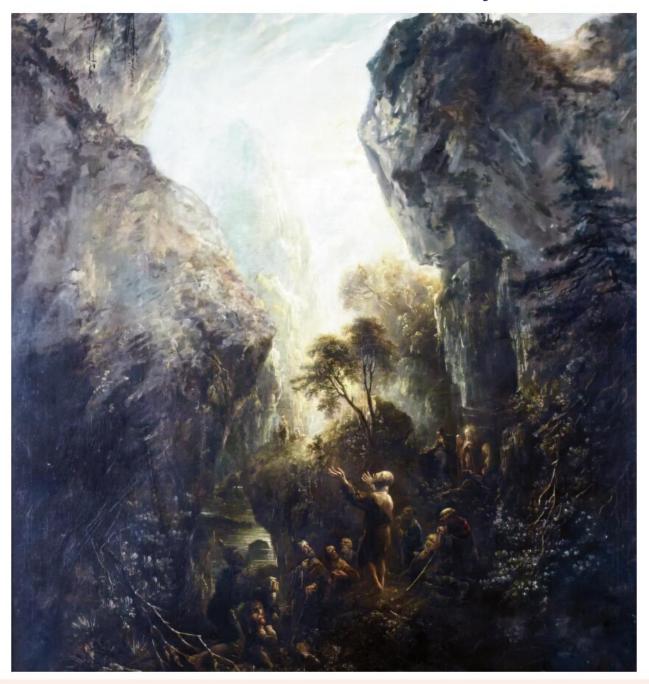
Saint Agnes Catholic Church

December 17th, 2023 | Third Sunday of Advent



From the Gospel of John

"A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light."

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

This Week's Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 17

7:30 a.m.	Sister Monica Baptiste Whelan
	(St. Agnes Parish)
9:00 a.m.	Sister Abigail Therese Jones
	(St. Agnes Parish)
11:00 a.m.	All Living and Deceased Parishioners

Monday, December 18

6:30 a.m.	Benjamin Haddock (Anonymous)
9:00 a.m.	✤ Robert Sheets (Holly George)

Tuesday, December 19

6:30 a.m.	Seminarian John Anthony Buono
	(St. Agnes Parish)
9:00 a.m.	骨 Katylee McInerney
	(James & Karen Berkon)

Wednesday, December 20

6:30 a.m.	Seminarian Michael Gibbon
	(St. Agnes Parish)
9:00 a.m.	🕆 Monica Stabile
	(The Chase Family)

Thursday, December 21

6:30 a.m.	Deacon James Joseph
	(St. Agnes Parish)
9:00 a.m.	Fr. Anthony Pinizzotto
	(Ken & Thuy Sault)

Friday, December 22

6:30 a.m.	Seminarian Gabriel Gaude
	(St. Agnes Parish)
9:00 a.m.	🕆 Manuel Arce
	(Carmen Guardia)

Saturday, December 23

7:30 a.m.	🕆 Bishop William Curlin
	(The Saunders Family)
9:00 a.m.	🕆 Matilde Winder

(Carmen Guardia) Vigil

5:00 p.m.	Karl Sault
-	(Ken & Thuy Sault

Sunday, December 24

7:30 a.m.	🕆 Sophie Michaels
9:00 a.m.	🕆 Paul and Olga Dugan
11:00 a.m.	All Living and Deceased Parishioners
Christmas Eve	Masses
5.00	Th. C

5:00 p.m.	The Saunders Family
8:00 p.m.	The Haissig Family

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Scripture Readings Week of December 17th, 2023

Sunday	Third Sunday of Advent Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday	Memorial of St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday	Memorial of St. John of Kanty, Priest Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38
]	Keep Them in Your Prayers

For those who are sick in our midst: Judy Shack, Walter Quinn, William Thomas, Carol Naill, Cathy Sheehan-Wilson, Ed Bonin, Marlise Yetter, Paz Speer, Jake Williams, Mary Pace, Agnes Howard, John Terrill, Jodi Borisinco, David Lounsbury, Helen Rebull, Mark Peterson, Stephen Andrews, Christian Andrews, Caio Rabello, Sharon Beene, Dwight Beene, Allen Ashby, Maria Pereira, John Thieman, Judy Bosco, Carlos Porras, Patricio Martinez, Residents of Cherrydale Health and Rehabilitation

The repose of the souls who have recently passed: Anibal Mejia, Armando Maldonado, Bernard Skibinski, Col. Vincent Joseph Goulding, Jr. USMC (Ret.), Frederick A. Griffen, Clinton Froscher, John Greer

Adorers Needed!

The chapel is open with Exposition in the Monstrance from 1:00 p.m. to 9 p.m. daily. On Wednesdays, Adoration is **in the Church.** Starts after the 9:00 a.m. Mass until 8:30 p.m. To maintain this, we have an URGENT NEED for recurring weekly commitments:

- Tuesday: 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 4:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m.

Please contact Greg King at adoration@saintagnes.org







Saint Agnes Essentials

Sacramental Emergency:

Please call (703) 525-1166 Ext 1.

Infant/Child Baptism:

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Please contact sacraments@saintagnes.org to learn more about having your child baptized.

Marriage Preparation:

Call the Parish Office for Pre-Cana at least 7 months prior to your wedding.

Anointing of the Sick:

Call the Parish Office to request Anointing of the Sick. Anyone with a serious illness should request this sacrament before being admitted to the hospital.

Homebound Visitation:

Call the Parish Office to request visitation.

How to become Catholic:

Interested in joining the Catholic Church or want to learn more? Contact adultformation@saintagnes.org.

Holy Orders and Consecrated Life:

Is the Lord calling you? For information about priesthood, the permanent diaconate, or the consecrated life, contact one of the priests or the Diocesan Vocations Office at (703) 841-2514.

Registration/Change of Address:

Forms can be found in the parish office or you can register online on our website. Let the parish office know about any address changes.

Sacramental Records or Sponsor Forms:

Please contact sacraments@saintagnes.org to request copies of your Sacramental records or for Godparent or Confirmation sponsor forms. Please allow five (5) business days to accommodate your requests.

Mass Intentions:

Please visit the Parish Office to request Mass intentions. We are currently scheduling into April 2024.

Parish Clergy

Pastor • Rev. William Saunders Parochial Vicar • Rev. Andrew Haissig In residence • Rev. Anthony Pinizzotto In residence • Rev. Steven Oetjen

Parish Office

1914 N. Randolph Street • Arlington, VA 22207-3046 Phone: (703) 525-1166 • Fax: (703) 243-2840 www.saintagnes.org Office Hours • Monday through Friday • 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

> Business Manager • Vitoria Vargas business@saintagnes.org

Office Manager • Armelle Tallec parishoffice@saintagnes.org

Operations and Facilities Manager • Brian Sherry facilities@saintagnes.org

Maintenance Technician • John Dolata maintenance@saintagnes.org

Director of Faith Formation • Lisa Orosa dff@saintagnes.org

Assistant to the Director of Faith Formation • TBD sacraments@saintagnes.org

Director of Music • Don Cotton musicdirector@saintagnes.org

Coordinator of the Protection of Children • Joan Biehler protect@saintagnes.org

Youth and Young Adults • Rev. Andrew Haissig youth.ministry@saintagnes.org

RCIA • Ana Lisa Pinon adultformation@saintagnes.org

Adoration Chapel Volunteer • Greg King adoration@saintagnes.org

Saint Agnes School

2024 N. Randolph Street • Arlington, VA 22207-3031 Phone: 703-527-5423 • Fax 703-525-4689 https://school.saintagnes.org/

Principal • Jennifer Kuzdzal jkuzdzal@saintagnes.org

Assistant Principal • Ann Reid areid@saintagnes.org

Sunday Mass

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. (Vigil) Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Mass

Monday – Friday: 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. Saturday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. and by appointment

2023 Contributions

Contributions made in 2023 must be postmarked or received at the Parish Office no later than December 31, 2023. These contributions will be credited for the calendar year 2023. Contribution statements for 2023 will be mailed to those whose parish records indicate they have contributed during the year. If you do not receive your statement by January 31, please contact the Parish Office at parishoffice@saintagnes.org.

Thank you for your stewardship of God's gifts and your generosity for the many needs of parish life!

Christmas Office Hours

December 22nd-January 1st: The Parish office closes at Noon on December 22nd and will remain closed for Christmas and New Year.

January 2nd: The Parish office reopens at 9:30 a.m.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Advent & Christmas Confessions

- Wednesday, December 20th: 7:00 PM until the last person
- Saturday, December 23rd: 8:00-9:00 AM & 3:00-4:00 PM

4th Sunday of Advent (December 23rd & 24th)

• 5:00 PM Vigil Mass, 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM

<u>Christmas Mass Schedule</u> Sunday, December 24th

- 5:00 PM (Christmas Choral Music starts at 4:30 PM)
- 8:00 PM (Christmas Choral Music starts at 7:30 PM)

Monday, December 25th:

- 9:00 AM
- 11:00 AM

Christmas Week

Tuesday-Friday, December 26th-29th: 9:00 AM Mass ONLY

Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (December 30th & 31st)

• 5:00 PM Vigil Mass, 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God Mass Schedule

- Sunday, December 31st: 5:00 PM
- Monday, January 1st: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM

Ministries & Groups at Saint Agnes

Adult Faith Formation

- Bible Study—adultformation@saintagnes.org
- RCIA—adultformation@saintagnes.org
- Spanish Bible Study—gvegge@aol.com
- Women's Bible Study—stagneswwp@gmail.com

Parish Service

- Arts & Crafts Guild—gveggejr@gmail.com
- Bethany Ministry—bethanyministry@saintagnes.org
- Cherrydale Rehab Prayer Group—biehlerj@aol.com
- Christ House Team—Alice.paxton@paladinlifecare.com
- Gabriel Project—gabrielproject@saintagnes.org
- Gardening Angels—jshirhall@gmail.com
- Homebound Parishioners Visits— homebound@saintagnes.org
- Legion of Mary—*jbdugan45@gmail.com*
- Respect Life—saintagnesrespectlife@gmail.com
- St. Joseph's League—StJosephLeague.StAgnes@gmail.com
- St. Raphael Prayer Group—*littlecubb@aol.com*
- The Borgo Gift Store—theborgo@saintagnes.org
 - Young Adults youngadults@saintagnes.org Liturgy

Extraordinary Min

- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy
- Communion—*dkcwhelan@gmail.com* • Flower Guild—*dfowen@aol.com*
- Lectors—biehlerj@aol.com
- Sacristans—
- ruthefoster@earthlink.net
 - Ushers—jholl2473@aol.com

Youth Activities

- Challenge Club—
- kefoley2@pefoley.com
- Conquest Club kefoley2@pefoley.com
- Cub Scouts / Boy Scouts—
 mallen@americanpublic.us
- CYO Sports—
- CYO Sports dan.r.madigan@gmail.com
- Girl Scouts—
- pamelasnichols@gmail.com
- Youth Group—
- youth.ministry@saintagnes.org

Adoration Chapel Christmas Schedule

The Adoration will be closed Sunday, December 24th through Monday, January 1st, 2024. It will reopen at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY all high schoolers are invited

Christmas Break: December 17-January 7

YG returns Jan. 9, 2024



JUNE 22-28

tinyurl.com/STAGYG-WC

registration open now for current high schoolers & volunteers



get updates

estagnesyouth
 stagnesyg.flocknote.com
 tinyurl.com/STAGYG-Home

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Arlington VA is hiring!

Religious Education ASSISTANT

Requirements:

- A passion for Jesus Christ and sharing the Catholic Faith
- Detail-oriented with strong administrative and computer skills
- Ability to lift up to 30 pounds
- Willingness to work some nights and weekends
- Experience is not required but must be a quick learner and hard worker

We offer competitive salary and benefits.

Contact Lisa Orosa dff@saintagnes.org





Thank you from Troop 111!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Scout Poinsettia and Wreath sale. In addition to raising funds for troop activities and summer camp, we

also received donations for more than fifty plants that were delivered to our homebound parishioners and residents at Cherrydale Rehab and Sunrise Senior Living Center.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



open FRIDAYS after 6:30 am and 9 am Masses

serving coffee, espresso drinks and light treats Want to have the Café open for your meeting?

Email: bethanyministry@saintagnes.org



Updated Hours: Sundays after Masses Wednesday Dec. 20th – 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24th The Borgo will be **closed** for our celebration of Christmas

Thank you to everyone who has visited our parish shop.



Father Saunders blessed the shop last week. He prayed that our Heavenly Father would pour forth the Holy Spirit so that our parish would be a source of inspiration for many people and whatever they might buy would bring them closer to the faith. Items in the store are not blessed but can be blessed after purchase by any of our priests.

Father Saunders wanted to open a gift shop to offer parishioners easy access to Catholic gifts and books. His hope is that we will find special items to express and display our faith. In addition, purchasing items from our shop directly supports our own parish!

We hope you have a joyful Christmas with your loved ones.

Join us on Facebook!

Like us on Facebook https:// www.facebook.com/ stagneschurcharlington.

Free FORMED Subscription

Check out FORMED.org! A FORMED subscription includes videos, Bible Studies, books, podcasts and more! Sign up by selecting Saint Agnes Church using our parish zip code (22207).

Saint of the Week

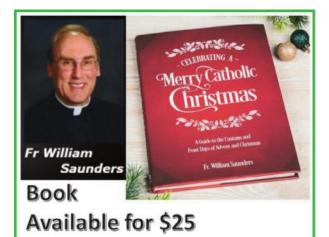
Saint John of Kanty December 23rd

Perhaps not many have heard of today's saint. A native of Poland, as a young man John proved himself to be a bright student at the University of Krakow. He then went on to become a priest and professor but was later prevented from teaching by rivals and became a parish priest instead.

Yet, difficulties found him there as well, in the form of personal fear and opposition by parishioners. Those who took the time to get to know him were eventually won over by his humility and kindness. He eventually returned to Krakow to teach Scripture but led a sacrificial and austere life, keeping only the bare essentials and donating the rest to those in need. He slept little, ate little and gave much. His life is a great example of focusing on the essential— Jesus—and pruning out the unnecessary.

Lord, grant us the grace to be more humble, selfless and kind. Saint John of Kanty, pray for us!

-Peter Scagnelli



On sale at The Borgo! Or you may stop by the office to purchase your book.

Quo Vadis Seminary Visit for High School Boys

Ever wondered what college seminary is like? Join Fr. Isenberg and Quo Vadis on January 27, 2024, to experience it firsthand on a visit to St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, D.C. Meet the seminarians and their formators, see where they live, pray, eat and study, celebrate Mass together and tour parts of Catholic University where they have classes. Dads are welcome but not required. Deadline to submit registration form is January 18. Visit www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/ OuoVadis or contact the Office of Vocations at 703-841-2514 or vocations@arlingtondiocese.org. Quo Vadis events are for high school boys interested in growing in their spiritual life and exploring their vocations.

'Gardening Angels' Needed

Join fellow parishioners in helping to maintain the churchyard gardens. No special training needed, just a willingness to join and learn as you work. Timing can be arranged. If you have any questions, please call Jean Shirhall at 703-528-2617.

Child Protection Compliance for Volunteers in Programs with Children or Youth

Adult volunteers who have substantial contact with children in the Diocese of Arlington are required to be compliant with the Diocesan Child Protection Policy which includes Background Checks, policy acknowledgement and completion of the VIRTUS (Protecting God's Children) Seminar. A VIRTUS Seminar will be held at Saint Agnes on Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. You must register online at VIRTUS.org to receive attendance credit. Please register as soon as possible because the seminars fill up quickly.

If you would like to volunteer with children at Saint Agnes Parish or School, please contact Joan Biehler, Saint Agnes Liaison for Child Protection at protect@saintagnes.org to receive the link for the online application for the background checks and instructions on completing the application and registering for the VIRTUS Seminar.



Gabriel Project at Saint Agnes



The Gabriel Project is a parish-based pregnancy assistance program, supported by the Arlington Diocese Office for Family Life. Gabriel Project assists expectant mothers with love, care, and spiritual, emotional, and material support. Be an "angel" and accompany an

expectant mom through her pregnancy and beyond. Support the ministry with language translation, social services navigation, material support, and many other ways. Please contact gabrielproject@saintagnes.org for more information.

Respect Life Ministry Needs Volunteers

Please offer your helping hands

saintagnesrespectlife@gmail.com.

and email

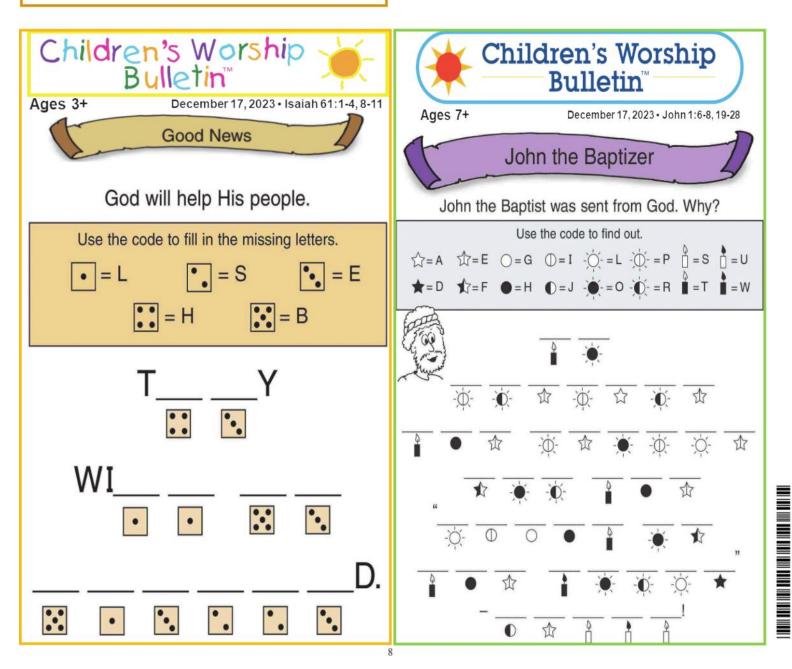


"The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me." God is empowering you for a specific purpose! How will you respond to so great a love? Is He asking you to follow Him by serving in the priesthood or consecrated religious life?

Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at (703) 841-2514 or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

St. Agnes Christ House Team Needs Volunteers!

The St. Agnes group caters the meal once a month **all year long**, the **first Tuesday of the month**, from about 2:30 to 6:00 p.m. at the latest. We are always looking for more volunteers to plan and purchase the meal, and to distribute the take-out meal at the door of Christ House. Interested in helping? Contact Alice Paxton at: alice.paxton@paladinlifecare.com.



Saint Agnes Religious Education

Important Dates!

- December 19th | Christmas Pageant and RE Party
- December 20th-January 6th | Christmas Break
- January 11th | Adult Faith Formation | Discovering Christ
- January 27th | Family Day of Service for Pediatric Cancer

For more information, contact Lisa Orosa at dff@saintagnes.org.



"Christ made my soul beautiful with the jewels of grace and virtue. I belong to Him Whom the angels serve."

Sunday Mass Journal 3rd Sunday of Advent John 1:6-8; 19-28
Sunday, December 17 • CHURCH & MASS TIME: • PRIEST & COLOR OF VESTMENTS: • I OFFERED THIS MASS FOR: Gospel Reflection John the Baptist is a model of humility for us. What statement did he say that showed us how humble he is? How can we be more humble like John the Baptist? Give a concrete example.
I am thankful for I will pray for
My Spiritual Goal for the Week

Name:

ST. AGNES RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Age/Grade:

DECEMBER 2023

Do 5 activities in a row. Submit this card at the end of the month to the RE Office or at the Parish Gift Shop on the last Sunday of the month to collect your prize! **Complete ALL activities here and you will be entered for a raffle for a GRAND PRIZE in RE's May Crowning Celebration.**

Make an Advent wreath for your family.	Celebrate the Feast of St. Francis Xavier (Dec 3) by telling someone why you love Jesus	Learn the song "O Come Emmanuel".	Pray 3 Hail Marys before going to bed.	Go to Mass on Immaculate Conception, Dec 8. <i>It is a holy</i> <i>day of</i> <i>obligation.</i>
Take a walk or drive in your neighborhood to see the Christmas displays and pray for your neighbors	Pray the Advent prayers and light a candle from the wreath each Sunday of Advent.	Celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas (Dec 7) by putting out your shoes for candies	Memorize the Act of Contrition and go to Confession, if you can.	Eat some tacos or nachos to celebrate the feast of St. Juan Diego (Dec 9)
Pray the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary as a family.	Celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec 12) by watching Littlest Saints on Formed.org	GO TO MASS EVERY SUNDAY!	Celebrate the feast of St. Lucy (Dec. 13) by having the girl in the family wear white and serve ginger cookies.	Assemble care bags for the homeless and give it to those you meet on the streets.
Attend a weekday Mass during Christmas Break.	Ask your parents if you could invite an elderly neighbor or acquaintance for a meal.	Celebrate the feast of St. John of the Cross (Dec. 14) by praying before a crucifix.	Sing Christmas carols and cheer up those who are lonely.	Help decorate your home for Christmas, with special emphasis on the Nativity scene.
Pop some popcorn and watch "A Charlie Brown Christmas" with your family.	Go to Mass on BOTH Sunday Mass on Dec. 24 & Monday, Dec. 25. <i>Christmas</i> <i>is a holy day of</i> <i>obligation.</i>	Visit Jesus in the Adoration Chapel and pray for world peace, especially in the Holy Land & Ukraine.	Honor the Holy Innocents (Dec. 28) by reading Matthew 2:16-18 and pray for an end to abortion.	Make Christmas cards for your loved ones and tell them why you love them to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family (Dec. 31).

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Not an RE/SAS student

St. Agnes RE St. Agnes school student

Saint Agnes Catholic School



Our Student Council officers and Father Andrew led the school in spiritual readings and then Father blessed our classroom wreaths.

If your Advent seems long, remember the encouraging words of Pope Francis, "Advent is a time of waiting for our Lord, who will visit us all in our own hearts. The Lord is coming! Let us wait for Him!"







St. Agnes School is a Catholic community centered on the teachings of Jesus Christ and strengthened by the partnership between parents, who are the primary educators of our students, and our dedicated teaching staff.

We believe in the mission to educate our students so that they become loving Christians, inspired learners, outstanding achievers, natural communicators, and strong servants of God.

