

St. Agnes Ministries

“As each one has received a gift,
use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace”

- 1 Pt 4:10

You are encouraged to become involved in the life of St. Agnes Parish by joining one or more of the ministries. These are opportunities to live a life of stewardship and share the love of Christ Jesus with others. For more information or to join any of the ministries or committees, contact the individual shown under each section.

Building and Grounds Ministries

Landscape Committee

The Landscape Committee takes responsibility for the mulching, planting, and care of the pond, trees, shrubs, plants and flowers of the Church, Historic Chapel, Parish Center and Rectory. The planting scheme throughout the Church grounds follows a design that was determined with the help of a professional Landscape Designer. It is based on a strict ecological approach to care and maintenance.

Contact: Scott Hutton
landscape@StAgnesShepherdstown.org or
304.725.2617

Maintenance Committee

The Maintenance Committee is responsible for the physical upkeep of the Church, Historic Chapel, Parish Center and Rectory. It involves everything from lights to plumbing, heating, repairs, parking lots and so on. This group relies on a core group of five members and several volunteers.

Contact: Church office
assist@StAgnesShepherdstown.org or 304.876.6436

Fellowship Ministries

Bereavement Ministry

This ministry reaches out with compassion to grieving families. Members provide a reception after the funeral service of a parishioner as requested by the family. Other services may be provided as needed, i.e., logistical support.

Contact: Jan Yates
bereavement@StAgnesShepherdstown.org or
304.263.0024

Coffee Service Committee

The Coffee Service Committee provides hot coffee/tea and pastries after each weekend Mass to help facilitate social interaction after Mass. Approximately once a month, individuals are asked to set-up, provide either homemade or store-bought snacks, and then clean-up afterwards.

Contact: Chuck Pierpont
cvpierpont@comcast.net

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Homebound Ministry

The Homebound Ministry helps those parishioners who, due to age related health issues or illness, to stay connected to their parish community by way of pre-arranged home visits, transportation to medical appointments, a cooked meal, and/or minor home repairs.

Contact: Judy Lilga
jslilga8@gmail.com or 301.432.2276

Parish Health Ministry

This ministry fosters the health of the St. Agnes community through education, blood pressure and sugar checks, and health activities throughout the year on one weekend a month after every Mass.

Contact: Gabriele Davis
gabrielewvdavis@gmail.com

Welcome Committee

When an individual or family registers at St. Agnes, they receive a welcome gift basket. Once the family receives the basket, a follow-up call is made by a member of the Welcome Basket Ministry to further welcome the individual or family and answer any questions they may have.

Contact: TBD
Email/Phone: TBD

Liturgical Ministries

The Liturgical Ministries serve the public worship of the Church community. Together, the ministers support the full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgical celebrations.

Parishioners are welcome to participate in any of these ministries. Prior to becoming an Altar Server, Eucharistic Minister, Lector, or Hospitality Minister, you will be required to attend training. Volunteers can expect to be scheduled every 4-8 weeks. The Directory of Liturgy at St. Agnes is responsible for the Altar Servers, Bread and Cup, Hospitality Ministers, and Lectors.

Contact: Helen Harris
liturgy@StAgnesShepherdstown.org

Altar Servers

The role of Altar Server is very critical to the Liturgy. Altar Servers support the celebration of the Liturgy by assisting in certain ritual functions, such as carrying the cross during processions, and assisting in certain practical matters, including holding the book for the Presider, setting the table, and more. etc.).

Training for Altar Servers can begin in fourth grade and includes learning all the parts of the Mass and how to perform the required duties. It also includes

many months of serving with an experienced mentor to gain confidence. Many Altar Servers participate throughout middle school and high school. Adults are encouraged to serve in this ministry.

Bread and Cup

Also known as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion or Eucharistic Ministers, Bread and Cup ministers are confirmed lay volunteers who help distribute the Body and Blood of Christ to the St.

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Agnes community during the Mass. Some volunteers also deliver the Eucharist to members of our parish who are homebound as part of the Bread and Cup Ministry to the Homebound.

Hospitality Ministers

Our Hospitality ministers are so much more than ushers. It's not just about finding you a seat in our worship space; it's about welcoming both parishioners and visitors into the life of our liturgy. You'll find our Hospitality Ministers are often the first to arrive and the last to leave each liturgy. We have found many families have enjoyed doing this ministry together.

Lectors

Historically the sacred scriptures were proclaimed orally for all to hear, and that tradition continues today. It is more than just reading; it is engaging the parish community with the Word of God. Lectors will be trained both in knowledge of Scripture and good principles of public speaking.

Environment and Arts

This ministry is responsible for setting the seasonal environment of the Church. When the St. Agnes Church was built, they designed and created all the banners and other pieces used during liturgies. Their duties include ordering flowers, storing and preparing banners and altar cloths, and decorating the church for all liturgical seasons throughout the year.

Contact: Jane Drewes
janekdrewes@gmail.com or 304.876.1333

Music Ministry

The St. Agnes Choir, under the authority of the Director of Music, has a mission is to lead and support sung prayer during the Liturgy. The choir rehearses during the seasons of Lent, Christmas, Advent and Easter, and sings at 10:30 Masses during those seasons and selected Sundays throughout the year.

Contact: Dr. Elaine Rendler
music@StAgnesShepherdstown.org

Cantors

Cantors, or song leaders, have a vital role in the liturgy to lead the congregation in sung responses, acclamations, hymns, and songs. Song leaders must be able to devote time each week preparing to sing a Psalm, hymns, and acclamations. Individuals considering song leading should have some vocal experience as a soloist or choir member. Training and practice materials are provided. Song leaders are needed for Sunday Masses and other special services.

Instrumentalists

Throughout the year, various instrumentalists are needed to accompany parts of the sung Liturgy. If you play an instrument, contact the Director of Music and let her know what instrument you play and how you might participate.

Support for Music

We are always in need of volunteers to support the music program. Those who are interested in helping to change hymn numbers, operate sound equipment, or help with clerical duties are welcome.

St. Agnes Laundry Ladies (SALLies)

SALLies are responsible for washing and pressing vestments and altar linens, also known as purificators that are used during the Masses.

Contact: Church office
assist@StAgnesShepherdstown.org or 304.876.6436

Emergency Response Team (ERT)

The Emergency Response Team is a group of trained medical and emergency response parishioners who are responsible for assisting in emergency situations during the liturgy. This group will work in conjunction with the Hospitality Ministers. Members will be assigned for each Liturgy and will wear identification.

The team is currently recruiting new members. Let us know if you are interested in joining or would like more information.

Contact: Teace Noel
wvnoels@gmail.com or 304-886-2940

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Service, Justice, and Peace Ministries

Service, Justice, and Peace (SJP) Ministry

The mission of the Service, Justice, and Peace Committee is two-fold: to assist parishioners in our gospel mission to serve the poor, the widow and the outcast; to work for justice and peace in our country and our world – to transform society – to help the reign of God come. Further, it strives to investigate the social needs of the community, formulating and implementing action to combat identified injustices.

This ministry includes both committees that function throughout the year and annual projects. Below is a list of just some of the committees and projects that are part of the Service, Justice, Peace Initiative at St. Agnes.

Contact: Louise Fitzgerald, *SJP Ministry Coordinator*
sanibelbum22@gmail.com or 304.707.1701

Ugly Sleeping Bag Ministry

The Ugly Sleeping Bag Ministry is a group of sewers and non-sewers that gather monthly to make sleeping bags for the homeless. Sleeping bags are assembled from donated queen/king sheets, blankets, comforters, and men's ties; they are then distributed to two agencies serving the homeless in Jefferson and Berkeley Counties.

Contact: Barbara Mueller
bamueller1@frontiernet.net or 304.876.3388

Racial Justice Initiative

The Racial Justice Committee was formed in 2021 after the murder of George Floyd and the many Black Lives Matter demonstrations. The goal of the committee is to increase awareness about the role and impact race has on our local community and beyond. We do this through a number of educational opportunities and activities, including our Racial Justice Lending Library (located in the Church Narthex), bulletin articles, and participation in events such as our Juneteenth celebration.

New members are always welcome. We meet monthly online via Zoom. See the St. Agnes event calendar for details.

Chair: Tom Ruhf
theruhfs@yahoo.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP)

SVdP provides direct financial assistance to needy parishioners and residents of Jefferson County, to include assistance with rent, utilities, medical bills and other similar expenses. The St. Agnes SVdP works on a referral basis, through St. Agnes parishioners and referrals from Catholic Charities WV, Martinsburg and Jefferson County Community Ministries (JCCM).

Once referred, information is gathered by a 2-person team that visits the applicant in their home at a mutually agreed time and date. Funding is primarily provided through donations from St. Agnes parishioners.

Contact: John Stollery
svdp@StAgnesShepherdstown.org

Knights of Columbus, St. Agnes Council

Knights of Columbus is a world-wide fraternal organization with over 13,000 councils. The St. Agnes Council focuses on six areas: Church, Community, Council, Family, Youth, and Pro-life.

The Knights sponsor several activities and programs, including collecting funds for local autism programs through their annual Tootsie Roll drive, Coats for Kids program, and providing assistance for parish events and activities throughout the year.

Monthly meetings are open to all adult men aged 18 or older in the parish.

Contact: Dominic Massimino, *Grand Knight*
DominicRinaldo1995@gmail.com or 304.268.4994

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Spirituality and Prayer Ministries

Bread and Cup Ministry to the Homebound

Eucharistic Bread and Cup Ministers volunteer to take communion to parishioners identified by our pastor, or individuals suggested by parishioners. These identified parishioners may be long-term homebound or temporarily at home due to illness or surgeries.

Contact: Judy Lilga
jslilga8@gmail.com or 302.432.2276

Columbarium Committee

This committee of several volunteers takes on the responsibility of assisting at Parish Inurnments by preparing each niche, prior to the farewell ceremony, to receive the turn of the deceased, and re-closing the niche at the end of the ceremony. Additionally, members transport Columbarium Niche Covers to Frederick, MD for engraving and back again to the Columbarium for installing on their designated niches.

Contact: Becky Tokarcik
assist@StAgnesShepherdstown.org or 304.876.6436

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry knit or crochet prayer shawls or afghans which are blessed during weekday Masses and given to the home-bound or sick.

Contact: Judy Lilga
jslilga8@gmail.com or 302.432.2276

Second Friday Prayer Ministry

On the second Friday of each month member pray in the comfort of their homes for individual listed in the Prayer Book that is found at the front of the church near the Reconciliation Chapel in addition to requests from parishioners, family members, and friends.

Contact: Judy Lilga
jslilga8@gmail.com or 302.432.2276

Community Organizations

Catholic Charities of WV (CCWV), Eastern Region

CCWV provides a variety of services to low-income families in Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan Counties. The focus is on stabilization and case management programs, along with financial assistance in case by case situations. The office maintains a personal care closet, which distributes hygiene and cleaning products to clients in need of such items.

Contact: Catholic Charities
information@ccwva.org or 304.267.8837

Jefferson County Community Ministries (JCCM)

JCCM provides county residents with both emergency and long-term assistance. Their focus is to help guide clients to a path of self-sufficiency with a number of programs and services, including case management, a variety of education sessions, and one-on-one mentoring. JCCM is supported by numerous churches, local businesses and civic organizations, educational institutions, government agencies, and countless volunteers.

Contact: info@jccm.com or 304.725.3186

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To learn more about the Catholic Church's teachings on Stewardship visit
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/evangelization-catechesis/stewardship>

Saint Agnes Catholic Church

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