



Issue: #32

July/August 2023

Purity & Light

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR ST. AGNES FAMILIES

Hello Families-

I hope you are enjoying our great summer! I can hardly believe that August is already upon us. For me that means that it's time to think about finalizing plans for the upcoming Formation year. If you have not done so already please make a point to register your kids for Christian Formation class. Our job in the CF office is much easier when we know how many students will be in each class. I have provided the link for registration on page two. Deadline for registration is Aug. 18. A \$25 late fee will be applied to any registrations between Aug. 21-31 and increases to \$50 after Sept. 1 so please register ASAP!

If you have an opportunity this summer I encourage you to take a day and drive your family to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion (formally known as Our Lady of Good Help). I recently went with a group of parishioners to this quiet shrine located about 20 minutes north of Green Bay as you head toward Door Co. I have been there several times in the past but this time was special because I was able to take others who would not have otherwise been able to experience the peace and serenity of his holy place. Check out their website for the many devotional opportunities: [The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion – Marian Apparition Site in Champion, WI \(championshrine.org\)](http://championshrine.org)

The St. Agnes Parish Festival is fast approaching. The festival dates are Aug. 25-27. This year we will be coming together for an outdoor Mass on Sunday at 10AM. (Our usual 8am Mass is canceled.) As in the past the Sam Bere's Run/Walk will be held Saturday morning Aug. 26. We are looking for volunteers for this annual event. If you and/or your high school student would like to help please contact us soon. As with all volunteer opportunities early sign-up helps us a lot as we prepare for the event. This opportunity as with any of the [festival volunteer opportunities](#) will count toward your student's service hours.

Check out page two and three for other opportunities still available this summer for your students to have fun and get outside! Parents should also consider completing the certification needed to chaperone activities and events throughout the year. This information is found in the Family Resource section on page three.

See you at Mass!

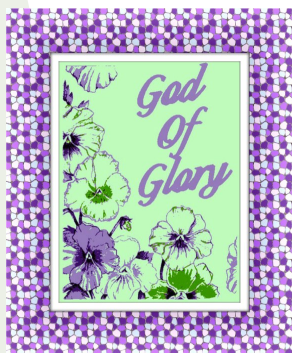
Shelly Fellin

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Who can tell me what is most pleasing to God that I may do it?"

"I will willingly abandon this miserable body to hunger and suffering, provided that my soul may have its ordinary nourishment."

– St Kateri Tekakwitha



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Prayer to St. Kateri Tekakwitha

O Great Lily of the Mohawks, we ask that you take our intentions to the foot of the cross.

Ask Jesus to bring healing to those who are heavily burdened.

Through your intercession, may this favor be granted if it is according to the will of God.

By your prayer, help us always to remain faithful to Jesus and to his Holy Church.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us. Amen.

July/August Events

Christian Formation News



Register ONLINE NOW!

All families whose children will attend public elementary, middle or high school this year and children or youth who attend non-Catholic, private school and all private high school

juniors who desire to be Confirmed should register for Christian Formation.

Register online or request a paper form: [Christian Formation Online Registration | Catholic Community of St. Agnes Parish \(stagnesparish.org\)](https://stagnesparish.org/formation-online-registration)

Registration deadline is Aug. 18, 2023 Contact the Christian Formation office at 262-781-6998 or cf@stagnesparish.org with questions.



Save the Date and Join the Fun!

Tuesday, August 8th, 2023

Mt. Olympus Waterpark/Theme Park

For 6th graders-2023 High School graduates

Cost: \$65 includes Lunch, Dinner, Admission and Transportation.

Register at www.mygoodshepherd.org/youth



St. Agnes Christian Formation
12801 W. Fairmount Ave
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www.stagnesparish.org

MAY-AUGUST SCHEDULE UPCOMING EVENTS

Out & About Trip to Champion, WI: July 22

Mission Trip to Indianapolis IN: July 23-28

VBS at St. James Parish: July 31-Aug. 4

Mt. Olympus Day trip: Aug. 8

Christian Formation Registration Deadline: Aug. 18

St. Agnes Festival: Aug. 25-27

Sam Beres Run/Walk: Aug. 26

Christian Formation Kick-off Event: Sept 10

Christian Formation Classes begin: Sept 17

FORMED

Sign up for FORMED in 3 easy steps:

1. Visit <http://signup.formed.org/>
2. Enter our parish zip or name
3. Enter your name and email

Picks of the Summer:

[St. Kateri Tekakwitha - by Quiet Waters - FORMED](#)

[St. Teresa of Avila - by Quiet Waters - FORMED](#)

[Lukas Storyteller: Saints Anne and Joachim - Season 1 - FORMED](#)

[Jesus Is... by Fr. Mike Schmitz - FORMED](#)

[The Woman - FORMED](#)

[Mary: The Mother of God - FORMED](#)

[Right Here, Right Now: Always Be Ready to Share Your](#)

[Faith by Patrick Madrid - FORMED](#)

[Parenting for Purity by Jason Evert - FORMED](#)

[The Story of Saint Augustine - Episodes - FORMED](#)

Family Resource Page



Open Gym will return this Fall

All remaining dates for Open Gym have been canceled due to low participation. Please watch for more information in future emails and newsletters about the Fall schedule of dates. Open Gym is for all students in grades 5-12. Chaperones are always needed and are required to complete the Safe Environment Education session. So that you are ready to chaperone when needed please use this link to register for one of the sessions at an area parish. [Safe Environment Events \(archmil.org\)](https://www.archmil.org)

Catholic Ecology Center Summer Events

The CEC still has a few spots open for kids and families to enjoy nature this summer. Check out the links below for all the information and registration:

- * [Summer Explorer Day Camps Tickets, Thurs. Aug. 3, 2023 | Eventbrite](#) (4 spots open for 9-12 year olds)
- * [Ice Age Giants and Glacial Wisconsin Tickets, Sat. Aug 5, 2023 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)
- * [Nature Sprouts: Mommy & Me Tickets, Mon. Aug. 7, 2023 | Eventbrite](#) (4 spots open—for mom and 1 toddler)
- * [Craft Camp Tickets, Tues. Aug. 8, 2023 | Eventbrite](#)
- * [CEC Campout 2023 Tickets, Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 4:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)
- * [Monarch Butterfly Tagging Tickets, Sat, Sep 2, 2023 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Pornography and it's affects

People sometimes think of pornography as “harmless,” and wonder what the big deal is with something you do in private. The reality is that pornography is deeply harmful - to the men, women and children who view it - and to all of society. Viewing pornography actually can “rewire one’s brain,” causing neurochemical changes in the brain.

Pornography usage is anything BUT harmless. The damage to men, women, young people, children and families is staggering. Porn addiction has reached epidemic proportions. Here are some of the effects of pornography usage on marriages:

- ◇ It destroys the trust and intimacy between husbands and wives
- ◇ It leads to the end of marriages
- ◇ It creates obstacles to real communication and personal interaction between spouses and family members
- ◇ It stimulates a distorted view of sexuality that can lead to riskier behaviors
- ◇ It draws focus away from family life, and from God, and sets a destructive example for children.

[Pornography Help \(archmil.org\)](https://www.archmil.org)

Info taken from Arch website

Eucharistic Revival

Eucharistic Adoration

Jesus instituted the Eucharistic so that we can receive him into our bodies and be nourished by his body and blood. This communion with God also offers us healing for our body and soul. When we receive Jesus in the Eucharist at Mass we are “in Communion” with Him and his Body, our fellow Catholics.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament outside of Mass (commonly known as Eucharistic Adoration) offers us another opportunity to spend time with Jesus--Body Blood, Soul and Divinity. Adoration can be done at any time. Individuals can spend time in church in front of the tabernacle for private prayer. The faithful have an opportunity to gather for public prayer when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar in a monstrance. This time of personal pray will enhance and foster a deeper devotion and participation at Mass. While there is no substitution for participating in and receiving Holy Eucharist at Mass, Adoration will enhance your experience and increase your devotion.



St. Agnes offers scheduled public Eucharistic Adoration every first Friday of the Month. Our next opportunity is **August 4th from 3pm-6pm**. Fr. Sergio will conclude Adoration with Benediction at 5:45pm. This closing prayer service will also include music provided by Lauren Masarik, our Liturgical Musician. I invite you to consider spending some time in prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament during Eucharistic Adoration. It will bring you closer to Jesus and enrich you with many graces and blessings for your life.

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July/August Highlights

Saint of the Month: St. Kateri Tekakwitha

St. Kateri Tekakwitha is the first Native American to be canonized a saint by the Church. She was born in 1656 in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon, near Auriesville, New York, nine years after the Jesuits Isaac Jogues and Jean de Lande were martyred by Iroquois warriors. Her mother was a Christian Algonquin, taken captive by the Iroquois and given as wife to the chief of the Mohawk clan.

When she was four, Tekakwitha lost her parents and little brother in a smallpox epidemic that left her disfigured and half blind. The scars were a source of humiliation for her. She was commonly seen wearing a blanket to hide her face. She was adopted by an uncle, who succeeded her father as chief. A peace treaty with the French required the presence of Jesuit missionaries in villages with Christian captives. She was moved by the words of these missionaries—referred to as Blackrobes—who lodged with her uncle. But fear of him kept her from seeking instruction from the Jesuits.

Kateri was known as a skilled worker, who was diligent and patient. When her adoptive parents proposed a suitor to her, she refused to entertain the proposal. They punished her by giving her more work to do, but she did not give in. Instead, she remained quiet and diligent. Eventually they were forced to relent and accept that she had no interest in marriage.

At age 19, Kateri Tekakwitha converted to Catholicism and was baptized on Easter Sunday. Because she would not work on Sunday, Kateri received no food that day. Her life in grace grew rapidly. She told a missionary that she often meditated on the great dignity of being baptized. She was powerfully moved by God's love for human beings and saw the dignity of each of her people.

She was always in danger, her conversion and holy life created great opposition. On the advice of a priest, Kateri stole away one night and began a 200-mile walking journey to a Christian Indian village at Sault St. Louis, near Montreal.

For three years she grew in holiness under the direction of a priest and an older Iroquois woman, giving herself totally to God in long hours of prayer, in charity, and in strenuous penance. She often prayed for the conversion of her fellow Mohawks and she practiced extremely severe fasting as penance for the conversion of her nation. She and two friends wanted to start a community,



but the local priest dissuaded her. She humbly accepted an "ordinary" life.

Her practices of self-mortification and denial may not have helped her health. Sadly, just five years after her conversion to Catholicism, she became ill and passed away at age 24, on April 17, 1680 the afternoon before Holy Thursday. Witnesses said that her emaciated face changed color and became like that of a healthy child. The lines of suffering, even the pockmarks, disappeared and the touch of a smile came upon her lips. Her name, Kateri, is the Mohawk form of Catherine, which she took from St. Catherine of Siena.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha was beatified in 1980 and canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on Oct. 21, 2012. She is the patroness of ecology and the environment, people in exile and Native Americans. Her feast day is July 14.

[St. Kateri Tekakwitha - Saints & Angels - Catholic Online](#)

[Saint Kateri Tekakwitha | Franciscan Media](#)

[Life Story: Kateri Tekakwitha - Women & the American Story \(nyhistory.org\)](#)

Monthly Minute: The Transfiguration



Every year on August 6 we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord and this year it happens to fall on a Sunday. You may wonder why the Church puts this biblical event on the Liturgical calendar. According to the Catechism, Christ's Transfiguration aims at strengthening the apostles' faith in anticipation of his Passion: the ascent onto the 'high mountain' prepares for the ascent to Calvary. Christ, Head of the Church, manifests what his Body contains and radiates in the sacraments: 'the hope of glory' [CCC 568].

This feast is celebrated in the middle of summer during Ordinary Time. The Gospel readings at this time of year are giving us lessons on faith. The details of this event show us that even in the midst of our everyday life God can manifest His presence in our life. Like the Apostles who witnessed the glory of God we too can have profound spiritual experiences that can strengthen us for the challenges that will eventually come.

May the Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus be for you a momentary glimpse at the joy of heaven amid the struggles and challenges of your daily life.

[10 Things You Need to Know About Jesus' Transfiguration| National Catholic Register \(ncregister.com\)](#)

[What was the meaning and importance of the transfiguration? | GotQuestions.org](#)



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