

Saint Agnes Catholic Church

June 7th, 2026 | Solemnity of the Body and
Blood of Christ



From the Gospel of John

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats
this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give
is My flesh for the life of the world.”

Jn 6:51-58

This Week's Mass Intentions

Sunday, June 7

- 7:30 a.m. † Donna Bierlein
(Donald Reinecker)
- 9:00 a.m. 2025 Ordinations Anniversary
(Lorna Stockmeyer)
- 11:00 a.m. All Living and Deceased Parishioners
- 5:00 p.m. Rev. Richard Malebranche
(Saint Agnes Parish)

Monday, June 8

- 6:30 a.m. Rev. Scott Sina
(Saint Agnes Parish)
- 9:00 a.m. Rev. Nicholas Barnes
(Saint Agnes Parish)

Tuesday, June 9

- 6:30 a.m. Rev. Michael Folmar
(Saint Agnes Parish)
- 9:00 a.m. † Rene Arce
(Carmen Guardia)

Wednesday, June 10

- 6:30 a.m. Rev. Michael Weston
(Saint Agnes Parish)
- 9:00 a.m. Rev. Steven Oetjen
(Saint Agnes Parish)

Thursday, June 11

- 6:30 a.m. † John Boeke
(The Whelan Family)
- 9:00 a.m. † Dr. Joseph F. Saunders
(The Saunders Family)

Friday, June 12

- 6:30 a.m. Rev Frederick Edlefsen
(Saint Agnes Parish)
- 9:00 a.m. John Irvin
(Lori Hall)

Saturday, June 13

- 7:30 a.m. Deacon Joseph Peter Walsh
(Christine Walsh)
- 9:00 a.m. † Ruth Marie Carter
(Michael Newman)

Vigil

- 5:00 p.m. † Col. Tom Lesan
(The Sullivan Family)

Sunday, June 14

- 7:30 a.m. † Sandra Elias
(Melissa Elias)
- 9:00 a.m. † Donna Bierlein
(Carol Herbert)
- 11:00 a.m. All Living and Deceased Parishioners
- 5:00 p.m. † Jacqueline McLaughlin
(Ed & Trudy Dervan)

† indicates person is deceased

Scripture Readings

Week of June 7th, 2026

- Sunday** Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ
Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20;
1 Cor 10:16-17; Jn 6:51-58
- Monday** 1 Kgs 17:1-6; Ps 121:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Mt 5:1-12
- Tuesday** Memorial of Saint Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor
1 Kgs 17:7-16; Ps 4:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8; Mt 5:13-16
- Wednesday** 1 Kgs 18:20-39; Ps 16:1b-2ab, 4, 5ab and 8, 11;
Mt 5:17-19
- Thursday** Memorial of Saint Barnabas, Apostle
Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6;
Mt 5:20-26
- Friday** Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Dt 7:6-11; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10; 1 Jn 4:7-16;
Mt 11:25-30
- Saturday** Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
1 Kgs 19:19-21; Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10;
Mt 5:33-37
- Sunday** Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ex 19:2-6a; Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5; Rm 5:6-11;
Mt 9:36-10:8

Keep Them in Your Prayers

For those who are sick in our midst:

Walter Quinn, William Thomas, Carol Naill, Marlise Yetter, Paz Speer, Jake Williams, Mary Pace, Jodi Borisinco, David Lounsbury, Caio Rabello, Judy Bosco, Carlos Porras, Patricio Martinez, Seamus Hasson, Audrey Gawda, Alzira Medeiros, Susan Donahue, Joseph Elegido, Marjorie Meyers, William James Hall, Warren Duerbeck, Ava Gloria Laranjeira Wescher, Larry Mead, Brick Quinn, Theresa Van Der Vlugt, Artemia Ayvar, Wade Hoherz, Audrey Thompson, Cynthia Romeo, Robert Dolbear, Michael Halbert, Olivia Glendale Green, Residents of Cherrydale Health and Rehabilitation

The repose of the souls who have recently passed:

Jimmy Carter



Adoration Schedule

The Adoration Chapel reopens this weekend!

Proposed schedule:

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday: 10am to 9pm;
Wednesday in the Church
9:30am to 8:30pm; Friday 10am **through** Sunday 9pm.

Please commit for a weekly hour! Please contact Vincent Buono at adoration@saintagnes.org.



Saint Agnes Essentials

Sunday Mass

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. (Vigil)

Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Weekday Mass

Monday – Friday: 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.

Saturday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.

Holy Day – Additional Masses at Noon
and 7:00 p.m.



Sacrament of Penance

Wednesday during Holy Hour 7:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

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

Parish Clergy

Pastor • Rev. Msgr. William Saunders

Parochial Vicar • Rev. Michael Folmar

Parochial Vicar • Rev. Richard Malebranche

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 - Friday • 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Business Manager • Vitoria Vargas

business@saintagnes.org

Office Manager • Armelle Tallec

parishoffice@saintagnes.org

Administrative Assistant • Marijo Galvin

officeadmin@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

Director of Evangelization and Adult Faith

Formation • Isabella Grado

adultformation@saintagnes.org

Director of Music • Don Cotton

musicdirector@saintagnes.org

Coordinator of the Protection of Children • Jennifer Carpenter

protect@saintagnes.org

Youth and Young Adults • Rev. Richard Malebranche

youth.ministry@saintagnes.org

OCIA • Ana Lisa Piñon

ocia@saintagnes.org

Adoration Chapel Volunteer • Vincent Buono

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

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 seven (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 ocia@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 the month of August 2026.



Ministries & Groups at Saint Agnes

Adult Faith Formation

- Bible Study—adultformation@saintagnes.org
- OCIA—ocia@saintagnes.org
- Spanish Bible Study—gvegge@aol.com
- Women's Bible Study—stagneswvp@gmail.com
- Young Adults' Bible Study—adultformation@saintagnes.org

Parish Service

- Arts & Crafts Guild—gveggejr@gmail.com
- Bethany Ministry—bethanyministry@saintagnes.org
- Cherrydale Rehab Prayer Group—biehlerj@aol.com
- Christ House Team—ssyenson@gmail.com
- Gabriel Project—gabrielproject@saintagnes.org
- Gardening Angels—jshirhall@gmail.com
- Homebound Parishioners Visits—homebound@saintagnes.org
- Legion of Mary—LegionofMarySaintAgnes@gmail.com
- Respect Life—saintagnesrespectlife@gmail.com
- Saint Agnes Knights of Columbus Council—kofc.st.agnes.council.18572@gmail.com
- Saint Agnes Seniors Group—tpharlow18@gmail.com
- St. Joseph's League—StJosephLeague.StAgnes@gmail.com
- St. Raphael Prayer Group—moshimoshigcs@gmail.com
- The Borgo Gift Store—theborgo@saintagnes.org
- Young Adults—youngadults@saintagnes.org

JOIN US FOR THE EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION FOLLOWING THE 11:00 AM MASS!

Wednesday Holy Hour in June

During June, the month of the Sacred Heart, please join us for our Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Parish Holy Hour with prayers in honor of the Sacred Heart.



Liturgy

- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion—dkcwhelan@gmail.com
- Flower Guild—dfowen@aol.com
- Lectors—lectors@saintagnes.org
- Parish Choir—musicdirector@saintagnes.org
- Sacristans—ruthefoster@earthlink.net
- Ushers—jholl2473@aol.com

Youth Activities

- Challenge Club—kfoley2@pefoley.com
- Conquest Club—kfoley2@pefoley.com
- Cub Scouts / Boy Scouts—sconroy68@gmail.com
- CYO Sports—treebdonohue@yahoo.com
- Girl Scouts—pamelasnichols@gmail.com
- Youth Group—youth.ministry@saintagnes.org

Celebrate flag day with us!

Saint Agnes Parish Picnic

Please consider signing up for a volunteer shift via this QR Code!

Sunda, June 14th
12:30pm - 4pm

Come hungry for classic picnic food

bounce house | pony rides | petting zoo | yard games | face painting

Join us on Facebook!

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stagneschurcharlington>.

Join us on Instagram!

You can find our page by searching @saint_agnes_va on the Instagram app.

Free FORMED Subscription

Check out FORMED.org! A subscription includes videos, Bible Studies, books, etc.! Sign up by selecting St. Agnes Church using our zip code (22207).

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

7:30 PM | SCHOOL GYM

**Recently confirmed 8th graders:
welcome to high school youth ministry!**

SUMMER YG STARTS JUNE 16

EIGHTH GRADE GRADS CAN COME ALL SUMMER

tinyurl.com/STAGYG-Home

@stagnesyouth

Sign up for updates by visiting

StAgnesArlington.flocknote.com/YM



Hallow



Pray with our
Hallow small group



**WorkCamp
leaves June 20!**

MaRiH Center

The MaRiH Center is a crisis-pregnancy in Alexandria that has been serving, loving, and walking with mothers in need for over 50 years. We are seeking volunteers who want to partner in our mission to provide confidential life-saving help to moms and their babies.

If you feel called to volunteer, please call 703-370-4774 or visit our website at marih.org.

ST. AGNES PARISH SENIORS!

Next Seniors Group meeting Friday, June 19th at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Wondering how to jumpstart your faith in the second, third, or fourth season of your life? Join the St. Agnes Seniors on Friday, June 19th, 11 a.m. in the Parish Center and learn from award-winning author Maria Morera Johnson. Maria, the author of "A Beautiful Second Act," will share how we can be inspired by the lives of saints and others. Their stories will help you embrace your second half and the changes it brings to our health, our personal relationships, our responsibilities, our work, and our faith.

We will share a potluck lunch. Bring a dish to share (if you are able) and a friend! No need to RSVP - just come. We will be happy to see you.

Questions? Contact Trudy Harlow at tpharlow18@gmail.com or 703-677-6554.

Msgr. Saunders' Bible Study

The Bible Study is on this Tuesday, June 9th. We are studying the Gospel of St. John.

adultformation@saintagnes.org



Christ House Desserts

Hand held desserts, bars/brownies/cookies, etc., are needed for our Christ House meals, First Tuesday of the month, May-September. For details and to sign up visit https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044FACAC28A20-63773311-christ#.

Your sweet treats are so appreciated by our guests and also by the Saint Agnes Christ House team.

Respect Life Ministry Needs Volunteers

Please offer your helping hands and email saintagnesrespectlife@gmail.com.

THANK YOU

to our patrons!



Since opening in November 2023, The Borgo has raised \$20,000, which will be used to help fund the following parish initiatives:

- **Chairs for the Adoration Chapel**
- **Eucharistic Procession Canopy**
- **Playground renovation**

We are deeply grateful for your loyalty to our parish gift shop!

Monsignor Saunders extends his gratitude for your support, which directly benefits our entire parish community.

THE BORGO CATHOLIC GIFT SHOP • OPEN SUNDAYS AFTER MASS • THEBORGO@SAINTAGNES.ORG



THE BORGO BOOK CLUB

SPRING READ: DEATH COMES FOR THE ARCHBISHOP

Discussion
Moderated
by Fr. Oetjen

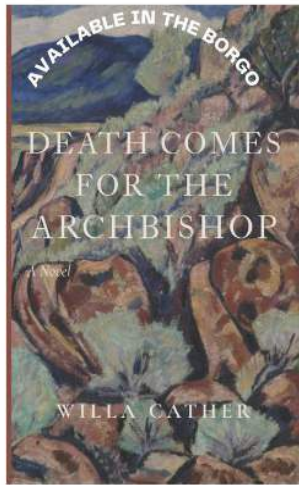
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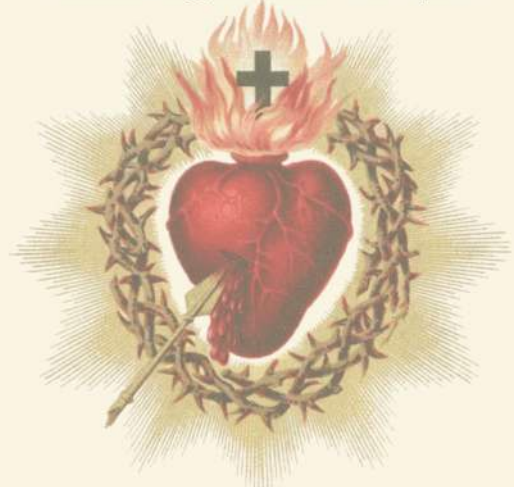
PARISH HALL

Questions:

TheBorgo@saintagnes.org



Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Thursday, June 11th at 7pm



As we commemorate America's 250th anniversary, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will consecrate the country to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 11th. Join us in this nationwide consecration!



Catacombs Cafe

open FRIDAYS

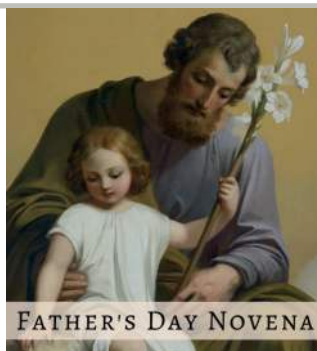
after the 6:30 am Mass

serving coffee, espresso drinks and light treats

Want to have the Café open for your meeting?

Email: bethanyministry@saintagnes.org

Our Novena of Masses on behalf of our Fathers, Grandfathers, and those who have been a father to us will start with the 7:30 a.m. Mass on June 21st, Father's Day. It is proper to remember those who have died and to honor our fathers and grandfathers who are still living. To do so, please pick up the Father's Day packets in the Church entrances, inscribe legibly the outer envelope with the names you wish to be remembered, and include your offering.



Please return the envelope to the Parish Office or in the collection baskets by Friday, June 19th.

What does it mean to be an "active Catholic"?

An active Catholic is a person who cherishes the faith received at Holy Baptism, nourished through the Holy Eucharist, healed through the Sacrament of Penance, and strengthened through the Sacrament of Confirmation. An active Catholic embraces the teachings of the Catholic Church contained in the Word of God and in Sacred Tradition, and strives to live them.

An active Catholic is registered in the parish, supports the mission of the Church with time, talent, and treasure, whether by worshipping at Holy Mass each Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation (except for illness or emergency), volunteering to serve the parish community in various ways, and supporting the parish financially, using Faith Direct or offertory envelopes. Active Catholic spouses and parents seek to help their loved ones know Jesus through prayer, Holy Mass, regular Penance, religious education, and charitable works.

Why is this important? Anyone who seeks to be a godparent or sponsor for the Sacraments of Baptism or Confirmation, or enter the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, or receive a Catholic Tuition Rate at School must first be verified as an active Catholic and parishioner.

“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.” (John 6:56)

Priests spend their lives praying for us, celebrating the sacraments, and guiding us closer to Christ. On World Priest Day, take time to pray for them, asking God to bless their ministry and grow their holiness as they continue to serve the Church with love and dedication. If you sense God calling you to consider a vocation to the priesthood, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (703) 841-2514 or via email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.



Servers & Singers Needed

Men and boys interested in serving at the altar for the First Friday Masses in Latin, and men and women interested in chanting in the schola, please contact Father Oetjen at froetjen@saintagnes.org.

Christ House Ministry in **Urgent** need of Volunteer Meal Organizers

St. Agnes crew serves a hot meal at Christ House in Alexandria, on the first Tuesday of every month. Volunteers choose which months they are available. We prepare the dinner for Take Out. Hours are 3 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. The Role of Organizer (aka The Chef) creates a simple meal plan, shops & cooks. The Role of Assistant is to help as directed by The Chef, organize and bag all the “To Go” items. Come, have a training session, see us in action before you commit. We need help year round in performing this corporal work of mercy, feeding the hungry. Interested? Please Contact: Sally Yenson at ssyenson@gmail.com or 703 527 2794.

Private Mass Intentions

We are accepting Unannounced Intentions which are not said at a public Mass. These intentions will be offered privately and published as a list in the bulletin periodically as “Fulfilled Unannounced Masses.”

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Ordinary Time beckons, and so on this Sunday we surrender the last glimmers of paschal joy as we celebrate the renewal of our life around the table of the Eucharist. This feast reminds us that the goal of the catechumen’s journey through Lent is not the baptismal font at Easter, but rather the experience of Pentecost. It is all about life lived in the Spirit’s embrace in relationship to the Body of Christ, which is found both “on the table” and “at the table.”

The season of confirmation is also drawing to a close, and this feast serves as a reminder that this sacrament, a solemn sending from font to table, is keyed to renewed vigor. Confirmation has sometimes been sadly misunderstood as a kind of graduation from religious formation, but it is nothing of the sort. It is about being led by the Lord Jesus to the place where the Spirit flourishes, and where the gifts of the Spirit are most easily detectable. After next week we will resume our consideration of the sacrament of confirmation, its rich and somewhat tangled history, its challenging theology, and its changing celebration.

—Rev. James Field

Pilgrimage to OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
SEPTEMBER 13 - 20, 2026

with Fr. Marlee Abao, CICM, and Fr. Sonny Aryanto, CICM

CELEBRATE DAILY MASS!

For information or to make a reservation, please contact a St Ann Parishioner, **Pascasie Adedze**. Email: pascasie.adedze@cruiseplanners.com and Cell: 217-721-5152.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE is JUNE 12, 2026



**THE
BORGO**

YOUR PARISH GIFTSHOP

The Borgo will close from

June 1st to June 30th

for year-end inventory count.

*We look forward to seeing you
again in July!*

PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC): We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate group.) Meet us for: Thursday lunches (June 11 & 25); dining out in Shirlington (June 14); outdoor Stations of the Cross at Nativity Church (June 17); dance at Greenspring (June 19); picnic at Lake Accotink (June 21); serving meal at Christ House (June 27); mini-golf (June 30). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

Special Appeal from the Little Sisters of the Poor

Next weekend, June 13th/14th, the Little Sisters of the Poor will come to Saint Agnes for their annual appeal. The day-to-day expense of providing for the elderly poor – individuals who have outlived their resources – is quite costly. Every donation counts. Each dollar helps them provide safe-shelter, loving care, nutritious meals, enriching activities, and medical and nursing care to needy aged seniors.

If you are contributing by checks, please make the check payable to St. Agnes and write on the memo line Little Sisters of the Poor.



Thank you for your generous support!

Pregnant? Need Help? Contact Project Gabriel 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. Please contact gabrielproject@saintagnes.org.

To protect human life & the truth about marriage

**CATHOLICS
VOTE NO**

on the

**"Virginia Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment" and
"Virginia Remove Constitutional Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendment"**

Pledge to Vote: CatholicsVoteNo.com

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Early Voting begins **September 18**
Election Day **November 3**

TO OUR PRIESTS

CONGRATULATIONS
on the anniversary of your ordination!

**Thank you for your service
to our parish and our diocese.**



Msgr. William Saunders

May 12 | 42-year anniversary



Fr. Steven Oetjen

June 10 | 9-year anniversary



Fr. Michael Folmar

June 9 | 8-year anniversary



Fr. Ricky Malebranche

June 7 | 1-year anniversary





Inova Blood Donor Services

Blood Drive

Knights of Columbus Arlington Council 2473



Sunday, June 14, 2026

8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
5115 Little Falls Rd., Arlington, VA
Inova Blood Donor Services will be in the Main Hall.

Donate and receive a personal fan*.

Your single blood donation could save or improve the lives of two or more persons in need.

*Photo ID required. Allow one hour for your donation. 2014 supplies tax. Quantities are limited. Visit complete screening process to receive giveaway.

Book your appointment today!

Visit <https://bit.ly/KOC0814>

OR

Contact: Terrence Finneran

Email: terrence.finneran@usa.net



InovaBlood.org

JP Summer Camps - Register Today!

Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School's summer camp registration is now open! Check out this year's camp offerings and sign up today! For rising 2nd to 9th graders, JP summer camps are a great way to spend your summer! John Paul offers both Athletic and Enrichment Camps and its premier day camp, Camp Quintessential. Go to jpthegreat.org/summercamp to learn more about what JP is offering!

Can't Make it to Daily Mass?

Take a few moments to reflect with our Hallow App!

	Daily Reflections Jeff Cavins & Jonathan Roumie 9 min	
	Daily Gospel Daily Lectio Divina 5-30 min	
	Daily Mass Readings Listen & Pray 1668 sessions	

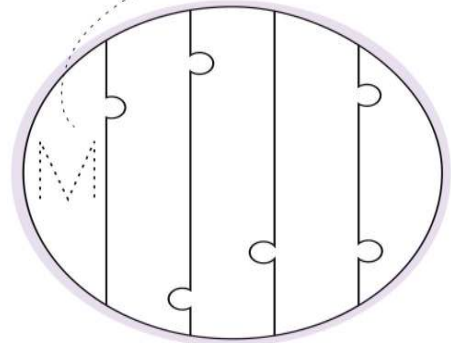
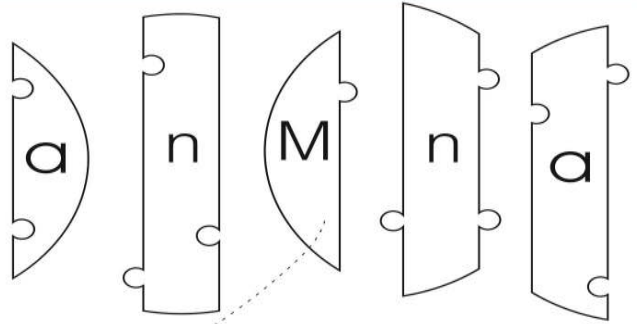
If you haven't already, scan this QR Code to join our parish page.



June 7, 2026 • Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16
AGE 3+

He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, to teach you that ...

Match the pieces and write the letters.



... man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the LORD.

June 7, 2026 • 1 Corinthians 10:16-17
AGE 7+

When we share the cup of wine, we not only show our thanks, but we share in Christ's death.

Write the letter that appears exactly 10 times in each line. You will find a word that means "sharing or taking part in."



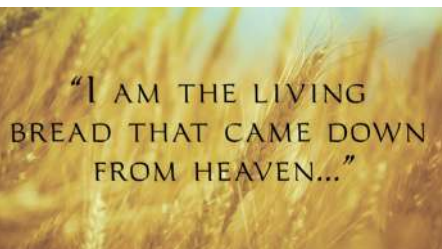
- paper plump opossum poppy rope _____
- salary abacus aardvark avalanche _____
- trousers rare razor array roar _____
- patter total attractive crate torte _____
- victim icicle silliest shining kiwi _____
- cackle practical accuse cocoa tactic _____
- timing gigantic biscuit skiing inning _____
- apple stopper pipe papoose people _____
- kangaroo aviate madam airplane aura _____
- static storm stutter tight trust _____
- divide indian vision iodine winning _____
- snoop oppose opinion moose coronary _____
- can anyone penny nation nonsense _____

Saint Agnes Religious Education

Religious Education Registration for 2026-2027 will begin in July. Please go to the website for more information.



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



“I AM THE LIVING BREAD THAT CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN...”

SAINT OF THE WEEK | June 9th |

Saint Ephrem | (c. 306-373)

He was born in present-day Turkey, the son of a pagan priest and a Christian mother. From a very young age, he displayed an explosive temper, which he learned to control. At a very young age, he was baptized and later ordained a deacon. His ministry was dedicated to teaching the faith, for he was a great teacher. His bishop, noting his Christian and human qualities, wanted to ordain him a priest, but Ephrem opposed it, considering the priesthood unworthy of him. As a deacon and teacher, he spread Christian teaching with extraordinary writing skills, making use of poetry, religious songs, and parodying the lyrics of popular songs of his time to not only refute Christian heresies but also to propagate the teachings of Christ. History distinguishes him with the nickname “The Zither of the Holy Spirit.” Through his poetry, he founded a theological school. Although he did not speak Greek, he was bold in his language, writing poems dedicated to Mary, Mother of God. His writings and mysticism made him one of the Doctors of the Church.
—Peter Scagnelli

Join Rev. Msgr. William Saunders, Delores Nelson, and Colette Lienhard for a two-day Pilgrimage to Historic Catholic Maryland and Virginia for an exciting, fun-filled, and historic adventure this summer (July 23-24, 2026). **Seating is limited.** So Please Sign Up Early! For More Details and to register go to arlingtoncatecheticalsociety.org/pilgrimages.

Arlington Catechetical Society Pilgrimage July 23-24, 2026



A PILGRIMAGE OF HISTORY

This overnight excursion focuses on "Historical Catholic Maryland and Virginia," retracing the steps of early settlers and the origins of the Catholic faith in the English-speaking New World.

Thursday, July 23

- 8:00 Depart Corpus Christi, Aldie
- 9:00 Mass at St. Agnes, Arlington
- 9:45 Depart St. Agnes
- 11:30 Lunch at Captain Pat's
- 1:30 Saint Mary's Historic City, MD
Self-guided Tour
- 4:00 St. Clement's Island
- 4:45 St. Ignatius, Chapel Point, MD
- 6:00 Loyola Retreat House
Dinner, Social, Overnight

Friday, July 24

- 7:30 Mass
- 8:00 Breakfast
- 9:30 Depart (cross over Nice Bridge)
- 10:30 St. William of York
Talk, Tour of Church & Cemetery
- 12:00 Lunch at Gadsby's Tavern
- 1:30 St. Mary's, Alexandria
Tour of Church & Cemetery
- 3:00 Depart St. Mary's for St. Agnes
- 3:30 St. Agnes drop off
- 4:30 Corpus Christi drop off



**Cost \$385/person
limited seating**

www.arlingtoncatecheticalsociety.org



Saint Agnes Catholic School



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.



“Brothers and sisters, I would like that our first great desire be for a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world.”~ Pope Leo XIV

Where were you on May 8, 2025? Most of us remember seeing the white smoke coming from the Sistine Chapel chimney and hearing the call, *“Habemus Papam!* And then learning that our new Pope was from the United States truly made the day even more special. Under the direction of Fr. Vito, St Agnes students commemorated the 1-year anniversary of Pope Leo XIV’s election as the head of the Catholic Church with an exhibit of pictures from all aspects of Pope Leo’s life.

May we continue to share in the excitement of his leadership and pray for him.

“Life shines brightly not because we are rich, beautiful or powerful. Instead, it shines when we discover within ourselves the truth that we are called by God, have a vocation, have a mission, that our lives serve something greater than ourselves.” ~ Pope Leo XIV

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