

S a i n t A g n e s



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

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

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13
Psalm 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10
1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Matthew 5:1-12

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.

Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:30pm

Parish Office: Monday–Friday, 9am-4pm

Cash Card Sales: Weekdays during office hours
(please call first)

Kids Movie Night

KIDS MOVIE NIGHT

When: Feb. 10 at 6:45pm

Where: Parish Center

Movie: Hercules (Disney) Rated G 1 hour 33 minutes

Time Frame: 6:45 PM - 8:30 PM

Come and join in the Fun

RSVP Link: <https://forms.gle/hZjfQmBr53TaiFf8A>

Small Faith Sharing Groups

St. Agnes is responding to requests made during the synod meetings for small faith groups. The Pastoral Council chose a scripture based resource as a guide from Renew International.

Small Christian communities are groups of 8 to 12 people who gather to pray, reflect on the Scripture or church teaching, support each other, and engage in action flowing from their sharing. The main purpose of being together is to grow in the understanding and practice of what it means to be a true disciple of Jesus.

If you would like to **facilitate or host** a group, meet at the **Parish Center** either:

- Saturday, February 4, at 4:00 PM or
- Sunday, February 5, following the 10:30 mass.

If you would like to **participate** in a faith sharing group, there will be **sign-up sheets** to join groups as members in the back of the church **after all Masses** the first two weekends in February (**February 4, 5, 11, and 12**).

Groups will begin the week of February 19 and meet weekly for 6 weeks initially. There will be a variety of days, times, and locations for you to choose from.

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about our faith in the company of each other. As Christ said, "Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there."

If you have any questions, parishioners will be available in the narthex after the Masses this weekend.



Mass Intentions

Sunday, 8am Mass for

Laura Wanger



Sunday, 10:30am Mass for

Bob Bowden

May Laura and Bob share in the fullness 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.

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).

St Agnes Spring Musical

St. Agnes will be putting on the musical "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice in June. The play is based on the story in the book of Genesis, family-friendly and lots of fun. Show dates are June 9-10-11 and 16-17-18 and rehearsals will be on Sunday afternoons starting as soon as possible. No experience is necessary to participate, and we need folks of all ages. We will have a meeting at noon this Sunday in the parish center for anyone interested. But if you plan to attend the Social Concerns / Justice and Peace meeting in the church, please go to that first and stop by the parish center after.

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).

Souper Bowl of Caring

Seeking to love God by loving their neighbors, America's teens are transforming Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving through Souper Bowl of Caring. On Super Bowl Sunday weekend, youth collect one dollar (or more) donations in soup pots as worshippers leave church. Each group donates their collection directly to the charity of their choice— here at St Agnes, our donations will be split between the Shepherdstown Shares food pantry and the JCCM food pantry that serve our community.

Watch for our soup pots on February 4th and 5th as well as February 11th and 12th (Super Bowl Sunday) as our youth will be collecting after each Mass.

In addition, you can also give online again this year at <https://stagnesshepherdstown.org/souper-bowl-of-caring/>. The link can also be found on the St Agnes homepage. And, of course, you can always drop your donation by the office directly or through snail mail, just note "Souper Bowl Collection" on your check's memo line.

This is St. Agnes' 23rd year participating and helping those in our region who are in need. Last year we collected \$1253.50. Our goal is to surpass our collection from last year. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Ugly Sleeping Bag Ministry

We want to thank all parishioners of St. Agnes Catholic Church and Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church for donating all the supplies that go into making sleeping bags as well as those parishioners that have donated old used sleeping bags. This year we have made 27 sleeping bags and donated 23 used and new sleeping bags. This has given us a total of 50 sleeping bags distributed to two agencies who serve the homeless, JCCM in Jefferson County and Immanuel's House in Berkeley County.

We are still 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.

If you would like to join our ministry, email Barbara Mueller at barbaramueller596@gmail.com.

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.

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).

Hospice Valentine's Project

Hospice of the Eastern Panhandle has a tradition of giving a thank you gift to doctors, nurses, social workers, and others who support Hospice. In years past, they were able to give home baked goods with the help of volunteer bakers. The Pandemic has put a stop to the home baked option.

This year, Hospice is asking churches and other organizations to help them by donating pre-packaged, individually wrapped snack foods like chips, pretzels, popcorn, granola bars/protein bars, nuts, trail mix, snack cakes, brownies, cookies, hard candies, candy bars, or packs of gum. Or, you could give a monetary donation (made out to St Agnes with "Hospice" in the memo line). We have a couple of folks willing to shop. Please bring your donations to church or the parish center by Sunday, February 5th.

Attention ALL Virtus Trained Individuals

VIRTUS accounts have been updated and moved to an ALL online system. **Files must be updated for the Diocesan Annual Audit which will occur in March. We are asking all VIRTUS trained individuals to please log into their VIRTUS Account at virtusonline.org and please make sure your account is up to date.**

If you are having difficulties logging into your VIRTUS account, please email Bill Donahue at fordonation@stagnesshepherdstown.org for help.

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.

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.

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!

Book Discussion Group

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.

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.

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

Haiti Coffee

There is fresh whole bean and ground coffee from Haiti available for sale (\$10/bag) at the Parish Center. \$3 of each bag purchased is tax deductible.

Reuse/Recycling of Religious Items

St. Mary Recycle Mission Group has been working with Catholic churches, Convents, Schools, The Knights of Columbus, and other organizations, as well as with Parishioners who have things at home in helping rescue and recycle used Religious items that are no longer needed. Over the last 25 years, they have helped recycle items from Churches that unfortunately were closing, items from former Clergy that are not being used, as well as from Parishioners who need to place their personal religious items from home that they don't know what to do with. Their first large effort was following Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans where they sent hundreds of recycled items to a parish.

They can take in or give just about anything of Religious nature that can be used by other churches, convents or religious organizations such as:

- Vestments including Chasubles, Stoles, Albs, etc. (even if they are soiled or tattered, as they have them professionally cleaned and/or restored if possible so they can be worn, they can also use them to make new vestments, rosary cases or missal covers, they accept any style, color, vintage)
- Crucifixes
- Statues (any size)
- Rosaries (damaged ok)
- Chalices (Pottery ok but please not by mail)
- Altar Ware
- Candle Sticks
- Tabernacles
- Relics
- Monstrances
- Altar Stones
- Altar Books/Missals/Lectionaries
- Holy Medals
- Holy Cards
- Linens
- Paraments
- Prayer books/Bibles/Breviaries (**Please No Story Type/Regular Books or Pamphlets/Magazines/DVD's or VHS Tapes**)
- Used Instruments
- Framed Pictures, etc.

This group will be in our area for pick ups the week of March 6th. Please consider cleaning out your closets at home and bringing your items for reuse/recycling by the parish center not later than March 5th.

Scripture Sharing

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

Family News

This Weekend is our Youth Centered Mass at 5PM. Although there will be NO Formal CFF on this weekend, family catechesis will occur during the Youth Centered Mass! However, the **First Reconciliation Parents Meeting** will occur today Jan. 29 at 9:15. First Reconciliation will be Feb. 25th at 4 PM. Please mark your calendars. Families that are involved in this meeting have been invited via email.

CFF will occur at 9:15 again on Feb. 5th for all children K through pre-confirmation.

Pre-K kids: We are experimenting with a Pre-K program in CFF. Are you interested in having your Pre-K child participate? Contact Bill at formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org.

Kids Movie Night: Feb. 10 at 6:45 Parish Center. Bring sleeping bags etc to get comfortable on the floor. We are watching Hercules (Disney 1997) Come join in the fun. RSVP link: <https://forms.gle/hzjfQmBr53TaiFf8A>

Parents: We want to offer a Lenten Group for Parents at the Parish Center which would occur at the same time as CFF. The group would start Feb. 26th. Mark your calendars. It is a great way to extend your own faith and build community with other families.

Other things coming up in February: Youth Centered Mass (Feb. 19) and Mardi Gras Celebration (Feb. 19) following the Youth Centered Mass (As our parish mission statement states: All Are Welcome) , Youth Feeding the Hungry (Feb. 19) Pancake Supper (Feb. 21) Parish Event proceeds supporting Youth Activities, Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22), Youth Sponsored Simple Supper and Youth Led Stations of the Cross (Feb. 24) (Look for an RSVP link for the Parish), and 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:

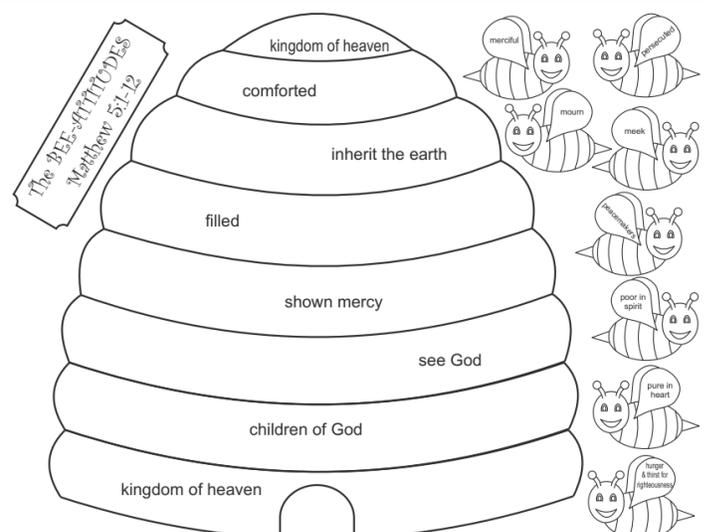
Matthew 5: 1-12a

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **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—12 PM—Information Meeting about this years Musical
- **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 (Youth Outreach Project)
- **Feb. 10: Kids Movie Night**—Parish Center 6:45 PM—"Hercules" (Disney 1997) Rated G

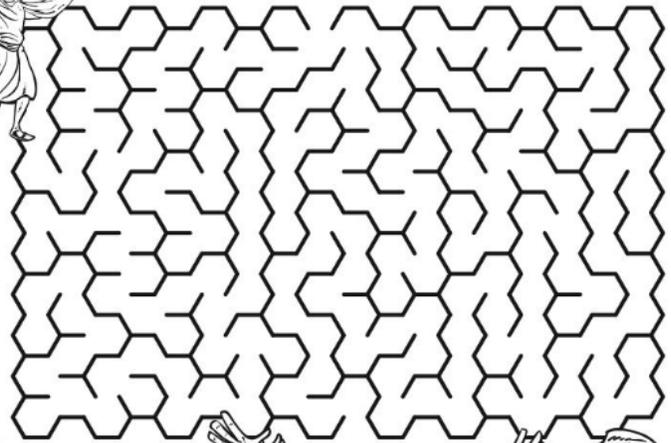
Matching



Lead the people to Jesus so they can hear His teachings.

FINISH

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START



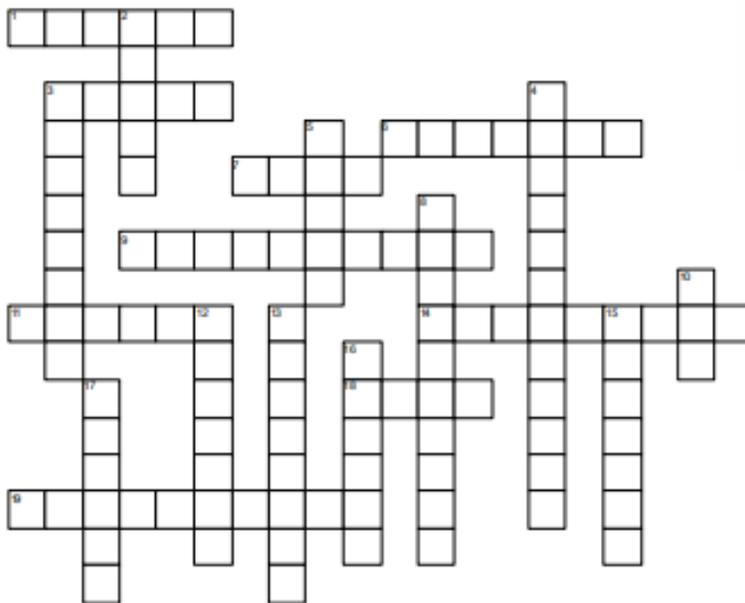
Blessed are ...





THE BEATITUDES
Matthew 5:1-12; Luke 6:20-23

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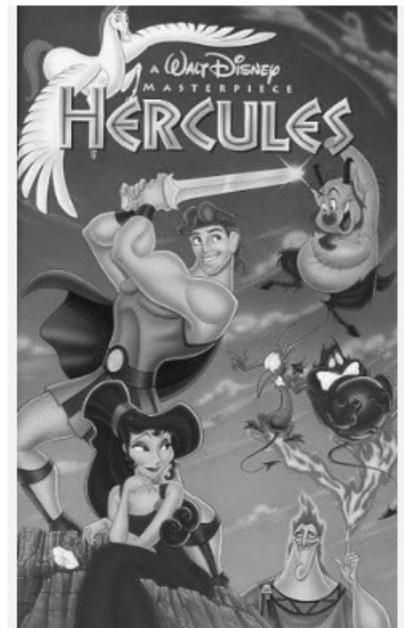
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|--------|--------|----------|
| HAPPY | POOR | SPIRIT |
| HEAVEN | GENTLE | EARTH |
| MOURN | HUNGER | MERCIFUL |
| PURE | HEART | REWARD |

ACROSS

- 1 God's children should _____ because your reward in heaven is great. (Mt. 5:12) two words
- 3 Those who _____ will be comforted. (Mt. 5:4)
- 6 It was the custom of the teacher to _____. (Mt. 5:1) two words
- 7 Those who are _____ will inherit the earth. (Mt. 5:5)
- 9 If you are persecuted, you will be blessed. (Mt. 5:11)
- 11 Those who _____ for righteousness will be filled. (Mt. 5:6)
- 14 Those who are the peacemakers will be called _____. (Mt. 5:9) three words
- 18 Woe to you who are _____, for you have already received your comfort. (Lk. 6:24)
- 19 What happened to the prophets in the Old Testament? (Mt. 5:12)

DOWN

- 2 Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep. (Lk. 6:25)
- 3 Those who are _____ will be shown mercy. (Mt. 5:7)
- 4 Jesus said that those who are _____ are blessed because their's is the kingdom of heaven. (Mt. 5:3) three words
- 5 When Jesus saw the crowd and when His disciples came, Jesus began to _____. (Mt. 5:2)
- 8 Those who are _____ because of righteousness will receive the kingdom of heaven. (Mt. 5:10)
- 10 Those who are pure in heart will see _____. (Mt. 5:8)
- 12 God's children should _____ because your reward in heaven is great. (Mt. 5:12)
- 13 If you are _____, you will be blessed. (Mt. 5:11)
- 15 If people _____ say all kinds of evil against you, because of Jesus, you will be blessed. (Mt. 5:11)
- 16 What did Jesus see that prompted Him to go up on a mountainside? (Mt. 5:1)
- 17 Those who _____ for righteousness will be filled. (Mt. 5:6)



Kids Movie Night
 February 10, 2023
 Parish Center
 6:45 PM

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

In the Gospel, Jesus climbs on a mountainside to teach the Beatitudes. Those who live by these eight principles will learn about how to live like Jesus. The Sermon on the Mount will show us how to experience happiness even in the most trying times. The lowly are uplifted by these teachings. God gives us life and wants us all to be happy.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Your child learned that Jesus' teachings will bring us happiness. Ask your child about the Beatitudes, which Jesus taught during the Sermon on the Mount. Together as a family, try to make a list of what the teachings are. If you need help, go to this week's Gospel reading. Talk about how to live the Beatitudes as a family.

Promise (Grades K-1): Your child explored Jesus' teachings that will help us be happy. Discuss what makes each person in your family happy and how that might fit into the Beatitudes. What are some of the times you have celebrated with each member of the family? Could be birthday, Baptisms, or some other milestone. Pray for continued happiness for your family and others in the community.

Good News (Grades 2-3): What kind of blessings has your family experienced that makes you all happy? Those are the kind of things your child's class discussed this week. Talk about your faith, family and friends, and life in general. Ask your child to summarize the story from this week's lesson titled, "A Colorful Gift." Talk about the Beatitudes and include them in your weekly prayers. How do the Beatitudes help us find true happiness?

Venture (Grades 4-6): This week your youngster's class learned about God's Law and Jesus' new law. Ask your son or daughter to describe what happened in the story, "Sadako and the 1,000 Cranes." The Gospel reading about the Beatitudes teaches us how to be happy. See how many beatitudes your young person can remember. Discuss as a family what the Liturgy of the Word means to you. Have your young person describe who Saint John Bosco is. Besides the Beatitudes, discuss the other teachings from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. End with the Lord's Prayer.

Visions (Grades 7-9): How much do Moses and Jesus have in common? Your young person should be able to answer that. Plus, talk about what happened in this week's story about Martin Luther King Jr. called "When Even the Children Can Lead." How did the people from the 1950s account fit into Jesus' teaching on the Beatitudes? How do the Beatitudes teach us to think like God? Discuss these questions with your young person. What other teachings from the Sermon on the Mount can your youngster share with the family?

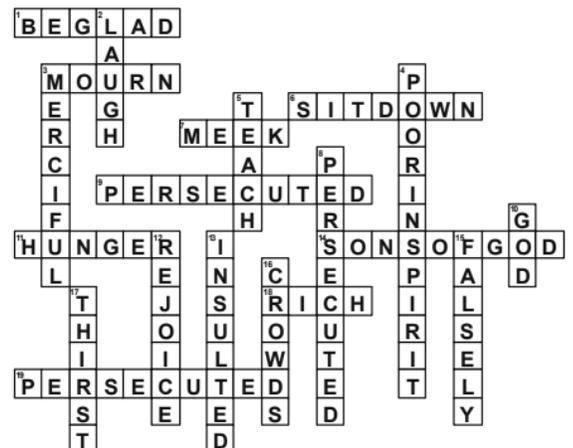
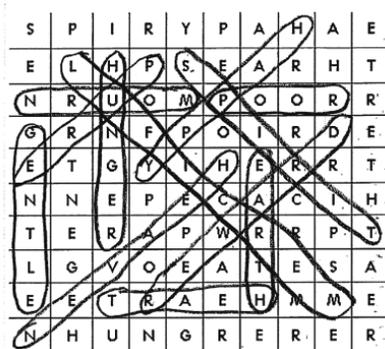
Pray Together

Gather the family at the kitchen table. In the center of the table, place the family Bible and a lighted candle. Let each person in the family ask for God's help in spreading the happiness of the Beatitudes. After each person has a say, all can respond with the words, "Jesus you are the source of all happiness." End with the Lord's Prayer.

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4	3	1	5	6	8	7	9	2
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This week's solution

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9	4	5	3	7	1	2	8	6



SOLUTIONS

St Agnes Racial Justice Initiative News

On June 5, 1934 in Germany, a group of Nazi government officials met to begin planning the implementation of their Aryan supremacist ideology. The first item on their agenda was what could be learned from the United States. Hitler and his followers had marveled at how the United States managed to successfully and efficiently subjugate millions of its people according to racial standards based on white supremacy, while still claiming and maintaining worldwide respect as a beacon of democracy. They were amazed at how a professedly democratic nation had gotten away with its enslavement, mass killings, "legal" lynchings, and systematic denials of basic human rights. They focused on the United States as the model to follow in accomplishing their own racial agenda.

Few Americans are aware of how the United States inspired Hitler and his followers. Admittedly, Nazis went beyond what the United States had done, but we helped show the way. As Americans we have a very different view of ourselves, clouded by our own immersion in our country's history and the lack of full knowledge of that history. There is still much work to be done as Christians in the service of truth and justice for all God's children. This particular reflection is based on documented information that appears in Isabel Wilkerson's book, Caste - The Origins of Our Discontent. This book has been added to our St. Agnes racial justice library in the church narthex.

One reviewer of this book commented insightfully: "Wilkerson's work is the missing puzzle piece of our country's history."

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.

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.

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.

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.

Parish Financial Activity

Collections – Last Week

Offertory Collections	\$6,011
Monthly Mortgage Assistance	\$1,215
Total (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	\$7,226
Weekly Target (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	\$11,500
Total Collections Compared to Target	↓ -\$4,274

Tithe to help those in need \$601
(St. Agnes tithes 10% of all offertory donations)

Our Policy for Protecting Our Children

Please know that we follow the Diocesan Safe Environment Program 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:

1. Virtus workshop — Complete online training at www.virtusonline.org. Step-by-step instructions are available.
2. Background Check — Completing Screening One form
3. 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.

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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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@LoRadio.org and dedicated volunteers will get them broadcast. For more information on Catholic radio in West Virginia, call 304-598-0026.

Men's Priestly Discernment Retreat

Do you desire a life of service to God? Are you open to giving yourself completely to God in a life of consecration and sacrifice in building up the kingdom of God here in West Virginia? Could the Lord be calling you to be a Priest of Jesus Christ in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston? The annual diocesan Men's Priestly Discernment Retreat will be held on March 3-5 at the Priest Field Pastoral Center (4030 Middleway Pike, Kearneysville, WV 25430). This event is open to men 18 years and older who are simply open to reflecting on God's will for them in their lives. The weekend will consist of Holy Mass, prayer, reflections on the diocesan priesthood, and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession. For any men interested in attending, please sign up at wvpriests.org.

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 sjsww.org. For more information, email mpartington@sjsww.org or call the school office at 304-267-6447.

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 NationalCatholicSingles.com.

Save the Date

Gala to support St Joseph School
 April 29, 2023 at 6:30pm
 St Leo's Catholic Church
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