

St. Agnes Catholic Church

Terrier & Cherry Rd. Intersection, Sarcoxie, MO

March 23, Third Sunday of Lent 1870

St. Agnes Catholic Church
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MASSES FOR MARCH 23 – MARCH 30

Saint Agnes

Sunday 10:30 a.m. +Loretta Bartkoski
Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Justice & Peace
Thursday 8:30 a.m. +Poor Souls in Purgatory
Sunday 10:30 a.m. +Robert Campbell Birthday Remembrance

St. Mary's

Monday 8:15 a.m. Rosary & Communion
Wed 8:15 a.m. Mass
Fri. 8:15 a.m. Mass
Sat 4:00 p.m. Mass
Sun. 8:30 a.m. Mass

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Sunday, March 23
Tuesday, Mar. 25

Friday, March 28

Lenten Penance Service at Billings at 4:00 p.m.

PCCW meeting after 6pm Mass. Games: Kathy Heidlage, Marilyn Henderson, Jessica Wagner, Tricia Heidlage Refreshments: Brenda Schmitt, Jane Kutz, Leah Heidlage

Stations of the Cross lead by Father Matt at 7:00 p.m.

Day of Abstinence

Fish Fry at St. Mary's 5-7 p.m. Adults \$10 Kids 5 (ages 6-12) 5 & under Free. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday, April 3

Stations of the Cross lead by a volunteer at 8:00 a.m.

Day of Abstinence

Fish Fry at St. Mary's 5-7 p.m. Adults \$10 Kids 5 (ages 6-12) 5 & under Free. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Lenten Penance Service at St. Mary's at 5:30 p.m.

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Stations of the Cross led by Father Matt at 7:00 p.m.

Day of Abstinence

Fish Fry at St. Mary's 5-7 p.m. Adults \$10 Kids 5 (ages 6-12) 5 & under Free. Sponsored by St. Mary's Home & School

Sunday, April 6

Thursday, April 10

Friday, April 11

YOUR GIFT TO THE CHURCH: \$

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Extra Ordinary Min.</u>	<u>Gift Bearers & Ushers</u>
March 23	Kimberly Prince	Sterling Elbert	Dennis Heidlage Leah Heidlage Maria Wagner	Cheryl (K) Elbert & Jane Kutz
March 30	Cheryl (K) Elbert	Sarah Elbert	Kimberly Prince Eric Prince Jane Kutz	Mark Adamson & Jared Campbell

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

ROSARY: weekly before the Sunday mass. Please come early and join in.

MARCH BIRTHDAY REMEMBERENCES: Bernadine Adamson, Mark Adamson, Levi Chorum, Cheryl (R) Elbert, Kevin Feather, Sally Heidlage, Tricia Heidlage, Steven Schmitt, Janice Sommer, Kylin Wagner & Hunter Williams.

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

Preschool and pre-k registration has begun for parishioners and current preschool students and goes through Feb. 26th and then it opens to surrounding parishes as well. March 15th will open general registration for any other available spots that are still open. There is a \$100 non-refundable deposit that holds your child's spot. Please come to the office for registration forms. Make up days from our snow absences will be April 21, and May 19.

****HELP WANTED****

St. Mary's is in need of a school cafeteria cook for next school year. Please call Shelly at the church office at 476-2827 or Susan Salsman at 476-2824. Hours are from 8-2 Tuesday-Friday. We will also be looking for cafeteria volunteers to help as well. VIRTUS training is required. Additionally, we will need some help next year in first and second grade to assist during class and teach religion. This is a part-time position on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8-11. We need a Catholic for this position as it will involve instruction for first communion. This is a paid or volunteer position. P.E. is needing a new teacher for next year as well. This position is only one day a week from 12-3pm. This is a volunteer position. Anyone wanting to help would need to undergo Virtus Child Safety training online. April 11- Home and School Fish Fry- Home and School will be hosting the final fish fry of the year on April 11. If you want to help, I will be sending out a remind a little closer to the event once we see when and where we need people. If this is your Home and School circle, your circle leader will be contacting you to put you on the work list. Please remember that Home and School does a lot of work for the school. We need help from everyone to make these events and fundraisers work. The funds raised go to help all of the students and teachers at St. Mary's.

We need help prepping, cooking, and serving. We have two work shifts available: 4:30-6:15 and 6:15-8:00. Please call or text Brittany Washam at 737-2009 to sign up.

Good News Reflection for
3rd Sunday of Lent
March 23, 2025

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15
Ps 103: 1-4, 6-8, 11
1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12
Luke 13:1-9



Mercy: How it helps evil-doers How do you feel when someone who's been hurtful, cruel or morally corrupt gets hit with a hardship that makes them suffer? Our natural tendency is to rejoice because justice has finally been meted out.

Jesus addresses this in this Sunday's Gospel reading. He wants us to understand that we cannot truthfully say that someone is a "greater sinner", even if that person is doing more damage than anyone else, is more unChristian than we are, or is blatantly an evil-doer.

Every person has been created in the image of God, even the worst ones. Those who display an opposite image are nonetheless loved by Jesus Christ, who died for them. It's a tragedy that they do not live as the person God created them to be, because this harms others. But it will be an even worse tragedy if no one invites them to turn their lives over to Christ by loving them as he loves them.

No person is an evil person. Evil-doers are children of God living in ignorance of their true identity. They are victims of evil and were seduced by it into believing that it's the best way to live. They don't understand that they can be healed by the Sinless One who conquered evil for their redemption. We should feel sorry for them — this is the gift of mercy. We should mourn with Jesus for the tragedy that continues within their souls — this is the most precious gift of mercy.

When we don't care enough to grieve over a person's inner destruction, we are sinning. We are disregarding what Jesus did for them on the cross. We are damaging our own souls.

All those who have sinned against you are like the fig tree in Jesus' parable. If you have access to them, he wants you to till their soil. He wants you to fertilize their souls with love and with the truth of the Gospel as taught by your actions and, when they're ready, by your words. He wants you to give them a gentle but obvious invitation to grow in the right direction.

Notice that Jesus doesn't want us to keep a diseased, disintegrating tree in the garden forever. After (and only after) we have done everything possible, if the evil-doer does not want to change, the best care we can give to the garden is to cut down the tree. This means walking away or calling in the authorities for intervention and letting the sinner reap what he sows. This, too, is very loving. When fertilizer won't produce good fruits, a fallen tree becomes mulch and enriches the ground for a new beginning.

Questions for Personal Reflection:

Who has been so hurtful to you that you wish God would punish them? Can you feel sorry for them? Can you pray for God to do good for them? If not, take this to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and ask for God's help in feeling more concerned about them. In this, you'll find freedom from the anger and pain that has been holding you captive.