



Issue: #31

May/June 2023

Purity & Light

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR ST. AGNES FAMILIES

Hello Families-

I hope all is well with you and your families. It's hard to believe that the 4th of July is already next week. The past several weeks I have been busy catching up with last minute paperwork and taking a few days off here and there. I had hoped to get this newsletter out sooner but sometimes our plans are not God's plans.

Last week we saw the first day of Summer. I hope this summer season will be one of relaxation and rejuvenation for you and your family. We tend to get busy with outdoor work and fun family activities but don't forget about taking time each day to appreciate all the ways that God has blessed you. Last week I was helping as a chaperone/driver for the Summer Workcamp called Matthew 25, sponsored by Good Shepherd/St. James Parishes. It is a good opportunity for the youth to learn how to serve others in the greater Milwaukee area. I would encourage your middle school or high school student to participate in this great week of service next year.

This past weekend we welcomed our new administrator/pastor, Fr. Sergio Rodriguez to St. Agnes. He is excited to be here and to get to know all of you. There will be a "Meet & Greet" for Fr. Sergio on July 15-16 after all the Masses. Stop by to introduce yourself and welcome him to St. Agnes the next time you're at Mass.

In this edition you will find a few things not in their usual place. I moved our monthly highlights to page 4 so that all the important parent information is in one general area. Please let me know if you have any suggestions to improve the newsletter or if you would like to see something that is not normally in the newsletter. I am open to your suggestions. I am also looking for help to compile the newsletter information. If you are familiar with Publisher any assistance you can offer would be appreciated. The Christian Formation program works best when we are all willing to participate in creating fulfilling and engaging encounters for our families and children. Sharing God's love and mercy is what we are all called to do.

See you at Mass!

Shelly Fellin

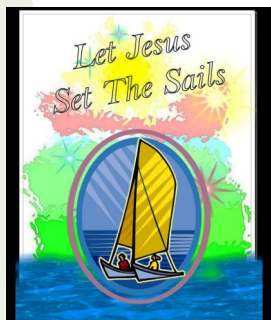
QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"There is nothing impossible to God."

"Most Holy Sacred Heart of Jesus, help my heart to preserve in all that is holy."

"Let me, my Jesus, share in Thy suffering, at least one of Thy thorns."

—St. Rita Cascia



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THE GOLDEN ARROW PRAYER

MAY THE MOST HOLY, MOST SACRED, MOST ADORABLE, MOST INCOMPREHENSIBLE AND UNUTTERABLE NAME OF GOD BE ALWAYS PRAISED, BLESSED, LOVED, ADORED AND GLORIFIED, IN HEAVEN, ON EARTH AND UNDER THE EARTH, BY ALL THE CREATURES OF GOD, AND BY THE SACRED HEART OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, IN THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR.

AMEN.

May/June 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 \(stagnesparish.org\)](http://ChristianFormationOnlineRegistration|CatholicCommunityofStAgnesParish(stagnesparish.org))

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

Open Gym is Back!



All students in grades 5-12 are welcome to join the fun.

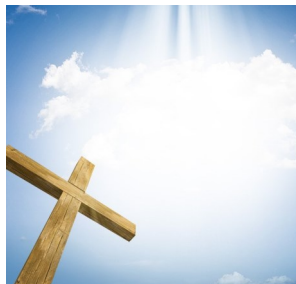
Shoot a round in the gym or spend time in the Youth Room. Something for everyone!

Here are the remaining dates:

July 14, July 29, Aug. 11

Permission form must be signed or on file for student to participate from 7-9:30pm.

Chaperones are always needed! Use this link to sign-up: [St. Agnes: Open Gym Chaperones \(signupgenius.com\)](http://StAgnes:OpenGymChaperones(signupgenius.com))



St. Agnes Christian Formation
12801 W. Fairmount Ave
Butler, WI 53007
262-781-6998
www.stagnesparish.org

MAY-AUGUST SCHEDULE UPCOMING EVENTS

4th of July Mass: 9am / 4th of July Parade: 2pm

Fr. Sergio Meet & Greet: July 15/16 after all Masses

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



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:

[Read-Aloud Book of Bible Stories by Amy Steedman](#)

[- FORMED](#)

[Two Views of Freedom - FORMED](#)

[In God We Trust - Your First Amendment Right -](#)

[FORMED](#)

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

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

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

[1 - FORMED](#)

Family Resource Page

St. James Parish-Men. Falls: July 31-Aug. 4

STELLAR: Shine Jesus' Light

Register now, pay after July 1st.

Open to kids entering 3K – 5th grade in the fall.

Cost is \$35 per child



[Click Here to Register for St. James VBS](#)

Youth volunteers (7th grade and up) can register [here](#).

Catholic Ecology Center Summer Events

The CEC has several opportunities for kids and families to enjoy nature this summer. Check out this link for all the information and registration [Events \(catholicecologycenter.org\)](#)

Arise Family Day

July 22, 2023

Menomonee Falls Village Park

2:30-5:00pm with optional

Worship Night from 6-7:30pm

Registration deadline is July 20th.

Cost: \$25/family

Check out the website for all the details:

[Arisemke.org/family-day](#)



Save the Date and Join the Fun!

Tuesday, August 8th, 2023

Mt. Olympus Waterpark/Theme Park

For 6th graders-2023 High School graduates

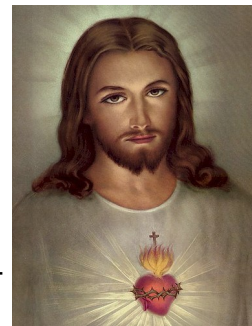
Cost: \$65 includes Lunch, Dinner, Admission and Transportation.

Register at www.mygoodshepherd.org/youth

Eucharistic Revival

On June 11, the Feast of the Body & Blood of Christ (formally Corpus Christi), parishes in the United States kicked off the Eucharistic Revival. The U.S. Bishops called for a year of renewal, healing and formation in the Eucharist. Throughout the year I will devote this space to the Eucharistic Revival.

The Feast of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the most widely practiced and well-known devotions in the Roman Catholic Church. It takes the physical heart of Jesus as representation of His Divine love for humanity. The Feast of the Sacred Heart has been in the Roman Catholic Liturgical calendar since 1856, and is always celebrated 19 days after Pentecost Sunday. The feast of the Sacred Heart always falls on a Friday. The devotion especially emphasizes the unmitigated love, compassion, and long-suffering of the heart of Christ towards humanity. This year the Feast is celebrated on June 16.



The origin of the devotion to the Most Sacred Heart in the modern form, derived for a French Roman Catholic Saint, St. Marguerite Marie Alacoque, whose feast day is October 16th. She learned the devotion from Jesus during a mystical experience. Her revelations were numerous. On December 27, 1673, Margaret Mary reported that Jesus permitted her to rest her head upon His heart, and then disclosed to her the wonders of his love, telling her that he desired to make them known to all mankind and to diffuse the treasures of his goodness, and that he had chosen her for this work. In July 1674, Jesus requested to be honored under the figure of His heart, also saying when He appeared radiant with love, He asked for a devotion of expiatory love, frequent reception of Holy Communion, especially Holy Communion on the First Friday of the month, and the Observance of Holy Hours.

In the Roman Catholic tradition, devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus has been closely associated with Acts of Reparation to Jesus Christ. The "Golden Arrow Prayer" on page one of this newsletter directly refers to the Sacred Heart.

[Feast of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus | Newman Ministry](#)

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May/June Highlights

Saint of the Month: St. Rita of Cascia

Saint Rita was born Margherita Lotti in Italy in 1381. At an early age, she begged her parents to allow her to enter a convent but was instead arranged to be married. Young Rita became a wife and mother at only twelve years of age and her husband, Paolo Mancini, was a man of violent temper. He often mistreated Rita verbally and physically.

He was also known to pursue other women and he had many enemies but Rita's influence over him eventually led him to be a better man. Even though he renounced a family feud it continued to grow turbulent and one of Paolo's allies betrayed and killed him.

Following her husband's death, Rita gave his murderers a public pardon, but Paolo's brother was still angry and encouraged Rita's two sons to join the feud. Under their uncle's leadership, each boy became more and more like their father had been before Rita married him, and they wanted to avenge their father's murder. Rita prayed to God, asking Him to take her sons before they lost their souls to the mortal sin of murder. One year later, her prayers were answered when both of her sons died of dysentery.

Following the deaths of her sons, Rita attempted to enter the monastery of Saint Mary Magdalene in Cascia, but was not allowed to join due to her husband's family feud. When Rita persisted, the convent told her she could join if she could find a way to mend the wound between the families.

After seeking help from John the Baptist, Augustine of Hippo, and Nicholas of Tolentino she attempted to end the feud. The conflict was resolved when Paolo's brother became ill during the bubonic plague and ended the family feud. Rita was allowed to enter the monastery at the age of thirty-six.

While at the monastery, Rita performed her duties faithfully and received the sacraments frequently. Rita had a great devotion to the Passion of Christ, and when she was sixty-year-old, she asked, "Please let me suffer like you, Divine Savior." After her request, a wound appeared on her forehead, as if a thorn from Christ's crown had pierced her. It left a deep wound, which did not heal, and it caused her to suffer until the day she died.

She died on May 22, 1457. Following her death, she was buried at the basilica of Cascia, and was later discovered to be incorrupt. Rita was beatified

by Pope Urban VIII in 1627 and canonized by Pope Leo XII on May 24, 1900

St. Rita is the patron saint of Impossible Causes, Difficult Marriages, Infertility and Parenthood.

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

Monthly Minute: Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Saint John the Baptist was set apart from the womb to prepare the way of the Lord and was a significant figure connected to the Incarnation and the Redemption. For this reason the Church honors him because of his role in preparing the way for Christ. Besides the Nativity of Our Lord (Dec. 25) and the Nativity of His Mother (Sept. 8) the Nativity of John the Baptist is the only other birthday celebrated in the Church's liturgical calendar.

John spent his time in the desert living an ascetic lifestyle. He began to announce the coming of the Kingdom, and to call everyone to a fundamental reformation of life. His purpose was to prepare the way for Jesus. His baptism, he said, was for repentance. But one would come who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. John was not worthy even to untie his sandals. His attitude toward Jesus was: "He must increase; I must decrease" (John 3:30).

The greatness of John, his pivotal place in the history of salvation, is seen in the great emphasis Luke gives to the announcement of his birth and the event itself—both made prominently parallel to the same occurrences in the life of Jesus. John attracted countless people to the banks of the Jordan, and it occurred to some people that he might be the Messiah. But he constantly deferred to Jesus, even to sending away some of his followers to become the first disciples of Jesus.

Perhaps John's idea of the coming of the Kingdom of God was not being perfectly fulfilled in the public ministry of Jesus. For whatever reason, when he was in prison he sent his disciples to ask Jesus if he was the Messiah. Jesus' answer showed that the Messiah was to be a figure like that of the Suffering Servant in Isaiah. John himself would share in the pattern of messianic suffering, losing his life to the revenge of Herodias.

[Nativity of Saint John the Baptist | Franciscan Media](#)

[Nativity of Saint John the Baptist | EWTN](#)



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