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**Feature Stories**

The Candidate
*An Article from Fr. Frederick Edlefsen, Pastor*

Descending from a line of sharecroppers since Reconstruction, Isaiah Johnson was born at home on October 5, 1959. Or, at least that's what his mother told the Alabama Department of Public Health. Isaiah was Eileen's eighth surviving child, one of thirteen. The Johnsons lived in an isolated wooden shack, down an unnamed red clay lane jutting off a county road outside of
St. Agnes Parishioner Begins Mission at Harvard University

FOCUS on the Eternal, Help Support Evangelical Efforts

This year, Elizabeth Hofer, a lifetime parishioner and graduate of St. Agnes Catholic School, will begin serving as a full-time Catholic missionary with the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). FOCUS is a Catholic apostolate which shares the hope and joy of the Gospel with college students by encountering them in friendship, inviting them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and accompanying them as they pursue lives of virtue and excellence.

A recent graduate of UVA, Elizabeth says she owes the foundation of her faith to the St. Agnes parish community which has helped form her from a young age. She is now looking to share that faith with students from across the country. She found this opportunity to share and grow in Christ-centered friendships when she met FOCUS missionaries on UVA's campus and has since decided to pursue this mission herself. Trained in Church teaching, prayer, sacred Scripture, evangelization, and discipleship, Elizabeth will begin serving at Harvard University for the 2018-2019 academic year.

In order to pursue this mission, FOCUS missionaries are challenged to raise their own salaries. Elizabeth is seeking mission supporters as she lives and works in Cambridge. If you are interested in joining Elizabeth on her mission by becoming a part of her support team or learning more about FOCUS you can contact her at elizabeth.hofer@focus.org or 571-314-4177.

Parish Happenings

Panel on Catholic Social Teaching and Immigration at St. Agnes

Join the USCCB, Virginia Catholic Conference and Catholic Charities in the Parish Hall, September 12th
On Wednesday, September 12th at 7:30 PM in the Parish Hall, St. Agnes will host a panel discussion on Catholic Social Teaching and its implications for how we approach immigration and the world refugee crisis. Join us to delve deeper into the nuances of and issues surrounding the national debate on immigration reform and the Church's efforts to shape public policy in this area. Also, learn about key immigration issues that the Virginia General Assembly may consider in January, and how the Church "welcomes the stranger" locally, as part of a broad, world-wide effort to "share the journey."

Panelists are as follows:

- Rev. Frederick Edlefsen, Pastor, St. Agnes Catholic Church;
- Ashley Feasley, Director of Policy, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
- Jeff Caruso, Executive Director, Virginia Catholic Conference; and
- Gregory McKinney, Migration and Refugee Services, Catholic Charities Diocese of Arlington.

RSVP at saintagnes.org. Space is limited!

For more information, contact Amber Roseboom, Director of Development, Outreach and Communications, at aroseboom@saintagnes.org or 703-525-1166.

Annual Picnic to be Held at the Knights of Columbus September 16th

*New Fun and Games on the Grass!*

The Annual St. Agnes Picnic is undergoing a facelift! We all love the idea of having it close enough to walk to, but the blacktop turns into coals on a hot day and results in plenty of scraped knees. This year, our local EDW Knights of Columbus have offered to host the event on their 10 acre grounds and make it one to remember!

On Sunday, September 16th, all are welcome to join us at the Columbus Club of Arlington at 5115 Little Falls Rd, Arlington, VA 22207 (right around the corner from Yorktown HS) after the Noon Mass until 4:30 PM for food, family and fun. Invite your friends and neighbors. There will be plenty of grilled food, sides and the traditional beer and ice cream trucks. Bring a change of clothes to have some real fun! Join in bocce ball, volleyball, water games, relay races and more. Don't worry kids - we'll have three new HUGE bounce houses as well.
If your last name begins with A - L, please bring a side dish to pass. If it begins with M-Z, please bring a dessert. (No need to ask your guests to bring a dish. This is a great opportunity to reach out into our communities for a fun-filled afternoon.)

As always, our local Knights are coordinating the event with the support of the Boy Scouts! If you are in need of transportation from St. Agnes to the K of C, please email Mark Allen at mallen@americanpublic.com, as the scouts have graciously offered to transport anyone in need of a ride to and from the picnic, from the church. Also, if you are interested in volunteering for the afternoon, please contact Owen Beirne at owen_beirnejr@ml.com.

Religious Education

*Time to Register for the Fall*

**CCD** - Registration is now open for CCD classes in the 2018-2019 school year! CCD religious education is for children in grades K-8. For more information or to register, visit saintagnes.org or contact the Religious Education Office at 703-527-1129.

**RCIA** - If you or someone you know is interested in joining the Catholic Church, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) begins again on Monday, September 17th. Call our Religious Education Office for more information at 703-527-1129.

**SPARK** - SPARK Sacrament Preparation for 9th - 12th graders who have not yet received one or more of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Communion) begins again on Sunday, September 23rd. Click here for more information or contact Kathy Brown at kbbrown12345@gmail.com to register.

Catholic Charities Counseling in the Parish Center

*Thursdays, 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM, by Appointment*

Meet counselor Jean Wood, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who is passionate about helping people to flourish by integrating faith and psychotherapy into practice. She assists people in finding greater healing, self-understanding, and the freedom to be who God is calling them to be. Jean is able to help with struggles with life transitions, depression, anxiety, grief/loss, and relationship issues. She is
collaborative and empathetic, and works with adolescents, adults and couples using an integrative, therapeutic approach.

Jean graduated with honors with a Bachelors in Social Work from Metropolitan State University in Denver, and received her Master of Social Work from Colorado State University. She completed her master's level internship at Denver Family Institute, a marriage and family therapy training program, and is currently completing the Clinical Program, a two-year certificate course at the Washington School of Psychiatry. Jean is excited to be joining us, and looks forward to seeing how she can potentially be of assistance to you.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, please call Catholic Charities Intake Coordinator Irma Sandoval at 703-425-0109 or Anne Devine at 703-517-7992. Cost is based on a sliding scale (income and dependents). Insurance is accepted.

REMINDER: Mini-Course on the Mass with Bishop Robert Barron

*Potluck Dinners and Course Discussion with Fr. Rich Every Two Weeks*

It's not too late to sign up! Enjoy this easy way to deepen your faith, as we explore the meaning of the Mass. A 30-minute video with an optional study guide will be sent to you each week via email or text. Enjoy at your leisure. Engage in online discussions and Q&A with Fr. Rich (option for public or private questions/conversation). Then, top it off with a potluck dinner every two weeks after the Saturday 5 PM Mass. Join us for food, fellowship and discussion. Email Fr. Rich at rmiserendino@saintagnes.org if you're interested in joining.

**Youth and Young Adults Corner**

St. Agnes High School Students are Invited to Go Ape! Treetop Ropes Adventure

*Join Us August 18th!*

Youth summer fun continues on Saturday, August 18th at 2 PM with Go Ape! Treetop Ropes Course. All St. Agnes high school students are invited to participate. For more details and to sign up, please email Fr. Rich at youth.ministry@saintagnes.org.
Announcing

August Volunteer of the Month: Katylee McInerney

Thank You for Your Selfless Service!

Katylee McInerney is our August Volunteer of the Month! Katylee has led St. Agnes' involvement in Christ House for the last four years and is now moving on to focus on other areas. As Christ House Coordinator, she organized St. Agnes volunteers to plan, cook and serve meals at Christ House once a month to 70 individuals. Following dinner, the volunteers would meet in the Christ House Chapel to praise God for the privilege of welcoming and feeding His children and to pray for those they had served. Katylee also coordinated "Saint Agnes Go Bags" (take-away meals) for Christ House guests.

Katylee said, "There could be no greater honor than to lead this group for the past four years. The joy of Christ House will always be a part of my soul's journey. 'For I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me.' (Matthew 25:35.)"

In addition to Christ House, Katylee cheerfully and humbly serves in a myriad of ways, including as a member of the Pastoral Council, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and bringing Holy Communion to homebound parishioners, Parish Liaison Network representative (PLN) between St. Agnes and Catholic Charities, Prison Ministry Coordinator leading the "Welcome Home" backpack program for confirmandi and CCD students at St. Agnes, Year of Mercy Group Coordinator carrying out corporal and spiritual acts of mercy in the parish, and leader of the St. Agnes Chapter of St. Catherine of Sienna Charism Discernment Group.

Thank you, Katylee, for your beautiful example, sharing Christ's love within and outside our parish, drawing many to him through your selfless acts of love.

(Pictured is Katylee McInerney.)
If your nomination was not drawn or you have a new one, please submit it now. To be considered, submissions should include the following:

- Full name of St. Agnes volunteer (must be a parishioner);
- What this individual does (if a member of a parish ministry organization, please note that);
- How long the parishioner has been serving (new or decades long);
- What prompted you to submit his/her name;
- Anything additional you would like to note about the volunteer; and
- Your name. If you prefer to be listed as "anonymous," note that should your recommendation be selected.

Send submissions to Amber Roseboom in the Parish Office at aroseboom@saintagnes.org with Volunteer of the Month in the subject line. To be considered for the coming month, submissions must be received by the 15th of current month. If your submission is not selected, and you would like him/her considered in a future month, you will need to resubmit your recommendation.

Three New Christ House Volunteers Take the Reigns

*Melissa Bartl, Anthony Yenson, and Alice Paxton Step Forward to Serve*

Katylee McInerney is handing over the reigns of our Christ House involvement to three parishioners who look forward to carrying on this beautiful mission. Please welcome Melissa Bartl, Anthony Yenson and Alice Paxton as our new Christ House Volunteer Leaders. Beginning in October, they will coordinate monthly meals and service at Christ House. If you would like to learn more about our work here or inquire about getting involved, please email Melissa at bartlmelissai@gmail.com, Anthony at vensonac@aol.com, or Alice at alice.paxton@ikorglobal.com.

**Around the Diocese and Beyond**

**Bishop Burbidge Invites the Faithful to Join in Pro-Life Novena**

*Nationwide 9-Week Novena Began on Friday, August 3rd*
Bishop Burbidge invites the faithful to join in the nationwide 9-week Novena for the Legal Protection of Human Life, which began on Friday, August 3rd.

The U.S. Bishops urge our participation each Friday in this Novena through September 28th. Participants will receive email or text reminders to pray and fast, along with little-known facts about Roe v. Wade to share with others. Sign up at www.usccb.org/pray.

Future with Hope Women's Conference, St. Agnes Parish Hall
Register by September 3rd and Save

We are thrilled to host this year's Future with Hope Women's Conference at St. Agnes on October 12th-13th! Speakers include Mary Elizabeth Sperry, author of Making Room for God: Decluttering and the Spiritual Life, Maria Suarez Hamm, former executive director of Centro Tepeyac in Silver Spring and past Hispanic Family Life and Leadership Development director for the Archdiocese of Washington, and more. Join us for a spiritual treasure hunt, pictures with the popes, Friday night wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres, Saturday breakfast and lunch and much more.

The event is for women 40 and over, with an early registration fee of $159 before September 3rd and $175 after early registration. Special rates are available for groups of 6+. Learn more at www.futurewithhopewomen.com, email info@futurewithhopewomen.com or call Melanie Rigney at 703-863-3940. Sponsors include the Arlington Diocese Council of Catholic Women and Joyful Spirit Gifts.

Missions At Home And Abroad

Brother Dennis Update from Grant Recipient
Note of Thanks from Jesuit Refugee Service/USA

"Thank you for your generous gift of $1,800 to Jesuit Refugee Service/USA...your support enables us to reach individuals and families living on the margins or in the midst of crisis, whether they are in Syria, Thailand, Venezuela or Chad. With your support, JRS provides access to education, meets urgent and ongoing needs, and builds the job skills of

Thank you to Jean Shirhall, St. Agnes parishioner, and her team for coordinating Brother Dennis Program activity. If you would like more information on the Brother Dennis Program, please contact Jean Shirhall at jshirhall@gmail.com.

Get Your Calendar Out

Near on the Horizon

*Save the Date, and Join Us!*

**Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, Wednesday, August 15th. This is a Holy Day of obligation. Masses will be Tuesday, August 14th at 7:30 PM (vigil), and Wednesday, August 15th at 6:30 AM, 9 AM, 12:05 PM and 7:30 PM.

**Youth Group Go Ape! Ropes Course**, Saturday, August 18th at 2 PM at Go Ape! in Springfield, VA. All rising 9th through rising 12th graders are welcome. Cost is $25. For more information, contact Fr. Rich at youth.ministry@saintagnes.org.

**School Starts Monday, August 27th!** Visit school.saintagnes.org or call the school office at 703-527-5423 for more information about our blue-ribbon school.

**Please Note:** St. Agnes Parish Offices will be closed Monday, September 3rd in observance of Labor Day.

*Call our Parish Office at 703-525-1166 with any questions, or check out our website at www.saintagnes.org for more details, more events and to register for any of the above.*

On The Town

**August is Hot, Hot, Hot**

*Get OUT of Town*

Assuming it stops raining for a bit, the reality is...it is just too hot to do anything other than sit by or in the water in August. So, head
somewhere with water and a cool breeze...relax and enjoy. We'll talk again in September!

"It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men as angels."

- St. Augustine