



Saint Agnes

CATHOLIC CHURCH



September 3, 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



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father’s glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct.” - Mt 16:26-27



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

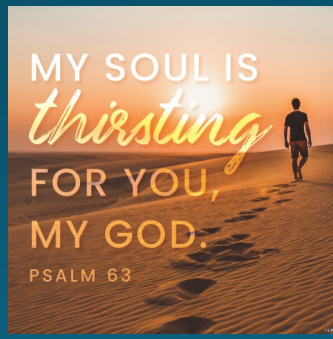
Today's Readings

Jeremiah 20:7-9

Psalm: 63

Romans 12:1-2

Matthew 16:21-27



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-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Choosing the Cross

I've been called a lot of things in my life, but I've never been called "Satan," at least not to my face.

It seems to me the worst name you could call a person, and today we hear it straight from the lips of Jesus. It's just one of the many small reminders strewn throughout Scripture that Jesus preaches meekness, but he is not mild — not when mildness serves no purpose, anyway.

And here, when Peter is trying to deter Jesus from making the right choice, mildness serves no purpose at all.

Can we blame Peter? I certainly can't. I'm sure I would have said the same thing to my own dear friend. He is, in today's Gospel, wholly unwilling to embrace the cross — he's afraid of it, even — but aren't we all, in the end, afraid of our cross? I am. It's no sin, it's only human. Fear is natural. Self-preservation is a reflex.

What Christ speaks of today is a choice, one we are all faced with, again and again, just as Peter is. We will not always respond perfectly; Peter does not respond well today. He does not respond well on Holy Thursday.

But on his last day, on the day of the ultimate choice? On that day, he chooses the cross.

We marvel at first responders who put themselves in harm's way for the sake of others, because to do so is not human, it is divine. I have to believe that if even a firefighter's loved one threw themselves in his way, he would still charge toward the flames, crying, "Get behind me."

Christ runs into the burning building for us, shaking off not only his own fear (and he had it, I promise you — he was human, too) but the fear of everyone who loved him.

"Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God..." — Romans 12:1

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS - By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dororman

This Week's Schedule

Monday, September 4, 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, September 5, 2023
Daily Mass (7:00am)
Intention: †Nicol Harnish Rakovec
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm)
Wednesday, September 6, 2023
Daily Mass (8:15am)
Intention: †Lynnett Rotert by St. Agnes
Students & Staff
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15 pm)
Contemplative Prayer (6:00pm)

Thursday, September 7, 2023

Daily Mass (7:00am)
Intention: Tex-Pauline Appledorn by
Michelle Lissolo
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15pm)
Friday, September 8, 2023
Daily Mass (7:00am)
Intention: †Nicol Harnish Rakovec
Liturgy of the Hours (5:15pm)
Saturday, September 9, 2023
Weekend Mass (5:00pm)
Intention: †Matt Parsley for Margie Rood
Sunday, September 10, 2023
Weekend Mass (8:00am)
Intention: For the Parish
Weekend Mass (10:00am)
Intention: †Scott Corr and Family by Gene
& Mari Schwarzkopf

This Week's Readings



Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-3

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-2

Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

Are you willing to share your Catholic faith with others? If so, would you be willing to be a catechists on Wednesday evenings?

As you nurture the faith of our young, you will learn and grow as well! As one long-time catechist put it, "I learn so much from the children!" You will be provided with training, materials, and support.

If you are willing to share your time and talents with the children and youth of St. Agnes please contact the Religious Education Office via Email—
dre@st-agnes-church.com

Finance Corner

Sunday Collections & ATW Giving

August 27, 2023

Actual	\$3522.31
Online Giving	\$1256.91
Budget	\$10000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$5220.78
VCNIN	\$2192.00

August 2023 Totals

Actual	\$18238.65
ATW	\$7225.00
Online Giving	\$4991.31
Budget	\$40000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$9545.04

There is no 2nd collection for next week.

Thank you for your continued giving!



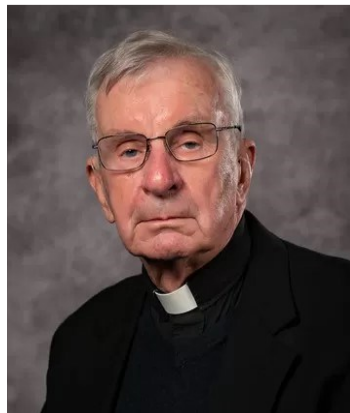
Parish Year of Eucharistic Revival June 11, 2023—July 17, 2024

Sunday, September 17th at 7:00 pm St. Agnes Church Garden Room

"Living the Creed" will be the theme for Fr. Karnish's talk to introduce our parish to this renewal of our faith.

The creeds play an important role in voicing our basic beliefs.

What is my relationship with the Father, the Son, and the Spirit?
 How well do I know these three persons of the Trinity?



Fr. Karnish is a retired priest of the Grand Island Diocese and a former pastor of St. Agnes from 1981 to 1988.



Attention Alumni!!

The foundation would like to update their records of all our alumni.

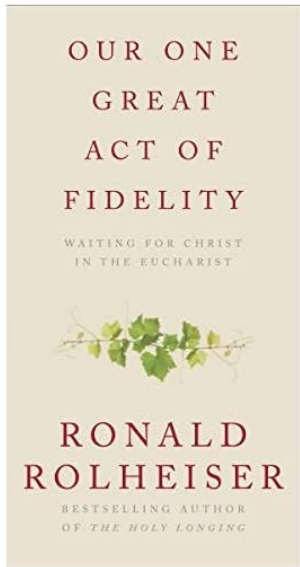
If you are or know an alumni please send current address and phone number to:

imoreno@st-agnes-school.com or call
 308.632.6918 ext. 2



September
Altar Society Meeting
 SEPTEMBER 7TH
 6:30 PM

ST. AGNES GARDEN ROOM
 PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE



“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.



Knights of Columbus

What a great turned out! We had 52 kids showed up for our Swimming and Pizza party for the Altars servers at the Scotts Bluff Country Club.

Fr. Rayappa Konka gave a speech and said, to continue to be an Altar server, and continue to go to Church even if they are not serving. Fr. Konka also, encouraged parents to make sure to bring their kids to Church and show example by going to church themselves.

What a great night!



What: St. Joseph Children's BBQ Picnic
When: Sunday, September 10th, 11 am to 3 pm
Where: Scottsbluff - Frank Park - Hexagon
Who: All Parishioners are welcome!!!

Why: To help St Jo's kids. We Started in 1928, this is the State of Nebraska's Knights of Columbus' longest ongoing project!!!

What is **St. Joseph Children's Home**? Located in Torrington, WY and was founded as an orphanage, housed up to 100 children and treatment program for emotionally disturbed children. Their mission is to provide comprehensive behavioral services to children and families.

(The picture is from 2022 Picnic)



St. Agnes Altar Society Fall Dinner

Sunday, October 8th 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.

RECLAIMING FRIENDSHIP

Ladies Retreat

September 22-23

Hosted at Christ the King Catholic Church, Gering

Join us for a special weekend to reflect on reclaiming friendship with Jesus and others!

Details:

- Friday, September 22 - 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm
- Saturday, September 23 - 8:30 am - 3:00 pm
- Speaker: Mallory Smyth
- Location: Christ the King Catholic Church, Gering
- Cost: \$25 per person
- Lunch provided

Register today!

<https://tinyurl.com/mrxtvuey>



The Men's Group will start meeting again beginning Thursday, September 14th from 7:00pm - 8:00pm in the Garden Room. We meet on the Second Thursday of each month. We will be finishing the book *Signs of Life* by Scott Hahn. All are welcome to attend!

August 2023 100 CLUB WINNERS

\$200: Dani Koeteman; **\$100:** Ed/Ann Connelly, Steven Klaas/Tara Longoria, Michelle Johnston;
\$50: Clyde Sexton, Mel/Pam Elledge, Jason/Liz Ossian, Jeff Pickering, Sharon Bird, Steve/Tammy Viessman, John/Claire Songco, Andrew/Robyn Dendinger; **\$40:** Rachael Barbour

CONGRATULATIONS!

Religious Education Program

Email—dre@st-agnes-church.com

Religious Education Office—308-635-1362

Celebrating Sunday
Twenty-Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Gospel: *Matthew 16:21-25*

On the Way to Mass:

What does it mean to follow Jesus?

On the Way Home From Mass:

Do we ever act like Peter and stand as an obstacle for others on their journey to follow Jesus?

Living the Word:

As a family, think of some people in your life who are good examples of following Jesus. Discuss how their lives have shown you how to follow Jesus, too.

*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

Stewardship Opportunities Over 100 children and young people, preschool through grade 12, will sign up this fall to learn more about Jesus and the Catholic faith. You can help them learn and grow by becoming a catechist.

Starting on September 13th all Catholic formation sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm. All on the St. Agnes campus.

Are you willing to share your Catholic faith with others? If so, would you be willing to be a catechist on Wednesday evenings?

As you nurture the faith of our young, you will learn and grow as well! As one long-time catechist put it, "I learn so much from the children!" You will be provided with training, materials, and support.

If you are willing to share your time and talents with the children and youth of St. Agnes please contact the Religious Education Office via Email—dre@st-agnes-church.com

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



Save the Dates!

September 6th

**6pm- Confirmation parent & candidate meeting
(Garden Room)**

**7:15pm - Catechist Formation
(Garden Room)**

September 13th

7-8 pm - Religious Education formation sessions begin!

myParish App will be used as a platform for communication for all RE programs this year. You can



download the app for your iPhone and Android smart phones. This will allow us to better communicate with you throughout the week and keep you updated with relevant parish news or updates. The app is very well designed and very intuitive. It will be a great resource for parishioners by providing daily Mass readings, Catholic news and prayers, convenient prayer and Confession reminders, our bulletins and more.

FORMED, a revolutionary online platform, provides access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks, and video-based studies from trusted providers like Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, Catholic Answers, Sophia Institute Press, St. Paul Center, and more! FORMED presents a tremendous opportunity to help the overwhelming majority of Catholics change the way they consume media and develop a daily habit of faith formation and prayer.

This is a **free** service to all parishioners of St. Agnes. If you haven't signed up today go to: www.formed.org and sign up today!

THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of September 03, 2023



The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Sacred Art

By studying Sacred Art, we fuel our prayer and contemplation. In this episode, Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Taylor Kemp to examine the theological nuances contained in Bartolome Murillo's depiction of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



Mother Teresa: No Greater Love

Mother Teresa: No Greater Love is a soaring tribute to a spiritual icon, a powerful witness of authentic Christian charity, and a guidepost for all who seek hope in our turbulent times: Mother Teresa of Calcutta. This film reveals not just who Mother Teresa was, but how her singular vision to serve Christ in the poor continues to be realized through the Missionaries of Charity today.



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

In this episode, Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn discuss the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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

Kids' Corner

PUZZLE

Find the matching pair.

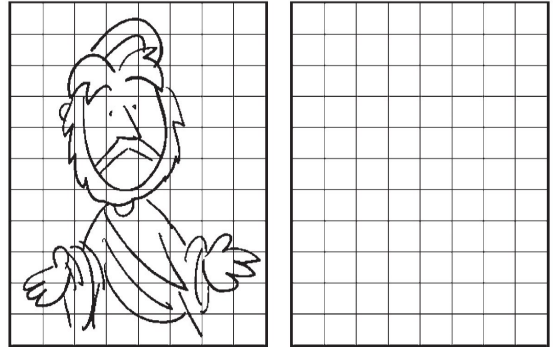


MISSION

Give of your time this week to help someone who needs it.

PUZZLE

Copy the picture square by square.



MISSION

Every day firemen, policemen and soldiers give up their lives to protect yours. Thank God for them.



Connecting Students and Families through Faith
September 3, 2023



Upcoming Events

Monday, September 4th

NO SCHOOL - LABOR DAY

Wednesday, September 6th

Mass @ 8:15

4th Grade Tools & Technology fieldtrip

****Important Reminders:**

- PE days are M-Th-F: Please be sure your child is wearing tennis shoes
- Library books are due on Tuesday
- Lunch count is turned in to the Meat Shoppe by 8:30. If your child will be late, please call before this time to ensure a lunch is ordered for them.
- Mass day is Wednesday. Please be sure that your student is dressed appropriately for Mass. They are visiting the house of the Lord – please look nicer than a normal school day. (No athletic wear or logoed t-shirts)

Safety Day Training

St. Agnes students and staff took part in the annual safety day training on Friday, August 25th. Standard response protocols for all drills: Hold, Secure, Lock-down, Evacuate and Shelter were reviewed and drills were run for various emergencies that might occur in the building. Sheriff officers, Chris Calvert and Matt Shannon helped run the drills. We are grateful to them for their assistance in helping us ensure the safety of our students and staff.



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



Reading Incentive Kick-off

Monday, August 28th marked the kick-off for our annual reading incentive program. All students gathered in the gym to learn more about the requirements / goals for their grade level and what the amazing parties would be for the year. The theme will be: *Reading is a Passport to Countless Adventures*. The students are anxious about the cultural fair that will take place in the 2nd semester. Please encourage your students to read daily to ensure meeting their goals while improving their overall academic performance.



Spreading Positivity and Kind Words

The 5th grade students enjoyed a fun and challenging activity meant to teach them about the importance of their words. After speaking about kindness and how all of our words matter and impact those around us, pairs of students were given a tube of toothpaste which they were required to empty onto a paper plate. The challenge was to put as much of the paste back in the tube in the allotted time. This proved to be a challenging task. The lesson to be learned was how hard it is to take back and completely wipe away mean and unkind words. They stick to others just like the toothpaste did to their hands. This fun activity led to a quality discussion about how they will treat and speak to each other this year.



Building Leaders

St. Agnes 4th and 5th grade students begin early developing their leadership skills and work ethic. They are often called upon to help with tasks that require extra hands. Recently these two grades were trained to assist in the lunchroom with table clean up. As well, 4th graders were trained in raising, lowering and folding the school flag. This will be one of their class responsibilities for the year. These tasks provide the students with a great opportunity to grow in accountability, responsibility and leadership. We are proud of how seriously they take these jobs and appreciate their best efforts.



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CONGRATULATIONS!



Hot Lunch Menu for August 4th, 2023 - September 8th, 2023

<u>Monday, Sept 4</u>	<u>Tuesday, Sept 5</u>	<u>Wednesday, Sept 6</u>	<u>Thursday, Sept 7</u>	<u>Friday, Sept 8</u>
NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY	Chicken Nuggets Scalloped Potatoes Peas Roll & Margarine Grapes	Corn Dog French Fries Mixed Green Salad w/DL Pears	Chicken Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes w/gravy Corn Roll & Margarine Apples	Super Nachos - Corn Chips Taco Meat, Black Beans Cheese Sauce, Salsa Carrots w/Ranch Apricots
Helpers:	Helpers: Mayra Lara Adam Hoelsing	Helpers: Andrew Preston Sarah Preston	Helpers: Adam Hoelsing John Songco	Helpers: Jordan Diedrich Amanda Diedrich

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

Pre-K Class By Nicole Boness

I hope everyone had a great summer! I would like to welcome all the new students, and Mrs. Ascherl to our classroom. We have had a great start to this school year already. The kids are catching on quickly and making new friends. During our first week of school, we have been learning our classroom rules, how to play with others, and how to clean up. They are also loving the new playhouse in our playground area.

Some activities we have done thus far include: painting a beautiful picture with water colors, making the cement colorful using sidewalk chalk, and using our whit boards to practice drawing shapes and letters. We also practiced all of our safety drills this past week, and I am beyond proud on how well these kids did. They knew what to do during every drill, were patient and they listened so well.

In the next couple of weeks, we will start learning our numbers, letters and be introduced to Mat Man who helps us draw people. They will also be learning how to write their name in capital letters. I am excited to get to know the kids better and for all that the new year will bring.



Third Grade Class By Meghan Calvert



Wow, the first two weeks of school have flown by! We have had a fun two weeks here in 3rd grade. We have been going over our classroom procedures and diving right into our curriculum. We have been enjoying our new math and religion curriculums. This year we are focusing hard on having a growth mindset. 3rd grade is working on using the words "I may not be able to do that yet, but I will!" instead of "I can't do that!"

We did a fun experiment with toothpaste and a toothpick. The students had to empty out the toothpaste container on a plate. Once all the toothpaste was out, they had to try and put all the toothpaste back into the tube. This is like our words. It shows the students that like our words, we can say sorry, but we can't put them back inside of us. We must think before we say something that could hurt others.

We have also started working with prayer buddies in the classroom and starting our day with Catholic Sprout podcasts. We are also learning about Blessed Carlo Acutis and living by his words "The Eucharist is the highway to Heaven." This week our class had the privilege of having the traveling crucifix in our classroom and praying for our vocations.

I am excited for what the rest of this year holds for 3rd grade and me!

