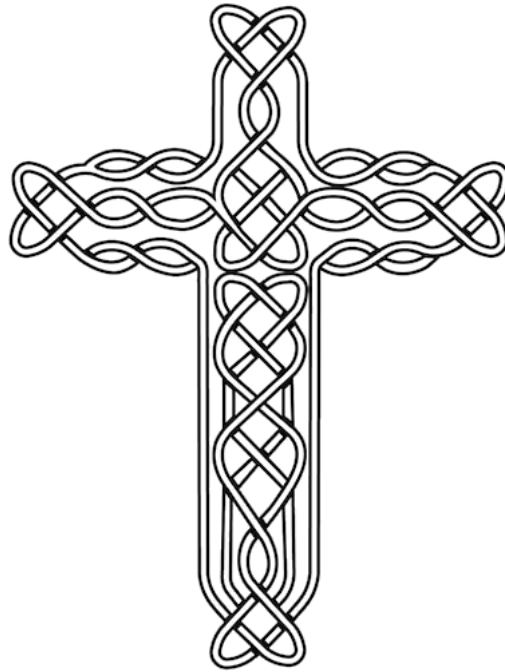


S a i n t A g n e s



*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
Associate of Youth Faith Formation: Bill Donahue
Assistant Administrator: Beth Yates
Accounting: Lizzie Lowe
Associate of Liturgy Ministry: Helen Harris
Associate of Music Ministry: Elaine Rendler-McQueeney
Office Secretary: Amy Fresch

Pastoral Council

Connie Bonner ~ Gerry Fitzgerald ~ Bassell Franks
Heather Garcia ~ Christine Wiegman-Green
Patrick Green ~ Shaná Harris ~ Colin Hayden
Cate Hershey ~ Blanche Landry
Brendan Jarrell ~ Vanessa Santiago

Finance Council

Steve Bledsoe ~ Carmela Cesare
Mike Drewes ~ Mike Keefe
Sue Kemnitzer ~ 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
Email: Office@StAgnesShepherdstown.org
www.StAgnesShepherdstown.org

St. Agnes Chapel

204 South Church Street, Shepherdstown

Sunday Readings

Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15:1b-3a, 3b-4a, 4b-5
Colossians 1:24-28
Luke 10:38-42

Weekly Schedule

Weekend Mass

Saturday, 5:30pm

Sunday, 8am and 10:30am

Weekday Mass

Monday, 11am

Scripture & Communion

Wednesday, 11am

Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:30pm

Parish Office: Monday thru Friday 9am-4pm

Cash Card Sales: During parish office hours (call first)



Mass Intentions

Saturday, 5:30pm for the intentions of

Louis Joseph O'Connell



In your kindness, please pray for Gil Sateia, who died this past week. May Gil share in the fulness of God's love and peace.

In your kindness, please pray for Lou Clark, a former parishioner, who died this past week. May Lou share in the fulness of God's love and peace.

The Week at a Glance...

Sun July 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 17th Church Dedication Anniversary• CCHD Collections at all Masses• Youth Feeding the Hungry Prep 11:30am
Mon July 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scripture Sharing Zoom 12noon
Tues July 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Board Games Group 3:30pm
Wed July 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth Feeding the Hungry Food Delivery 5pm
Fri July 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sleeping Bag Project 9:30am

4th Annual Car Show—Thank You!

THANK YOU to everyone that helped with the car show from planning, to setting up, cleaning up, music, food, donations, and participating—we had a total of 27 cars to show this year. Although it was hot, it was a sunny day with no rain. It was a wonderful, successful event!

175th Anniversary

Our Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston will begin a year of celebration honoring the 175th anniversary of our diocese beginning on July 19, 2025 and culminating on July 19, 2026. You can find information about the events that are planned throughout the year as well as historical information on the diocesan webpage, dwc.org.

SJP Weekend Results

The Service, Justice, and Peace group collected \$11 for Mary's Refuge, \$44 for feminine hygiene products and diapers, \$43 for Feeding the Hungry, and \$4 for Kolofata Education. There were also 11 bags of coffee from Haiti sold for a total of \$110. Thanks to all who continue to support these charities and for supporting coffee farmers in Haiti.

Microwave Raffle

Check out the raffle in the Narthex of the Church for a brand-new microwave (black, 0.7 cu ft)! Tickets are 1 for \$1 and 6 for \$5. Perfect for dorm rooms, classrooms, camping, she sheds, man caves, and more—the possibilities are endless. Stop by and take a chance on winning! Proceeds go to supporting the youth program.

Remember in Prayer

Please pray daily for those serving in the Military, our veterans in recovery, and those recently ill, especially Joe, Denis Woods, Eileen Dooley, Brian Lilly, Ann Kessel, Ann Morris (sister of Georgette Rush), Mike Gore, Rosemary Falck, Chuck Pierpont, David Welch, Joe Lowe (son of Lizzie Lowe), and Ron Mancini (son-in-law of Bob and Martha Rizzo). Names are placed in the bulletin for one month then moved onto the 2nd Friday prayer list and are remembered in prayer each month.

A Helping Hand

We need some help! In order to bring cash card sales back to the church before and after each Mass, we need some additional helping hands. As we all know, the more people we have involved, the better the program will work **and** the less we will overwork our volunteers! Please consider assisting with this!

Cash cards have historically (pre-pandemic) brought in thousands of dollars to St Agnes each year. Access to them needs to be more convenient than the office during weekday hours for the program to really reach its potential. Give the office a call for more info or to volunteer!

CCHD Annual Collection THIS WEEKEND

Our annual collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is this weekend. In the United States, more than 11% of the population lives in poverty. Your donation supports programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. And 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty programs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection to give those on the margins a hand up, rather than a handout. Checks should be made out to St Agnes with CCHD on the memo line. We have envelopes marked CCHD to use in the collection at Mass, or feel free to mail it to the parish office. And we will continue to accept donations for the next few weeks, so don't worry if you are a little late getting your donation in.



Praying
by Mary Oliver

It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot,
or a few small stones;
Just pay attention, then patch
a few words together and don't
try to make them elaborate,
this isn't a contest
but the doorway into thanks,
and a silence in which
another voice may speak.



Taking Advantage of Ordinary Time

Here at St Agnes, we are always looking for folks to join our team of Liturgical Ministers. Right now, during Ordinary Time, is an excellent time to test out a new ministry. Things are simply quieter in the summer. Please consider testing the waters! Our ministries include Hospitality, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (Bread & Cup), Lector, and Altar Server. If you have any questions, please reach out to Helen Harris at liturgy@stagnesshepherdstown.org or stop any of our Mass Coordinators or Liturgical Ministers before or after Mass. They would be happy to fill you in and start you on the path to receive training. Please take time and prayerfully consider volunteering; **WE NEED YOU.**

Boonsboro Mini Recycling Event

Every week this July, Boonsboro Farmers Market (Tuesdays 4-7pm) is collecting recycling in a mini recycling event! Here are some of the items they will take:

- Egg cartons
- Batteries (chargeable and non-chargeable)
- Eyeglasses
- Small ink cartridges (no laser)
- Cell phones (no cords)
- Old toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes, dental floss containers
- Empty K-cups
- Empty baby food pouches (rinsed out!!)
- Empty snack bar wrappers
- Brita water filters

Homebound Ministry Volunteering

Our Homebound Ministry is always looking for new volunteers. Our volunteers help folks out with rides to appointments with their doctors and various therapies, to pick up prescriptions, and for grocery shopping. From time to time, there might also be a need for caregiver breaks wherein a volunteer would just simply sit with an individual so their caregiver can have a break, take care of shopping, or get to their own appointments. Please contact Judy Lilga jslilga8@gmail.com or 301-432-2276 for more information or to volunteer!

Migrant Worker Hygiene Kits & Update

St. Agnes KoC Council #13887 is once again collecting toiletries and donations for Migrant Workers' Hygiene Kits. The need for support in this area continues, even in these turbulent times.

We appreciate any of the following items: Shampoo (combined with conditioner), hair combs, disposable razors (the cheapest ones are best), shaving soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, bar soap, deodorant, wash cloths, and bath towels (the ones at WalMart for about \$3 are excellent). Bandanas, baseball caps, and decks of playing cards are appreciated by the workers. The occasional frisbee, or soccer ball is also desirable. These are passed out by the visiting nurses on a case by case basis.

Because we are assembling basic toiletry kits, they will not include 'extras' such as BenGay ointment or aspirin, etc. However, if we receive 'creative' items they will be delivered to the Special Populations Nurses at Shenandoah Community Health, who will make use of them. Unfortunately, travel sizes of toiletries do not fit our program's needs. Those donated in the past have all gone to the women's shelter, where they were gratefully received.

Because there are a minority of female workers employed, women's products will be distributed separately by the Nurses who service this migrant community. These products are always useful.

St. Agnes has generously supported the Hygiene Kit program for well over five years now, and the Knights look forward to your continued involvement. Your faithful giving has been invaluable. *Toiletries may be left in the marked boxes provided in the Narthex and the Parish Center. Donations can be placed in the offering basket or sent to the Parish Office. Please indicate that it is a donation for the Workers' Hygiene Kits. Checks should be made out to the St. Agnes Council #13887, KoC.*

The kits will be assembled the second weekend in August (9th-10th) and delivered immediately thereafter. Again, Thank You for all of your compassion and generous support!

Via Dana from Special Populations:

This migrant season is shaping up to be more unpredictable for a couple of reasons. First of all, we had a freeze in the eastern panhandle that affected both peach and apple crops, so the number of workers needed was reduced. Secondly, we have more groups than usual being held up at the border so several camps are arriving later than usual which affects the orchards as well as our team plan. All in all, we're moving forward to meet the needs of about 600 farm workers who are very grateful for all that they are provided. Thanks to you and your team, many needs will be met and folks are so grateful.

2nd Friday Prayer Group

A list has begun for the 2nd Friday in August. If you have names to add or if you would like to join the group, contact Judy Lilga: 301-432-2276 or jslilga8@gmail.com.

St Agnes Awarded Track 3 Grant by Chesapeake Bay Trust!

We are thrilled to announce that St Agnes has been awarded a Track 3 Grant by the Chesapeake Bay Trust! More details will be forthcoming, but this grant springboards from our Track 2 grant from the Trust wherein we have developed a stormwater management design with the Thrasher Group to improve our handling of stormwater on the St Agnes campus that impacts not only our neighbors who experience flooding in major rain events, but also the Chesapeake Bay. The Track 3 award allows us to implement the plan.

The Chesapeake Bay Trust (www.cbtrust.org) is a nonprofit grant-making organization dedicated to improving natural resources through environmental education, community engagement, and local watershed restoration. The Trust's grantees engage hundreds of thousands of individuals annually in projects that have a measurable impact on the waterways and other natural resources of the region. The Trust's work is supported by the sale of a specialty license plate; donations from individuals and corporations; and partnerships with private foundations and federal, state, and local governments. The Trust has received the highest rating from Charity Navigator for over two decades: On average, over 90 cents of every dollar go to programs.

Acknowledgements:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 3, Chesapeake Bay Program, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, and the Chesapeake Bay Trust contributed to funding for these projects. This project had been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under assistance agreement 4I-95300301-2 to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP). The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the EPA, nor does the EPA endorse trade names or recommend the use of commercial products mentioned in this document.



VIRTUS Training—Why?

VIRTUS training is required by the diocese for all volunteers - whether they work with children or not. There are two reasons: 1. **VIRTUS covers more than child abuse.** It covers elderly abuse, abuse of immigrants and non native (English) speakers and anyone else who might be vulnerable. 2. **It helps the individual spot abuse.** It's harder for an abuser to remain hidden if everyone is trained to spot the warning signs of abuse. It also helps individuals to provide appropriate responses to someone who is abused and gives you resources to get the individual help. **That is why the diocese has asked everyone to update their training.** It's the diocese' way to help protect the vulnerable and help them get help if something unfortunately occurred.

Garden Notes

This is a busy time in the garden; harvesting the produce you started in March and April, and now planting the seeds for your fall garden. You already have plans for your corn, so instead we'll concentrate on all those beautiful kale plants that you can hardly keep up with. Wow!

Two of our regulars in the garden are excited about introducing you to kale chips. Plenty of recipes for the preparation and seasoning of the chips can be found on the internet but our gardeners stand by this simple, foolproof way of preparing them. Select large leaves of kale, wash thoroughly, and dry them; next cut leaves into 3-4 pieces, cover lightly with a good grade of olive oil (too much oil will impede crispiness); spread on baking sheet and place in oven, 250 degrees, for 15-20 minutes. They are ready to be removed when there is no soft spot on the largest chip. One tip that each of these gardeners thinks will be helpful to you: massaging the kale before using it is the key to releasing the rich taste in this plant.

Want a fun activity for kids? Try baking your kale chips in your car this summer for a fun and healthy snack chip.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) is a Catholic organization dedicated to serving the poor that was founded by Blessed Frédéric Ozanam in 1833 in Paris, France. Work is focused on a person-to-person ministry, which includes going in pairs to the homes of those in need to better understand their circumstances. Our St. Agnes Conference primarily serves people in Jefferson County, WV.

Recent examples include helping a family with children in Jefferson County that needed assistance with an electric bill that was over \$1,000, which our Council paid to prevent further shut-off notices. Another lady, her fiancé, and their three children live in a trailer that had been without running water for 3-4 weeks due to an unpaid bill of over \$1,000, which we helped pay along with Catholic Charities and other charitable organizations.

Please let us know if you would consider joining SVdP, and/or supporting us financially with a donation (contact: SVdP@stagnesshepherdstown.org). Thank you.

Don't Throw Them Away

Egg cartons. We are talking about egg cartons. If you find yourself having no use for egg cartons (we all know there are countless ways to repurpose them) and you are just throwing yours into recycling or into the trash, please bring them to St Agnes (preferably the parish center, but the narthex is fine, too)! We have a number of folks associated with the church who raise chickens and very much appreciate our egg cartons. In addition, the various food pantries also need them to fill egg orders for their clients since they tend to receive eggs in bulk containers. In the spirit of **Laudato Si**, caring for our common home, this is a great way to minimize our carbon footprint at least a little, and every little bit counts.

THE YOUTH CORNER

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday's Gospel:

Luke 10:38—42

July 20, 2025

4		2	9		5		1	6
9							3	
5				6	8	9		
2		6	4					1
	9				3	2		8
	5	3	6					4
			1					
	2		8	3				5
	1			2	6			



Volunteering: The church is always looking for volunteers. It is our way to demonstrate faith in action!

All volunteers are required to be VIRTUS-trained as required by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. If you would like to volunteer for any parish ministry including with our youth, you must be VIRTUS-trained. Forms are located in the church narthex and the parish center on how to complete this process.

All parents are encouraged to be VIRTUS-trained. If you have been trained in the past, you must have the latest training Version 4.0.

Unfortunately, a number of our volunteers are not compliant and need to update their accounts. If your Virtus 4.0 has been **over** a year ago, you will be asked to complete the **refresher** module. Logging into your online VIRTUS account is the best way to determine if your training is up to date. If your home screen is green, all is good. Any red section needs to be updated.

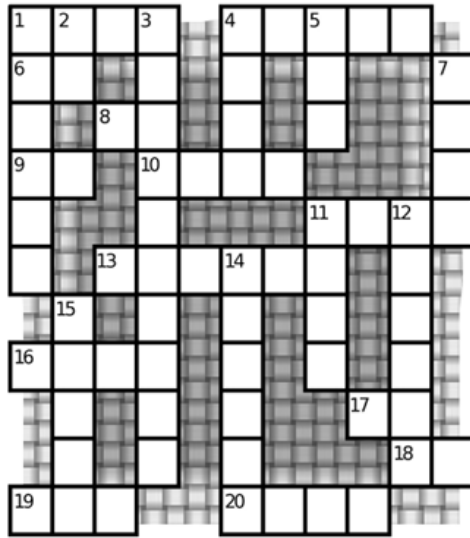
Please consider taking an hour of your time this week or next to make sure your VIRTUS is up to date.

Also remember to check your background check information. Background checks need to be renewed every 3 years!

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Bill Donahue:
formation@staagneshepherdstown.org

Martha and Mary

cross
word
puzzle



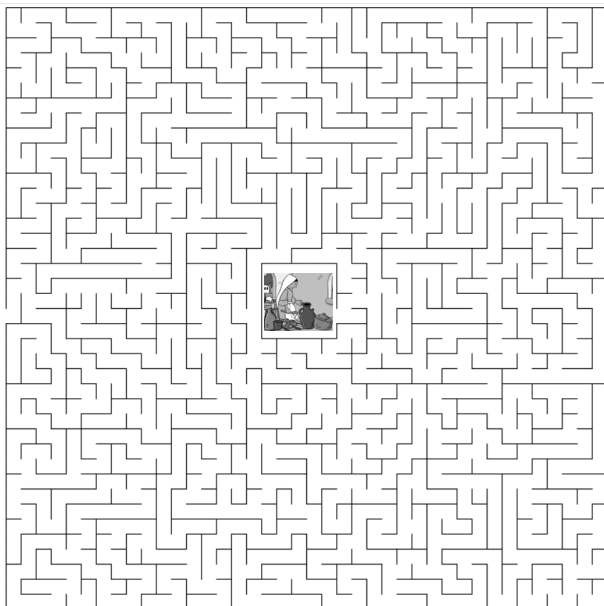
Across:

1. The _____ came to Martha's house
4. Mary _____ the better part
6. Jesus was _____ Martha's house
8. "One thing _____ needed."
9. Jesus said _____ her, "Martha, Martha."
10. "Do you not care? _____ tell her to help me!"
11. Martha was concerned about _____ things.
13. Which sister was working in the kitchen?
16. Mary sat at Jesus' _____.
17. "Mary has chosen the better part, which shall not _____ taken..."
18. "_____ you not care?"
19. "...away from _____."
20. Jesus _____ to her, "Martha, Martha."

Down:

1. Mary just wanted to _____ to Jesus.
2. She sat _____ the ground near Him.
3. Martha was _____ with much serving.
4. "Lord, do you not _____ that my sister has left me to serve?"
5. "_____ thing is needed..."
7. The better part would not be taken _____ from Mary.
11. Which sister was not in the kitchen?
12. "...one thing is _____..."
14. Martha was anxious about many _____.
15. "My sister has left me to _____ alone."

Help Martha find Jesus!



Mary and Martha Word Line Up

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in the circled spaces to answer the final question.

- GAVILEL ○
- CIDSSELIP ○
- RSITESS ○
- ARHTAM ○
- SVERE ○
- ZARTNAEH ○
- CCEIOH ○
- EWNMO ○
- SGTUE ○



What did Jesus say was important? _____



Martha was so busy in the kitchen but her sister wasn't helping! What did Jesus say to her when she complained to Him?
Look in the mirror to find out!

CFF, AFF, Youth Group, & Family News

Thanks to everyone who helped with the 4th annual St. Agnes Car Show. However you participated, you helped make the event very successful—THANK YOU!

Save the Date

The 5th Annual St. Agnes Car Show is scheduled for July 11, 2026

CFF registration for the 25-26 school year will begin over the summer. Forms can be found in the church narthex or the parish center. Our program is Pre-K through adult. All are welcome to learn more about the Catholic faith. In addition, if you are not Catholic and wish to explore more about Catholicism, **we offer OCIA classes**. Parish registration forms are also available in the church narthex and the parish center. Please email Bill at formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org for additional information. All forms can be turned into the Parish Office weekdays 9am—4pm or can be dropped into the weekly collection at church.

Even though CFF classes have ended for the 24-25 school year, there will be plenty of **youth events occurring over the summer**. Please keep watch the bulletin and youth pages for activities! For example, our meals for the hungry will continue over the summer. The next youth prep. meal time is Sunday, July 20th after the 10:30am Mass. We will gather in the parish center to prepare the meal.

In addition to the many social justice activities that our youth are involved in, we still are actively working on our **InterGenerational Garden**. Any help would be appreciated! They meet each Saturday at 9am in the parish center garden as long as the weather is good (no rain, not overcast). For additional garden information or questions please email Samantha Yates at: samanthaeyates@gmail.com

Mary & Martha

T W R E L A T I O N S H I P Y X Z
L I G H Z Y W J W O R R I E D S Z
W X V Q Y Y O G T I K W F D I C M
C N U P P V M U G C Y H Q U M E C
N F D U B C A X R B S A T B Z M H
G M Z P W X N X H S N G V L X M O
Y A S S J J O D P H B C N F Q G S
V R Z E M A D E N J A D X P Y U E
N Y X T D A F H C S I S T E R C N
U C W O R K P R E P A R A T I O N
U S N N E G E S C F V I L L A G E
V Z N G I G C G E O R R E Z B U H
D D I S C I P L E S F E K O E Y D
N P A X S T A K E N L U W C T O I
Q Q V X J E S U S S I F J Z T U O
S L C X M A R T H A R D X Y E M E
Y T F E Y D C J N X J B B M R B S

Better
Chosen
Disciples
Jesus
Made
Martha
Mary
Preparation
Relationship
Sister
Taken
Upset
Village
Woman
Work
Worried

Gospel Reading

Luke 10:38-42

Jesus visits the house of Martha and Mary.

Family Connection

In our families and homes, we have boundaries. Some are geographical; we may have our own room or part of a room that we want others to stay out of. Parents may have home offices that are off-limits to children. Some boundaries are behavioral; children may speak one way to their friends, but they are not allowed to speak the same way to their parents or other adults. A Curfew is another type of boundary, whose purpose is to protect children's safety.

Talk about examples of boundaries in your family. For the most part, these boundaries are good. Talk about how sometimes we set up boundaries for the wrong reasons. For example, if we are angry with a sibling, we may draw a line and tell him or her to stay on his or her side.

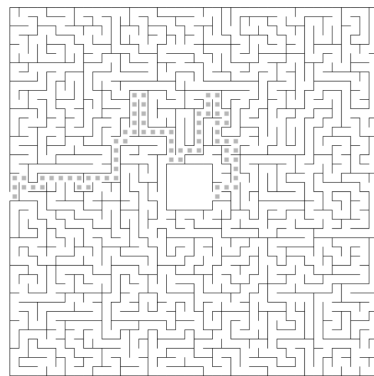
Explain that when we use boundaries to exclude others, we are being hurtful. Point out how in Jesus' time, some boundaries were used to unfairly exclude people. One example was from last week's Gospel: Samaritans. This Sunday's Gospel has another example: women. Talk about how the role of women has changed in your lifetime. Explain that in this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus breaks down a barrier that kept women from being disciples.

Read aloud Luke 10:38-42. Talk about how Martha is conditioned by the existing boundaries of her society, but how her sister, Mary, breaks through that boundary and becomes a disciple of Jesus. Talk about how you can work as a family to break down boundaries that separate people. Point out that when we pray the Lord's Prayer, we call God "Our Father," meaning that we are all his children; no boundaries should separate us. Conclude this time together by praying the Lord's Prayer.

SOLUTIONS:



4	3	2	9	7	5	8	1	6
9	6	8	2	4	1	3	5	7
5	7	1	3	6	8	9	2	4
2	8	6	4	9	7	5	3	1
7	9	4	5	1	3	2	6	8
1	5	3	6	8	2	7	4	9
3	4	7	1	5	9	6	8	2
6	2	9	8	3	4	1	7	5
8	1	5	7	2	6	4	9	3



T W R E L A T I O N S H I P Y X Z
 L I G H Z Y W J W O R R I E D S Z
 W X V Q Y Y O G T I K W F D I C M
 C N U P P V M U G C Y H Q U M E C
 N F D U B C A X R B S A T B Z M H
 G M Z P W X N X H S N G V L X M O
 Y A S S J J O D P H B C N F Q G S
 V R Z E M A D E N J A D X P Y U E
 N Y X T D A F H C S I S T E R C N
 U C W O R K P R E P A R A T I O N
 U S N N E G E S C F V I L L A G E
 V Z N G I G C G E O R R E Z B U H
 D D I S C I P L E S F E K O E Y D
 N P A X S T A K E N L U W C T O I
 Q Q V X J E S U S S I F J Z T U O
 S L C X M A R T H A R D X Y E M E
 Y T F E Y D C J N X J B B M R B S

GAVILEL VILLAGE
 CIDSSELIP DISCIPLES
 RSITESS SISTERS
 ARHTAM MARTHA
 SVERE SERVE
 ZARTNAEH NAZARETH
 CCEIOH CHOICE
 EWNMO WOMAN
 SGTUE QUEST

What did Jesus say was important? LISTENING

SAVE THE DATE

PARISH PICNIC - SEPT. 21



POTLUCK • KID'S AREA • 50/50 • RAFFLE



Donations Needed:

The Picnic Committee is looking for a limited number of new or gently used items for our raffle fundraiser. If you have something you feel may be appropriate, please contact

Cathy Bowden at crbowden@comcast.net, include a photo and description of the item. Our committee will let you know if we can use the item and will make arrangements to get it.

PLEASE, DO NOT DROP ITEMS AT THE PARISH OFFICE.

Senior Farmers Market Vouchers

Did you know that qualifying WV seniors 60+ can receive up to \$30 for fruit and veggies?

The Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) vouchers are back! Vouchers worth \$30 became available in all 55 counties at their county senior centers. Call your center to find when those vouchers will be available! For more info: <https://agriculture.wv.gov/senior-farmers-market-nutrition-program-vouchers-now-available-in-west-virginia/>

Landscape Grant update

The end of June marked the 'beginning of the end' of the Chesapeake Bay Trust landscape grant. Work on the grant started last year and it has provided funding to help transform the St. Agnes campus into a more environmentally friendly space that will welcome the community while at the same time helping to manage and reduce rainwater runoff. The grant was focused on two areas of the campus—the South slope near the playground and the space on the north side of the Church.

Here's a quick overview of **what's been done so far**:

On the southern slope we've planted over 50 native trees and shrubs that include fruit, nut, and shade trees. We've also planted a pollinator garden and will be adding some additional native shrubs in the fall.

Next to the Church, on the North side, we're working on making the area a mediative welcoming space. So far we've added five trees and variety of native plants, grasses, and shrubs. Over the next couple of months, we will be putting in a path to the Stations of the Cross/Nature trail as well as planting additional native (and hopefully deer resistant) shrubs and grasses. We will also be adding some seating areas and continue to clean up and weed the space.

Of course, as with most outside projects, this is more like the beginning than the end. If you want to learn more or just like playing in the dirt, the Landscape Committee's next meeting is scheduled for July 20th following the 10:30am Mass. We will be meeting in the Day Chapel and everyone is welcome. For more information contact Scott Hutton at landscape@stagnesshepherdstown.org.

Racial Justice Initiative

Current Immigration policy must be understood as another expression of white supremacist ideology, as seen in the recent admission in May of this year, of "refugees" from South Africa by the present federal administration.

It is clear that the white refugees from South Africa did not meet the United Nations definition of "refugee." By moving these people to the head of the line in front of mostly black and brown refugees while having halted current refugee programs, the administration sounded a racist "dog whistle" that is hard to ignore. When this happened the Episcopal Church, long associated with South Africa and Bishop Desmond Tutu, ended its support of their refugee resettlement program. Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe said "the idea that we would somehow be resettling Afrikaners at this point over other refugees, who have been vetted and waiting in camps for months, is unfathomable to us."

The U.S. Catholic Church had already ended its cooperative agreement on refugee resettlement due to the government cut-off of aid to USAID, where Catholic Relief Services had been a significant contractor delivering that aid. Bishop Seitz, head of the Bishop's committee on migration was incredulous that "a new channel is open to white Afrikaners" while at the same time the U.S. is "closing the door for people who are poor and starving." Immigration has historically been a racial issue and continues to be so. It is a moral issue that should challenge us as followers of Christ.

(The information here is sourced from "Trump's Afrikaner Refugee Policy: Religious Resistance & the Palestine Factor" by Julie Schumacher Cohen, published in Notre Dame's *Contending Modernities: Global Currents* - go to <https://contendingmodernities.nd.edu/category/global-currents/>)

Email and Texting Scams Alert

All too frequently we hear from parishioners who have received emails or texts from someone posing as Fr Andy, Fr Mat, or even another parishioner. No one, not Fr Andy, Fr Mat, nor St. Agnes staff, will ever write to you personally asking for 'favors' or to request for you to make a purchase or send money. **Always look closely at the sender's email address.** Emails from St. Agnes always come from office@stagnesshepherdstown.org. Emails from Fr. Andy will be from aswitzer@dwc.org ONLY. These scammers are very crafty and often make some very slight variation on the actual email address, so you really have to look very carefully.

If you receive such an email, simply delete it. Be aware that email scams, phishing, and more, are part of our digital world. To protect yourself, it's important that you learn how to recognize these scams.

For more information on how to improve your virtual safety, check out <https://us.norton.com/blog/how-to/how-to-protect-against-phishing>

Seeking Volunteers for Homework Club

We are looking for volunteers for a possible homework club, starting this fall on Thursday nights from 3-5pm. However, before we can move forward and finalize the day(s) and time, we need to see if we have some adults and teens (for the younger kids) to help the kids with their school work. If you are willing to provide your time and knowledge to help our youth, please contact Bill Donahue at formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org. Also, if a different night works for you instead, please still email and let Bill know that as well.

Trash Talkin'

Seriously, this is about trash! It is helpful for everyone to understand a few things. In Shepherdstown, the folks who pick up our trash **do not** pick up the bins and empty them into the truck. That means that **all of our trash absolutely must be in bags that are securely closed and placed in the big bin** either in the very large bin outside the door on the south side of the church or on the northside porch at the parish center. For the sake of those who are tasked with taking care of the trash here at St Agnes, this is not only really helpful, but it also is far more sanitary. This piece was sparked by the large bin having loose trash that clearly was not picked up which then festered in the can where flies found a good spot for laying their eggs. You can extrapolate what was found there requiring a very unpleasant removal of trash and hosing out of the bin to avoid production of another few thousand flies. *We are grateful to our intrepid staff member who took care of this!*

The long and the short of it is, **please bag all trash and put it in the bins!**

JCCM Food Pantry Needs

FOOD: Spaghetti sauce/pasta, ramen, crackers, canned meat (Chicken, spam, ham, tuna), canned veg (not green beans/corn), hearty soups, canned pastas (ravioli, Spaghetti-o's, etc.), canned chili, canned fruit, cereal, mashed potatoes, jelly/jam, peanut butter, sugar

HOUSEHOLD & HYGIENE ITEMS: Laundry detergent, dish soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, deodorant, copy paper, paper towels, toilet paper, feminine hygiene items

Shepherdstown Shares Needs

FOOD: Regular ground coffee, regular tea bags, brown rice, pasta sauces, ramen noodles (not the cups of soup), small applesauce cups (unsweetened), snacks, crackers (i.e. Ritz or saltines), milk (½gal or full—whole or 2%), diabetic-friendly Items (candy, pudding, Jell-o, applesauce), canned fruit, canned soup

HOUSEHOLD & HYGIENE ITEMS: Snack and sandwich-size Ziploc bags, sturdy paper bags (especially with handles), **cat food—huge need**, toilet paper, baby wipes, cat litter
Shepherdstown Shares is able to order high quality, inexpensive cat litter through a special program. If you would like to donate specifically towards this, checks should be made payable to Shepherdstown Shares with "cat litter" in the memo line and mailed to them (PO Box 1780, Shepherdstown, WV 25443) or dropped off at the pantry (Trinity Chapel, 200 W German St).

Parish Financial Activity

Collections – Last Week

Offertory Collections	\$6,194
Monthly Mortgage Assistance	\$1,420
Total (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	\$7,614
Weekly Target (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	\$13,500
Total Collection Compared to Target	↓ -\$5,886

Tithe to help those in need \$619
(St. Agnes tithes 10% of all offertory donations)

Supporting our St. Agnes community is easy! Just go to the "Giving" button at the top of our website homepage or use the QR code at the right to make a one-time or recurring gift. Any amount is a valued contribution towards our ministry. Thank you!



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.

Open Positions at Saint Joe's

SJS is seeking to fill these positions:

- ⇒ **Full-Time STEM Classroom Educator**
- ⇒ **Full-Time Guidance Counselor**
- ⇒ **Full-Time Middle School Teacher**
- ⇒ **Substitute Evening Custodian**

To send in a resume, contact Principal Maria Byrd at mbyrd@sjsww.org. View the job listing on [Indeed](#) or contact the Saint Joseph's Parish Office.

Haiti Coffee For Sale

Our SJP committee is offering Haiti coffee for sale. The beans are purchased through the fair trade organization Just Haiti and roasted locally at the Black Dog. Ground or whole beans are \$10 per bag in the Parish Center (\$3 of each bag is tax-deductible!).

For Our Young Parishioners

We have a children's library in the Narthex. Check it out!

Stay Up to Date with Mary's Refuge

Mary's Refuge invites you to stay up-to-date with their bulletin. Scan this QR code or visit <https://marysrefuge.com/baby-bulletin/>.



Ugly Sleeping Bag Ministry

We are still in need of blankets, comforters, sleeping bags and men's ties—Full/King/Queen-size, clean, and in good condition—can be dropped off at the parish center. Articles that we cannot use to make a sleeping bag: down comforters, wool blankets, mattress covers, pillows and pillow cases, curtains or drapes, or towels. We do use sheets, however we have a lot of them and don't need them at this time. Email barbaramueller596@gmail.com.

Bulletin Ads

Bulletin Ads are a major fundraiser here at St Agnes with the potential to bring in \$10,000. As helpful as that is to the church, our ads most definitely benefit the businesses that place an ad. Our ads are widely viewed by our parishioners and the larger community, so they are truly an effective way to bring attention to businesses at bargain prices. Our new ad year has begun. As you can see, we have lots more room for ads! We really want to fill up our ad pages. For \$125, a business gets a 1x1.5 inch space for an entire year (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027). 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. Please encourage your favorite businesses to advertise with us. We are happy to help with ad design. **Please call or email the office (304) 876-6436 or office@stagnesshepherdstown.org**

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Homebound Ministry

For any parishioners with needs (groceries, rides to doctors/pharmacies, etc.), our **HOMEBOUND MINISTRY** is willing to help. Contact Judy Lilga (301-432-2276).

Women's Discernment Retreat

If you are single, between 18-30 years old, and live in WV, you are invited to a weekend of discernment. Missionary Sisters Servants of the Word (HMSP) are hosting a retreat August 29-30 at the scenic Priestfield Pastoral Center in Kearneysville, WV.

Space will be limited. Registration required. The retreat is free! To sign up email: westvirginiamission@hmsp.org
For more information about the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Word (HMSP) go to: <https://hmsp.org>
Take this time for you. Discern your vocation.

Diocesan Collections

St Agnes always contributes to Diocesan collections and appeals from our tithing fund. If you would like to personally contribute to any of the upcoming Diocesan Collections and Appeals, you can do so by dropping a check into the offertory at Mass or stop by the office. Please make checks payable to St Agnes with the collection clearly noted in the memo line. The next collection is **on August 17 for the Education of DWC Samaritans.**

Scripture Sharing

Scripture Sharing continues via Zoom on Mondays, 12noon with the exception of major holidays. The Zoom link can be found on the website under the events calendar.

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