

St. Agnes Catholic Church

Terrier & Cherry Rd. Intersection, Sarcoxie, MO

Dec. 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent

1870

St. Agnes Catholic Church
P. O. Box 218
Pierce City, MO 65723
Office: 476-2827
email: stagnessp@gmail.com
View Bulletin on line: www.stmaryspcmo.com

Pastor: Fr. Matthew Rehrauer 476-2827
PCP:
Office Mgr: Laura Wrobleski 737-1404
DRE: Jane Kutz 438-9805

MASSES FOR DEC 22 – DEC 29

Saint Agnes

Sunday	10:30 a.m.	+Bernice Wagner
Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	No Mass
Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	Mass for the Parish Family
Thursday	8:30 a.m.	No Mass
Sunday	10:30 a.m.	+Loretta Bartkoski

St. Mary's

Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion
Tuesday	5:00 p.m.	
Wed.	Midnight	
Fri	No Mass	
Sat	4:00 p.m.	
Sun.	8:30 a.m.	

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Sunday, December 22	Advent Penance Service at Sarcoxie at 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 24	Christmas Eve Mass at St. Mary's at 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 25	Christmas Mass at 10:30 a.m.
Thursday, December 26	No Mass
Friday, December 27	Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
Saturday, December 28	Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Sunday, December 29	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday, December 31	New Year's Eve Vigil Mass at St Mary's at 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 1	New Year's Day Mass St. Agnes at 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, January 2	Memorial of Saints Basil the Great, & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors
Saturday, January 4	Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

YOUR GIFT TO THE CHURCH: \$987.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Extra Ordinary Min.</u>	<u>Gift Bearers & Ushers</u>
<u>Dec. 22</u>	Jane Kutz	Isaac Chorum	Mark Adamson John Heidlage Charlotte Pickering	Ron Wagner & Steve Schmitt
<u>Dec. 25</u>	Kathy Eck	Elsie Chorum	Doug Pickering Patrick Wolfe Cheryl (K) Elbert	Dennis Heidlage & Paul Heidlage

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Margie Mettlach, Marie Jasumback, Jim and Veda Perrin, Marion Tomlinson Williams, Monta Heidlage, Rosemary Boes, Father Peter Morciniec, Brenda (Wrobleski) Buchannon, Maura Sparks, Bernadine Adamson and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PARISHONERS WITH YOUR PRAYERS AND A CARD DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Father Peer Morciniec	Jim & Veda Perrin	Marie Jasumback	Rosemary Boes	Rosella Curtis
Lacoba Nursing Home	3078 County Rd. 30	3827 S. Summit Ridge Dr.	115 Village Road	1608 S. Fort Ave
850 US Hwy 60	Sarcoxie, MO 64862	Independence, MO 64055	Neosho, MO 64850	Springfield, MO 65807
Monett, MO 65708				

Dorothy Katzfey	Paul & Margie Mettlach	Delores Nimsick
2440 Unicorn Rd	28066 Aspen Rd	2863 Vixen Rd
Sarcoxie, MO 64862	Sarcoxie, MO 64862	Sarcoxie, MO 4862

MERRY CHRISTMAS

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

We are advertising for a new teacher for 7 th and 8 th grades for next school year. This could be a part-time or full-time position depending on the candidate. Full-Time candidates will be expected to teach science (5 th -8 th), social studies (7 th -8 th), English/ language arts (7 th -8 th), and religion. Part-time candidates will be expected to teach English/ language arts (7 th -8 th) and religion (7 th -8 th). Other arrangements could be made for the right candidate. Candidates for this position should exemplify Christian values, be self-motivated, a team-player, and be able to take direction when needed. Please see Mrs. Salsman for details. We will be accepting applications at the St. Mary's School office. I pray that everyone has a safe and happy Christmas season. We will return to school on Tuesday January 6 th , 2025.

Good News Reflection

4th Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

Pray: Trusting my life into Your hands, Lord, I will walk marvelous paths I never imagined. Amen.

Year C

Mi 5:1-4a

Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 (4)

Heb 10:5-10

Lk 1:39-45

The Joy of Recognizing Jesus

The final Sunday of Advent shows Elizabeth and her unborn son, John, reacting to the nearness of the unborn Christ. We know that Elizabeth immediately understood that Mary was pregnant with the Lord, because the Gospel says she was filled with the Holy Spirit. But how could the fetal John understand? How could he leap for joy while still in the womb?

If it's true that an unborn baby is not a person with a soul until it takes its first breath, as is claimed by many who believe that abortion is okay, how could the unborn John recognize the presence of the unborn Savior?

The faith to recognize the presence of Christ – in the womb of people's lives, in the Eucharist, in the humanity of unborn children, etc. – comes from being fully alive in the Holy Spirit, who was given to us fully during our baptisms. However, it takes a humble willingness to let God change our minds about what we think is true in order to be open to God's Spirit teaching us what is indeed true.

John as a fetus was incapable of understanding anything, especially when it happened outside the womb, yet he leapt for joy. This teaches us that we don't need to see God working in the world or solving our personal problems before we can leap for joy. We don't have to understand what God is doing, and we don't even have to know his plans.

The Holy Spirit enlivened the faith of Elizabeth and John through an act of grace that depended on Christ's future activity. For us, our faith is enlivened by the grace God provides in the Sacraments.

The joy that comes from recognizing the presence of Christ is God's Christmas gift to us. It's a joy that's meant to last all year. It's a lifestyle, not a holiday. It comes from a faith that appreciates God for working mercifully in ways that we can see and ways that we cannot see, because we trust in his goodness. Even when we suffer or feel sorrow, we can learn to recognize the presence of Christ.