

Jan 1, 2017 Solemnity of Mary
the Holy Mother of God A

THE GIFT OF SOLEMNITY

Introductory Thought The biblical account of Christmas is unique in more ways than one. Where else in human history can we find as remarkable an example of worldwide solidarity? The groups that welcomed Jesus' birth cut across all manner of divisions. Angelic hosts and earthly pilgrims, regal scholars and lowly shepherds, rulers and nobodies, kinsfolk and strangers all rejoiced in his coming. The Incarnation fulfilled the shared dreams of all humankind

Reading I Numbers 6:22-27 Numbers is the fourth book of the Pentateuch. Thirty-nine chapters consist of laws, narratives, and poems that cover Israel's forty years of desert wandering. Special emphasis was given to the beginning and end of this period. The commanding personality of Moses is apparent everywhere in Numbers.

Reading II Galatians 4:4-7 Paul has been treating the subjects of the law, on one hand, and of faith on the other. When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law. This was so that those who had lived under the law might live as children of God

Reading III Luke 2:16-21 From the beginning, the Christian faith has been a world religion. Foreigners from different lands and religions paid homage to the new-born child who was destined to become the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The same outsiders who were welcome at his manger are welcome in his kingdom

CLOSING THOUGHT The greatest threat to our survival as nations and as a species is probably the tribal mentality that builds walls between friends and enemies, between believers and unbelievers. At the deepest levels of our existence we are all united. We are all part of the one family of God. The differences between us are overshadowed and ultimately undermined by the things we share in common. Remember, ultimately we are one in Christ the Lord

Mass Intentions

Mon. Jan. 2nd 8am NO MASS @ St. Agnes
Tues. Jan. 3rd 8am Cecil Millburg @ Holy Family
Wed. Jan. 4th 8am Tom Dethrow @ St. Agnes
Thu. Jan. 5th 8am Lester Brown @ Holy Family
Fri. Jan. 6th NO MASS @ St. Agnes
Saturday January 7th 3:15 Confessions
 4pm Bill Vanzo @ St. Agnes
 6pm Mary Martha Darte @ Holy Family
Sunday January 1st
 8am Marcella White @ Holy Family
 10am Dorothy Millburg @ St. Agnes

Mark your calendar

Thur. Jan. 5th, 9:30am MontgomeryNH Rosary
Mon. Jan. 9th, 9:30am Montgomery NH Mass
 6:30pm Finance Council Meeting @ PC
Thur. Jan 12th, 9:30am MontgomeryNH Com&R
 3pm Tremont Ridge Com.&Rosary
Mon. Jan 16th, 9:30am HillsboroNH Communion
Thur. Jan 19th, 9:30am Montgomery NH Rosary
Thur. Jan 26th, 9:30am MontgomeryNH Com&R
 Please listen to WSMI Radio for any cancellations due to weather or otherwise! Thank You!!!

December 25, 2016 OFFERTORY

Weekend envelopes (123)	\$ 4827.00
Weekend loose	\$ 474.00
Retires Fund for Religious	\$ 160.00
Children's Home	\$ 1808.75
Immaculate Conception	\$ 90.00
Christmas	\$ 2286.00
First Offering	\$ 50.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 10.00
TOTAL	\$ 9705.75
St. Agnes Cemetery	\$ 427.00
St. Johns	\$ 0



Please let us know if someone in



your family is ill or hospitalized and wants to be visited or taken communion by calling 532-5288.



Please leave a detailed message



You are invited to Pray the Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy with us after Monday & Wednesday 8am Masses for the Year of Mercy, Stewardship, Discipleship, and the Future of our parish.

We would like to thank all who has given their time and talent at Saint Agnes this Christmas Season. Thank you for making Christmas here at Saint Agnes possible. God Bless you!

"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for His sheep." (John 10:11) Get to know the Good shepherd Who laid down His life for us. He waits for our visit. Please join us on Wednesday from 3-6pm!

St. Agnes Finance Council Meeting January 9th 6:30pm @ Parish Center.

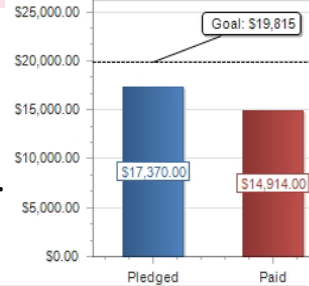
Next weekend there will be a 2nd collection for the Catholic Times Subscription Renewal. Thank you for supporting the Catholic Times!

2017

Father Jim, Deacon Lee and the Staff here at Saint Agnes would like to wish you and yours a Very Blessed, Safe and Peaceful New Year!

Join thousands of Catholics across the nation January 21-29, as we pray for a Culture of Life. Visit www.9daysforlife.com to receive novena prayers by text message, App, email, or on-line. **Trust in the mercy of God's love.** Do you know someone who is carrying the grief and sorrow of past abortions? Share with them the Good News of God's merciful love. Call Project Rachel for a confidential referral to those who can help: 1-877-RACHEL-5. **The following are opportunities to be a public witness for life:** **Sunday, January 15** – March for Life, Chicago. 2:00-4:00 pm, Federal Plaza, 50 W. Adams St, Chicago. For information contact Donna Moore, 217-321-1161. **Sunday, January 22** – 43rd Anniversary of Roe v Wade. Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. **January 27** - National March for Life, Washington, D.C. Diocesan Pilgrimage – Jan 25-29. Contact Kyle Holtgrave for more information, 217-321-1154. **Pray outside the abortion facility in Granite City or Springfield,** or outside the Planned Parenthood in Decatur. Here is a link to Pro-Life Rosary Intentions for use while praying: <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/rosaries/pro-life-rosary-prayer-intentions.cfm>.

If you have not yet taken part in ACSA, Please prayerfully consider your Contribution this year!



Request for Contribution Statement 2016
 Name _____
 Envelope # _____
Please drop in the collection basket and your statement will be mailed the following week. Thank you! Angie

Ministry Schedule January 7th & 8th
Saturday 7th, 4pm Sunday 8th, 10pm

Reader	Anne Huber	Don Clinard
Cantor	Stan McCaslin	Jan Johns
Mass Server	Jeff Knodle	River Smith
Mass Server	Kaleb Knodle	Avery Smith
Eucharist E	Kaitlyn Knodle	Barb Ryan
Eucharist PB	Deacon Lee	Deacon Lee
Eucharist PB	Mary Ann Rapp	Wade Edwards
Usher	Jim Reynolds	Glen Armentrout
Usher	Mike Puckett	Steve Murray
Usher	Leo Murray	Mary Jo Cerny
Usher	Stan Hughes	Denny DalCanton
Hospitality	Delores Hughes	Mike Ryan
Hospitality	Sami Knodle	Mary Brown
Hospitality	Tammy Knodle	Faye Weller

Childrens Liturgy **Ali Luckett**
Ministry Schedules are available at the main entrances of church. Thank you for giving your time and talent at St. Agnes!

University of Dayton Online Learning-Courses for all Catholics: There are only a few more weeks to register for the upcoming January 15th online college level courses through the Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF), a program of the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives at the University of Dayton. These adult religious education and faith formation courses support the Church's catechetical ministry. This means that you can deepen your faith at a time and place convenient to you via the internet. Courses may be taken for undergraduate credit (for an additional fee) and some courses qualify for credit in our diocesan Catechist Formation Process. Registration for the 2017 courses opens Oct. 19, 2016 and closes Jan. 11, 2017. The courses run Jan. 15-Feb. 18, 2017. For more information, visit the VLCFF web site or contact the Office for Catechesis.

YOU Can Help Your Marriage – 25% of surveyed couples say they are "Happily Married". For everyone else there is Retrouvaille. Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with each other? Are you constantly fighting? Or so you simply shut down? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking only make it worse? For information on the Retrouvaille Program, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit the website www.HelpOurMarriage.com. The next Program begins the weekend of FEBRUARY 3, 2017.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Sunday, 01 Jan. 2017 Rules for the journey. As the People of the Hebrews moved from Egypt in their desert passage to the Promised Land, they understood and believed that God alone is the source of blessing. Blessing becomes effective when (1) it is spoken and (2) it is followed by some action confirming the blessing. As we journey in Christian living, as we travel to heaven, our real home, let us be amazed at what we see and hear – just like the Mother of God and the hastening shepherds. Let us sing the refrain of Psalm 67: "May God bless us in his mercy." Then, let us act to confirm it.

- What acts will I resolve to continue in this new year?
- What Christian behavior will I start anew?
- How can I be merciful on this common journey to heaven's home?

The St. Raymond K. of C. Council #4696 will hold their **Annual Fried Chicken Dinner on Sunday, January 8, 2017, in the Raymond K. of C. Hall. Serving will be from 10:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.** The menu includes fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, green beans, salad, bread, assorted desserts, and drink. Adults \$10.00, children 12 & under \$4.00, and pre-school free. Everyone is welcome to attend. There will also be Drive-Thru service and carry-outs available.

To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy, even if it is in the past, individuals are encouraged to call the Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation number (217)321-1155. Individuals may also contact the Illinois Department of Childrens and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-25-ABUSE, or contact your local police authorities.

Saint Agnes

Catholic Church

P.O. Box 98, 214 E. Tremont
 Hillsboro, Illinois 62049

A COMMUNITY OF FAITH

*Gratitude
 Forgiveness
 Healing
 Stewardship
 & Intentional
 Discipleship*

Very Rev. James L. Neuman, V.F., Pastor
 Deacon Leland Johns 532-5288

Char Modla, Pastoral Associate 532-2631
 Angie Mizera, CRE Grade K-10 & Parish Secretary
 Office & Parish House 217-532-5288

**Office hours M-T-W 8:45 to 12:30
 Thursday 8:45 to 4:30**

Parish Center 217-532-2631

Parish Web site: www.stagneshillsboro.com

Diocesan web site: www.dio.org

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. If you have a change of address will you please notify the parish office at 532-5288 or email agnesone_chris@consolidated.net. You can leave a phone message with your new address.

Mass Schedule

Monday & Wednesday 8:00 am

4:00 pm Saturday

10:00 am Sunday

Confessions Saturday 3:15-3:45pm &

By special appointment 532-5288.

Saint Agnes Parish Mission Statement

Saint Agnes is a Roman Catholic community called to be disciples of Jesus and to celebrate our faith in work and sacrament. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the love of God by serving others and proclaiming the Gospel with our Lives.

RCIA: Adults interested in becoming members of the Catholic faith, call the Pastoral Associate Office 532-2631.

BAPTISMS: By appointment only after parents have attended required classes. Parents must be registered and active members of St. Agnes Parish for at least 3 months.

FUNERALS: Arrangements are to be made directly through the funeral home. Funeral liturgies are at 10:00 am.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm., or by appointment. Consult the bulletin.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Contact the Priest of the parish, 532-5288.

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND: Contact Pastoral Associate Office at 532-2631.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance. **REGISTRATION AND ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AT ST. AGNES REQUIRED,** plus attendance at a pre-cana conference. No weddings to begin later than 2:00 pm on Saturday.