

The Good Word

PARISH TOWN HALL MEETING INFORMATION

Fr. Tim Bickel

Please review the presentations that were shared at the town hall meetings held on September 28 and October 3. You will notice the recurring theme of *P.E.A.C.E. (Pray Everyday And Cherish Everyone)*. As a parish, we are asking parishioners to regularly celebrate Sunday Mass with us and invest themselves in areas of ministry, organizations and committees to help us fulfill our mission. We are asking for your time, your talent and your treasure to continue to make St. Agnes a viable and vital spiritual community so that our values and traditions can be taught and celebrated in the years to come.



Stewardship Skit

Start a chain reaction of fellowship, fun and PEACE! At St. Agnes, stewardship is our game. Let's invite others to come to church or get involved!

Human Concerns Committee

Dawn Endries

Some of the responsibilities that the Human Concerns committee oversees are: Interfaith; Outreach; St. Vincent dePaul; Elizabeth Ministry; Food Pantry; Agape; and Mother's Day Roses.

I'd like to specifically mention the areas in which we're currently seeking help.

First and foremost we're always seeking new members, however, at this time we're full and there's a waiting list...JUST KIDDING!!! All kidding aside, we love to welcome new members so consider this your personal invitation to join our fun committee!

Food Pantry is run quite smoothly under the direction of Audrey Kavanaugh. We're always accepting any food or monetary donations.

Agape is a meal program that serves dinner to about 100 people 3 days per week. We provide one of those dinners every other month. We've been doing this for about 2 years. The areas of help that are: needed are shopping for supplies; making the meal; and/or serving the meal. We usually send 6-8 people on the day of serving which takes about 2 hours of your time.

St. Vincent de Paul continues to answer God's call by serving the poor and needy. They are kept busy these days by answering house calls of those in need who have lost jobs, etc. As you can imagine those calls have increased during these tough economic times. So they are also seeking new members. SVDP meets twice a month on Saturday from 10:00-11:30 AM. Please see or call Ron Lundean for more information.



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Last but not least are the Mother's Day Roses which benefits the Right to Life program. Roses are distributed after all the Masses on Mother's Day weekend. This happens once a year so for someone who is looking for a smaller time commitment - this would be a great avenue to pursue.

For more details on any of these areas that were mentioned, please don't hesitate to give Dawn Endries a call.

FINANCE COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Marilyn Schultz



I don't know about you, but as I listen to these presentations I am truly inspired by all that is going on within our parish. All of these programs and ministries would not be possible without your support.

We hope that all of you have had an opportunity to review the financial statements for the past fiscal year that were included in the September parish newsletter.

Our parish is now at a financial crossroads. We ended our June 30th fiscal year with a deficit of \$34,000, the second year in a row that we have recorded a deficit. This occurred primarily due to lower enrollment in our school, Christian formation program and day care. Teachers and staff have not received a salary increase for the past two years. Tuition for both the school and Christian formation was raised 3% this year, our first increase in five years.

We know we are currently living in tough economic times. Many of our parishioners are unemployed or living on fixed incomes - but remember the story of the widow who gave not from her surplus, but gave all that she had. Remember that God is never outdone in generosity. The more we give, the more we will receive.

In 1989, tithing replaced fund raising at St. Agnes as a stable source of revenue, and we are committed to that method of giving. Our parishioners have embraced that concept, and tithing has continued to place the parish on sound financial footing. Unlike many of our surrounding parishes, we have no debt. We still have money in savings although it has dwindled from \$221,000 two years ago to \$85,000 as of June 30. The savings account is our contingency fund and needs to be replenished.

Before tithing was introduced, the parish held numerous fundraisers including the annual picnic where cars were raffled, and well known bands performed. Relying on the picnic as a major source of income has many risks. Bad weather can significantly reduce revenue. Crowds attending the festival to hear popular bands often create security problems and a less than "family friendly" atmosphere for those attending. Numerous fundraisers throughout the year, along with "special envelopes" and "special collections" to fund operating expenses, nickel and dime our parishioners. The focus is constantly on raising money - and when, the money is not there, loans must be taken to meet expenses. Do we really want to go back to that? The answer is a resounding **NO!**

Tithing, which is based upon the biblical concept of giving 10% of one's income, creates a steady source of revenue on which we can more accurately prepare our annual budget. Do our activities like the parish festival generate income? Of course, they do, but they are not a major source of revenue, and the focus of the festival, along with other activities throughout the year, is on building community - not raising money.

We will begin our annual budget process for the next fiscal year in October. Obviously, we face many challenges. We ask for your prayers and the guidance of the Holy Spirit as staff and committees meet to plan their programs and determine how to fund our many ministries for the next fiscal year. Please don't just sit there and think that the Finance Committee will "figure it out". In my opening statement, I said that our parish is at a financial crossroads - and I meant it!

Will we be able to pay our teachers and staff a just wage? Will we have to reduce our staff? Which ministries should be reduced or eliminated? If pledges do not increase significantly, we are going to be asking **YOU** those questions - so start thinking about them **NOW!**

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Our pledge weekend will be November 13 and 14 this year. We ask that you prayerfully consider what you might give in 2011. **TITHING WORKS!** Are you currently giving from your surplus? Or are you like the widow and giving your all. Remember the more we give, the more we receive.

We are reaching the end of the Faith in Our Future campaign. How many of you have already fulfilled your commitment or will fulfill it in the near future. Consider adding what you gave to that campaign to your tithing pledge for next year. Most of those contributing are doing so on a monthly basis. As one of our Parish Council members said, *"I'm already giving it, and I don't miss it. Why wouldn't I continue?"* And remember, 100% of the money you contribute will go to St. Agnes unlike the Faith in Our Future program where 40% went to the Archdiocese.

Here's another suggestion for your consideration. **As of August 31, there were 966 family units in the parish. If each increased their giving \$2.00 per week, our revenue would increase by more than \$100,000.00. Think about how you are currently spending \$2.00 per week. Do you, like me, order a cheeseburger and a soda off the dollar menu - and never give it a second thought? Do you pick up a cup of coffee at Starbucks on your way to work? Do you stop for gas and pick up a snack or a beverage? Consider skipping one of those and increase your pledge accordingly. Would it really be that much of a sacrifice? (...and the impact on the parish would be significant!)**

Our parish's theme this year is **PEACE**. Let us join together to
 Pledge
 Everything we can to
 Allow our parish to meet the
 Challenges we face to continue and
 Enhance all of our ministries

Thank you for your attention and for everything you do - through your stewardship - to make St. Agnes the vital, welcoming parish that it is. This is **YOUR PARISH**. Its future is in **YOUR HANDS**.



St. Agnes Wish List Current Wish List Items By Committee

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Needed</u>	<u>Each</u>	<u># Needed</u>
Athletics	Chairs for PAC	\$29.00	12
School	Smart Board	\$3000.00	1
Bldg. & Grds.	Refrigerated Water Cooler	\$1100.00	2
	Plastic Banquet Tables	\$100.00	10
TCU	Pool Table - 6 Foot	\$200.00	1
Ch. Formation	Sponsor a youth on Mission Trip (total cost is: \$250.00 per youth)	\$50.00	20



If you see something on the list you would like to contribute, beyond your tithing contribution, please contact the Parish Office at 262-781-9521.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Our deceased family and friends:

- † Brian Corrigan
- † Ronald MacCudden, brother of Judy Schultz
- † Beatrice Michard
- † Patrick O'Connor, son of Karen O'Connor
- † Dan Schiffer, son of Hank & Phyllis
- † Ruth Shurilla
- † Debbie Stuhr, daughter-in-law of Dolores Stuhr

May they rest in peace

HOLLY FAIR, NOV. 13

Come to our Annual Craft Fair!
 Time: **9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**
ADMISSION: DONATION of \$1
or one non-perishable food item
for Food Pantry.

For general information, call 414-353-4312.

LITURGY CORNER...

LITURGY PRESENTATION

Jeanne Butzen, Liturgy Committee Chairperson



"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." This is what Jesus tells us in John's gospel. The peace the world gives depends on circumstances. It is the avoidance of troubles, but the peace that Christ gives is everything that makes for our highest good. Nothing this world can do can take it from us, and no sorrow, danger or suffering can make it less. It is the gift of salvation.

How do we at St. Agnes let His peace start with us? The theme for this school year is Pray Everyday And Cherish Everyone - PEACE.

We pray everyday - our personal prayers are of praise, thanksgiving, and petition. We pray in the morning, at meals, in the evening before sleep. We pray throughout the day, little prayers for help and in thanksgiving. In times of trouble, we pray for God's intervention, and we pray for all those we love.

But our formal prayer and ceremonies are planned and prepared by the Director of Liturgy and Music, Fr. Tim and the Liturgical Committee. The decorations in the church and the flowers that beautify our church are prepared by the Environment Committee. When we think of the austerity of the Lenten décor, the beautiful decorations at Easter and, of course, all our Christmas trimmings, we realize how much our prayer is enhanced by our environment.

Though behind the scenes, the members of the Altar Society launder the purificators used at Communion and the altar linens. They also sew baptismal gowns and care for the votive candles.

The lectors proclaim God's word to us and Father helps us apply His word to our lives. We offer our petitions to the Lord as we reach out to those who need our prayers. The music of the Parish Choir, the Celebration Singers, the Bell Choirs and the songs chosen for the congregation to sing, complement the readings of the day. Together we "make a joyful noise unto the Lord". Our song is prayer set to music.

The Eucharistic Ministers, who reverently assist Fr. Tim in the distribution of Christ's Precious Body and Blood, facilitate our reception of the Eucharist.

All of the volunteers in these ministries are helping us to better offer our prayer to the Lord, to make our formal prayer more meaningful to us and our families.

How do we at St. Agnes cherish everyone?

The Ministers of Hospitality, our ushers and greeters, offer a smile and a friendly greeting to all who have come to celebrate Eucharist. We know Fr. Tim will be at the back of church giving hugs to everyone. We try to make parishioners and visitors feel welcome here.

The Altar Society caters funerals for parish members who have died, for only the cost of the food, and the ladies of the parish bake and donate wonderful desserts. We receive many compliments about how good the food is and what a wonderful service these parishioners provide.

The Liturgical Committee plans outreach projects for Advent and Lent to provide financial and material aid to those who need our assistance. Some of our recent outreaches have been: the Giving Tree for the Cathedral Center; Operation Starfish which benefits Food For the Poor; and our weekly Lenten donations to the St. Agnes food pantry.

Prayer can be our words and prayer can also be our works. The service of the members of all the groups that make up the Liturgical Committee is our prayer and our way to show that we cherish everyone.

And so, peace begins with me and with all of us. Through our prayer and our service we bring Christ's peace to all people, the gift of salvation!

Featured Parishioner: Carol Guardia

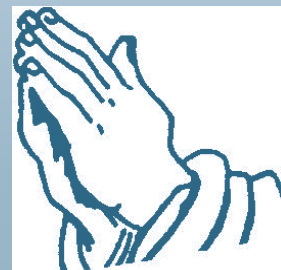


Carol Guardia’s family has deep ties to St. Agnes Parish: her grandmother was in the first graduating class from St. Agnes School; her uncle built the grotto; her aunt was the rectory housekeeper; an her sister is currently a member of the parish. However, Carol’s story takes her far from her youth in and around Butler, and yet still she has returned to St. Agnes. After briefly attending St. Agnes School, due to circumstances at the time, Carol then attended Mother of Good Counsel School. She went on to graduate from Holy Angels Academy and Marquette University. With her business degree, Carol moved around the country working for the federal government. She and her husband, Fred, raised four children amidst these various moves around the country. Wherever the family moved, they became involved in their local church and community. Carol found this to be a great way to meet people. She served as a sacristan, helped with RCIA, and was involved in many other ministry areas over the years, at a number of different churches. When people would tell her that they don’t have time to volunteer, she would say, “If it is important to you, you will find a way.” Carol and Fred moved back to the area about six years ago, and Carol did not hesitate to find ways to help out. In addition to tutoring in the St. Agnes School Resource Room, she tutors at Blessed Savior West (formerly Corpus Christi Parish School), is actively involved with Interfaith for Older Adults, has volunteered at the Wisconsin State Fair, and brings the Eucharist to shut-ins and those in nursing homes. Carol also believes in financial stewardship, and gives regularly to the parish. When asked about her financial commitment to the parish, she said, “If we don’t worry about the future, who will?” Carol has a similar philosophy about volunteering: “If you want to see the parish succeed, you must participate,” she said.

Stewardship is about more than just serving the parish. It is about giving to others in gratitude for all God’s gifts. If you know a Saint Agnes person who has a stewardship story, please contact Maryrose Wolf in the parish office at 262-781-9521, or send an email to stagneparish@hotmail.com.

Please pray for the following people who need Jesus’ healing presence:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Heather Abel | Donald Gregory | Betty Mueller | Bernice Slattery |
| Conrad Amrhein | Kathy Gregovich | Steve Nolan | Marilyn Steger |
| Antonia Babiak | Luanne Gregovich | Gordon O’Rourke | Murel Sykes |
| Albin Babiak | Robert Gross | Amanda Paul | Eric Taylor |
| Shirley Bickel | Elaine Gultch | Robert Pieterick | Sheri Teachout |
| Ceil Brath | Geraldine Hayes | Elroy Podewils | Bill Thorn |
| Kate Brown | Fred Honkamp | Sue Riley | Karen Toll |
| Kay Bscherer | Helen Honkamp | Robert Rhody | Kathy Truog |
| Chester Coda | Robert Kaltenbach | Lance Rosenthal | Gerard Turkowitch |
| Anne Coffman | Elizabeth Keinert | Kathy Schiller | Jim Valentine |
| Rita DeGroot | Gus Knaebe | Lucille Schneider | Mary Waters |
| June Distenfeld | Ken Kocher | Cy Schram | Bernice Wick |
| Evelyn Dosie | Ben Konen | Bernadette Schrubbe | Ruth Witterholt |
| Frank Edel | Julie Konkel | John Schuldenburg | Dick Woodkey |
| Robert Filo | Judy Kowalski | Darrell Schultz | Lawrence Zblewski |
| Arlene Fish | Ed Kretlow | Judy Schultz | Lisa Zoulek |
| Richard Fisher | Jennie Lardinois | Marvin Schulz | |
| Pat Fix | Kailyn Lindner | Red Schwartz | |
| Nerita Fredrich | Tom Ludka | John Serio | |
| Joanne Freeck | Royd March | Greg Shackelford | |
| Kathy Guay | Diane McNaughton | Melissa Smith | |
| Alice Gebhard | Keith Michaelowski | Marion Siefert | |
| David Gennrich | Glenn Mrochinski | Joe Singer | |



If you, or a family member, are in need of prayers and want to be included in our monthly prayer list, please call the parish office.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Fr. Tim will be on vacation from Nov. 2-12. There will NOT be any weekday Masses during his absence.	1 All Saints Day 8:15 AM Mass 2:45-4:30 PM Drama Club 2:45-4:00 PM Faculty Mtg. 6:30-8:00 PM B.S. Parent Mtg. 7:00-8:30 PM Youth Board Mtg.	2 NO Mass 1:00-2:00 PM Legion of Mary 4:00-7:00 PM Euch. Adoration 7:00-8:30 PM Athletic Com.	3 NO Mass 9:00-11:00 AM Pastoral Staff Mtg. 2:45-4:30 PM Drama Club 6:00-7:30 PM Stewardship Com. 7:00-8:30 PM Men's Prayer Grp. 7:00-8:30 PM Women's Prayer Grp.	4 NO Mass 6:30-8:00 PM C.S. Committee 7:15-8:30 PM Parish Choir	5 NO Mass NO School - Teacher In service 4:00-7:00 PM Fish Fry 6:30-7:45 PM G.S. Troop 2371 7:00-10:00 PM Open Gym 7:00-10:00 PM Confirmation Retreat	6 8:00AM-12:00AM Confirmation Retreat 10:00-11:30 AM SVDP Mtg. 4:00-4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass 7:00-10:00 PM Adult VG 7:30-11:30 PM Catholic Singles
7 Daylight Savings Time Ends 8:45-10:15 AM C. S. Rehearsal 9:00-10:15 AM Family Time 10:30 AM CLW 8:00-9:00 PM AA	8 NO Mass 2:45-4:30 PM Drama Club 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-7:30 PM Webelos 6:15-7:30 PM G.S. Troop 2557	9 NO Mass 1:00-2:00 PM Legion of Mary 2:30-4:30 PM G.S. Troop 2145 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	10 All Committee Meeting Night NO Mass 1:00-2:30 PM Altar Society 2:45-4:30 PM Drama Club 3:30-8:00 PM P/T Conferences 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-7:15 PM School & CF Com. 6:15-7:15 PM Human Concerns 6:30-8:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:15-7:30 PM Prayer Time 7:30 PM Liturgical & Finance Comm.	11 NO Mass NO School 12:00-8:00 PM P/T Conferences 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 7:15-8:30 PM Parish Choir	12 NO Mass 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-8:00 PM Holly Fair Set-up 6:00 PM-12:00 AM C. S. Lock-in	13 8:00 AM C.S. Lock-in Ends 9:00AM-3:00 PM Holly Fair 4:00-4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass 7:00-11:00 PM Couple's Dartball
14 Baptisms during Mass 8:45-10:15 AM C.S. Rehearsal 9:00-10:15 AM YM & CM Classes 10:30 AM CLW 12:00 PM Baptisms 8:00-9:00 PM AA	15 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-7:15 PM G.S. Troop 4558 6:30-9:00 PM Drama Club Dress Rehearsal	16 8:15 AM All School Mass 1:00-2:00 PM Legion of Mary 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-8:00 PM Baptism Class 6:30-9:00 PM Drama Club Dress Rehearsal	17 9:00-11:00 AM Parish Staff Mtg. 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 5:00-6:00 PM Market Day 6:00-7:30 PM Parish Council 6:30-9:00 PM Drama Club Dress Rehearsal 7:00-8:30 PM Men's Prayer Grp. 7:00-8:30 PM Women's Prayer Grp.	18 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:30-8:00 PM Endowment Board 7:00-9:00 PM "The Music Man Jr." 7:15-8:30 PM Parish Choir	19 2:30-4:00 PM Daisy Troop 4588 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 5:30-9:00 PM "The Music Man Jr." Dessert Theatre 9:00-10:00 PM Cast Party	20 8:30-10:30 PM Share Distribution 10:00-11:30 AM SVDP Mtg. 4:00-4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass 7:00-10:00 PM Youth Board Dance
21 Christ the King 9:00-10:15 AM CM & YM Classes/ not Gr. 10 10:30 AM CLW 11:30 AM Fall Sports Awards 11:30 AM G.S. Troop 2618 7:00-8:30 PM Confirmation Class 8:00-9:00 PM AA	22 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-7:30 PM Webelos 6:15-7:30 PM G.S. Troop 2557	23 8:15 AM All School Mass 1:00-2:00 PM Legion of Mary 2:30-4:30 PM G.S. Troop 2145 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:30-7:30 PM BB Uniform Dist. Gr. 7 & 8	24 11:30 AM School Dismissal 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:30-7:30 PM BB Uniform Dist. Gr. 5 & 6	25 Thanksgiving 9:00 AM Mass	26 Parish Office Closed 8:00 AM-6:00 PM BB Practice 6:00 PM Butler Christmas Parade Staging	27 8:00 AM-6:00 PM BB Practice 4:00-4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass
28 1st Sunday Of Advent Welcoming Sunday Baptisms during Mass 10:30 AM RCIA Acceptance 8:00-9:00 PM AA	29 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	30 8:15 AM All School Mass 1:00-2:00 PM Legion of Mary 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice				

December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 All Committee Meeting Night 9:00-11:00 AM Pastoral Staff Mtg. 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-7:15 PM School Com. 6:15-7:15 PM Human Concerns 7:00-8:30 PM Men's Prayer Grp. 7:00-8:30 PM Women's Prayer Grp. 7:15-7:30 PM Prayer Time 7:30 PM Liturgical & Finance Comm.	2 Picture Re-take Day 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:30-8:30 PM H & S Meeting 6:30-8:00 PM C.S. Committee 7:15-8:30 PM Parish Choir	3 4:00-7:00 PM BB Practice 7:00-10:00 PM Open Gym	4 8:00 AM-6:00 PM BB Games 8:30 AM Grief Ministry Mass 10:00 AM Grief Ministry Bkfst. 10:00-11:30 AM SVDP Mtg. 2:00-5:00 PM Legion of Mary 4:00-4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass 7:00-10:00 PM Adult VB
5 2nd Sunday Of Advent 9:00-10:15 AM Family Time 10:30 AM CLW 7:00-8:30 PM Confirmation Class 8:00-9:00 PM AA	6 2:45-4:00 PM School Faculty Mtg. 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-7:30 PM Webelos 6:15-7:30 PM G.S. Troop 2557 6:30-8:00 PM B.S. Parent Mtg. 7:00-8:15 PM Youth Board Mtg.	7 1:00-2:00 PM Legion of Mary 4:00-7:00 PM Euch. Adoration 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 7:00-8:30 PM Athletic Comm.	8 Immaculate Conception 8:15 AM Mass 1:00-2:30 PM Altar Society Mtg. 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 7:00 PM Mass	9 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Sch. Reconciliation 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 7:15-8:30 PM Parish Choir	10 4:00-7:00 PM Fish Fry 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	11 8:00 AM-6:00 PM BB Games 4:00-4:00 PM Catholic Order of Foresters 4:00-4:30 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass 7:00-11:00 PM Couple's Dartball
12 3rd Sunday Of Advent 9:00-10:15 AM CM & YM Classes 9:30 AM-12:00 PM Cub Scouts Pack Mtg 10:30 AM CLW 8:00-9:00 PM AA	13 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-7:15 PM G.S. Troop 4558	14 8:15 AM All School Mass 1:00-2:00 PM Legion of Mary 2:30-4:43 PM G.S. Troop 2145 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	15 9:00-11:00 PM Parish Staff Mtg. 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 5:00-6:00 PM Market Day 6:00 PM PC Mtg. 6:30 PM Cluster Mtg. 7:00-8:30 PM Men's Prayer Grp. 7:00-8:30 PM Women's Prayer Grp.	16 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 7:00-8:30 PM H & S Comm. Mtg. 7:15-8:30 PM Parish Choir	17 2:30-4:00 PM Daisy Troop 4588 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	18 8:00 AM-6:00 PM BB Games 8:30-10:30 AM Share Distribution 10:00-11:30 AM SVDP Mtg. 10:30 AM Communal Reconciliation at St. Anthony 4:00-4:30 PM NO Reconciliation 5:00 PM Mass 7:00-10:00 PM Open Gym
19 4th Sunday Of Advent 9:00-10:15 AM CM & YM Classes - NOT Gr. 10) 10:30 AM CLW 11:30 AM-1:00 PM G.S. Troop 2618 6:00-8:00 PM Confirmation Class 8:00-9:00 PM AA	20 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:00-7:30 PM Webelos 6:15-7:30 PM G.S. Troop 2557	21 1:00-2:00 PM Legion of Mary 2:30-4:30 PM G.S. Troop 2145 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	22 1:00-2:30 PM School Christmas Program Rehearsal 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice 6:30 PM School Christmas Program	23 8:15 AM All School Mass 11:30 AM School Dismissal 12:00 PM Staff Luncheon 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	24 Christmas Eve NO 6:30 AM Mass 5:00 PM Mass 11:00 PM Mass	25 Christmas 8:30 AM Mass 10:30 AM Mass NO Reconciliation NO 5:00 PM Mass
26 Welcoming Sunday 8:00-9:00 PM AA	27 Parish Office Closed 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	28 NO 8:15 AM Mass 1:00-2:00 PM Legion of Mary 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	29 NO 6:30 AM Mass 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice	30 4:00-10:00 PM BB Practice ***All 2010 Donations MUST BE IN TO THE OFFICE BY 3:00 PM***	31 Parish Office Closed	



What's News for School...

Susan Booth, Principal

PEACE – Pray Everyday And Cherish Everyone

The students of St. Agnes School pray everyday and pray in many different ways. We pray together as a school family in our morning and afternoon announcements. We pray daily in our classrooms. We gather each week as a school family for Mass. Our primary grades, K3-3rd grade come together every Wednesday for a prayer service in church. We also gather for special prayers such as when the school comes together on the first Friday of the month to pray the rosary. During Lent, we gather in levels (gr. 1-4 and gr. 5-8) to pray the Stations of the Cross. We will also celebrate Holy Thursday together as a school family with our Seder Meal.

The students of St. Agnes School cherish everyone. We cherish those who are in our classroom, in our school, in our parish, and in our community both locally and globally. We cherish each other through our school events and drives. We have a buddy system between our K5 and 7th grade and our 1st and 8th grades. These students read together, have holiday parties together, and learn to care for each other. Through our Safety Patrol, students in our junior high help to be sure that our AM drop-off and PM pick-up procedures are followed so all our students are safe.

Our Student Council works to show that they cherish all the students in the school. Members of the Student Council work to plan monthly bake sales, Doughnuts with Santa, and an all-school picnic. These are events that all students look forward to. Money raised from the bake sales are used to fund Student Council events as well as buy wish list items for the school.

Our Home and School plans our Spookghetti Dinner as a community event. This is a night of family fun which shows that not only the students cherish each other but the whole school community cherishes each other. Students in the Junior High help to make this a fun event by working with Mr. Wolf to plan our haunted house and hand out candy during trick or treating.

Our Mission Week shows how we cherish people globally. Throughout the week, students learn about Mission work in the world. We then gather on Friday night for our Mission Party. This is also an evening of family fun. Families gather to play games together. Junior high students sign up to help run the games as well. All proceeds from that evening are sent to various missions around the world.

Our school plans many drives throughout the school year to help those in our local communities. These include the parish as well as those in Waukesha County. Our Student Council and our Junior High Religion teacher Ms. Kay Bobb organizes these drives. We reach out to show we cherish others through our clothing drive, food drive, cookies for the homebound in the parish, stamps and gift cards for the homebound in Waukesha County, and a toy drive for the children of St. Patrick Parish.

PEACE is not always easy. As a school we continue to work with the students along with parent assistance at home to reinforce the values of our faith. We reinforce our expected Christian behavior in all classes. Good sportsmanship is discussed in gym class but also by the classroom teachers in regard to recess behavior. We are addressing issues of bullying in our school. Home and School hosted a parent presentation last year, and we will be bringing in presentations for the children this year. We also look at cyber-bullying/Internet Safety. With new technology, we must look at all ways to be sure our children are safe and showing that they cherish each other. Home and School has hosted parent presentations the last two years on Internet Safety. We also brought in a speaker for the Junior High students two years ago. We are looking to bring in a speaker for the older students again this year.

The 2010-2011 school year is off to a very smooth start. We have a new lunch program through the Elmbrook School District. We are now part of the National School Lunch Program. This benefits both the school and families. We are able to provide a cheaper lunch as well as a free or reduced option for families who qualify.

Our enrollment this year is 156 students. We are lower than last year which was 166. We knew we would be lower and budgeted for 160 students. Our average class size is 16 and our student/teacher ratio is 12:1. We expanded our

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(Continued from page 8)

K4 program to a K3/K4 split classroom which holds 9 students this year. This number is lower than expected for a variety of reasons, financial and families choosing to wait to start school in K5, just to name a few. With this lower enrollment, we will be focusing on external marketing this year. We are a cul de sac school and many people do not know we are here. We need to find new and innovative ways to get our name out there.

Financially, Catholic school can be tough. It is a commitment families make knowing their children are getting a strong academic curriculum infused with the teachings of our faith. We realize that it is still a struggle for some families so we try and offer ways to help reduce the cost. We offer both Market Day and Scrip. These programs allow families to purchase food and gift cards. A percentage of your purchases are then returned to you as a credit toward next year's tuition.

St. Agnes Parish also has our Tuition Angels fund. This is a tuition assistance program. Families can apply for assistance toward their tuition. We have \$10,000 available in the Tuition Angels Fund and \$5,000 in assistance from the parish. This year we were able to assist eleven families with eighteen children.

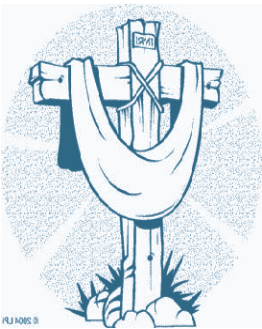
For a school to be successful, it must have the support of the parents. St. Agnes School has tremendous support of the parents of our students. We encourage parents to volunteer and assist the school whenever possible. We do ask parents to put in 15 hours of service to the school and/or parish, but our parents go well over that number. We had 4,905.25 hours turned in last year. Also, we had 18 families turn in over 75 hours which is five times the amount we ask you to do. St. Agnes parents are truly dedicated to the school!

Fr. Tim's theme of PEACE is living in our school. In the past we had a Student of the Month. This year we have changed that to Peacemaker of the Month. One student from each level is chosen a month. The teachers look at students who are living PEACE, Praying Everyday And Cherishing Everyone.

God has given us so many gifts which bring PEACE. These gifts come to us through St. Agnes Parish, dedicated parents, devoted staff members, and programs that help make Catholic education affordable. St. Agnes School is proud to offer a highly spiritual and accredited education to its students, and with God's gifts we will continue to provide our students with faith development and educational excellence now and for the future.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Director of Christian Formation Gerry Wolf



The St. Agnes Christian Formation Committee and staff continue to provide a range of programs designed to fulfill our parish mission statement's goal of being committed to life-long Christian Formation. Descriptions of our committee's responsibilities and of our programs can be found in the 2010 Parish Directory, in the annual Christian Formation Family Handbook, or on the Parish website. For specific details about any particular program or activity, please call or email myself or our CF Secretary, Gail Onasch, at our office. We would be happy to help you.

For this year's report, I would like to focus on four issues which provide us with future challenges and goals, and I would like to highlight one ministry that continues to grow and impact our parish in many ways.

The Challenges and Goals include: Declining Enrollment: Our total number of students in this year's CF programs for children and youth from grade K3 through Youth Confirmation is currently 120 students, down from last year's total of 136, and the previous year's total of 150. Even though we may gain some late registrations, the trend is clear. I believe that our programs are effective and well-received, so unless I have been turning a deaf ear to the response of our families, I do not attribute the decline to discontent. From what I can tell, there are two main reasons for the decline. We all know that families in our society have fewer children than in the past. So lower enrollment would be a natural and logical consequence of that reality. However, there is another trend that is more difficult to understand and respond to. Both Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI both have warned vigor-

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ously for decades about the threat of ever-widening secularism. I believe our declining enrollment is a symptom of a growing attitude in our culture that formal religious education is just another activity to pick and choose from in the wide variety of opportunities which are available to families in today's society. The causes of this change are many and complex. There is no surefire answer to reverse it. But it's clear that it will continue to challenge our parish and the whole church as we try to engage our children and youth in a faith life that is vibrant and relevant, and unfortunately, now has to compete for their time and commitment.

Re-establishing Vacation Bible School: Two summers ago, due to a lack of adult volunteers, we tried holding our VBS program during the evenings rather than during the daytime. We did see a greater percentage of parent participation, but enrollment fell. This past summer, the enrollment was too low to feasibly conduct a program, so VBS was cancelled. We are considering several strategies to re-establish our VBS program for next summer: collaborating with St. Anthony parish, beginning the publicity and registration process earlier, raising the level of promotion and publicity for the program, and making a more intentional effort to recruit adult volunteers.

St. Anthony collaboration: As an outgrowth of ongoing meetings between the St. Agnes and St. Anthony parish councils and staffs to explore our future as a cluster, I met with my counterpart in Christian Formation from St. Anthony John Hying, yesterday/on September 27. For the time being, we discussed the possibilities of working together on programs for our children and youth, such as VBS, some youth Confirmation sessions, and perhaps mission trips. We agreed to a follow-up meeting later in October. At that time we may also begin to talk about the possibilities of working together to provide shared adult formation programs.

Liturgical Catechesis: Unknown to many Catholics, the Church has been busy for years working on a Revision of the Roman Missal, which contains the Church's official prayers and rubrics for the Mass. The Revision is now complete, which means that there will be changes in some of the Mass prayers and responses that we are all familiar with. The bishops have directed parishes to spend the next year in preparation and education so that everyone will be ready to use the new prayers by Advent of 2011. We will be working with the Liturgy Committee in the coming year to provide this education.

Finally, I would like to highlight the continued growth and success of our **youth Mission Trips**. Participants in mission trips continue to return to our parish and tell their families and friends how the experience has deepened their faith. From our first parish mission trip of eight summers ago, which consisted of 13 youth and 2 adults, we have booked reservations this coming summer, between two mission trip opportunities, for 60 people. God's hand is surely guiding this ministry and we are grateful for that.

St. Agnes and St. Anthony Holy Day, Reconciliation and Christmas Schedule

Come home for the holidays...join us during the Christmas Season!!!

Immaculate Conception - December 8

Holy Day of Obligation

St. Agnes 8:15 AM, 7:00 PM
St. Anthony 8:00 AM, 6:30 PM

Advent Reconciliation

Communal Reconciliation Service:

Saturday, Dec. 18

10:30 AM St. Anthony

(For individual reconciliation, please contact the parish office for times.)

Christmas Schedule

St. Agnes	Dec. 24	5:00, 11:00 PM
	Dec. 25	8:30, 10:30 AM
St. Anthony	Dec. 24	5:00 PM
	Dec. 25	8:00, 10:30 AM

New Year's Day

Jan. 1	10:00 AM
Jan. 1	9:00 AM



**The St. Agnes Drama Club presents Meredith Willson's
"The Music Man, Jr."**

November 18 & 19, 7:00 PM, Kemp Hall
Friday, November 19, Sit-down dessert, 5:30 PM
(by reservation only through St. Agnes School Office)

Charismatic con man Harold Hill galvanizes a stodgy, entertainment-starved Iowa town at the turn of the century. Intending to fleece the town with a false scheme to organize a boy's band, Hill's plans go awoul when he falls for Marian, the starchy town librarian. Ultimately she tames his runabout impulses while he teacher her - and the entire town - the joys of emotional risks. *The Music Man* is one of the world's best-loved and most often produced shows. It features a dazzlingly All American score with a handful of the best known songs of all time.

FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

Dan Berendt

Our committee members are: Dan & Leslie Berendt, Dawn & Kevin Endries, Dennis & Lisa Valuch. Our job has been to share the progress of the campaign with our parish members. As of September 1, 2010 St. Agnes has received \$120, 288 from the Faith In Our Future Campaign. With the guidance of the Building & Grounds Committee, bids were solicited for our first project of roof repairs which was budgeted at \$125,000. The entire project came in under budget at \$118,000, so we are able to retain the surplus of \$7,000 for future roof repairs. As monies continue to be distributed from the Archdiocese, we will be allocating funds to the other projects: continuing education; tuition assistance; and a new sound system for Kemp Hall. Thank you all so much for your continued contributions to this valuable program.



The Prayer Box in the lobby which was started by the FIOF campaign leaders continues offering support for those in need.

Parishioners who have questions about how their gifts are being used in the archdiocese can visit a website that is set up for that purpose (<http://trust.faithinourfuture.org>). There is also a website for employer matching gifts (www.faithinourfuture.org/matching.html), should your employer be so prayerfully inclined.

St. Anthony & St. Agnes Cluster Report

Fr. Tim Bickel

As was reported last year, St. Agnes is no longer involved in the five-parish-cluster as in the past. Our efforts have been placed in clustering more closely with St. Anthony Parish, Menomonee Falls. Our parish council and pastoral staff have been actively discerning, dialoguing and meeting regarding the cluster between St. Agnes and St. Anthony. Some of the things we've been dialoguing about are:

- Trends/Opportunities;
- Preferred Organizational Models;
- Structures for Pastoral Leadership;
- Projected Facility Changes/Improvements;
- Ministerial Priorities.

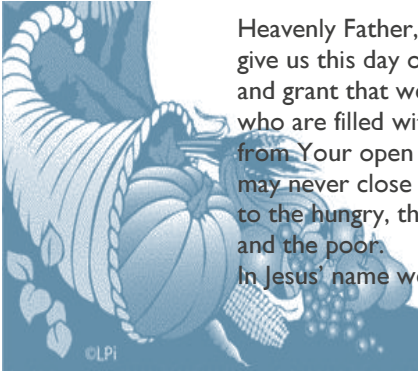
As we discuss these issues with the parish council and staff members of St. Anthony, it is apparent that we have different hopes and visions for our faith communities. We will continue to work with them as we journey into the future and we will keep you posted as information becomes available.

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Our next newsletter deadline is December 10. Please submit any articles you'd like to see in the next newsletter by this date. You may send to Maryrose Wolf in the Parish Office.

Thanksgiving Prayer



Heavenly Father, give us this day our daily bread, and grant that we, who are filled with good things from Your open hand, may never close our hearts to the hungry, the homeless, and the poor. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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