th Gr. - Reading	3rd. Gr. - Lang.
Tues. Sept 26	5th Gr. - Reading	4th. Gr. - Lang

\*\*Lang. = Language

## Tools & Technology

St. Agnes 4<sup>th</sup> grade students enjoyed the first field trip of the year to the Farm & Ranch Museum where they learned about what farming was like in the past. Students experienced hands-on opportunities to grind corn, pedal a potato harvester, use a pulley system to bring water up from a well and more. They discussed how technology has advanced these same processes to be done by electric machines today. Thanks to Dave Wolf and the many wonderful volunteers who help make this event possible for our community's 4<sup>th</sup> graders. It is a wonderful part of the Nebraska history lessons that occur at this grade level. Coming up soon will be the beloved trip to Flowerfield School.



## IXL Learning

Has your student mentioned using IXL? Are you wondering what it is? IXL at its most basic, is a targeted learning tool. It offers experiences for students, tailored to their age group by specific subject and topic. By offering analytics and recommendations, it is able to help support teaching and learning with a very focused outcome. This program is being used in grades 3-5 to target specific areas identified for individual students as needing additional focus. Mr. Polk is also using the tool with select students whom he is working with.



## Hot Lunch Menu for September 18th, 2023 - September 22nd, 2023

Monday, Sept 18	Tuesday, Sept 19	Wednesday, Sept 20	Thursday, Sept 21	Friday, Sept 22
Chili w/beans Cinnamon Rolls Wheat Crackers Applesauce	Pulled Pork Sandwich Fresh Potato Chips Fresh Broccoli w/ranch Apricots	Soft Shell Taco Taco Meat, Cheese, Lettuce & Salsa Tater Tots Mandarin Oranges Cookie	Fried Chicken Leg Mashed Potatoes w/gravy Green Salad Roll & Margarine 1/2 Banana	Pancakes Denver Scrambled Eggs w/red pepper Potato Triangles Spinich Orange Wedges
<b>Helpers:</b> Joe Hafner Shannon Hafner	<b>Helpers:</b> Sheree Verbeck Juyong Adams	<b>Helpers:</b> John Songco Juyong Adams	<b>Helpers:</b> John Songco Sheree Verbeck	<b>Helpers:</b> Kika John Songco

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



## Kindergarten Class By Teri Ramirez

Our first couple of weeks in kindergarten were a success! The students have done a great job at adjusting to our daily routine. We have been working on getting to know the rules, learning about our new friends, and all the people who work in the building.

We also have some special days in kindergarten where we get to do some extra fun stuff in the classroom.

On Wednesdays, we have Dress to Impress which just means that this is the day you can dress up really nice!

On Thursdays, we have Mad Science Thursday, where the students get to become little scientists and perform science experiments. Our first experiment was an Alka Seltzer experiment. We put an Alka Seltzer in a small container and added water, and put the lid on it. The kids were so excited when the lid flew off. It's safe to say they love being scientists and can't wait for the next experiment!

Fridays are also a blast! We have Foodie Friday, and this is a favorite in kindergarten. Our food experiments usually center around whatever our theme is for the week. This week we talked about friendships and how we treat our friends, so we made Friendship Salad.

Teaching kindergarten is very rewarding for me, and I love every minute of it! The students make me smile, and every day brings something new and exciting. I am very grateful to have this opportunity to teach here at St. Agnes, and I am looking forward to a wonderful school year with my new kindergartners!



## Fourth Grade Class By Kristie Becker

I can't believe another year has started at St Agnes. I am blessed to have 16 students this year and as usual, we're off to a busy start.

There are lots of new things in fourth grade this year, including religion and math curriculums! We have worked in both and thoroughly enjoy them! In math, we are starting with place value and it's fun to learn to teach it new ways. Religion started us in the Bible which was a great review for students on how to find stories in the Bible. We also enjoy listening to the Catholic Sprouts podcast and reflecting on the message being shared.

I started a morning meeting this year, which has been a smooth start to our day. Some of the things we have done so far are positive affirmations and solving different emotional scenarios. I will enjoy watching the students grow in this aspect throughout the year!

Students have been working hard learning about energy in science, state symbols in social studies, and how to structure a complete sentence in writing! Students are also very excited about being able to put up the flag this year and help once a week in the cafeteria! Fourth grade is a year of new responsibilities and learning, so we have been working on finding our independence in our work and working hard to try new things! This should be a fun, creative, and enriching year!

