



# Church of Saint Agnes

548 Lafond Avenue | St. Paul, MN 55103

March 29, 2009

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

Rev. John L. Ubel ..... Pastor  
Rev. John Paul Erickson ..... Parochial Vicar (Part-time)  
Rev. Christopher Beaudet ..... Weekend Assistant  
Deacons ..... Rev. Mr. Harold Hughesdon, Rev. Mr. Bernard Pedersen  
Rev. Mr. Nathan Allen

#### Phones

Parish Office .....651-925-8800  
School Office .....651-925-8700  
Sisters of Charity .....651-925-8820

#### Sunday Masses

Saturday 5:15 p.m. (anticipated) Benediction at 5:00 p.m.  
6:30, 8:30, 10:00 (Latin High Mass), 12:00 Noon  
The 10:00 a.m. Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month  
will be offered in the Extraordinary Form (1962 Missale Romanum)

#### Holy Days of Obligation

Watch Bulletin for schedule

#### Weekday Masses

8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday (Saturday—Sung Latin Mass)  
5:15 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
During the school year, additional Mass at 9:30 a.m. on Thursdays

#### Confessions

Saturdays: 3:30—5:00 p.m. and 7:30—9:00 p.m.  
Tuesdays: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays following Novena  
Eves of Holy Days and Thursdays before First Fridays:  
4:00—5:00 p.m. and 7:00-8:00 p.m.

#### Adoration

Fridays in the Chapel following the 8:00 a.m. Mass  
until Benediction at 5:00 p.m.

#### Baptisms

Sundays immediately following the Noon Mass. Active parishioners  
seeking baptism for their child are asked to make arrangements  
prior to the desired date of baptism.

#### Marriages

Active registered parishioners are to make arrangements for  
marriage preparation at least six months prior to the anticipated  
wedding date.

#### Registration in Parish

Required for Baptism and Matrimony. Please call the rectory  
for an appointment.

#### Devotions

Tuesday: Rosary at 7:00 p.m.  
7:30 p.m. Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Sunday: 3:00 p.m. Vespers and Benediction of the Most Blessed  
Sacrament  
Friday Adoration: Each Friday beginning after the 8:00 a.m. Mass  
until 5:00 p.m.

Web site.....[www.stagnes.net](http://www.stagnes.net)

*“The hour has come  
for the Son of Man  
to be glorified.*

*Amen, amen I say to you  
unless a grain of wheat  
falls to the ground and  
dies, it remains just a  
grain of wheat; but if it  
dies, it produces much  
fruit.”*

*~Jn 12:14-15*

## A Reason for Hope Amidst Uncertainty: Preserving the Treasure of Catholic Education

As you may have recently read, Trinity Catholic Grade School (St. Paul) and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School (Minneapolis) have announced their closures due to enrollment and economic factors. This past week, we received unfortunate similar news about the closing of St. Bernard's Grade School (K-8) effective at the end of this school year; this does not apply to St. Bernard's High School. St. Bernard's Grade School has generously served the Rice Street community for many years and will be greatly missed. As we have faced our own challenges in the past, we know how these difficult decisions significantly impact individual lives and families. Our thoughts and prayers are with the many families affected by these events. I understand how these recent announcements can often raise questions about the stability of Catholic schools within the Archdiocese, including our own Saint Agnes School. It is for this reason that I have dedicated this column to address a few of the most common concerns.

In short, Saint Agnes School has been humbled and grateful for the stability, growth and renewed future that we've experienced over recent years. I am confident in our clear mission of providing a faithfully Catholic education centered upon a love of Christ and His Church, and am grateful for the cohesive and strong leadership we have within the school. While many Catholic schools have recently been struggling with decreasing enrollment, we have added two additional sections in the lower grades this year, and are faced with the reality of possibly splitting additional sections for next year, due to increased interest in our school. We have seen a significant increase in the number of campus visits from our own parish families and from families enrolled in other well-respected Catholic grade schools. Our new Junior High Latin program has been very well-received.

With regard to our financial status, we remain committed to prudent stewardship and strong development efforts. The Parish Finance Council has been closely monitoring the financial status of our parish (including the school), and is positive and optimistic about our future. Earlier this year we provided a financial report to the parish demonstrating fiscal responsibility to our supporters, families and parishioners. We intend to do this each year. We remain committed to providing a faithfully Catholic education to families both from within the parish, and throughout the Archdiocese, just as we have done for decades. We continue to be humbled and hopeful that God will continue to bless our efforts in His service.

- I am so grateful to all who participated in our Forty Hours devotion last weekend. The Eucharistic procession was a fitting way to close our days, and the special Pauline Litany was so appropriate in this year dedicated to the twin apostle of Rome. Many thanks to the Altar and Rosary Society who assisted with our clergy dinner afterwards.
- I am pleased with the progress we have made in celebrating the *Extraordinary Form*, and equally appreciate your patience in learning some of the particularities of the 1962 rite. The rubrics for Holy Week in the EF are particularly complex, and consequently it makes sense for all the Holy Week liturgies (beginning with Palm Sunday) to be in the *Ordinary Form* this year. Please note the change for Palm Sunday, as we will celebrate a 10:00 a.m. Latin High Mass in the *Ordinary Form*, including the sung Passion, as has been our custom for years.
- Have you noticed the wood carving of Christ crucified mounted in Schuler Hall? It is a gift from the same generous couple who donated the Viennese oil painting now hanging in Church. The figure is hand-carved from Austria and dates to ca. 1780 A.D. They believed that these pieces would be particularly well received at Saint Agnes. They are as wise as they are generous!
- There has been quite a public backlash following the University of Notre Dame's decision to invite President Barack Obama to speak at commencement exercises in May, where he is also to receive an honorary degree. I mean no disrespect to the office of the Presidency, but clearly the University is ignoring the 2004 directive from the U.S. Catholic Bishops: "The Catholic community and Catholic institutions should **not honor** those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors or platforms which would suggest support for their actions." The Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend has said that he will not attend the ceremony.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. John L. Ubel  
Pastor

## Good Friday Special Collection

Cardinal Leonardo Sandri has sent a letter to the bishops of the world encouraging them to participate in the Good Friday collection for the Holy Land. The letter says in part: "The wounds opened by violence make the problem of emigration more acute, inexorably depriving the Christian minority of its best resources for the future. The Land that was the cradle of Christianity risks ending up without Christians." We will honor this special collection again this year at Saint Agnes.

### **Lenten Series on the Sacraments**

Join Fr. John Paul Erickson for the sixth installment of his six-week series on the Sacraments of the Church. The talks are offered each Friday night in Schuler Hall during the Season of Lent, following Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. The lecture will begin at approximately 7:40 p.m. and end promptly by 8:40 p.m.

### **Lenten Retreat for Men – April 4th**

#### ***Please Note New Date***

All men of the parish are invited to a Lenten Retreat Morning on Saturday, April 4th. The retreat begins with Mass at 8:00 a.m. followed by conferences, prayers and confessions and ends at noon. This year's retreat entitled "Meditating on the Crucified Christ with Saint Paul" will be led by Fr. John Paul Erickson and is sponsored by the Men's Club. All men (16+ years of age) of the parish are welcome to join us. Reservations are preferred. Please call the Parish Office at 651-925-8800. There is no cost.

### **Important First Holy Communion Information**

The Church of Saint Agnes will celebrate the reception of First Holy Communion on Saturday, April 25, 2009. All children who are registered for First Holy Communion are invited to attend an important retreat prior to that special day. Our Retreat will be held on Thursday, April 23rd, beginning with the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the main church. All Communicants will also receive the Sacrament of Penance on that day. The retreat will end at 2:30 p.m. Interviews for all children with the priests at Saint Agnes will take place on Saturday, April 18, 2009 between 9:00-11:00 a.m. You will be contacted in the next week to arrange an interview time slot. If this date is unavailable for some reason, we will work to arrange another time, but hope that these dates and times will work for our families. More information about the interviews and the retreat is being mailed out to all registered Communicant families.

### **Easter Flowers**

Thank you to the many generous individuals that have contributed with the Easter Flower Offering envelopes to beautifully adorn our Church for the Easter season. We have graciously received contributions from 133 households, which will provide flowers well into the Easter season. They may be placed in the collection this week.

### **Duplex for Rent**

Attractive, three-bedroom duplex for rent on beautiful Midway Parkway--a few steps from Como Zoo--10 minutes from St. Agnes. Saint Agnes parishioner next door! Call Kathy at 651-323-8212 for more information.

### **CUF to Consider Threat to Health Care Providers**

The Saint Thomas More Chapter of Catholics United for the Faith (CUF) is hosting a meeting on the proposed elimination of a federal "conscience clause" regulation for health care professionals and facilities.

The meeting is at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 2, in Schuler Hall of St. Agnes Church. All interested Catholics are invited to attend, learn about the issues and discuss ways to respond effectively.

Local attorney Dwight Rabuse will speak on the application and importance of the conscience clause. He successfully assisted a local health services employee to avoid participation in abortion activities on conscience grounds. He practices with the Rabuse Law Firm and previously was an appointee in the U.S. Department of Justice under Presidents Reagan and Bush.

In March, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, on order from President Obama, proposed to rescind the Bush Administration's regulation titled, "Ensuring That Department of Health and Human Services Funds Do Not Support Coercive or Discriminatory Policies or Practices in Violation of Federal Law." The regulation strengthened statutory protections for health care providers who refuse to perform sterilizations or induced abortions or take part in training, research or other programs that violate their religious or moral beliefs.

A 30-day comment period on the recession is open through April 9. For more information about responding, go to [www.priestsforlife.org](http://www.priestsforlife.org) to contact the CUF chapter, call (612) 280-8991.

### **Rosary, Vespers and Benediction**

As has been our longstanding practice, on the Sundays of Lent, Vespers will be preceded by the recitation of the Most Holy Rosary. Please come and join us at 3:00 p.m. for this beautiful afternoon devotion.

### **Parish Picture Directory**

We have scheduled some additional days for pictures to be taken for the Parish Directory in honor of the 100th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the Church. Photographers from Olan Mills will be available in Schuler Hall on April 17, 18, 20 and 21. Signup sheets will be available this weekend and next after each of the Masses in the back of Church or in Schuler Hall. Reservations can also be made by calling 1-800-866-2263.

As a reminder each family/household that comes for photography and portrait viewing will receive a complimentary directory and 8x10 custom color portrait. Your entire appointment will normally take less than one hour. We are hoping to have as many parish members participate as possible so that our directory is complete.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Sunday, March 29**

Rosary, Vespers and Benediction..... 3:00 pm

**Monday, March 30**

Legion of Mary (Bride's Room) ..... 6:45 pm

**Tuesday, March 31**

Chrism Mass (Cathedral of St. Paul) ..... 7:00 pm

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.... 7:30 pm

**Wednesday, April 1**

Altar & Rosary Society (Schuler) ..... 5:45 pm  
(meeting following 5:15 mass)

CCD Classes..... 7:00 pm

**Thursday, April 2**

First Friday Confessions ..... 4:00-5:00 pm

First Friday Confessions ..... 7:00-8:00 pm

Adult Faith Class (Schuler)..... 7:30 pm

**Friday, April 3**

Stations of the Cross ..... 1:10 pm

Stations of the Cross ..... 7:00 pm

Lenten Lecture Series #6 (Schuler) ..... 7:40 pm

**Remember in Your Prayers  
Those Who Have Gone Before Us  
Marked with the Sign of Faith**

Fred Dick

**EASTER SCHEDULE**

**Holy Thursday, April 9**

Matins, Lauds (Tenebrae) ..... 9:30 am

Confessions (Chapel) ..... 10:00-11:30 am

Confessions (Chapel) ..... 3:30-5:00 pm

**Mass of the Lord's Supper..... 7:30 pm**

Adoration (Altar of Repose)..... 8:30-10:30 pm

**Good Friday, April 10**

\*There will be no exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament in the Chapel on Good Friday.

Matins, Lauds (Tenebrae) ..... 9:30 am

Confessions (Chapel) ..... 10:00-11:30 am

**Good Friday Liturgy ..... 2:00 pm**

Confessions (Chapel) ..... 4:00-5:30 pm

Stations of the Cross ..... 7:00 pm

**Holy Saturday, April 11**

Matins, Lauds (Tenebrae) ..... 9:30 am

Confessions (Chapel) ..... 10:00-11:30 am

Blessing of Easter Food..... 11:30 am

Confessions (Chapel) ..... 3:30-5:00 pm

**Easter Vigil ..... 7:30 pm**

**Easter Sunday, April 12**

Usual Sunday Mass schedule

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, March 30**

8:00 am Joel Notermann

5:15 pm Emma Kramlinger

**Tuesday, March 31**

8:00 am Frank Nodes †

**Wednesday, April 1**

8:00 am Ann Burns †

5:15 pm Clara Rysa

**Thursday, April 2 ~ Francis of Paola, hermit**

8:00 am Frank Wiesher Family

\*9:30 am Ray Zawada

**Friday, April 3 ~ Day of Abstinence**

8:00 am Nancy Janssen

5:15 pm Vincent Urban (A) †

**Saturday, April 4 ~ St. Isidore, bishop and doctor**

8:00 am Agnes Miller †

5:15 pm Katharine Turner †

**Sunday, April 5 ~ Palm Sunday**

6:30 am For the Parish

8:30 am Beth Anderson

\*10:00 am Elected Officials

12:00 pm Marie Elm



**Welcomed into the Church  
through Baptism:**

Mary Anne Schniederjan

**ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, April 4**

5:00 pm Benediction / 5:15 pm Mass

Johnathan Kuehn, Jonathan Ethier, Nicholas Kuehn

**Sunday, April 5**

8:30 am Mass

Chris Schmitt, Jacob Granger, Joe Bradac

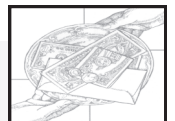
10:00 am Mass

Team 1

12:00 Noon Mass

Tony Bauer, Jacob Bauer, Nick Burns

*(1st, 2nd, Paten)*



**Sunday Offerings**

**Collections for March 22, 2009**

Envelope/Plate ..... \$12,501.28

Automatic Contributions..... \$1,123.33

Forty Hours Offerings..... \$626.95

Total..... \$14,251.56