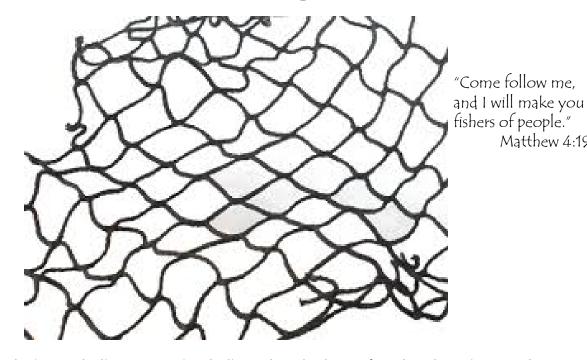
Saint Agnes



St. Agnes is an inclusive Catholic community dedicated to the love of God and service to others. We rejoice in the Gospel, the celebration of the Liturgy, and the Sacraments. We welcome the opportunity to share God's message and to bring all into the life of Christ.

Pastoral Contacts

Pastor: Rev. Andrew M. Switzer Pastor Emeritus: Rev. T. Mathew Rowgh Coordinator of Faith Formation: Bill Donahue Assistant Administrator: Beth Yates Accounting: Lizzie Lowe Liturgy: Helen Harris Music Ministry: Elaine Rendler-McQueeney

Pastoral Council

Connie Bonner ~ Christine Wiegman-Green Patrick Green ~ Shaná Harris ~ Colin Hayden Amie Ho-Leung ~ Kathryn McAteer ~ Bill Sagle Gil Sateia ~ Becky Tokarcik

Finance Council

Pat Barth ~ Mike Drewes ~ Todd Hershey Sue Kemnitzer ~ David Matera ~ Arnold Thomas

St. Agnes Church

Matthew 4:19

200 South Duke Street, Shepherdstown

St. Agnes Parish Office

106 South Duke Street, Shepherdstown P.O. Box 1603, Shepherdstown, WV 25443 Telephone 304-876-6436 Office@StAgnesShepherdstown.org www.StAgnesShepherdstown.org

St. Agnes Chapel

204 South Church Street, Shepherdstown

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17-18 Matthew 4:12-23

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Mass
Saturday, 5:30pm
Sunday, 8am
Sunday, 10:30am
Weekday Mass

Monday and Wednesday at 11am

Church Open for Prayer
10am-3:30pm, Monday-Saturday
(except holidays)

Bishop Brennan has lifted the request that everyone mask. However, we still encourage masking for love of neighbor.

Parish Office: Monday–Friday, 9am-4pm
Cash Card Sales: Weekdays during office hours
(please call first)

Knights of Columbus Chili Bowl

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Chili Bowl on February 12th. We are looking for chili cooks to compete for gift card prizes of \$100, \$50 and \$25. The tasting will be after 10:30 Mass and open for everyone. Those that attend will vote for the best chili. The Knights will be selling raffle tickets for the funding of Seminarians at the event. If you are interested in cooking please contact Arnold Thomas (304-620-3455 or Arniet151@gmail.com).

Happy 90th!

Our very own Mary Gray now has bragging rights for becoming a nonagenarian on January 20th. Mary will receive a special blessing at the 10:30am Mass this weekend in honor of the occasion. Happy Birthday!!

Small Faith Sharing Groups

Looking for a way to share and grow your faith with a small group of parishioners? During the synod sessions, many of you enjoyed the experience of meeting with fellow parishioners in small groups. We listened to you and are responding. Small faith sharing groups will be forming in time for Lent. If you are interested in being in a small group there will be sign up tables after Masses the first 3 weekends in February. If you are willing to facilitate or host, please contact Eileen Elliott at 304-886-3612. There will be a training for facilitators and hosts on Saturday, January 21, at 4pm and Sunday, January 22, at 11:45am and Saturday, February 11, at 4pm and Sunday, February 12 at 11:45am in the parish center.

Photographs

We have 3 framed photographs that have not been picked up that were displayed around the font in November. They are in front of the St Agnes mosaic!



Mass Intentions

Sunday, 10:30am Mass for Rose Smith

May Rose share in the fulness of God's mercy and peace.

Remember in Prayer

Please pray daily for those serving in the Military, our veterans in recovery, and those recently ill especially Leonard Harris, Shayla Harris Brown, Ron McCafferty (brother of Pat Merhaut), Amanda Patterson (daughter of Roger & Cindy Webster), Anneke Sengers, Roland Bergman, Dorrene Hale, and Richard Hitchcock. Names are placed in the bulletin for approximately one month and then those names are placed on the 2nd Friday prayer list and are remembered in prayer each month.

CDA National Education Contest

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas are sponsoring a contest for grade 4 through adult. Topics include: essay, poetry, art, computer art, music, and photography. Forms and additional information can be found in the Narthex and parish center or on their website: catholicdaughters.org. The deadline for submissions is January 31, 2023.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas National Scholarship

The National Catholic Daughters of the Americas is giving a \$1000 scholarship to an 8th grader entering 9th grade in a Catholic High School. Scholarship applications can be found in the Church Narthex as well as the Parish Center. Entries must be postmarked by April 1, 2023.

Attention ALL Virtus Trained Individuals

Please take a few minutes over the next week to log into your VIRTUS account and update it. Since the entire process is online now, we need everyone to log into their account and update their information.

If you have difficulties logging into your account, please contact the Parish Office at 304-876-6436, and we will help you log in to access your account.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult) is for those who are interested in learning about the Catholic faith and discerning if they might want to be professed members of the Catholic faith. The goal is to see where the process takes you. Father Andy is leading our RCIA process. If you are interested in learning more or joining the group, please call the office at 304-876-6436. All are welcome!

Attention Liturgical Ministers!

Our next Liturgical schedule will begin on March 1st, so it is time to begin looking ahead to the March 1 through May 31 time frame and let us know of any dates that you will be unavailable to serve in your ministry. It works out much better for all concerned if we have the dates that you know you are unavailable at the beginning of the scheduling process. Please send those dates by email to the office not later than February 6th (office@stagnesshepherdstown.org).

A Plea for Help for a Ukrainian Family

Hi Martinsburg-area volunteers and donors, Happy 2023!

I am looking for a volunteer in the Martinsburg-area who would be willing to assist a newly-arrived Ukrainian mother and teenage daughter with transportation to appointments and act as a general connection to the Martinsburg community. Please reach out to me if you are interested in connecting with them.

A second <u>big</u> ask – this family has an important appointment in Charleston, WV (about 4.5 hours away) on January 17, 2023 at 3:00 PM. We are struggling finding transportation options for them. If you would be willing to take them to/from this appointment, or you know of a service that could help, please let me know! Or, if you would be willing to donate money to help them pay for gas for somebody else to drive them, that would also be a huge help.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Thanks,

Renée Corbett

Refugee Outreach Worker Refugee Resettlement & Immigration Services

Catholic Charities West Virginia 20 Scott Avenue, Suite 302 Morgantown, WV 26508 Office: 304.343.1036

Email: rcorbett@ccwva.org

Website: ccwva.org

Homebound Ministry

If there are parishioners who have needs (groceries, rides to doctors or pharmacies, etc.) our **HOMEBOUND MINISTRY** is willing to help. Please call Claire Williamson (304-876-1357), or Judy Lilga (301-432-2276).

Ugly Sleeping Bag Ministry

We are always in need of donated **blankets**, and **comforters** (any size) and also used **sleeping bags**. Items should be clean and in fair condition and can be dropped off at the parish center.

Haiti Coffee

There is fresh whole bean and ground coffee from Haiti available at the Parish Center. We received a letter from Just Haiti coffee in November. Here is an excerpt from the letter:

"Haiti seems to be filled with unending, unsolvable problems. They are currently suffering from rampant political instability and massive gang violence. But the growers continue to work to harvest their trees and recently sent us 10,000 pounds of coffee. Now they are counting on us to sell this coffee. Just Haiti--and you and your Churches-are part of the solution of addressing poverty, violence, and injustice in Haiti. Our impact improves the lives of the growers and extends beyond the coffee farms to decrease poverty and increase food security for the whole community. We cannot accomplish this without you."

The letter goes on to thank us. So why not enjoy a delicious cup of Haitian coffee and support these hard working farmers!

The coffee sells for \$10 per bag, and \$3 of each bag purchased is tax deductible.

Bulletin Ads

Our St Agnes bulletin ads are a major yearly fundraiser for us with an income potential of more than \$10,000. To realize that potential, we have to sell the ads. And, you guessed it, we are asking for your help! If you have a business, please consider advertising with us. If you know a business owner, please pass along our ad information to them. We can assure you, from experience, that our ads are widely viewed by our parishioners and the larger community. They are an effective way to bring attention to businesses. Not only are the ads printed in each bulletin, they also appear on our website.

For \$125, a business gets a 1x1.5 inch space for an entire year (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023). There are also larger options to choose from. In addition to the ads appearing weekly in our bulletin, they are also displayed on our website. We are happy to help with ad design.

Though we are well into our ad year, we are still accepting ads and we prorate the cost accordingly. Contact the office for more information: 304-876-6436, or office@stagnesshepherdstown.org.

2nd Friday Prayer Group

A list has begun for the 2nd Friday in February. Please contact Judy (see below) at any time with names of individuals you would like to add or to join the group. Please contact Judy: 301-432-2276, jslilga8@gmail.com.

Scripture Sharing

Our Scripture Sharing group meets on Mondays at noon, with the exception of holidays. All are welcome! The Zoom link can be found on the website events calendar.

Book Discussion Group January-July, 2023 Selections

Our February 17, 2023 Book Discussion selection is **LIGHT OF ASSISI: THE STORY OF ST. CLARE** by Margaret Carney. For centuries St. Clare of Assisi has been a lesser-known saint simply because she was overshadowed by the giant that is St. Francis. This biography tells the story of their intertwined lives—and, more importantly, highlights the extraordinary contributions Clare made to the Franciscan world following Francis's death. This book is her story from birth until death in 1253.

We meet at 11 am in the Parish Center. Everyone is welcome.

Here is a look at our upcoming selections:

3-17-23 FORGIVE EVERYONE EVERYTHING by Greg Boyle and Fabian Debora.

4-21-23 CREATION AND THE CROSS: The Mercy of God for a Planet in Peril by Elizabeth Johnson

5-19-23 OUT OF THE DEPTHS: The Story of Ludmila Javorova by Miriam Therese Winter

6-16-23 A WORLD TRANSFIGURED: The Mystical Journey by Philip Shildrake

7-21-23 THE STRANGER IN THE LIFEBOAT by Mitch Album

Coffee Anyone?

We would like to bring back the after-Mass coffee service this month. We need people at all three Masses (especially at 8am & 10:30am) who would be responsible for setting up, making coffee, bringing (homemade or store-purchased) baked goods, then cleaning up afterwards. We will be happy to show you how to do everything we do. You wouldn't have to do it every week and the more people we have, the less frequently everyone will have to be on the schedule. If you would like to join us or if you have any questions, please send an email to cvpierpont@comcast.net.

Shepherdstown Shares

Shepherdstown Shares is moving into its third year thanks to the support of the Shepherdstown community. Their mission statement: to respond to the crises in the lives and needs of the people of our community. They are feeding more people than ever, and are falling short by nearly \$200 a week. Shepherdstown Shares is a 501(c)(3) organization, so any donation is tax-deductible.

If you would like to make a one-time donation or set up routine donations, please check out their website shepherdstownshares.org. Or mail your check to PO Box 1780, Shepherdstown, WV 25443.

National Catholic Schools Week

National Catholic Schools Week is held for seven days, starting from the last Sunday in January. Aside from its promotion of education, it's also a great opportunity to recognize the value, principles, and contributions that the Catholic schools have relayed to the Church and every citizen for decades. Showcasing what makes Catholic schools the best for every parent, family, and child is the priority for conducting Catholic Schools Week.

What usually happens during National Catholic Schools Week is the observance of catholic masses, assemblies, open houses, seminars, and many other activities for every family, parishioner, and community member. The quality and distinction of Catholic schools can be seen through these, especially for the young, those who will attend and enter school. The theme and logo for National Catholic Schools Week for the year 2022 is "Catholic Schools: Faith, Excellence, Service."

The first Catholic school that opened in the United States was called St. Mary's School in Philadelphia, in 1783. After some time, the enthusiasm and curiosity for Catholic education grew and the nation noticed a massive inflow of Catholics from all over the world. By the 1920s, more than 6,000 Catholic elementary schools accepted and enrolled almost two million students and employed 42,000 teachers. By the latter half of that century, enrollment grew, even more, reaching double the number of students. Ever since Catholic schools have been widely perceived and established as a viable means of education.

You can check the websites of our local Catholic Schools to see their schedules of activities to mark the week.

JCCM Food Pantry Current Needs

Spaghetti Sauce

Canned fruit

Canned meat (vienna sausage, spam, chicken, tuna)

Canned beans

Canned vegetables (not green beans/corn)

Soups (hearty and condensed)

Canned chili

Rice (small bags)

Instant mashed potatoes

Jelly and peanut butter

Syrup

Instant oatmeal

Crackers

Boxed Pancake Mix

Cooking oil

Deodorant

Shampoo/Conditioner

Paper towels

Toilet paper

Dish Soap

Laundry Detergent

Family News

CFF will occur at 9:15 today for all children k-pre-confirmation. Our youth group will be meeting today at 11:35 to begin planning the Summer Theater Production as well as prepare the meal for the hungry.

First Reconciliation Parents Meetings will be Jan 22 and Jan. 29 at 9:15. First Reconciliation will be Feb. 25th at 4 PM Please mark your calendars.

Our Youth Centered Mass will occur Jan. 29 at 5PM. There will be NO CFF on Jan 29 as family catechesis will occur during the Youth Centered Mass!

Things coming up in February: Kid Movie Night (Feb. 10), Youth Centered Mass (Feb. 19), Mardi Gras Celebration (Feb. 19), Youth Feeding the Hungry (Feb. 19), Pancake Supper (Feb. 21), Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22), Youth Sponsored Simple Supper and Youth Led Stations of the Cross (Feb. 24), Optional Parent Lenten Small Group (Feb. 26) WOW—mark your calendars!

Please keep watching this section, the St. Agnes Website, as well as the CFF/ Youth page for continuing announcements regarding Faith Formation and youth activities.

If you are a parent and not receiving CFF announcements and emails, please contact the Parish center at 304-876-6436 or Bill Donahue at formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org

THE YOUTH CORNER

This Week's Gospel: Matthew 4: 12-23 January 22, 2023

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

DATES TO REMEMBER

 Jan. 22: CFF 9:15 AM- 10:15—K-8 Class & Pre Confirmation. First Reconciliation Parent Meeting (9:15 AM);

11:35-12:35 Youth Group & Hungry Meal Prep.

- Jan. 29: 9:15 AM First Reconciliation Class and 2nd Parent Meeting of First Reconciliation Students. There is NO CFF for the other children this weekend.
- Jan. 29: Youth Centered Mass—5 PM
- Feb. 5: 9:15 AM First Reconciliation Class and 3rd Parent Meeting of First Reconciliation Students. Youth Group Planning Mtg.
- **Feb** . **5** and **Feb**. **12**: Souper Bowl Collections after each Mass



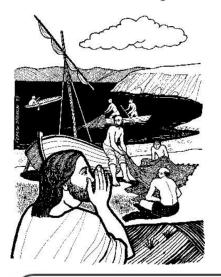
"Jesus calls his first disciples" Matthew 4:12-23

Across

- 3. Jesus' home after he left Nazareth.
- 5. Peter's brother.
- 6. The first disciples followed Jesus _____ when He called them.
- 8. The first disciples Jesus chose.
- 9. Places where Jesus taught.
- 10. "Land of Zebulun, land of _____..."

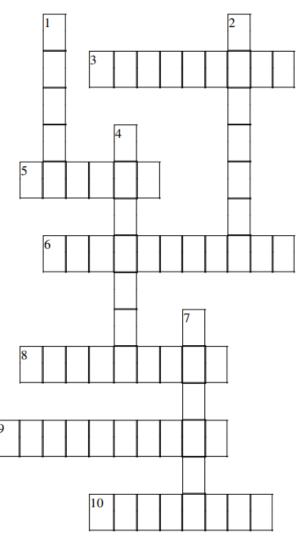
Down

- 1. Peter
- 2. Sea where Jesus started proclaiming his message.
- 4. The father of James and John.
- 7. Message of Jesus when he started proclaiming that the Kingdom of Heaven was near.





Jesus Begins His Ministry Matthew 4:12-23



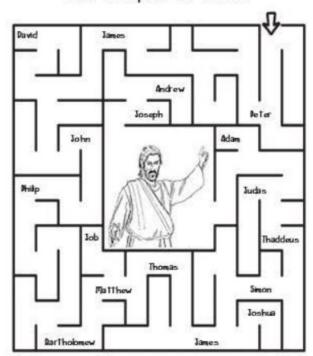
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GALILEE CAPERNAUM ZEBULUN
NAPHTALI JORDAN ISAIAH
SIMON PETER ANDREW
JAMES ZEBEDEE JOHN

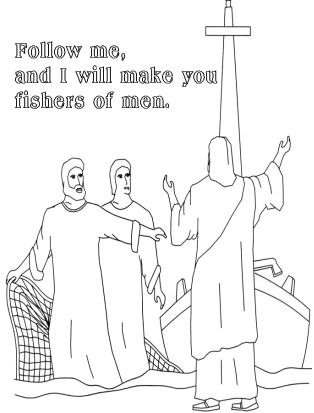




The Disciples of Jesus



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Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle (1st century)

January 25 The Church honors St. Paul on Jan. 25 with the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. This is not only a great feast, but also a great story.

If ever there was an unlikely apostle, it was Paul, the Pharisee. Born Saul of Tarsus at about the same time as Jesus, he became an expert on Jewish Law and was strict in his observance of the laws. He established a reputation for mercilessly persecuting Christians, whom he considered to be heretics, traitors, and a threat to Judaism. He was present and approved the stoning of St. Stephen, the first Christian to die for his faith. He was also part of the fierce persecution of the Church that followed. (Acts 7:54-8:1-3) As the story of his conversion begins, Saul set out to arrest Christians in Damascus. But on the road to Damascus, he was struck and blinded by a light from Heaven. When he fell to the ground, Saul heard a voice telling him: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. Now get up and go into the city and you will be told what you must do" (Acts 9:5-6). In Damascus, Jesus spoke in a vision to a Christian named Ananias. Jesus told Ananias to find Saul, restore his sight, and tell him the story of Jesus- a pretty scary assignment for a first-century Christian!

But, Jesus explained how important it was for Ananias to go to Saul: "Go, for this man is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites" (Acts 9:15) So, despite, his fears, Ananias did what Jesus asked. He healed Saul and baptized him. You can read the story of Saul's conversion in Acts 9. Saul tells his own story in Acts 22:6-21 and Acts 26:9-23. After he regained hist sight and strength, Saul was a transformed man. Much to the amazement and anger of the Jews, he began preaching the Gospel in the synagogues. Forced to flee Damascus, he traveled all around the Mediterranean Sea, preaching the Gospel to Jews and gentiles (people who are not Jews). Saul became known by his Roman name, Paul. He still loved the Jews and believed they were God's Chosen People, but he also believed that following Jesus was the way to God. He believed his mission was to be the apostle to the gentiles. This also angered the Jews. They were furious to think that gentiles would be saved without first becoming Jews. Paul traveled through Asia Minor and Greece and established many Churches. Although he conceded that he was not an eloquent speaker, and he rarely had the opportunity to revisit these early Churches, Paul helped resolve their problems and raised their spirits through his eloquent letters - to the Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Thessalonians, and Hebrews. Paul persevered despite numerous beatings, imprisonments, and being shipwrecked and adrift at sea for a night and a day. By converting many people to Christianity, Paul became the Church's greatest missionary. When he was imprisoned and beheaded in Rome around A.D. 67, he also became one of the Church's earliest

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

The Gospel places the beginning of Jesus' ministry in Galilee, where he spent his time teaching, proclaiming God's Kingdom, and healing the sick. Galilee is situated between the Mediterranean Sea and the Sea of Galilee, and many people who lived there were fishermen. Jesus invited his new friends to leave their nets and follow him. He promised them that they would now be fishing for people instead of fish.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Your child has learned to appreciate what it means to make friends. Make sure that your child has a clear understanding of ways he or she can be of help to friends and family members. Talk about how being a good friend and member of the family is a good way of following Jesus.

Promise (Grades K-1): Your child explored Jesus' work of making friends and calling people together. Jesus calls all of us to make friends, too. Talk to your child about the importance of friends and the need for friendly, loving actions toward other people. Remind one another that such actions bond together the Christian community and the human family.

Good News (Grades 2–3): In class, your child learned a little about the geography of where Jesus grew up and lived. Ask your child to share the map and tell the family about how Jesus called people to follow him. Discuss times when family members have been called to do something or to be somewhere. What are some ways your family answers Jesus' call to follow him?

Venture (Grades 4–6): Your young person's class learned that Jesus began his mission in his home territory of Galilee. Invite your son or daughter to share some details about Galilee with the family. Talk about how Jesus called Peter, Andrew, James, and John to follow him. Why did these people drop everything to follow Jesus? Share how Jesus calls your family and how you try to follow him. Talk about ways you can help one another be better followers of Jesus. Ask your young person about the discovery of Saint Peter's house.

Visions (Grades 7–9): Your youngster's class learned about the characteristics of Galilee's land and people from the time of Jesus. Understanding where Jesus lived helped the class see Jesus in his historical setting. Invite your young person to share with the family what archaeology can teach about Jesus' message. Ask them to share at least one example of God calling one of his prophets or disciples in the Bible.

Pray Together

Even the youngest children can understand the need for silence. Invite all the members of your families to share a few moments of silent prayer. A good time to do this is just before a family meal, but it can be anytime the whole family is together. You can all hold hands. An adult can remind the family that Jesus calls all of you to follow him. Then spend anywhere from thirty seconds to a minute in silent prayer. (Remember that a minute of silence can feel pretty long to a young child.)

A Challenging Sudoku Puzzle

Answer to this one will be in the bulletin next week!!!

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SOLUTIONS

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8	5	2	6	3	4	1	7	9
4	7	3	2	9	1	8	6	5
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Scan here for parent resources



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St Agnes Racial Justice Initiative News

On front page and center of this past Sunday's Washington Post was an article entitled, "Enslavers in Congress shaped our nation's history." The Post's researchers, who studied census data and other historical records, discovered that there have been 1,739 members of Congress, who, while in office or before, were slaveowners. The last two Congressional slaveowners served into the 20th century. Some state delegations for years were comprised of 100% slaveowners. Such numbers make one pause and realize the deep roots racism has had in our country's culture and laws.

Another of the books that we have in our narthex library is <u>Black Studies Reader - History and Theology</u>, edited by David J. Endres. This is an informative collection of pieces by Black Catholic scholars, teachers, activists and ministers on what it means to be Black and Catholic in America.

(Note) Last weekend's bulletin item that mentioned the most racist places in America was from research supported by the Maryland Population Research Center, reported on in the Washington Post and other respected newspapers and media outlets.

Our Policy for Protecting Our Children

Please know that we follow the <u>Diocesan Safe Environment Program</u> in all our youth programs. All staff and volunteers who work with youth are required to complete the Diocese of Wheeling Charleston's Safe Environment program. **All** adult parishioners are **encouraged** to complete the program to increase awareness and provide a safe environment for the children of our parish and greater community. The process is completely online now.

Safe Environment Certification includes:

- Virtus workshop Complete online training at <u>www.virtusonline.org</u>. Step-by-step instructions are available.
- Background Check Completing Screening One form
- Diocesan Policy Reading the Diocesan Policy Relating to Sexual Abuse of Children & completing the DWC Policy form

All of the above steps are now completed online. If you do not have access for this online procedure, please contact St. Agnes Parish Office at 304-876-6436.

If you already have a VIRTUS account, log into your account and complete any required updates. If you are new to VIRTUS, select the green box "First-time Registrant" and follow the prompts to create an account and to complete the required training and paperwork.

If you have any questions or for additional information, please contact our Safe Environment Coordinator at 304-876-6436 or formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org.

Join in Renewing, Renaming and Reinvigorating St Agnes' Commitment to Service

Please join us at the Church right after the 10:30 Mass on January 29, 2023

- if you have been or are involved in one of our parish outreach activities,
- or want to be,
- or have questions about any of the ministries,
- or have an interest in starting a new ministry.

We need you! We need folks with new energy, new ideas, new interests. We need folks to serve on the coordinating committee and folks to reinvigorate the individual ministries. What would you like to do?

Let's start the new year with a new commitment to justice, peace and human development.

The US Conference of Catholic Bishops refers to its efforts as Justice, Peace and Human Development. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston just reopened its Justice and Peace Office. To be in tandem with these efforts we are thinking of renaming ourselves either the Justice, Peace and Human Development Committee (JPHD) or the Justice and Peace (J&P) Committee. Please give this some thought.

Catholic Charities Pantry

As they strive to provide for those in need in our community, Catholic Charities needs to keep their pantry stocked. Donations of the following items for their pantry or a donation of funds to purchase items are always welcome and very much appreciated (all items are purchased from donated funds and are used solely for those in need):

Bleach Tablets (WalMart)

Laundry Detergent (Pods)

13 Gallon Trash Bags

Dishwashing Soap

Soap (mild brands – no Zest or Irish Spring)

Shampoo (3 in 1 is preferred - shampoo, conditioner,

body wash) If not, individual items will do.

Conditioner

Deodorant (men and women)

Razors (men and women)

Toothpaste

Shaving Lotion

Toilet Paper

Cleaning Supplies (Pine Sol, Fabalouso or other liquid cleaner)

Items can be dropped off at the Catholic Charities office at 224 South Queen Street, Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Donations can be mailed to Catholic Charities, Attention: Laura Brigantic, 224 South Queen Street, Martinsburg, WV 25401.

AmazonSmile Program Is Ending

We were recently notified that Amazon is winding down its AmazonSmile program by February 20, 2022. According to Amazon, "To help charities that have been a part of the AmazonSmile program with this transition, we will be providing them with a one-time donation equivalent to three months of what they earned in 2022 through the program, and they will also be able to accrue additional donations until the program officially closes in February."

Cash Cards Make Sense & Cents

Since we no longer have AmazonSmile to help bring in money for St Agnes, we need to look to other options. One easy option is to purchase cash cards through St Agnes.

Our Cash Card program has brought in thousands of dollars over the years. Purchasing cash cards through St Agnes is an easy way to support the church financially at no additional cost to you. They are still available for purchase in the office.

Mary's Refuge Opens Its Doors

Mary's Refuge, a maternity home, welcomed its first guest Jan. 9 in the former convent at 111 E. Stephen St. in Martinsburg. The home has nine bedrooms, a chapel, kitchen, laundry facilities, and rooms for infant care, relaxation and house meetings. Donations of money and/or gift cards to stores where clothing, shoes and coats can be purchased are welcome. Checks to Mary's Refuge, which receives no government money, may be made out to Saint Joseph Catholic Church (Mary's Refuge in the memo line), and mailed to the church at 336 S. Queen St., Martinsburg, WV 25401. Gift cards also may be mailed there. Monetary donations may be made at the Mary's Refuge website (https://31937.sites.ecatholic.com). For more information, go to the site or call 304-261-3664.

Together in Holiness Marriage Conference

Together in Holiness Marriage Conference February 11, 2023

St. Michael Church | Wheeling, WV

Presented by the St. John Paul II Foundation and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

Registration: \$27/couple and \$18/individual Early Bird discount available through January 9.
Scholarships available upon request.
On-site childcare (2-12yrs); pre-registration required.

For more information, please visit **togetherinholiness.org** or email **TH@forlifeandfamily.org**.

National Catholic Singles

A Dating Retreat and Study Series for single Catholics! NCSC is hosting a FREE online Dating Retreat with guest speaker Fr. Robert Spitzer (January 27 & 28). Currently over 400 single Catholics from around the world are registered and we're expecting 500+. Don't miss the opportunity to meet other like-minded singles and go deeper in your faith!

Starting the week of February 6th, NCSC will also be hosting a 6-week study series - "Relationship Ready: A Single Catholic's Roadmap to Marriage" that will cover topics such as the meaning of love, communication, conflict resolution, male/female complementarity and much more. To sign up for these programs, visit National-CatholicSingles.com.

Parish Financial Activity

Collections - Last Week	
Offertory Collections	\$5,949
Monthly Mortgage Assistance	\$802
Total (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	\$6,751
	\$11,50
Weekly Target (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	0
Total Collections Compared to Target	-\$4,749
Tithe to help those in need	\$595

(St. Agnes tithes 10% of all offertory donations)

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston maintains an Office of Safe Environment in accordance with the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. To Report Suspected Cases of Sexual Abuse of Children: The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston encourages reporting to civil authorities first and foremost if a crime has been committed. We also encourage utilizing www.reportbishopabuse.org to make a report about any bishop in the U.S. If you have reason to believe that a bishop has engaged in sexual misconduct, please contact civil authorities in the applicable jurisdiction and visit www.reportbishopabuse.org. To Report to Civil Authorities: Contact your local law enforcement; numbers will vary based on your location. If you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 911. To confidentially report any incidence of suspected child abuse or neglect, including sexual abuse, contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families' Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. To Report to Diocesan Authorities: In addition to civil authorities, the diocese encourages reporting to the appropriate church authorities. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, contact one of the following designees at 1.888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Very Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, Jr., V.E., ext. 270. You may also call the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. In addition to the methods listed above for reporting sexual abuse, the Diocese also has partnered with Navex Global to offer the EthicsPoint platform to report other, additional concerns, such as suspected financial, professional, and personal misconduct of a priest, deacon, religious, or lay employee of the Diocese or any Catholic parish or school in West Virginia. The EthicsPoint platform can be accessed via www.dwc.org, under "Accountability", then "Report Misconduct" or by calling 844.723.8381. EthicsPoint is a third-party reporting system that reports to civil authorities where applicable and Diocesan authorities, and the identity of the person reporting is protected.

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CRISIS FOOD HOTLINE



St Leo's Fish Fry Fridays

Fried fish or shrimp dinner with French fries or sweet potato fries, coleslaw, and roll for \$15; combo dinner for \$20. First Friday of each month, beginning September 2nd. Dine in or carry out. Call ahead-304-279-8770. Open 12:00pm-6:00pm. 2109 Sulfur Springs Rd, Inwood WV.

Catholic Radio

The Eastern Panhandle Catholic Community Calendar can be heard on Fridays at 1030am and weekdays at 3:30pm on www.rdo.to/WLOL and at 530am, 1017am & 4:40pm on FM 106.5 and AM 740. And just send your parish and organization programs, events, announcements and prayers, to comcal@LoLradio.org and dedicated volunteers will get them broadcast. For more information on Catholic radio in West Virginia, call 304-598-0026.

Enrollment Dates for St Joe's School

Re-enrollment for the 2023-24 academic year for current students and their siblings who are not attending Saint Joseph School begins Friday, February 3. Enrollment for new families who are active members of area Catholic churches begins Friday, February 10, and all others may start the enrollment process on Friday, February 17. You can apply at sjswv.org. For more information, email mpartington@sjswv.org or call the school office at 304-267-6447.



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