

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

Acts 13:14, 43-52

Psalms 100:1-2, 3, 5

Revelation 7:9, 14b-17

John 10:27-30

Weekly Schedule

Weekend Mass

Saturday, 5:30pm

Sunday, 8am and 10:30am

Weekday Mass

Monday and Wednesday, 11am

Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:30pm

Parish Office: Monday through Friday 9am-4pm

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

The Week at a Glance...

Sun May 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mother's Day• OCIA 12noon
Mon May 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scripture Sharing Zoom 12noon• SVdP Meeting 7pm
Tues May 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Board Games Group 3:30pm• KoC Business Meeting 7pm
Wed May 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finance Council 6pm
Fri May 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Endangered Species Day• Book Discussion Group 11am
Sun May 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appalachian Pastoral Presentation with Joe Holland 11:45am• OCIA 12noon

Happy Mother's Day!

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers everywhere including all the women who have helped to mother us. We acknowledge the courage, bravery, wisdom, dignity, and love possessed by our women which they generously share with all of us.

Please, Please, Please!

St Agnes is required to send a report to the diocese on May 30 that includes the number of volunteers that are currently not compliant in VIRTUS. Unfortunately, we have a large number of volunteers that need to update their accounts. Please log into your VIRTUS account over the next couple of days and update your training and/or your background check as directed from your VIRTUS homepage.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston and VIRTUS now require a yearly update to your VIRTUS training. If you completed VIRTUS 4.0 over 1 year ago, you need to complete the refresher module. We have been told it is not the same as the initial training if you take the refresher module online. VIRTUS 4.0 is the required version so please make certain you are 4.0 trained.

To check your compliance status, log into your VIRTUS account. If your home page is green, you should be compliant. If your home page is red, you need to complete an update of each red section. If you have questions, please call the office at 304-876-6436 or email Bill Donahue at formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org.



Mass Intentions

Sunday, 8am for

Renee Mougín and Kathryn Geary Boal

Sunday, 10:30am for

Miriam Moriarty

May Renee, Kathryn, and Miriam share in the fulness of God's mercy and peace.

Remember in Prayer

Please pray daily for those serving in the Military, our veterans in recovery, and those recently ill, especially Shelly Stowell (daughter of Nina Hockman), Georgette Rush, Dan Howar, Michael Barney (brother of Peachy Staley), Sally Little, Moon Yee Liu-Ho (mother of Amie Ho-Leung), Ron Mancini (son-in-law of Bob and Martha Rizzo), and Mary Raygor. Names are placed in the bulletin for one month then moved onto the 2nd Friday prayer list and are remembered in prayer each month.

Fresh from the Farm!

Our community farmers are hard at work raising fresh produce and meats. They'd like to bring a new collaboration from the Shepherdstown Farmers Market into the parish. **Would you like the convenience of farm boxes packed with fresh produce and meats from the market?** Supporting our farmers brings delicious and nutritious food to your family's table. This helps sustain our local food system. Let's show them how much good food matters! Please take a few minutes and fill-in the paper survey (found in the narthex in front of the St Agnes mosaic along with a return basket) or the digital one at <https://questionpro.com/t/AWus6Z6Ck2>.

Save the Date!

**The 4th Annual St. Agnes Car Show
Saturday, July 12, 2025, 10am-1pm**



Back by popular demand is our 4th Annual St. Agnes Car Show! The car show will take place in the church parking lot. There is no fee to enter a car, but donations will be gratefully accepted. There will be Dash plaques for the first 50 entries, and trophies will be awarded. We will have refreshments for sale as well. Registrations will be accepted the day of the show or use the QR code above.

We are looking for volunteers to assist with set up, clean up, and various needs during the event. We are also looking for donations for door prizes. If you would be willing to help with the car show or would like to donate a door prize, please contact Bill Donahue at the office or by email (formation@stagnesshepherdstown.org).

2nd Friday Prayer Group

A list has begun for the 2nd Friday in June. 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.

Dear Parishioners,

As we saw white smoke we waited, and, then, we heard those words, *Habemus Papam!* We have a Pope! We then saw Pope Leo XIV. My initial reaction was total shock! I never in a million years expected a Pope from America. As our beloved Pope Francis reminded us though, our God is a God of surprises. I am thrilled by a Pope that has dual citizenship in the US and Peru; a Pope who wants to build bridges not walls. The new Pope has taken the name Leo XIV after Pope Leo XIII who wrote *Rerum Novarum*, which are the origins of our Catholic Social Teaching. A Pope coming from the city of Chicago sends the signal to us of the history of labor and standing for social justice. We heard Pope Leo XIV continue Pope Francis' call to synodality. Pope Leo XIV, from his leadership in Peru, believes strongly in synodality and a church open to everyone. Pope Leo XIV is an Augustinian, and he quoted to us St Augustine's words, with you I am a Christian and for you a bishop. This is synodality at its best. Wow we have an American Pope. I sometimes have to pinch myself to make sure I am not dreaming. We found out Pope Leo XIV is a Chicago White Sox fan—my kind of Pope, he knows how to stand with the underdog. *Habemus Papam!* We have a Pope!

Fr Andy

Service, Justice, and Peace Weekend

This weekend is the *May Service, Justice, and Peace Weekend*. We will collect donations and be selling delicious Haiti coffee. The Knights will be handing out blue bags to be filled with non-perishables for Shepherdstown Shares and JCCM food pantries.

Duck, Duck, Geese?

What a saga! They are here. They are gone. They are here again. Since these geese keep turning up here at St Agnes, please just be aware that geese can be aggressive, so try to give them a wide berth. If indeed they do choose a nesting spot on our grounds, we will do our best to clearly mark the area.

May 16 Book Discussion Group

Our May book discussion is an excellent example of the Jesuit prayer practice of imagining oneself as a participant in a Gospel story. This is a small and creative read, Join us for a discussion of *The Diary of Jesus Christ* by Fr. Bill Cain, SJ. We'll meet at **11am on Friday, May 16** in the Parish Center and all are welcome.

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).

Parish Nursing News

By Gabriele Davis, RN, BSN, Parish Nurse

There will be blood pressure and blood sugar measurements available THIS weekend after every Mass.

If you have any questions regarding your health, you can check in with me this weekend or leave a message for me at the office 304-876-6436, and it will be forwarded to me.

May is mental health month. In the current time of uncertainty and changes it is more important than ever to take care of our mental health.

Give yourself a mental health break! It can reboot your thinking process, provide clarity or rest your mind when grappling with problems.

Taking care of your mental health can be as simple as carving out a few minutes daily or weekly to sit and relax, read a good book, spend time on a hobby or meditate.

More serious issues may need to be addressed by a counselor, psychologist or psychiatrist. A general practitioner can suggest a professional. These days it can take some time to get an appointment, so don't let serious issues fester. Get help as soon as possible!

The National Institute of Health (NIH) website, <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/> has information on types of mental health issues, treatment options and issues in varying age populations.

Be kind to yourself and others.

Messenger

"*Messenger*" by Mary Oliver

My work is loving the world.

Here the sunflowers, there the hummingbird—
equal seekers of sweetness.

Here the quickening yeast; there the blue plums.
Here the clam deep in the speckled sand.

Are my boots old? Is my coat torn?

Am I no longer young, and still half-perfect? Let me
keep my mind on what matters,
which is my work,

which is mostly standing still and learning to be
astonished.

The phoebe, the delphinium.

The sheep in the pasture, and the pasture.

Which is mostly rejoicing, since all the ingredients are
here,

which is gratitude, to be given a mind and a heart
and these body-clothes,

a mouth with which to give shouts of joy

to the moth and the wren, to the sleepy dug-up clam,
telling them all, over and over, how it is
that we live forever.

Appalachian Pastoral: Celebrating 50 Years!

Join in Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of *This Land is Home to Me*
May 18 in the Church after the 10:30 Mass

Prior to Vatican II many viewed the Catholic church as a “fortress church” trying to shield “the faithful” from the threats of the modern world. Then Pope John XXIII “threw open the windows,” and his successor, Paul VI, despite some pushback, stayed the course.

On the last day of the fourth session of Vatican II, the bishops approved *Gaudium et Spes*, (Joy and Hope), the fourth and final [Pastoral] Constitution on *the Church in the Modern World*. Its main significance lies in its call for the church to engage with contemporary issues, including social justice, poverty, technology, and ecumenism, while reaffirming the church's focus on the dignity of the human person. Its opening words reoriented the church from inward to outward facing: “*The joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the men (sic) of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these too are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ.*”

But how to make these promises concrete? Members of the Glenmary Fathers, a missionary order active in many of the rural areas of Appalachia, and some of the women religious who, in response to Vatican II, had been “missioned” by their orders to live among and serve the poor in these areas took these words to heart. They initiated a process that today we call synodality – listening to the “joys, hopes, griefs and anxieties of the poor.” They involved bishops in hearings, took one on one testimonies, noted the sufferings and injustices of the people around them. Then they took the next steps. They asked the “why” questions. They sought to identify the causes of the suffering, the social injustices that kept people down.

This was a new way of being church. Popes for over 100 years had been writing social encyclicals but never before had the poor spoken on their own behalf. Now the question – how to convey what had been heard in the voice of the poor?

This pastoral letter was as bold as Vatican II. Not only did it give the poor voice – it also gave the bishops of Appalachia voice. Come learn more!

Our presenter, Joe Holland, received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in the field of Ethics & Society, which explored praxis-oriented interdisciplinary dialogue among Theology, Philosophy, and Social Science. Joe is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy & Religion and Adjunct Professor in the College of Law at Saint Thomas University in Miami Gardens, Florida, where he taught for over 25 years. In addition, he is an Honorary Visiting Professor at the Universidad Nacional del Altiplano in Puno, Peru, and he has served as Adjunct Professor at various theological schools.

After studies at the University of Chicago, Joe served for 13 years as a Research Associate at the Center of Concern in Washington DC. The International Jesuit Order and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops jointly created the Center to work with the United Nations on major global issues. While there, he ghost-wrote two influential US Catholic documents: *This Land Is Home to Me: A Pastoral Letter on Powerlessness in Appalachia* (1975), issued by the 25 Catholic bishops of the Appalachian Region; and *At Home in the Web of Life: A Pastoral Message on Sustainable Communities* (1995), a 20th-anniversary sequel again from the Catholic bishops of the Appalachian Region.

(This is a much-abbreviated bio. Joe's full bio can be found on the website with the announcement of his presentation.)

<https://stagnesshepherdstown.org/event/this-land-is-home-to-me-the-appalachian-pastoral-back-story/>

Pitching In



Our pastor and pastor emeritus are always happy to pitch in and lend a hand with whatever needs to be done here at St Agnes. Following Fr Mat's celebration, Fr Mat and Fr Andy assisted with clean up from the event right up to the bitter end. They kindly offered to haul the trash up to the curb for the Monday morning pick up. As you can see, they were happy to help!

Scripture Sharing Zoom

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

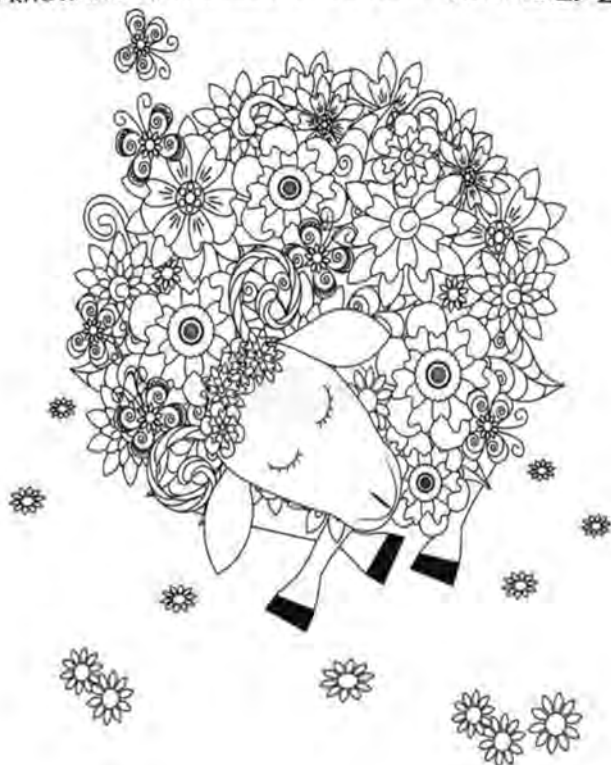
Email and Texting Scams Alert

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>

"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.." John 10:27-28



THE YOUTH CORNER

Fourth Sunday of Easter

John 10:27—30

May 11, 2025

My sheep hear
my voice

CFF, AFF, Youth Group, & Family News

This weekend: Happy Mother's Day!

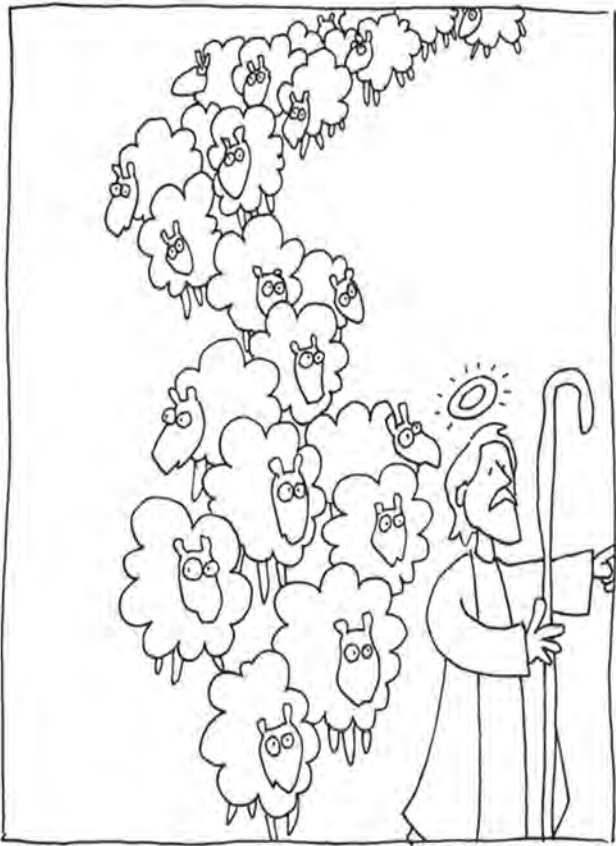
As posted, there is **NO** CFF, Youth Group, or AFF today. CFF, Youth Group, and AFF will resume again in September.

Even though classes are ending for the 24-25 school year, there will be plenty of youth events occurring over the summer. Please keep watching the bulletin and youth pages for activities! For example, our meals for the hungry will continue over the summer!

Speaking of additional activities, in addition to the many social justice activities that our youth are involved in, we are rehearsing our Annual Play: **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**. This will be a dinner and a show set to premiere on June 6, 7, and 8 at the Shepherdstown Community Club. Hopefully everyone will be able to support the show! See the bulletin announcement for more information and a QR code for tickets.

CFF registration for the 25-26 school year will begin over the summer.

X	W	Y	C	T	O	A	Q	V			
B	E	L	I	E	V	E	P	O			
E	W	I	U	S	S	T	E	I			
L	O	F	A	T	H	E	R	C			
O	R	E	W	I	E	R	I	E			
N	K	V	N	F	E	N	S	N			
G	S	F	D	Y	P	A	H	I			
F	O	L	L	O	W	L	E	Y			
V	Y	E	H	E	A	R	M	E			
works	believe	hear	eternal	Father	belong	voice	life	testify	sheep	follow	perish



Jesus' Sheep Word Puzzle

Use the words in the list to fill in the blanks.
Use the numbered letters to fill in the blanks at the very end.

Jesus _____⁴
 "My sheep hear my voice;
 I _____³ them
 and they _____² _____⁷
 I give them eternal life;
 and they shall never _____⁸
 and no one can take them out of my _____¹²
 My Father, who has _____¹ them to me,
 _____⁵ _____¹⁰ than all,
 and no one can take _____⁶
 out of the Father's hand.
 The _____⁹ and I _____¹¹ one."

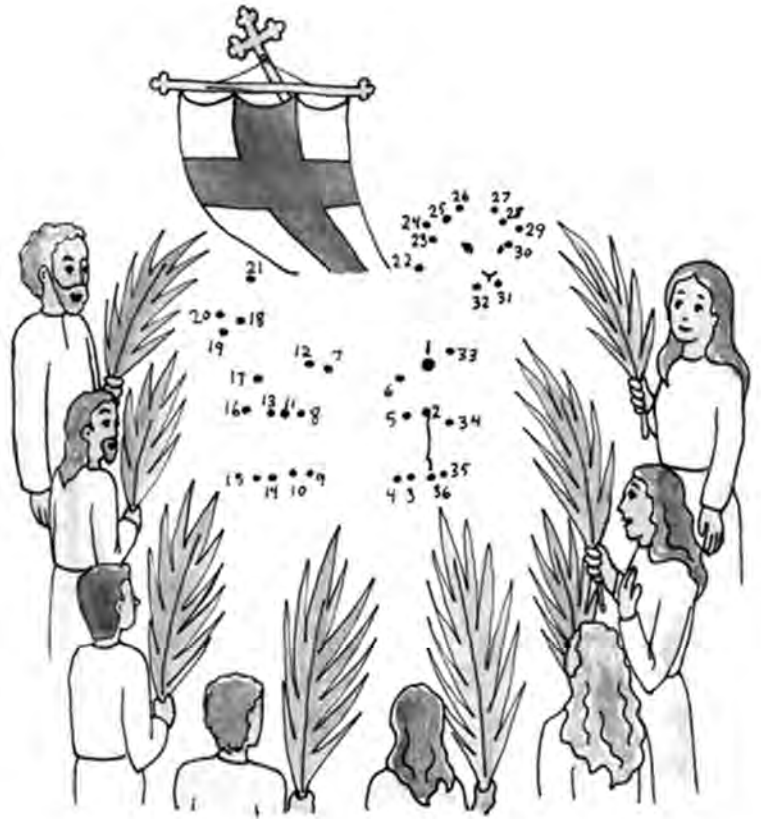
FOLLOW ME FATHER
 GIVEN SAID KNOW
 PERISH IS HAND
 GREATER THEM ARE



Jesus is the

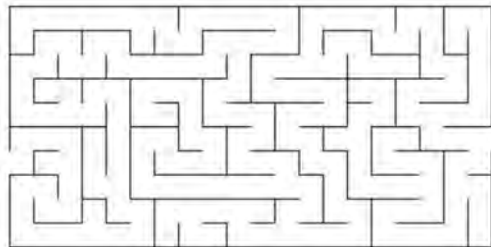
1 2 3 4

 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12



In today's second reading Saint John saw a great multitude gathered around someone. Connect the dots to find out who it was.

Help the sheep find Jesus!



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

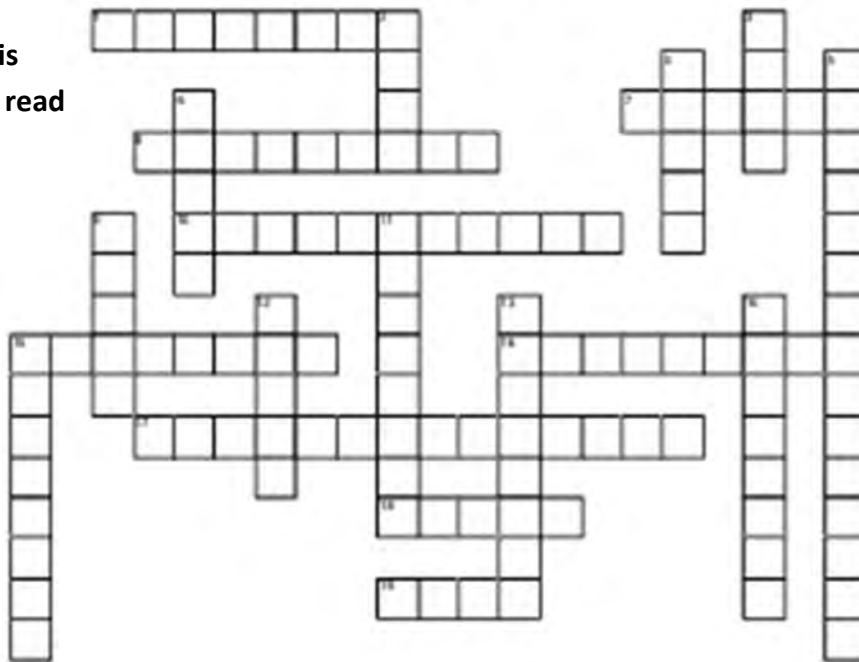
This week's Crossword
Puzzle is based on the
Gospel of John.

In Mass, we heard John
10:27-30.

To help you with this
puzzle, go back and read
John 10:1-39

THE SHEPHERD AND HIS FLOCK

John 10:1-39



ACROSS

- 1 Who opens the gate for the shepherd to enter? (Jn. 10:3)
- 7 Jesus said that if a person believes in Him as their savior, no one can _____ them out of His hand. (Jn. 10:28)
- 8 Who were Jesus talking to when He spoke of Him being the Shepherd and the believers as being sheep of His flock? (Jn. 9:40)
- 10 Jesus said that as He is the good shepherd, who laid down His life for the sheep, He gives them _____. (Jn. 10:28) two words
- 15 Jesus says that there are other sheep that are not of His _____, meaning that Jesus wants everyone to know Him as the good shepherd who laid down His life for the world. (Jn. 10:16; Jn. 3:16-17) two words
- 16 According to Jesus, who is not the shepherd who owns the sheep? (Jn. 10:12) two words
- 17 When Jesus refers to Himself as a shepherd, He uses this _____ to speak of those who believe as His sheep. (Jn. 10:6) three words
- 18 Jesus said that He is the gate that whoever enters through Him will be _____. (Jn. 10:9)
- 19 What type of Shepherd does Jesus say of Himself? (Jn. 10:11)

DOWN

- 2 Jesus says that He calls His own (believers) by _____ and leads them out. (Jn. 10:3)
- 3 Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, I am the _____ for the sheep." (Jn. 10:7)
- 4 Jesus said that since He is the good shepherd, He _____ His sheep and His sheep know Him. (Jn. 10:14)
- 5 Jesus said that a man who climbs in the sheep pen, not through the gate, is a _____. (Jn. 10:1) four words
- 6 Those who believe in Jesus are called His _____. (Jn. 10:26)
- 9 According to Jesus, who comes only to steal, kill, and destroy the sheep (believers) who trust in Him. (Jn. 10:10)
- 11 When the hired hand, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming, he _____ the sheep and runs away. (Jn. 10:12)
- 12 According to Jesus, who comes that those who believe in Him (sheep) may have life, and have it to the full? (Jn. 10:10)
- 13 Who enters the sheep pen through the gate? (Jn. 10:2)
- 14 According to Jesus, what does the good shepherd do for the sheep? He _____ His life. Jesus is referring to the cross where He died for everyone. (Jn. 10:11)
- 15 Jesus said that His children (sheep) never follow a _____ because they do not know the stranger's voice. (Jn. 10:5)

The Gospel at Home

This Week's Gospel: John 10:27-30

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus portrays himself as the Good Shepherd. This metaphor demonstrates the warm and loving care a shepherd has for the sheep and also shows that it is this warm loving care that Jesus has for us all. The image of the Good Shepherd is one of the central images of Jesus Christ, who keeps us from danger and seeks us out when we are lost.

Exploring the Gospel Message

Seeds (Preschool): Your child learned about the Good Shepherd, who cares for his sheep and surrounds them with love. Talk with your child about the care your family members give to each other. Display the Good Shepherd poster from your child's lesson booklet. Write the names of family members on the sheep, and paste them on the poster.

Promise (Grades K-1): Your child learned that Jesus promised in Sunday's Gospel that no one shall take his sheep from him. He is a Good Shepherd. Ask your child to teach the family how to play the game, "Safe or Scatter," and play it together. Talk about ways each of you helps to care for members of your family.

Good News (Grades 2-3): This week's Gospel tells us that Jesus cares for us all like a shepherd cares for the sheep. The class learned that we all belong to Jesus, and one sign that shows we belong to Jesus is the Sign of the Cross. Make sure that your home displays the crucifix. Kneeling before the crucifix is a good spot for a family night prayer, too. Ask your child to help the family remember to say a prayer of thanks before each meal this week. Ask your child about how the Sign of the Cross also applies to the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Venture (Grades 4-6): This week's Gospel of the Good Shepherd helped your youngster's class understand that good leaders know their followers and are responsible for others. Ask your young person to tell how leaders in the Church are shepherds. Let your son or daughter teach the family the "Who Makes Church Happen Today?" game, and play the game together. Be sure to have your youngster tell about King Christian as well as what happened in the city of Assisi, Italy, during World War II.

Visions (Grades 7-9): Your son or daughter learned how environmental issues affect us all. The class learned that just as Jesus is the Good Shepherd who cares for people, people have the duty to care for and "shepherd" creation. Talk about ways your family can care for creation, too. Ask your youngster to share what the class learned about the journeys of Saint Paul that spread the Good News throughout the Greek world. Be sure to ask your youngster to describe the Doctor of the Church the class learned about this week.

Pray Together

When you complete your conversation about the week's Gospel lesson, pray together a few verses of Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack. In green pastures he makes me lie down; to still waters he leads me; he restores my soul. Indeed, goodness and mercy will pursue me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of the Lord for endless days" (1-2, 6). You can find the full text of this psalm in your family Bible or in most missalette.

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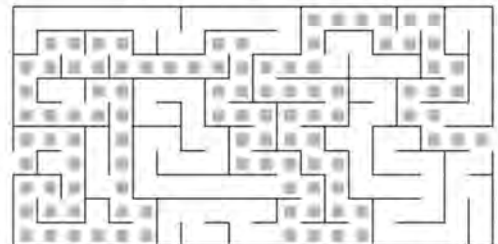


The Gospel Weeklies summary discusses what would have been taught in CFF this week. Your child should have brought home their Pflaum resources last weekend. Use the QR code for additional resources!

Youth Events: At a Glance
Dates for the Calendar
May 11: NO CFF—Happy Mother's Day!
June 6, 7, & 8: Youth Dinner Show Production! (Mark your calendars!)

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.

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



SOLUTIONS:



Jesus is the
G O O D
1 2 3 4
S H E P H E R D
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12



Jesus S A I D⁴
"My sheep hear my voice;
I K N O W them
and they F O L L O W M E⁷
I give them eternal life;
and they shall never P E R I S H.
and no one can take them out of my H A N D¹².
My Father, who has G I V E N them to me,
I S⁵ G R E A T E R than all,
and no one can take T H E M
out of the Father's hand.
The F A T H E R and I A R E¹ one."

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

WATCHMAN
PHARISEES
ETERNAL LIFE
SHEEP PEN
FIGURE OF SPEECH
SAVED
GOOD
WATCHMAN
K N O W
S N A T C H
E T E R N A L L I F E
S H E E P P E N
F I G U R E O F S P E E C H
S A V E D
G O O D
G A T
A M
S N A T C H
E T E R N A L L I F E
S H E E P P E N
H I R E D H A N D
Y A
D O
W B
E R

Parish Library

Come visit the Parish Library! We have hundreds of volumes ranging from history to theology to social justice and everything in between. While the library is currently undergoing some construction, feel free to drop in and check out a book (or two, or three!)

If you find a book you'd like to read, simply fill out the card in the back of the book with your name and today's date, and leave it in the basket on the check-out and returns shelf. Your due date will be three weeks from that date. (We appreciate timely returns, so that everyone can have a chance to enjoy the library's offerings!)

Need help choosing a book? This week, your parish librarian (Dana Getka) recommends:

Pope Francis: His Essential Wisdom edited by Carol Kelly-Gangi

As we mourn the loss of our beloved Pope Francis, there is no better time to revisit the wisdom of the Holy Father in this beautiful little volume. Excerpts from his homilies, writings, interviews, and speeches reveal a man of compassion and humility who sought the heart of Jesus through his service to others, especially those relegated to the margins of our society. Though we mourn his departure from this life, the legacy of Pope Francis will continue to change lives, if only we carry out the work of Christ that he undertook during his papacy in such earnest. As he himself said, "Each day, we all face the choice to be Good Samaritans or to be indifferent travelers passing by." Find Pope Francis: His Essential Wisdom in the Biography section under the letter "F"!

Racial Justice Initiative

This week we call your attention to a recent addition to our racial justice library in the church narthex - [White Too Long - The Legacy of White Supremacy In American Christianity](#), by Robert P. Jones. Here are two brief reviews.

"In [White too Long](#), Robert Jones offers both searching personal testimony and a rigorous look at the facts to call white Christians to account for the scandalous ways white supremacists have regularly distorted and manipulated a faith dedicated to love and justice to rationalize racism. Jones is a rare and indispensable voice in our public conversation about religion because he combines painstaking data analysis with a sure moral sense. May this book encourage soul-searching, repentance, and conversion." (E. J. Dionne, [Washington Post](#) columnist and Catholic contributor to [Commonweal](#))

"Robert P. Jones's searing [White Too Long](#) brilliantly argues that his fellow white Christians must dissent from their received faith and embrace a theology of racial justice. [White Too Long](#) is a prophetic call of redemption for folk who have too often idolized whiteness and worshipped America instead of the God of Martin, Fannie Lou, and Jesse." (Michael Eric Dyson, Professor of Sociology at Georgetown University, ordained Baptist Minister, and author of numerous books)

This book is well worth a read, along with many others available in our racial justice library.



Easter Flowers



Our parishioners have donated flowers in loving memory of the Moler, Burleigh, Thompson, Greaser, and Robertson Families by Bryan & Judy Robertson; Rex A. Norton by Hilda Norton; Frank & Cecilia Vassallo and Ed & Edna Sokel by Eric & Anna Sokel; Roger Hedrick, Scott Rees, Art Klann, and Arthur & Mae Gedeon by Eileen Hedrick; Joel David Roller by Ruth Roller & Larry Turner; Francis Snowden, Rebecca McCauly, Jasen Quintana, Sandy Walker, and Sophia Hansen by Marie Snowden; Carole Rucker by John Rucker; Gary Dunlevy, Delma & Edward Brewer, and Jerry & Loren DeFilippo by Lynn Dunlevy; Edythe Myers by Zach & Tricia Myers; Bill Fritchman by Nancy Curry; Friends & Family by Lyle & Theresa Rush; the Lattus and Kemerer Families by Greg & Debbie Lattus; Thomas & Alma Bonner, Ellis Armstrong, Mary Lou & Richard Anderson, Randy Armstrong, and Carleen Bonner by Leo & Connie Bonner; John & Rebecca Gomes by Richard & Delcina Gomes; Elvira Risi and Almerinto Risi by Maria Lamanna; Mr. & Mrs. George Buys and Mr. & Mrs. John Piccolomini by John & Dotty Piccolomini; Michael J. Schaefer and Catherine Adele Markel by Susan Schaefer; in honor of Fr Andy by Zach & Tricia Myers; and as a gift to St Agnes by Bruce & Gail Brong; Fergus & Joan Sugrue; Raymond & Lucille Nelson; Joe & Gina Brown; Ralph & Rosie Lorenzetti; and Dennis & Janice Wark.

A Message from Fr Mat

I am not sure that I can put into words my appreciation and gratitude for the 50th Anniversary celebration last Sunday. Many folks gave of their time to organize the Mass, and the preparation of food for our gathering and sharing afterward. I was very pleased that a number of my family members were able to come and participate, friends from high school and college, my fellow workers and colleagues from the VAMC, and a few folks from my former parish assignments. In addition, I received cards and heard from many folks who were unable to be present. We come together, we touch each other's lives, we support and care for each other. This is what it is all about, as far as I am concerned. St. Agnes has been wonderful to me from the day I arrived in 1993, and will always be my parish home. Again, thank you for helping me celebrate 50 years.

Please Return CRS Rice Bowls

It is time to get those Rice Bowls in. You can drop off your rice bowl at the Parish Center or the offertory. Any checks should be made out to St Agnes with "Rice Bowl" on the memo line.

For Our Younger Parishioners

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

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Friday - Saturday 6 pm Dinner, 7:30 pm Show!

Sunday- 5 pm Dinner, 6:30 pm Show!

Reservations - StAgnesShepherdstown.org or 304-876-6436

Donations Accepted - All Are Welcome!

Parish Financial Activity

Collections – Year-To-Date (thru April)

Offertory Collections	\$9,618
Monthly Mortgage Assistance	\$130
Total (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	\$9,748
Weekly Target (Offertory + Monthly Mortgage Assistance)	\$13,500
Total Collection Compared to Target	↓ -\$3,752

Tithe to help those in need \$962

(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.

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KoC Essay Scholarships

Knights of Columbus is offering four scholarships; two worth \$500 for students attending a Catholic high school and two worth \$1,000 for St. Agnes students attending college. To participate, eligible applicants will complete a brief form, and will be provided with an essay subject. **The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, June 11, 2025.** Send an email to joe.bosco.nd@gmail.com for your prompt.

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LARCUM 2025 Event

LARCUM 2025 will gather **12-14 May 2025** at the St. John XXIII Pastoral Center, Charleston, WV, under the theme Nicaea at 1700. Attendees from all four traditions (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic, and United Methodist) will explore matters related to the Council of Nicaea of 325, 1700 years being a rather impressive anniversary. As we delve into events from so long ago, we will ask: what does this mean for us today and how does it inform our on-going ecumenical conversations? Bishop Brennan will serve as one of the main presenters.

Diocesan Collections and Appeals

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 collections are on **May 25th for Catholic Relief Services** and **June 8 for the Peter's Pence Collection.**

Community Club Fundraiser

Last year, as part of their "raise the roof" campaign the Shepherdstown Community Club added a fundraising Friday Evening Garden Party to the Back Alley Garden Tour. It was a sell-out success that was enjoyed by all so they decided to do it again. This year, the garden party will be held at one of the premier private gardens in Shepherdstown...and you are invited! A limited number of Donor Level tickets will be sold, so get yours before they sell out. Tickets are available from the SCC website: <https://www.shepherdstowncommunityclub.org/store/p/friday-night-garden-party>

CBT Grants update

Our grant group—Sue Kemnitzer, Fanny Smith, Judy Lilga, Mike Drewes, Scott Hutton, Greg Welter, Beth Yates, and Fr Andy-- is actively working on the next steps in the grant process with the help of Josephine Saikali from Region 9.

For our Track 2 design grant, our engineering firm, Thrasher Group, is fine tuning their design for upgrading our stormwater management!

For our Track 4 grant, check out the southeast area of our campus to see the planting that took place April 26!

Program partners: United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 3, Chesapeake Bay Program, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, and the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

This project had been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under assistance agreement 4I-95300301 or CB-96375501 to West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP).



Open Positions at Saint Joe's School

Saint Joe's School is seeking to fill these positions:
⇒ **Full-Time Elementary School Teacher**
To send in a resume, contact Deacon Patrick Michel, Ed.D. at deaconpat@stjosephwv.org. View the job listing: <https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Saint-Joseph-School/jobs>.

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