

# 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 ~ Derek Gallagher  
Heather Garcia ~ Christine Wiegman-Green  
Patrick Green ~ Shaná Harris ~ Colin Hayden  
Brendan Jarrell ~ Gil Sateia  
Vanessa Santiago ~ Becky Tokarcik

## **Finance Council**

Pat Barth ~ Steve Bledsoe  
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](http://www.StAgnesShepherdstown.org)

## **St. Agnes Chapel**

204 South Church Street, Shepherdstown

## **Sunday Readings**

Mark 11:1-10  
John 12:12-16  
Isaiah 50:4-7  
Psalm 22:7-8, 16-17, 18-19, 22-23  
Philippians 2:6-11  
Mark 14:1-15:47

## Weekly Schedule

Weekend Mass

**SEE BELOW**

Weekday Mass

Monday at 11am

Stations of the Cross

Friday at 3pm

**Parish Office:** Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm

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

## The Week at a Glance...

<p><b>Sunday, Mar 24</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Palm Sunday</b> </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NO CFF/Growing in Faith</li> <li>• RCIA 12Noon</li> <li>• <i>Hispanic Ministry Committee</i> El Salvador Presentation 11:45am</li> <li>• <i>Youth Feeding the Hungry</i> Food Prep 11:30am</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monday, Mar 25</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scripture Sharing Zoom 12noon</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wed, Mar 27</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Youth Feeding the Hungry</i> Food Delivery 5pm</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thurs, Mar 28</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Holy Thursday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liturgy of the Lord's Supper 7pm</li> <li>• Night Prayer 9:30pm</li> </ul>
<p><b>Friday, Mar 29</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Good Friday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning Prayer 9am</li> <li>• Stations of the Cross 3pm</li> <li>• Liturgy of the Passion &amp; Death of the Lord 7pm</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sat, Mar 30</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Holy Saturday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning Prayer 9am</li> <li>• RCIA Retreat at Historic Chapel 10am</li> <li>• Easter Vigil 8pm</li> <li>• NO Reconciliation or 5:30pm Mass</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sunday, Mar 31</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Easter Sunday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No CFF/Growing in Faith/RCIA</li> <li>• Mass 8am &amp; 10:30am</li> <li>• Children's Program 10:15am</li> <li>• Easter Egg Hunt 11:45am</li> </ul> 
<p><b>Monday, April 1</b></p>	<p><b>HEADS UP!!</b> <u>The Parish Office will be Closed</u> on Monday, April 1st. See you on Tuesday!</p>

## Mass Intentions



Saturday, 5:30pm for  
**Jennifer Carroll**



Sunday, 10:30am for  
**Maureen Maidhof**

May Jennifer and Maureen 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 Chet Gore, Barbara Mueller, Amirra Umpenhour, Laddin Audia, Lizzy Walls, Georgette Rush, Janet Armstrong, Mary Katherine Raygor, Paula Russo, and Larry Merhaut. Names are placed in the bulletin for one month and then those names are placed on the 2nd Friday prayer list and are remembered in prayer each month.

In your kindness, please pray for John Hines, who recently died. May John share in the fullness of God's love and peace.

## New Hispanic Ministry Committee Hosts First Event

With the support of the pastoral council, St Agnes has started a Hispanic ministry committee. We want to take steps so that St Agnes lives up to its mission to be inclusive and so that the Hispanic community knows that their cultures and gifts are welcome here.

For our first event, we have decided on **Palm Sunday, March 24th at noon**. Father Andy and the head of Hispanic Ministry for the Eastern Panhandle, Enid Roman DeJesus, will give a presentation on our recent trip to El Salvador and learning from the culture of El Salvador and walking the footsteps of Martyr and Saint, Bishop Oscar Romero, who stood against the oppression of his people. March 24th, Palm Sunday, was the day he was actually assassinated, so this is a sacred day for us to gather to honor the El Salvadoran people and Archbishop Oscar Romero who worked to build the Kingdom of God.

## Scripture Sharing

Our Scripture Sharing group continues to meet via Zoom (link is on the website events calendar) on Mondays at noon (except holidays-Easter Monday). All are welcome!

## Dear Parishioners,

Dear Parishioners,

A big thank you for the Mass cards, gifts, and condolences in memory of Frank.

God bless you all,  
The Bielicki Family

Dear Parishioners,

If we think about it, our lives are a mystery. I am reminded of the lines from the Van Morrison song, "The Mystery," where he says "let go into the mystery." Really what is ahead and unfolding in our lives, we cannot see. I often look out among the congregation and see mystery unfolding—to the child being baptized, to the young couple getting married, to the person going to surgery and needing anointing, to the teenager being confirmed, and to the spouse burying their partner at a funeral. As we embark upon Holy Week, today, on Palm Sunday, let's recognize that we are not reenacting anything. This is about the mystery of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection, and, no matter what stage of life we're at, the Lord has come to walk with us. Jesus has already died, risen, and ascended to the Father, and we are pulled by the Spirit into the mystery of God's love. We have been preparing all of Lent; now is a time to let go into the mystery. Allow the symbols, from palms, to feet washing, Veneration of the cross, and our newest members coming into church, renew us. Let go into the mystery, and let this week renew us as a parish; to share the good news with the world.

Fr. Andy

## Please Don't Fall Victim To Email and Texting Scams!

Lately we are hearing from far too many parishioners that they are receiving emails or text messages from someone posing as Fr. Andy or Fr. Mat. **If you ever receive an email or text from someone posing as St. Agnes staff asking for money, gift cards, etc., it's a SCAM.**

No one, not Fr. Andy nor 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. You can usually tell by looking closely at the email address who sent the message. Emails from St. Agnes always come from [office@stagnesshepherdstown.org](mailto:office@stagnesshepherdstown.org). Emails from Fr. Andy will be from [aswitzer@stagnesshepherdstown.org](mailto:aswitzer@stagnesshepherdstown.org) or [aswitzer@dwc.org](mailto:aswitzer@dwc.org). 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 an email similar to this, simply delete it and be aware that online scams, etc. are part of our digital world. To protect yourself, it's important that you learn how to recognize these scams.

## 2nd Friday Prayer Group

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

## Racial Justice Initiative News

This weekend we are adding to our Racial Justice library, "*Tell it with Pride: The 54th Massachusetts Regiment and Augustus Saint-Gaudens' Shaw Memorial.*" It is a celebration of the National Gallery of Art's exhibition highlighting the Augustus Saint-Gaudens memorial in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War Battle of Fort Wagner (July, 18, 1863), where the first regiment of Black soldiers to serve in the Union Army distinguished itself by its valor. The book brings to life, with many photographs and stories, the lives of the brave men who risked their lives and freedom to help free their fellow people in bondage. The book includes a roster of the more than 1500 men who served in the regiment between its formation in march 1863 and its disbandment in April 1865.

The list notes for each individual, if known, his age, place of origin, profession at enlistment, rank, and ultimate fate as a survivor, died in battle, or missing in action. Some three quarters of the men who enlisted were not from Massachusetts, journeying to Boston from many different states, North and South, even a few from the Caribbean and South America. An amazing number came from Canada, putting at risk their own freedom to serve the cause of others' freedom. In the roster of the 54th there were also three from our area, one each from Martinsburg, Hagerstown, and Boonsboro. The publication is well worth a look. It puts faces on the amazing sacrifice made by those who served. You may also remember the movie, "Glory," that celebrated the Massachusetts 54th's heroics.

## Easter Vigil

Interested in helping out with the Easter Vigil? Every year, St. Agnes prepares a celebration after the Easter Vigil to welcome our newest parishioners. We are looking for food donations. If you are interested, contact Bill Donahue: [formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org](mailto:formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org) or the Parish office: 304-876-6436.

## Shepherdstown Friends' Peace Vigil

Shepherdstown Friends is hosting a Peace Vigil on Friday, March 29th at 2pm on the McMurrin Lawn (Corner of N. King Street/German Street). All are welcome to join them to support a ceasefire in the Middle East. For more information, email [andshellbee@gmail.com](mailto:andshellbee@gmail.com).

## Let the Games Begin!

In this time of new beginnings, St Agnes Parish is introducing gaming afternoons every Tuesday from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM at St. Agnes Parish Hall for teens and adults. Starting March 26; games such as chess, Scrabble, Mah-jong, Rummikub, cards, and puzzles will be provided but you may bring a favorite game to play as well. Snacks will also be provided or you can bring something to share.

Please invite your friends and neighbors too!

Let the games begin!!!

## Book Discussion Group

In our alternating schedule this would normally be the month we'd read a novel. However, this is an autobiography – and an astounding story.

*Hello Darkness My Old Friend; How Daring Dreams and Unyielding Friendship Turned One Man's Blindness into an Extraordinary Vision for Life* by Sanford Greenberg.

It's a bitterly cold February in 1961, and Sandy Greenberg lies in a hospital bed in Detroit, newly blind. A junior at Columbia University from a Jewish family that struggled to stay above the poverty line, Sandy had just started to see the world open up to him. Now, instead of his plans for a bright future—Harvard Law and politics—Sandy faces a new reality, one defined by a cane or companion dog, menial work, and a cautious path through life.

But that's not how this story ends. Join us April 19th at 11am to discuss this story.

More information about the group and a list of books can be found on <https://stagnesshepherdstown.org/event/book-discussion-group/all/>.

## JCCM Food Pantry Current Needs

Canned meats (especially chicken)  
Mac and Cheese, Soup (tomato and hearty soups)  
Rice, Canned Beans  
Jelly  
Syrup, Pancake Mix  
Crackers  
Coffee (Instant and Ground)  
Canned fruit, Canned pasta  
Cooking Oil  
Razors, Shampoo, Conditioner  
Paper towels, Dish Soap, Laundry Detergent  
Cat and Dog Food

## Shepherdstown Shares Current Needs

Toilet paper, Baby wipes  
Regular, ground coffee  
Brown Rice  
Pasta Sauces, Ramen noodles (not the cups of soup)  
Small applesauce cups (unsweetened)  
Anything for diabetics  
Crackers, such as Ritz or Saltines  
Sturdy paper bags (especially with handles)

## Operation Rice Bowl: Time to Turn in!

It's almost time to turn in your bowls! Starting on Easter Sunday, you can bring in your bowls to the Parish office. Please try to bring them in within the month of April so we can get them counted and turned in.

**ORB Website:** <https://www.crsricebowl.org/>  
*Catholic Relief Services (CRS) carries out the commitment of the US Bishops to assist poor and vulnerable overseas.*

## Spotlight on Ministry

### PART 2: WHAT IS THE EASTER TRIDUUM?

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum—from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us, the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery.

Holy Saturday is meant to be a quiet day, remembering the empty space that was present for the disciples of Jesus after his death and before his resurrection. They did not expect the resurrection and so were left in a place of grief.

After sundown on Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil is celebrated. It is one of the longest of Catholic liturgies, involving several readings from scripture tracing God's care for humanity, the baptism and reception of new members into the Church, the celebration of the Eucharist, and a great many joy-filled songs. It was that night when Jesus rose from the dead. It is that great victory over sin and death that the community celebrates.

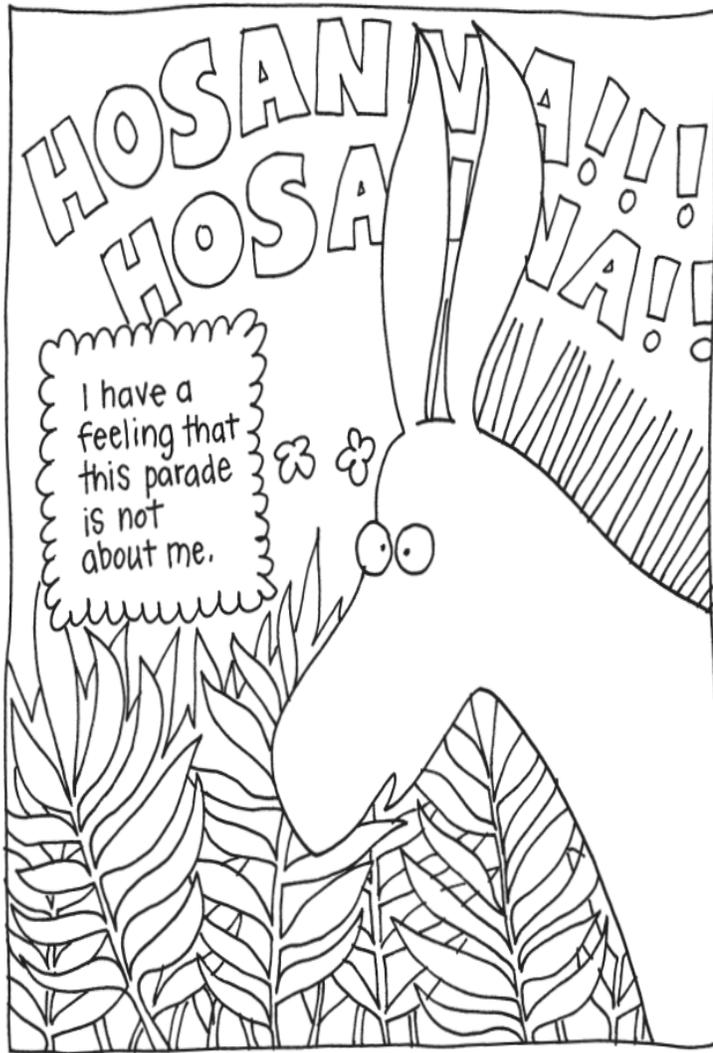
The community will then gather again on Easter Sunday to celebrate Mass and continue the joyous songs of celebration. Jesus Christ has risen! Humanity has been invited into that same path through death to life.

**We are always in need of ministers. Will you share your time and talent?** Please consider joining one of our ministries at St Agnes. There's so many ways to get involved and grow in your faith. Altar Servers are needed. Contact Helen Harris at [liturgy@stagnesshepherdstown.org](mailto:liturgy@stagnesshepherdstown.org).

## Simple Acts to Save Our Planet

With Earth Day fast approaching on April 22nd, our thoughts turn to caring for our planet. Some excerpts from *Simple Acts to Save Our Planet—500 Ways to Make a Difference* by Michelle Neff:

- **Reuse takeout containers.** Next time you order takeout, wash the plastic containers and save them. You can use the containers to bring your lunch into work or store leftovers from dinner. Or get a little creative and try placing them under indoor plants to hold water. You could even save the containers and bring them back to the same restaurant next time you order food. You'll be saving the containers from ending up in the landfill, all while reusing them for another purpose. Every little bit counts!
- Support restaurants that serve **locally grown food**. There is quite a bit that happens before your food ends up on your plate, including heavy water and land use and lots of transportation between locations. By supporting locally grown food, you're helping local farmers and shortening the distance between the food and your table.



# THE YOUTH CORNER

This Week's Gospel:  
*Mark 14:1—15:47*

March 24, 2024

## Palm Sunday

### CFF, AFF, Youth Group, & Family News

**CFF:** There is no CFF Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday. CFF will begin again April 7th. There will also be a First Eucharist Parent Meeting.

**Confirmation Day Retreat:** Is scheduled for Sunday, April 14th from 10 AM to 6:30 PM concluding with Mass at St. Agnes.

**Youth Group:** Will meet today, April 7th. We will be discussing the Confirmation Retreat and Cinco de Mayo.

**ADULT Classes: Growing in Faith classes** will meet April 7th. Adults are also encouraged to attend the St. Oscar Romero presentation after the 10:30 AM Mass today.

**RCIA and RCIC:** will meet today at Noon in the Parish Center. We are asked to attend the St. Oscar Romero, El Salvador presentation today.

**Keep watching this spot,** the Youth Facebook Page, our church calendar and the church website for additional activities. **Remember to join the CFF Google Classroom (link was sent to your email).** It is a one stop spot to find all the latest forms, classroom information, recorded classes, etc.

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** Parents are also encouraged to join our Youth Facebook Group. Please email Bill at the above address for the link to the closed group. You won't be able to find Our Youth Facebook Page any other way!

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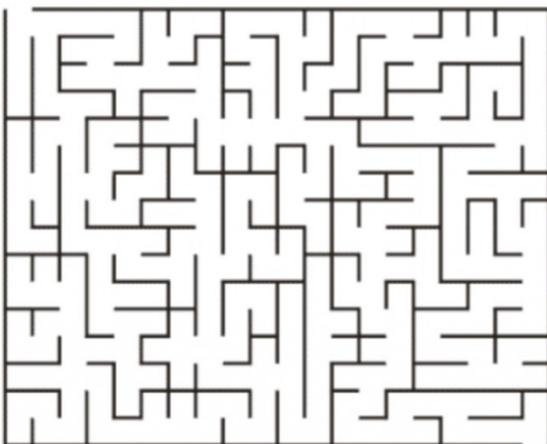
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- OINTMENT
- GOLGOTHA
- AWAKE
- DISCIPLES
- BREAD
- SCRIBES
- BARABBAS
- PRIESTS
- SKULL
- FESTIVAL
- JESUS
- JUDAS
- PILATE
- SIMON
- ARREST
- POOR
- CROWS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/6870272/>



Help Jesus find the way to Jerusalem



**Volunteering:** The church is always looking for volunteers. It is our way to demonstrate our 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.

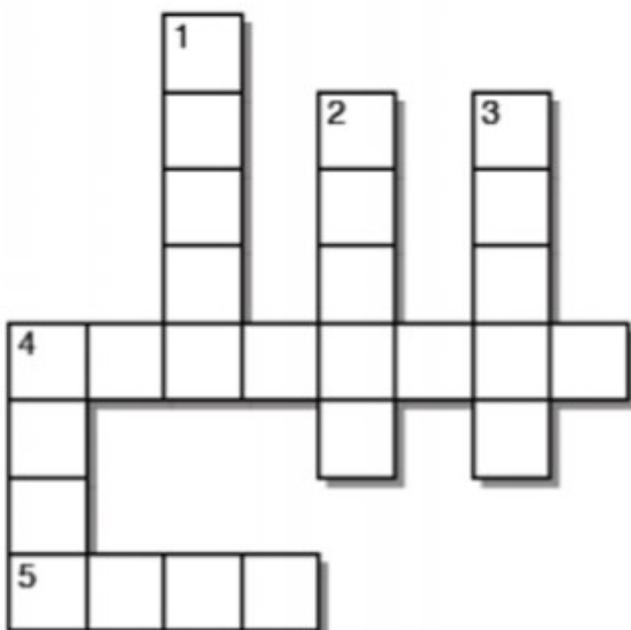


**Across**

- 4. The feast that Jesus was celebrating with his friends the disciples.
- 5. The Gospel this week is from the Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Down**

- 1. The name of the disciple who betrayed Jesus.
- 2. The name of the man who was passing by that the soldiers forced to help Jesus carry his cross.
- 3. The name of the disciple who Jesus said would "deny him before the cock crows".
- 4. Today is \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday.



## The Gospel at Home

### This Sunday's Gospels: Mark 11:1-10 and Mark 14:1-15:47

Palm Sunday celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the start of Holy Week. The mysteries of Holy Week are focused on the Sacred Triduum—the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Holy Saturday celebration of the Easter Vigil. This Sunday, we proclaim two Gospels—Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the entire story of the Passion and Death of Jesus according to Mark's Gospel.

### Exploring the Gospel Message

**Promise** (Grades K-1): In class this week, your child's class made Holy Week booklets to help them visualize and remember the events in Jesus' life that are celebrated this week. Talk with your child about each page in the booklet. If possible, take your child to one or more of the liturgies of Holy Week so that he or she can begin to experience these very important celebrations.

**Good News** (Grades 2-3): This week, your child's class learned of all the events in the final days of Jesus' life. Ask your child to share with the family what the days of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday celebrate. Talk together about what it means that Jesus suffered and died for you and for the whole world. Be sure to display the palm branches you received at Mass.

**Venture** (Grades 4-6): This week, your youngster's class learned about the story and symbols of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, and

Good Friday. Discuss the suffering and Death of Jesus and why it is so important that Jesus' followers know the events of these important days. Your son or daughter learned that Jesus' Passover from death to life is similar to the passage of the Hebrew people from slavery to freedom. Ask your son or daughter to share the Passover booklet that he or she made in class. Be sure to participate in the Holy Week liturgies as a family.

**Visions** (Grades 7-9): Most of this week's class consisted of a play that dramatized the story of Jesus' Passion and Death on the Cross. Ask your son or daughter to describe the play and to share his or her reactions to participating in it. Review together the meaning of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday. Plan your family's involvement in the liturgies of Holy Week. Develop a plan for also observing each of these important days in your home.

### Pray Together

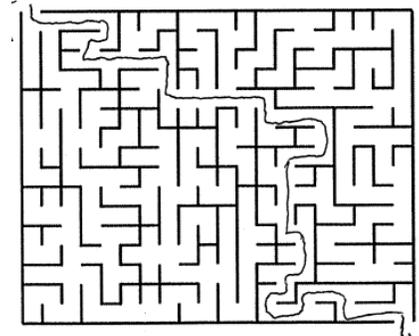
One of the elements of the Good Friday liturgy is the adoration of the cross. One day this week, gather around a crucifix. Pray together the prayer from the liturgy.

**Leader:** "Behold the wood of the Cross, on which hung the salvation of the world."

**All respond:** "Come let us adore."  
If possible, pass the crucifix from one family member to the next. Each family member can then gently kiss the crucifix. When all have adored the cross, repeat the prayer. Conclude by making a reverent Sign of the Cross.

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## Youth Events: March/ April at a Glance

**March 24: Palm Sunday**—No CFF Fr. Andy's Presentation about St. Oscar Romero and El Salvador after the 10:30 Mass Youth Prepare the Meal for the Hungry—Parish Center after the 10:30 Mass

**March 28: Holy Thursday**—1st Eucharist and Confirmandi should attend.

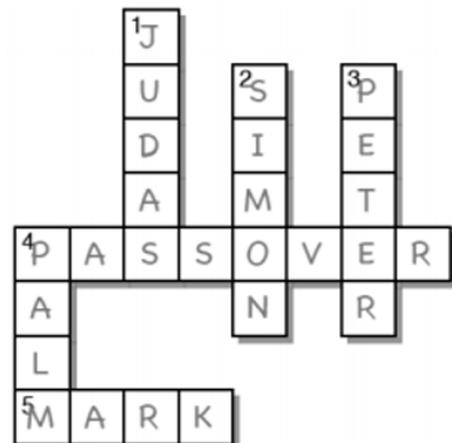
**March 29: Good Friday**—Stations of the Cross will be at 3 PM and Mass at 7 PM—Confirmandi should attend

**March 30: Easter Vigil** - 8 PM Confirmandi should attend. Morning Prayer 9 AM. RCIA practice and retreat at 10 AM.

**March 31: Easter Sunday**—No CFF—Easter Egg Hunt for the children of the parish after the 10:30 AM Mass sponsored by St. Agnes Youth group.

**April 7:** CFF, Youth Group, and Adult Growing in Faith at 9:15 AM.

**April 14:** Intergenerational Mass 5 PM. Confirmation Retreat 10 AM—6:30 PM



## Landscape Committee Upcoming Events

The St. Agnes Landscape Committee is gearing up to beautify and care for the grounds around the Church. We are planning a number of events in the coming months and we're hoping to gather our community of WORKING HANDS.

Here's a sneak peek at what we're planning:

- All hands workday with Shawn Walker on April 13 at 8:30am
- Earth Day event on April 21 at 11:30am
- Share the original St. Agnes landscape design
- Other planting, pruning, and beautification projects all season! Keep an eye on the church calendar.

**Everyone is welcome to participate in any way you can.**

Check out our event and sign-up page on the website and let's gather together in caring for our common home! <https://bit.ly/landscape-workday1>

If you have any questions, contact Scott Hutton at [landscape@stagnesshepherdstown.org](mailto:landscape@stagnesshepherdstown.org).



## Community Garden Starting Up

The Gardens, all kinds of them, have been with us forever. Some of the earliest stories read to us or that we learned to sing are about gardens and farms, i.e. The Garden of Eden and Old McDonald's Farm. Those memories come ripe to arouse our senses, the smell of a particular plant, the colors and positions of various plants, the feel of leaves and fruit, the taste of a favorite vegetable fresh from stalk, and the sound of autumn leaves as you walk in the garden; but more about that next week. This week is a good time to look at a different aspect of the garden, a hymn that was penned in 1912 by C. Austin Miles, a Methodist minister, *I Come to the Garden Alone*. The lyrics are truly mesmerizing; this song starts us on a journey to examine the sounds, or lack thereof, the inhabitants, the water and the light, and companionship with God. Several groups here at St Agnes are working to build a garden that will offer the opportunity for everyone to be the builder and maintainer of that space: **a garden for all**.

The Intergenerational Community Garden is getting ready for the new season. We welcome **any** level of involvement and would love to have your participation. Potential areas of engagement include: Planting seeds, watering, weeding, and harvesting

**If you are interested, please email Samantha Yates and Fanny Smith at [samanthaeyates@gmail.com](mailto:samanthaeyates@gmail.com).**

## Our Lady of Ferguson

Some of you may have noticed an icon that appears above the Racial Justice Library in the narthex of St. Agnes. This is Our Lady of Ferguson, created by Mark Doox. We wanted to offer an explanation of why we hung a reproduction of this icon to illustrate our parish's commitment to racial justice.



Our Lady, Mother of Ferguson and All Those Killed by Gun Violence, simply known as Our Lady of Ferguson, is an icon of the Madonna and Child. The icon, which depicts the Virgin Mary as a Black Madonna, was created in 2015 by the iconographer Mark Doox (formerly Mark Dukes). It was commissioned by the Rev. Mark Francisco Bozzuti-Jones, an Episcopal priest at Trinity Church in Manhattan. Created after the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO, the icon has been referenced as a symbol against gun violence, particularly towards members of the African-American community in the US.

The icon was painted in the Byzantine style using acrylic paint and collage techniques. Our Lady of Ferguson depicts the Virgin Mary as a Black Madonna, holding her hands up. Where her womb would be, there is a small black silhouette of the Child Jesus, with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, also with his hands and arms extended, in the crosshairs of a gun. The posture taken by both Jesus and Mary are a reference to "Hands up, don't shoot," a popular slogan associated with protesting police brutality after the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO. The position of the hands is also in the orans (one who is pleading) posture found in other Christian icons. The icon focuses on Marian intercession against police brutality and gun violence, particularly towards people of color.

The icon received publicity after Father James Martin, an American Jesuit priest and author, shared a photograph of the icon on Facebook on June 9, 2016. In his post, Martin wrote "Our Lady prays for all who are targeted by gun violence: African-Americans, the poor and marginalized, and police officers. All are her children. All are our brothers and sisters. Let us ask Our Lady to pray for us."

## Ugly Sleeping Bag Ministry

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](mailto:barbaramueller596@gmail.com).

## Haiti Coffee For Sale

There is fresh coffee, whole bean and ground, from Haiti available for sale (\$10/bag) at the Parish Center.

## Free Community Safety Trainings

### 2024 FREE Community Safety Training Available for ERT and anyone interested

The Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency is offering the following training opportunities:

#### **Community CPR and Stop the Bleed:**

April 9, May 21, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12, and December 10. All classes start at 6 pm. CPR courses are 6-9pm (3 hours).

To register and for more information go to the JCES website: <https://www.jeffersoncountywv.org/county-government/county-agencies/jcesa/community-cpr-first-aid>

Interested in joining the St. Agnes Emergency Response Team?

Contact Michele Goldman at [mgoldman9797@gmail.com](mailto:mgoldman9797@gmail.com) or Teace Noel at [wvnoels@gmail.com](mailto:wvnoels@gmail.com)

## Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress

Indianapolis, July 17-21, 2024  
With Bishop Mark Brennan

Participate in the pivotal moment in the Church and draw deeper intimacy with our Lord. Join our diocese by registering today!

Scan the QR code to attend this historic event. Please visit the DWC website for more information, including itinerary and cost: <https://dwc.org/year-of-the-eucharist/>



## St. Leo Craft and Collectible Faire

St. Leo Fellowship Hall  
2109 Sulphur Springs Road, Inwood, WV  
**Saturday and Sunday, April 6-7 10am-3pm**

- Several local crafters and collectible vendors
- Breakfast and lunch items for sale from our kitchen
- Climate-controlled environment (inside event)

Please come for fun and to shop! & Follow us on Facebook @ Saint Leo Catholic Church

## Parish Financial Activity

### Collections – Last Week

Offertory Collections	\$5,569
Monthly Mortgage Assistance	\$475
<b>Total</b> (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	<b>\$6,044</b>
<b>Weekly Target</b> (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	<b>\$12,000</b>
<b>Total Collections Compared to Target</b>	<b>↓ - \$5,956</b>

**Tithe to help those in need** \$557

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

## Laudato Si' and EarthBeat; GreenFest

### Upcoming is the **Boonsboro GreenFest Swap & Recycling Event on Saturday, May 11th!**

They will take a LOT of recycling, many things that cannot usually be taken elsewhere (some examples: medications, bicycles, building materials, batteries, musical instruments, wheelchairs)! There will be a drive-thru, drop-off loop with the option to stay in your car. There will also be live music, bottle crushing, tree giveaway, and swaps available for items such as: clothing, sports equipment, household goods, plants, books, and craft supplies. This event is public and not limited to residents of Boonsboro. If you wish to volunteer, help with set-up, or clean-up, please reach out to the committee at [info@boonsborogreenfest.com](mailto:info@boonsborogreenfest.com)

GreenFest: <https://www.facebook.com/events/765442532076520>

EarthBeat: <https://www.ncronline.org/earthbeat>

Laudato Si': [https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco\\_20150524\\_enciclica-laudato-si.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html)

If you have ideas/wish to join us, contact Carrie Blessing [carriejaneblessing@gmail.com](mailto:carriejaneblessing@gmail.com) or Kimberly Connor [connork@usfca.edu](mailto:connork@usfca.edu).

## 2024 St Agnes Scholarships

St. Agnes announces the 2024 Annual Scholarship Award! Active, participating members of St. Agnes who are graduating high school in 2024 are encouraged to apply for a scholarship to assist in furthering their education. The scholarship may be used for any institute of higher learning or trade school. Applications are available in the Narthex and the parish center or can be emailed to interested applicants ([office@stagnesshepherdstown.org](mailto:office@stagnesshepherdstown.org)). **Deadline for application submission to the office will be May 10th.**

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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

## CRISIS FOOD HOTLINE



**(844) 843-6631**

Call if you or a neighbor are experiencing a food emergency

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[www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org)



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## Teachers and Substitutes Sought For SJS

Saint Joe's School is seeking substitute teachers for these positions:

- **Pre-K** Director full-time position
- Full time **math** substitute until May 2024 (may become full-time)
- Long-term school **nurse** substitute through late May

For more information or to send in a resume or letter of introduction, contact Principal Maria Byrd at [mbyrd@sjswv.org](mailto:mbyrd@sjswv.org).

### And seeking two Lead Summer Camp Pre-K Teachers

Please email a letter of introduction and résumé to PK Director Katie MacKinnon at [kmackinnon@sjswv.org](mailto:kmackinnon@sjswv.org).

## Catholic Daughters Women's Retreat

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas is sponsoring a Resting in Jesus- Day of Recollection for Women Retreat. The event will be held on Saturday, April 13th from 9:15am-3:15pm at Priest Field. The event will highlight presenter Sr. Faustia Szaboova, ISMM (St. Faustina's Order), and there will be Mass, talks, confession, adoration, time for personal prayer, and spiritual conversations with the Sisters. Lunch is included! Tickets are available and limited; \$10 for CDA members, \$15 for non-members. Tickets will be on sale starting the weekend of March 16th. Call the St. Joseph Parish Office at 304-267-4893.

## Homebound Ministry

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

## SCC Earth Day Youth Art Contest

The Shepherdstown Community Club is hosting an art contest aimed at inspiring our youth to express their connection to Morgan's Grove Park and a vision for a brighter future. An art contest is a great way for our youth to engage with important environmental themes while showcasing their talents.

This is our first year, but we hope to continue this as an annual community art event.

**Who can enter:** Anyone who is of age 5-18 and from Jefferson or Berkeley County

**Deadline:** March 30th

**Sponsored by:** Jefferson Arts Council, Evolve Shepherdstown, Shepherdstown Community Club

**Prizes:** 1st: \$75 2nd: \$50 3rd: \$25

**Submissions are online via Google Forms:** Youth Art Contest (<https://forms.gle/dqcVRLeh7yqqT5616>)

We would greatly appreciate your help in spreading the word about this contest within your networks to reach as many potential young artists as possible. Encouraging our youth to participate not only nurtures their artistic talents but also fosters a stronger connection with our planet and our community!

Should you or anyone you know have any questions or require further information, please reach out!

Thank you for your support, collaboration, and art!

## Stay Up-to-Date with Mary's Refuge

Mary's Refuge invites you to stay up-to-date with their baby bulletin. You can find the bulletin via QR code or visit <https://marysrefuge.com/baby-bulletin/>.



<p><b>St Agnes Columbarium Garden</b> Your Niche For All Time</p> <p>⌚ ⌚ ⌚</p> <p>200 South Duke St Shepherdstown, WV 304-876-6436</p>	 <p>Schmitt Construction Company</p> <p>James A. Schmitt 304-876-2462</p>	<p><b>Shepherdstown PHARMACY</b> </p> <p>7670 Martinsburg Pike 304-876-9966</p> <p>The Knott Family</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graphic Design and Consulting</li> <li>• Photo Restoration</li> <li>• 35mm Slide/Negative Scanning</li> </ul> <p>kfb@myactv.net • 304-279-4690</p> <p>Kathleen f. Bielicki Graphic Designer/Artist</p>
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