



ST. AGNES CATHOLIC CHURCH

& ST. JOHN PAUL II MISSION



CALLLED INTO RELATIONSHIP BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AND CENTERED IN THE EUCHARIST,
ST. AGNES PARISH PROCLAIMS AND WITNESSES TO ALL, THE LOVE AND GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST.

Pastoral Staff/Equipo Pastoral

Very Rev. Robert J. Kantor V.F.

Rev. Binu Joseph

Rev. Alan Baldarelli

Rev. Alejandro Giraldo Roldán (Hispanic Ministry)

Deacon Roberto Landrón (Hispanic Ministry)

Deacon Hugh Muller • Deacon Dick Surrusco

Deacon Mark Osterhaus • Deacon Rich Dahn

Parish Office/Oficina Parroquial

Office Hours/Horario de Oficina

Mon – Fri/Lun a Vie: **9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

The Parish Office is located in the Parish Center

7775 Vanderbilt Beach Rd. Naples, FL 34120

Tel: 239-592-1949 **Fax:** 239-354-4462

E-Mail: info@stagnesnaples.org

Mass Times/Horarios de Misa

Masses in red are live streamed /

Misas en rojo se transmiten en vivo

Sat/Sab: **4 p.m.**

Sun/Dom 7:30 a.m., **9 a.m.** 10 a.m. at PRHS & 11 a.m.,

1 p.m. Español, 5 p.m.

Monday - Saturday/Lun - Sab: 8:30 a.m.

Holy Days/Días Festivos

8:30 a.m., Noon & 7 p.m. (Bilingual)

Sacrament of Reconciliation/ Sacramento de la Reconciliación

Saturday 9-10 a.m. or by appointment

Sábado de 9 a 10 a.m. o con cita al 592-1949

También media hora antes de la Misa de la 1 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration - Prayer Chapel Adoración Eucarística - Capilla de Oración

Mon – Fri / Lun a Vier 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

(Access from 4 p.m. – 8 a.m. requires a code /

Se requiere código de acceso de 4 p.m. a 8 a.m.)

DECEMBER 7, 2025

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The second Sunday of Lent always gives us an account of the transfiguration. Jesus asked Peter, James and John to go with him to the mountain top. While they were there, Jesus was transfigured and became dazzling white before them. Along with Jesus stood Moses and Elijah. The voice of God announced that Jesus was his son and that all should listen to him. The disciples were frightened, but Jesus calmed them. When Peter, James and John looked up, Jesus was the only one left . . . the one to whom we need to listen. Consider your community, family, relatives, and people at work or school. Who is struggling right now because of a recent change? How is this change darkening their world? Once you have identified the person (or people) and their situation, think of one way as a family you can be a light to them. Our action is our response to listening to Jesus.



Parish Contacts**Pastor**

Very Rev. Robert J. Kantor

Parochial Vicars

Rev. Binu Joseph

Rev. Alan Baldarelli

Rev. Alejandro Roldán (Hispanic Ministry)

Deacons

Roberto Landrón (Hispanic Ministry)

Hugh Muller

Dick Surrusco

Mark Osterhaus

Rich Dahn

Business Manager

Jeffrey Vespo

Office Coordinator

Rosa Elena Martínez

Receptionist

Laura Arias

Music Director

Rich Dittus

Stewardship Coordinator

Gloria Carter

Faith Formation Director

Rose Chambers

Coordinator of Multigenerational Catechesis

Robert Massey

Admin. Assist. to Faith Formation

Daisy Ramirez

Tyler Michelle Olive

Bookkeeper

Sullivan O'Malley

Administrative Assistant to the Pastor

Barbara Pikal

Admin. Assist. To Hispanic Ministry

Luz Galeano

Sacristan

Monica Osterhaus

Maintenance

Larry Biela

Sacrament of Baptism/Sacramento del Bautismo

Baptisms are held on Sundays after the 11 a.m. Mass.

Call the Parish Office for more information.

Para información en español sobre el Bautismo, favor llamar a la oficina o escribir a: luz@stagnesnaples.org

Sacrament of Marriage/Sacramento del Matrimonio

Arrangements with a priest should be made at least six months in advance.

At least one of the parties must be registered at St. Agnes and attending Mass for at least three months.

Se debe hacer una cita con el Padre Alejandro para el curso

Pre-matrimonial por lo menos 6 meses antes de la fecha de Boda.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults/Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos

New groups begin each fall. Please call the Parish Office for information /

Nuevos grupos comienzan en otoño. Llame a la oficina parroquial.

Communion for the Sick/Comunión para los Enfermos

Call the Parish Office to arrange a visit with a Priest or an Extraordinary Minister.

Llame a la oficina para coordinar una visita con un sacerdote o un Misnistro Extraordinario.

WELCOME, NEW PARISHIONERS

Registration forms can be found in the parish office and on our website, stagnesnaples.org. Completed forms may be hand delivered, placed in our drop box, mailed, emailed or faxed. Thank you for becoming part of our Parish Family.

God bless.

BIENVENIDOS, NUEVOS FELIGRESES

Los formularios de inscripción se pueden encontrar en la oficina parroquial y en nuestro sitio web:

stagnesnaples.org. Los formularios pueden entregarse personalmente, colocarse en nuestro buzón, enviarse por correo, correo electrónico o fax. Gracias por formar parte de nuestra Familia Parroquial.

Dios los bendiga.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS
FOR THE WEEK****DECEMBER 8 - 14****Monday, December 8**

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4;
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday, December 9

Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12,
13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday, December 10

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10;
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, December 11

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11,
12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday, December 12

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or
Lk 1:39-47

Saturday, December 13

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b,
15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday, December 14

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
(see Is 35:4); Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

DECEMBER 2025			MEETING PLACES YR=Youth Room NX=Narthex PC=Parish Center CH=Church PR=Prayer Chapel		CP=Chapel CR=Conference Room PL=Parking Lot CL=Classroom CY=Canopy BR=Bride's Room	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 Masses 7:30am, 9am, 10am PRHS, 11am, (Children's Liturgy of the Word) 1pm Spanish, 5pm 10am OCIA - Adults & Children (PC Hall, YR & CR) 2pm First Communion - Yr 2 (PC) 6pm HS Youth Group (PC) 	8 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 12pm Mass (CH) 7pm Mass - Bilingual (CH) <i>Observance of</i> <i>Immaculate</i> <i>Conception</i> <i>Parish Office</i> <i>Closed</i>	9 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 9am St. VdP Mtg. (CL #5) 7pm Paul Todd Con- cert (PC Hall)  7pm Charismatic Prayer Group (CP) 7pm Caridad (CL #3) 7pm Estudio Bíblico (CL #1)	10 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 9am Ladies of St. Agnes (CL #1) 7pm Paul Todd Concert (PC Hall)  6:30pm Hombres de Emaús (CP) 6:30pm Choir Practice (CH)  7pm Spanish Book Club (CL #1)	11 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 9:30am Pray for Priests (PR) 6:30pm MS Youth Group (PC)  7pm Coro (CP)  7:30pm Lectores (CP)	12 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 9:30am Bible Study (PC Hall) 	13 6:45am TMiY (CL #1) 8:30am Mass (CP) 9-10am Confessions (CP) 9am Oración Centrante (Cry Room) 10:15am Children's Choir (CP)  11am Columbiettes & K of C Spiritual Retreat (PC Hall) 4pm Mass (CH) 7pm Movimiento de Familias (PC Hall, CL #1, #5, YR)
14 Masses 7:30am, 9am, 10am PRHS, 11am, (Children's Liturgy of the Word) 1pm Spanish, 5pm K of C Breakfast after 7:30am & 9:00am Masses 9:15am Breaking open Scriptures (PC Hall, CL #1) 6pm HS Youth Group (PC) 	15 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 7pm Sisters in Spirit (YR) 	16 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 9am Breakfast with Fr. Bob (PC Hall) 9:30am The Gospel of Matthew - Fr. Boyer (PC Hall) 5pm Advent Penance Service (CH) 6:30pm COR (CL #1) 7pm Charismatic Prayer Group (CP) 7pm Estudio Bíblico (CL #1)	17 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 9am Ladies of St. Agnes (CL #1) 6pm Living Nativity Practice (PC Hall) 6:30pm Hombres de Emaús (CP) 6:30pm Choir Practice (CH)  7pm Spanish Book Club (CL #1)	18 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 9:30am Pray for Priests (PR) 6:30pm MS Youth Group (PC)  7pm Mujeres de Emaús (CP)	19 8:30am Mass (CP) 7:45am Rosary (CP) 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet (CP) 9am-4pm Adoration (Code required after 4pm) (PR) 9:30am Bible Study (CL #1) 	20 8:30am Mass (CP) 9-10am Confessions (CP) 9am Oración Centrante (Cry Room) 10:15am Children's Choir (CP) 4pm Mass (CH) 5:15am Live Nativity (PC Hall) 

Masses noted in red will be livestreamed on our website, www.stagnesnaples.org, on Facebook and on our parish app.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**A Holy Day of Obligation****MONDAY, DECEMBER 8**

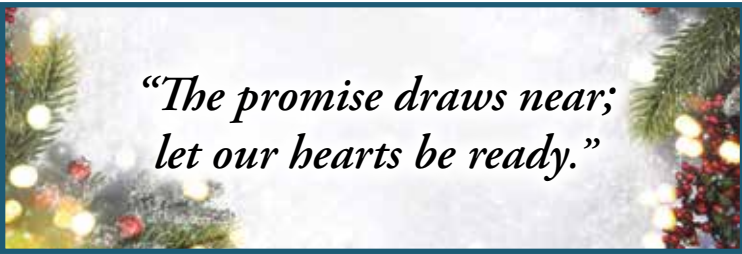
Mass times: 8:30, Noon and 7 p.m. Bilingual

Parish Office is Closed**MEMORIAL MASS****SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT 8:30AM**

Marlene Duggan, Miranda Foti, Judith Grant
 Thomas Gregory Broderick, Dr. Crisologo
 L. Padilla, Andrew Raucci, Diego Silva,
 John Esemplare, Lou Casale, Kathleen Shiner,
 Walter Ahern, Thomas Dempsey, Kathie Doerr
 Elizabeth A. Perkins, James Russel
 Fabiana Monique Rivera-Muniz, Gerald Justin,
 Fernanda Martinez, RoseMarie Auletto
 Dr. Eduardo Arciniegas, Frank Moran
 Fred A. Lourenso, Lucille Metz
 Edward Hendrickson, Douglas W. Duba

ST. AGNES MASS*at Palmetto Ridge High School***SUNDAYS AT 10AM****Now through April 26***Includes Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)***GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR NEXT SUNDAY****The Third Sunday of Advent***Matthew 11: 2-22*

I cannot count the times people have come to me troubled by doubts. I have begun to believe that doubt is really healthy evidence that there is reflection and searching going on. That's better than just sliding along without any wonder or pushing the limits of faith. In this season we hear about others who have had doubts. Zechariah is one of them right at the beginning of the New Testament. Then there is Joseph who didn't just leap into faith and trust the news about Mary. Perhaps the greatest doubter is at the center of next week's Gospel. John sits in Harrod's prison wondering why his cousin from Nazareth does not come to get him out sending his disciples with that question: "Are you the one?" His doubt springs from the fact that too often our expectation of how God should behave does not match the way God really does behave. John wanted an unquenchable fire, power and punishment. What he got back was a quote from Isaiah 35 which he probably knew by heart. If there is a conflict between our expectations and God's work in this world, we must look to Jesus as John did. If we want to know where God is, start with those who are serving the blind the lame, the outcast and poor. Look at advocates for a just wage, affordable housing and compassion. Jesus is always found where there is healing, uniting, and encouraging.

-Fr. Tom Boyer


*"The promise draws near;
let our hearts be ready."*

PRAY FOR PEACE AND SAFETY:

If you have a family member serving overseas, please let us know. We will publish their names in the bulletin to remind everyone to ask God's blessings on them, that they may return safely to their families. Let us join our prayers for peace and safety with yours. Also, please let us know when they return home safely so that we may rejoice with you.

SPC Peter Holder
 PFC Scott Norris, USMC
 PFC Michael Baker
 A1C Michael Melicia, USAF
 Francisco Chavez, USAF
 SSG David Clark, USA
 BM2(SW) Charley Davidson USN
 PFC Zack Steelman
 PFB J. Hunter Judd, USMC
 Peter David Quiles USA
 Cpl. Brandon J. Labrada, USMC

SPC Michael Broderick
 A1C Daniel R. Hamde, USAF
 CDR Gregory Meyer
 SGT David Clark
 MSgt. Eric Gunn
 PO3 Kimberly Wagner, US
 Jordan M. Perez
 PFC Luke Kerney Kuser
 SPC Felipe Garcia, USA
 Brittany Quiles USA
 Sgt. Ian Corbett, U.S.A.

Capt. Dominic Francis Adams
 Spec. Reynaldo Rodriguez USA
 SGT Abbi Wenthold
 A1C Peter Johnson, USAF
 SPC Jorge Armando Nino
 Vince Galer, USMC
 Capt. Francisco Miranda, USA
 Sgt. Daniel Sheran, USMC
 Cpt. Andrew Perham
 Sgt. Alejandro Jimenez USA
 LCpl Bradley Imbus USMC

1st Lt. Chuck Conway, USAF
 SGT Ryan Byres
 John Francis DelBonis, USA
 PFC Michael Rodriguez, USMC
 SGT Victor Quiles, USA
 2Lt. Sean Kealy, USA
 Pvt. Joseph F. Trabbic, U.S.A.
 SSG Andrew White
 2nd Lieutenant Matthew Perham
 Cpl. Brian D. Labrada, USMC
 Sgt Ivan Toruno US Army



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**First Reading:** Isa 2:5**Second Reading:** Isa 11:2**Gospel:** Mt 3:11**Adults:** What do you need to change so that others can learn from watching you that Christ Jesus walks among us?

¿Qué necesitas cambiar para que otros puedan aprender al observarte que Cristo Jesús camina entre nosotros?

Children: What could you do so that others will see in you what it means to follow Jesus?

¿Qué podrías hacer para que los demás vean en ti lo que significa seguir a Jesús?

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday	December 6	Requested by:
8:30 a.m.	+Lucy Przybyloski	Alanna & John Burns
4:00 p.m.	+Margaret & George Coombs	Mary & George Coombs
Sunday	December 7	
7:30 a.m.	Our Parish Family	
9:00 a.m.	+Raymond Glowacki	Marie & John Glowacki
PRHS 10 a.m.	Rose Pici	Ron & Valerie Weilmuenster
11:00 a.m.	+Michael A. Davis	Patricia Davis
1:00 p.m.	Los miembros fallecidos de la familia Orozco, Hernandez y Franco Arbelaes	Martha Orozco Franco
5:00 p.m.	+Andy DiBattista	Linda & Don Gambatesa
Monday	December 8	
8:30a.m.	+Leokadia & Stanislaw Zapala	Dzieza Family
Noon	+Semaan Semaan	Christiane Semaan & Family
7:00 p.m.	Our Parish Family	
Tuesday	December 9	
8:30 a.m.	+Heather Aragno Brown	Thomas & Betsy Aragno
Wednesday	December 10	
8:30 a.m.	Deceased members of the Bialkowski Family	Dorota & Miroslaw Bialkowski
Thursday	December 11	
8:30 a.m.	+Concetta Mortillaro	The Columbiettes
Friday	December 12	
8:30 a.m.	+John Goodrow	Sabol Family
Saturday	December 13	
8:30 a.m.	St. Agnes Memorial Mass	
4:00 p.m.	+Janet & Ellen Stanley	Bruce & Diane Stanley
Sunday	December 14	
7:30 a.m.	+Theresa & Nicholas Pappadakis	John & Josette Pappadakis
9:00 a.m.	Our Parish Family	
PRHS 10 a.m.	+Frances Yuvienco Hilado	Emma Go
11:00 a.m.	+Sebastian Mejia	Lucia Bethes
1:00 p.m.	+Nanita Quijano de Martinez	Rafael Martinez, hijos y nietos
5:00 p.m.	+James & Mary Short	Corinne Riccardi

The Masses will also be live streamed*PRIEST SCHEDULE** *subject to change*

Saturday	December 6	Saturday	December 13
4:00 p.m.*	Fr. Binu	4:00 p.m.*	Fr. Alan
Sunday	December 7	Sunday	December 14
7:30 a.m.	Fr. Orsi	7:30 a.m.	Fr. Binu
9:00 a.m.*	Fr. Bob	9:00 a.m.*	Fr. Alan
PRHS 10 a.m.	Fr. Alan	PRHS 10 a.m.	Fr. Binu
11:00 a.m.	Fr. Binu	11:00 a.m.	Fr. Alejandro
1:00 p.m.*	Fr. Alejandro	1:00 p.m.*	Fr. Alejandro
5:00 p.m.	Fr. Bob	5:00 p.m.	Fr. Bob

**WINE AND HOSTS**
In Honor of Our Parish Family*We pray for:*

Carl Tegtmeier	Janice DeSalvo	Jack Griffin
Pam Sharlock	Augusta Lombardi	Mary Lee Martin
Angel Ortiz, Jr.	Barbara Sowa	Sam Farris
Mary Shachok	Victoria Donlon	Peggy McCarthy
Joseph Fedoryk	Mia Tristan	Tricia Monahan
Francis Pignone	Pamela Calvani	Laura Suleta
Nancy Pignone	Beatriz Cano	Jaemi Rice
Owen Pignone	Jessica Camarero	Margie Alley
Michelle Castellucci	Eileen Walsh	Ismael Perez
Jaqueline Solarski	Joseph Walsh	Paula Laguna
Matthew Solarski	John Mills	Bill Fulton
Sam Solarski	Jennifer Craig	Ken Gross
Irene Ramos	Sue Merrill	Driscoll Drew
Eileen Bode	Rene Mandujano	Richard Limbach
John A. Michaud	Virginia Rojas	Joan Lowe
Joseph Damone	Nancy Geikie	Frank Carillo
Jennifer Craig	Pamela Calvani	Trishia Mortell
Lorraine Marino	Wendy C. Lager	Christine D'Angelo
John Knapp	Timothy Miller	Kevin Pignone
Dixie Dion	Robert Twomey	Kathy Burke
Liz Bammerlin	Carol Griffin	Carlos Graniso
Daphne Quezada	Linda Clifford	Don Getrost
Cassie Puffenberger	Robert J Deteso	Rose Getrost
Kim Wilt	Joann Slawson	Joanne Nigro
Lucille Netz	Karen Haupt	Angelica B. Sheahan
Kathryn Shapiro	Fran Poston	Ditka Shiman
Tim Miller	Karelys Ng	Judy Fenton
Holly Michalke	Megan Shramovich	Antoinette Knapp
Fr. Corey Piccinino	John McKeon	Michelle Dawson
Bertha Pineda	Ann McKeon	Wendy Rose
Rhonda Dillon	Bill Santillo	Victor Donat
Eileen Matia	Carla Carelli	Kathleen Seling
Pat Conway	John F. Maul	Thomas Golian
Bob Deteso	Ron Oliver	Joe Jaeger
Stephen Kapish	Michael Panzano	Tina Norgard
Kevin Dempsey	Stephan Santalis	Robert Bennett
Nichole Dempsey	John F. Maul	Robert Pash
Artie Flynn	Gene Gavin	Cynthia Stachowski
Jeanne Flynn	Stephan Santalis	John Webster
Susan King	Carolyn Webb	Patricia Webster
Roseanne Liguori	James Webb	Molly Coulter
Ann Marie Moriety	Jesus Emiliano Flores	Trish Webster
Frank Scandale	Liz Giglio	Mary Condon Rohr
Daniel Angelo	Laurie Mussoline	Christine Harding
Vitorio DiBenedetto	Eleanor Furlong	Juan Castro
Jimmy Harper	Carrie Griffin	Nicole Maenza

Names will remain on the prayer list for approximately 4-6 weeks, as space allows. To update, notify the Parish Office by calling 592-1949 or e-mail rosaelena@stagnesnaples.org.

Thank You.

Stewardship in Action at St. Agnes

Parish Groups and Ministries



**For Questions about these groups and Ministries
Please call the Parish Office 239.592.1949**

Prayer

Eucharistic Adoration	adoration@stagnesnaples.org
Charismatic Prayer Group	Steve Csotty
Consecration To Jesus Through Mary	Call the Office
Divine Mercy Chaplet	Call the Office
Consagración a Jesús por María	Maria J. Coglionesse
Grupo del Rosario	Nancy Meira
Hombres de Emaús	Marco Piedra
Mujeres de Emaús	Ayda Restrepo
Morning Rosary	Call the Office
Oración Centrante	Virginia Cortes
Padres y Madres Orantes	Ruben Guerra
Parish Vocation Team	Tom Thomas
Prayer for Priests	Call the Office
Welcome Retreats	Deacon Hugh Muller

Contact

Catechetical

Baptism Preparation
Bible Study
Catechist-Teachers-Aides
Catholic Thinkers-Men's Group
Children's Lit of the Word
Estudio Bíblico
Family Faith Formation K-5
Enriquecimiento Matrimonial
Marriage Preparation Coord.
OCIA
Sisters in Spirit
Young Adults Ministry (Age 18-35)
Youth Groups

Contact

Call the Office
Call Faith Formation
Rose Chambers
Call the Office
Michael & Marianne Shahla
Gladys Gómez
Rose Chambers
Mayra y Julio de Armas
Laurie Drouillard
Rose Chambers
Daisy Ramirez
Robert Massey
Robert Massey

Service

Arimatheans	Betty Criss
Altar Stewards	Call the Office
Bereavement	Mary Ann Okner
Personas en Duelo	Nile Costa
Caridad	Zulma Barberi
Catholics for Cuba	Estela Delgado
Childcare Ministry	Rose Chambers
Funeral Planning	Rosemary Panzano
Funerales	Dcn. Roberto Landrón
Hospitality	Call the Office
Jesus the Worker	Call the Office
Ladies of St. Agnes	Susan Stencil
Coffee & Donuts	John Gardner
Ministerio de Familias	Analys Perez
Respect Life	Jan Moore
Seasonal Decorating	Monica Osterhaus
St. Agnes Senior Singles	Call the Office

Contact

Liturgical

Altar Servers - Children
Altar Servers - Spanish
Altar Servers Adults
Bodas
Choir (Adults)
Choir (Children)
Coro
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
Greeters
Homebound and Hospital EME
Lectors
Lectores
Ministros Extraordinarios de la Eucaristia
Sacristans
Sacristán
Sonidos y Pantallas
Sound and Screen
Ushers
Ujieres

Contact

Kathy Madura
Francisco Ramírez
Ralph Webster
Call the Office
Call the Office
Call the Office
Robert Vélez
Vincent Petrosini
Denny Gant
Judy Bohardt
Rita Volmer
Wendy Álvarez
Elvis Vacares
Monica Osterhaus
Margarita Castillo
Ricardo Cardett
Dan Anderson
Tina Kaatz
José Eduardo Carias

Parish Councils and Committees

Arts & Liturgical Environment	Call the Office
Eventos	Marta Velasco
Events	Call the Office
Finance Council	Call the Office
Justice and Peace Committee	Diane Stanley
Liturgy Committee	Call the Office
Mayordomía Cristiana (PAC)	Dcn. Roberto Landrón
Pastoral Council	Call the Office
Stewardship Committee	Stewardship Committee

Organizations with Parish Affiliation

Boy Scouts Troop 951	Robert Dorritie
Casa Maria Soup Kitchen	Call the Office
Columbiettes of St. Agnes 14202	Jan Christopher
Cub Scouts	Jennifer Bronsted
Impacto	Mariela y Milton Carias
Knights of Columbus Council 14202	Mark Crain
4th Degree Assembly 3094	Bobby Drouin
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	John Goddard

Joy Remains

What we have to start sensing is that in the spiritual life, joy is embracing sorrow and happiness, pain and pleasure. It is deeper, fuller. It is more. It is something that remains with us. It is something of God that is very profound. It is something we can experience even when we are in touch with very painful things in our lives. If there is anything the church wants to teach us it is that the joy of God can be with us always – in moments of sickness, in moments of health, in moments of success, in moments of failure, in moments of birth, in moments of death. The joy of God is never going to leave us.

Henri Nouwen



STEWARDSHIP

“Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet but yours.”

— St. Teresa of Avila

ST. AGNES CATHOLIC CHURCH

BEING A GOOD STEWARD DURING ADVENT

Advent and Christmas are seasons that invite us to live as faithful stewards of God's gifts. Stewardship means recognizing that everything we have—and everything we are—is a gift from God, entrusted to us for His glory. Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation for the coming of Christ, the greatest gift of all. Christmas is a time of celebration and gratitude for God's love and grace revealed in Jesus Christ. Both seasons call us to reflect on how we can share God's gifts generously and responsibly.

Practical Ways to Practice Stewardship During Advent

- **Prioritize Meaning Over Materialism:** Spend less on material things and more on meaningful experiences and relationships that strengthen bonds and bring joy.
- **Give Thoughtful Gifts:** Consider handmade or homemade gifts that express creativity, care, and personal connection.
- **Engage in Worship:** Attend worship regularly and participate in the liturgy and sacraments to deepen your spiritual life.
- **Cultivate Gratitude and Prayer:** Pray for God's guidance and blessing in your life and the world. Give thanks for your family, friends, church community, and co-workers. Begin small acts of gratitude—such as writing a note of appreciation or offering words of encouragement.
- **Practice Kindness and Generosity:** Perform random acts of kindness for both strangers and friends. Praise your child simply for being unique and worthy as a child of God.
- **Support Charitable Causes:** Contribute to organizations that align with your faith and values, helping those in need during this season of giving.
- **Care for Creation:** Learn about social and environmental issues affecting God's creation and take steps to make a positive difference.
- **Connect with Others:** Be attentive to opportunities to connect with those you know and those you encounter in your daily routines.

By embracing these practices, we honor God's gifts, prepare our hearts for Christ's coming, and share His love with the world.

—*Catholic Steward*, edited by G. Carter

FORGOT TO TURN IN YOUR COMMITMENT CARD?

You can pick one up at the kiosk in the Narthex. Please take a moment to pray, fill it out, and drop it in the collection basket. Thank you.

St. Agnes Parish presents... **LIVE NATIVITY** **2025**



Come join us and enjoy the wonders that God has provided us, sharing with family and friends, living step by step an important event in the history of the world, The Nativity! We invite you to forget your worldly worries and immerse yourself in this experience that will transport you to Bethlehem.

Ven y disfruta de las maravillas que Dios nos ha proporcionado, compartiendo con familiares y amigos, paso a paso el acontecimiento que cambió el rumbo de la historia EL NACIMIENTO DE JESÚS. Le invitamos a que se olvide de las preocupaciones mundanas y se sumerja en esta experiencia, que sin duda lo transportará a Belén.

Date: Saturday, December 20: 5:15 p.m. To follow 4 p.m. Mass

Fecha: sábado, 20 de diciembre, 7:00 p.m. - Presentación en español

Date: Sunday, December 21: 10:15 a.m. - To follow 9 a.m. Mass - English Presentation

12:15 p.m. - To follow 11 a.m. Mass - English Presentation

Fecha: domingo, 21 de diciembre, 14:30 - Después de la misa de las 13:00 -
Presentación en español

Location: Parish Center Main Hall | **Ubicación:** Salón principal del centro parroquial



Christmas WISH LIST

Dear Helpers in Waiting,

I received this letter from the good girls and boys at St. Agnes. If any of you can be one of my "helpers" this year I would sure appreciate it.

Merry Christmas!

Love, Santa

Santa Claus | The North Pole

Dear Santa,

Merry Christmas! How are you? We are fine. Are you and your elves getting ready for the big night? Our parish family sure is! We have been very good this year. This past year St. Agnes continued to grow with more and more people coming to worship here.

We now have more than 5,000 families registered! This year we hope that you will help our parish by bringing us the following items:

Liturgical

🎁 New Roman Missal	\$230
🎁 Lectionary Set – (Daily)	\$250
🎁 Book of Blessing (for chapel)	\$65
🎁 Purple Chasuble (Lg. size)	\$60
🎁 Purple Dalmatic (Lg. size)	\$100
🎁 White Chasuble (Lg. size)	\$60
🎁 White Dalmatic (Lg. size)	\$100
Assorted Chalice Palls	
🎁 4 liturgical colors (rectory)	\$100
🎁 New Altar Cloth (rectory: will sew to size) need 3 yards	\$40
🎁 Replacement Sanctuary	
🎁 Lamp Stand for Chapel (estimate)	\$4000
🎁 Seasonal Banners for Narthex (Advent)	\$250
🎁 Baptism Bibs for Infants (60)	\$360
🎁 Children's Baptism Stoles (20)	\$300

Faith Formation/Youth Group

🎁 Vacation Bible School set/decor	\$1000
🎁 Children's Missals for cry room (20)	\$15 ea
🎁 First Communion preparation scholarships (20)	\$100 ea
🎁 Confirmation preparation scholarships (20)	\$100 ea
🎁 College Scholarship for HS Seniors with parish service record (4)	\$500 ea
🎁 Scholarship for Catholic Summer Camp Covecrest	\$1500 ea
🎁 Teen Bible Study	
Supplies & refreshments (12)	\$40 ea
🎁 Folding whiteboards for Youth Group (4)	\$60 ea
🎁 Adult Faith Enrichment summer evangelization event sponsorship (8)	\$1000 ea
🎁 Ping Pong Table	\$700

Music Ministry

🎁 Church Sound System Upgrades	\$3,000–\$5,000
Our sound system needs improvements. Your support toward this important need is deeply appreciated and will enhance the worship experience for our entire parish community.	

Santa, we know you're not made of money, and you have other important and worthy obligations during this season of giving, and so if you cannot bring us everything we need then perhaps you can ask one of your helpers to assist. We greatly appreciate whole or partial gifts for all of the above. Just ask them to contact the parish office at their convenience at 592.1949.

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love, Fr. Bobby and The Entire Pastoral Staff of St. Agnes Parish

_____ I agree to donate the following item(s) _____

_____ I agree to make a financial contribution in the amount of \$ _____ to be used for the purchase of the following item(s) _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

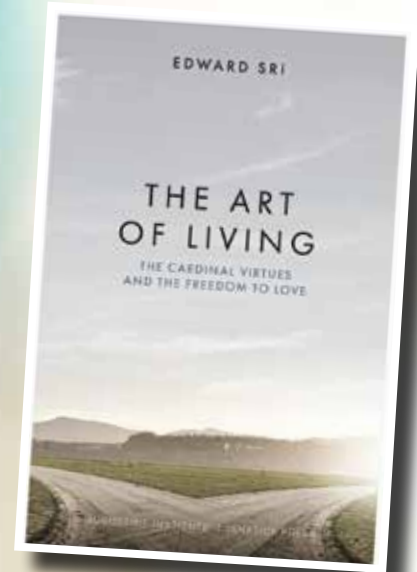
Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Sisters In Spirit *Ladies Book Talk*

A five-part series on Mondays from 7-8:30 p.m.
in the Youth Room of the Parish Center

DECEMBER 15
JANUARY 19

Chapters 16-20
Chapters 21-25



Get the book at the book rack in the church Narthex outside the Blessings store or on the rack in the Parish Center, M-F: 9 a.m. -4 p.m. (\$8 suggested donation).

REGISTER WITH: Daisy@StAgnesNaples.org

Sisters In Spirit (SIS) is for Catholic women of all ages & stages to come together for a common goal of nurturing our lives & renewing our spirits through Study, Inspiration & Sisterhood.



COATS FOR KIDS DRIVE!

December 6-7 & December 13-14

The Boy Scouts of Scouting America and St. Agnes Knights of Columbus invite you to help keep local children warm this winter!



Please bring new or gently used children's coats and jackets to Mass.

Drop-off location: Narthex, where our Scouts will be collecting donations.

All coats will be delivered by the Knights to Naples-area shelters, including Catholic Charities, the Immokalee Guadalupe Center, and other local charities.

Your kindness makes a difference!





Looking for something meaningful after daily Mass?

Join us for **Breakfast with Fr. Bob** and a Special 3-Part Series with Fr. Tom Boyer on the Gospel of Matthew. Enjoy Fellowship, Conversation, and a Deeper Encounter with Christ.

**MASS AT 8:30 AM
9 AM BREAKFAST | TALK 9:45 AM
PARISH CENTER MAIN HALL**

Come for community, conversation, and a deeper encounter with Christ.
Please note: our regular *Search* series will pause during weeks with a special presenter and will resume on January 6.

12.16.25
Bethlehem to Nazareth – John to Jesus

**After all Masses on
Saturday & Sunday
December 13 and 14**

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Hosted by your Parish Knights of Columbus #14202

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

Please consider supporting this fundraiser by baking and donating or purchasing your favorite holiday treat!

Cookies

Pies

Cakes

Cupcakes

Muffins

Pastries

All types of baked goods are welcome!

**DROP OFF your wrapped baked goods
Saturday, Dec. 13 between 9 a.m.
and Noon in the Narthex.**

Questions?

**Contact Contact Perry Walker at
(239) 989-4200 or perry3721@Gmail.com**

**Thinking about becoming a Knight?
We are the WORLD'S
largest Catholic fraternity.
Ask about joining us!**

You are invited!

BREAKFAST

With Santa

DECEMBER 14TH, 2025
After 7:30 and 9am Mass

Come & enjoy the KofC Breakfast with Santa, Mrs. Claus the SA Choir and have your picture taken with Santa!

\$12 PER CHILD
\$20 PER ADULT
CHILDREN UNDER 3 ARE FREE!



In the SA Parish Center
AYCE Buffet- Eggs, Bacon, Pancakes, Omelets, Side dishes! One Mimosa for those over 21.



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

We are excited to announce our upcoming Eucharistic Minister Training session! This training is essential for new Eucharistic Ministers. We want to provide a reverent and holy environment as we distribute the Precious Body and Blood of Jesus.

Date: Saturday, December 6, 2025

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: Parish Center Classroom 1, then in the Church

Who should attend? Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Why Attend?

- Learn the best practice for distributing the Body and Blood of Jesus here at St. Agnes.
- Learn best practices for creating a positive and spiritual experience for all receiving Christ at the Mass.

RSVP: Please confirm your attendance by contacting Gloria Carter at (239) 592-1949 or gloria@stagnesnaples.org

We look forward to seeing you there and working together to make Communion special for all attending Mass!

2 NIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS MAGIC!

DECEMBER 9 & 10

7PM

Doors open at 6:30

**ST. AGNES
PARISH CENTER**

7775 Vanderbilt Beach Rd, Naples, FL

\$40 per person
Proceeds benefit CFA

For Tickets

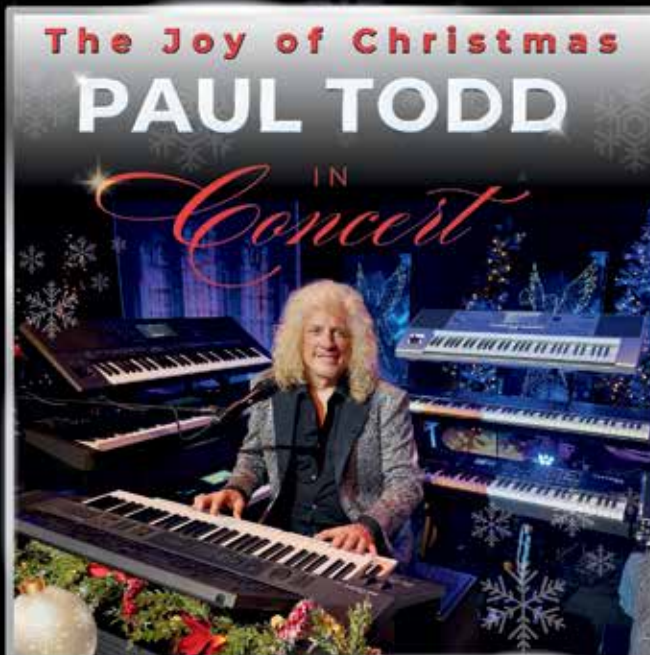
- Call 239-272-0297
- Tickets also available after all Masses or in the parish office during business hours
- Scan QR code for online tickets



The Joy of Christmas

PAUL TODD

IN
Concert




Come and enjoy all of your beloved Christmas classics with Paul and special guests:

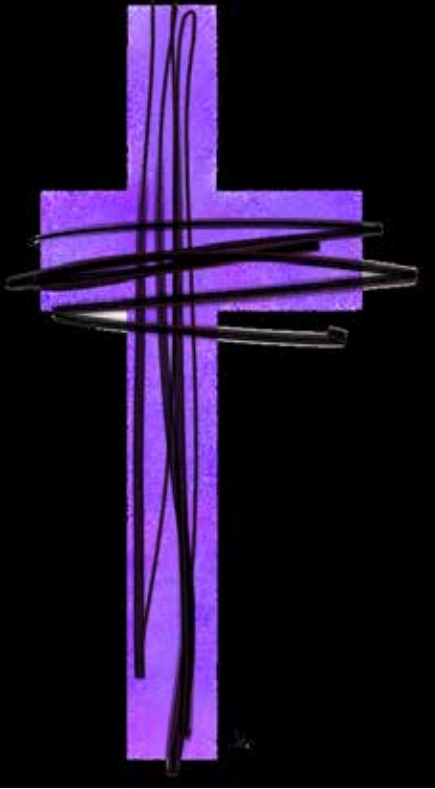
Amy Van Wyke
Christi Cole
and Jeff Ramsey



www.paultodd.com

 paul todd concerts

Advent Penance Services in our Area



Tuesday, December 9

St. Elizabeth Seton Parish: | 6PM | 5225 Golden Gate Pkwy, Naples

Wednesday, December 10

St. Peter the Apostle Parish: | 6:30PM | 5130 Rattlesnake Hammock Rd

Thursday December 11

St. William Parish: | 5:30PM | 601 Seagate Dr, Naples

Monday, December 15

St. John the Evangelist Parish: | 5:30PM | 625 111th Avenue North, Naples

Tuesday December 16

St. Agnes Parish: | 5:00PM | 7775 Vanderbilt Beach Rd

Wednesday December 17

St. Finbarr Parish: | 2PM | 13520 Tamiami Trail East, Naples

Thursday December 18

San Marco Parish: | 2PM | 851 San Marco Rd, Marco Island

Ave Maria Parish: | 6:30PM | 5078 Pope John Paul II Blvd

St. Agnes Christmas Flowers

Help us beautify the church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with flowers. It's a meaningful way to remember loved ones who can't be with us and to honor someone special in our lives. To help us purchase the Christmas poinsettias, please fill out the form, include your donation, and return both to the parish office or the collection basket by **Monday, December 22**. A list of memorials and honors will be published after Christmas.

Thank you for helping make our church even more beautiful during this blessed season.



In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Requested by: _____

___\$10.00 Poinsettia ___\$20.00 Poinsettia ___\$50.00 Poinsettia ___\$100 Poinsettia

GIVING TREE

Supporting local families

Now - December 14

Take a tag from the tree in the Narthex and purchase a gift for the child described.

Return the unwrapped gift with the tag attached to the Narthex by Sunday, December 14.

ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL

*Give the Gift of a
Catholic Education*



With a minimum annual gift of \$1,000, you can help provide a high-quality, Catholic education to a deserving St. John Neumann student.

Sponsors are paired with a student and invited to connect at our annual Guardian Angel Dinner.

For more information call Judi at:

239.455.3044

jneeld@sjnceltics.org

3000 53rd St. SW

Naples, FL 34116



THANK YOU, ST. AGNES!



SCAN TO DONATE



Through your generous donations and support of the 2025 Baby Bottle Drive, the Saint Agnes Knights of Columbus and Columbiette Auxiliary collected over \$25,000 in donations. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Parish Boy Scout Troop, Parish Youth Group, and Community Pregnancy Clinic (CPC) volunteers, who also contributed their time and energy to make this drive a success.

These donations will be directed toward the purchase of a new Mobile Ultrasound Vehicle to be operated by CPC. This vehicle will serve as a vital resource in supporting expectant mothers throughout South Florida, helping to save lives and ensure healthy, happy babies.

We were especially moved by a donation from three brothers in our parish community. These young men collected over \$200 for the Baby Bottle Drive, and the pictures below tell their inspiring story of dedication and compassion.

It is not too late to donate. Please return your Baby Bottles to the Parish Office with your donation, or simply scan the above QR code with your phone to donate online and join the Parish in the Drive.

Oh Come All Ye Faithful

Help Decorate your Church!

We need and welcome your help decorating St. Agnes for Christmas on Sunday, December 21 at 6 p.m. There are bows to make, wreaths to fluff, trees to put up and more in the church, chapel and grounds.

Please join use for fellowship and fun!



Blessing of child Jesus from Family Mangers

Join us for a tradition that was renewed in 2008 by Pope Benedict and has been celebrated annually at St. Agnes on the 3rd Sunday of Advent "Gaudete Sunday," which means "rejoice!" The Child Jesus from family mangers will be blessed at every Mass on Sunday, December 14.

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve Masses – Wednesday December 24, 2025

Musical Prelude at 3:30 p.m.

4 p.m. Mass - Children's Choir

5 p.m. - Palmetto Ridge High School

Musical Prelude at 6:30 p.m.

7 p.m. Mass - Adult Choir

Musical Prelude at 11:15 p.m.

Midnight Mass – Cantor and Guests Musicians

Christmas Day Masses

Thursday, December 25, 2025

(Musical Prelude 15 minutes before 9 & 11 a.m. Masses)

7:30 a.m. - Cantor & Congregational Singing

9:00 a.m. - Cantor & Congregational Singing

11:00 a.m. - Cantor & Congregational Singing

1:00 p.m. - Spanish Choir & Congregational Singing

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, January 1, 2026

Masses 8:30 a.m., noon and 7:00 p.m. (Bilingual)

Masses in red will be live streamed for our homebound parishioners.



JOIN THE ST. AGNES ADULT CHOIR



SING FOR THE
9AM MASS

REHEARSALS
WEDNESDAYS 6:30PM
IN THE CHURCH

CONTACT: RICH DITTUS
RICH@STAGNESNAPLES.ORG
239-307-4272



The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Formerly called Last Rites or Extreme Unction, this Sacrament is for those experiencing a serious illness, facing an operation or dying. Anointing of the Sick should be performed before death is imminent, when a person is conscious and able to receive comfort from the sacrament.

We make every effort to provide pastoral care and the sacrament of anointing to all who request it; however, families are encouraged to call sooner rather than later. If a loved one is at home and needs the sacrament, please call the office at 592-1949 to arrange for a priest to visit.

In the Hospital?

Please ask the nurse to contact the parish that serves the Hospital you are in for the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

This is the most efficient way to be sure you or your loved one will receive the sacrament. Be aware that because of HIPAA

Privacy regulations, hospitals do not necessarily notify the parish regarding your hospitalization unless requested by the patient.

Join the St. Agnes Children's Choir

Praise God Through Music!

Don't miss this opportunity for your **2nd-5th grade** children to bring beauty and inspiration to our liturgy by singing in Mass!

Singing weekly at 11:00AM Mass on Sundays and for special celebrations.

Rehearsals are
Saturdays at 10AM
in the Church



Sign up now at:
stagnesnaples.org/children-choir

For more information or questions
Please contact: Richard Dittus
Rich@stagnesnaples.org | (239) 307-4272



IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER= GREAT OPPORTUNITY UNDER CURRENT TAX LAWS



Whether you itemize or not in 2025, this unique opportunity allows you to make a charitable contribution through a direct IRA transfer while reducing your adjusted gross income.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A GIFT TO OUR PARISH USING YOUR IRA AND IF:

1. You are at least 70 ^{1/2} years old on the date you make your gift.
2. Your IRA is a traditional (some Roth IRA's may qualify).
3. You don't exceed your personal maximum of \$100,000 per year in qualified charitable distributions.

You will not have to report your distribution as income. It will be free of federal income tax, and it will count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD).

The best way for you to start is with your IRA custodian. Tell them you want to make a "qualified charitable distribution." In most cases you will only have to fill out a simple form.

VERY IMPORTANT! Your gift must go directly from your IRA to our Parish. If you receive the money first, then you will be taxed on it like any other distribution.

Example:

Bill has \$125,000 in a traditional IRA and would like to contribute \$5,000 as his yearly gift to his Parish. Upon hearing of the Charitable IRA Rollover opportunity, he directs the custodian of his IRA to transfer this amount not later than December 31, 2025 directly to the Parish as the family's 2025 gift. He will not be subject to income tax on the \$5,000 donation.

This information is not intended and should not be construed as legal, tax or investment advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney, tax advisor or investment professional.



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

5 de diciembre de 2025

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo,

Las parroquias de los Estados Unidos pronto llevarán a cabo la Colecta para el Fondo de Jubilación de Religiosos, una campaña anual que beneficia a más de 21 000 miembros ancianos de órdenes religiosas. Durante la mayor parte de sus vidas, los religiosos ancianos trabajaron incansablemente, a menudo por un salario mínimo y sin pensiones ni planes de jubilación. Hoy necesitan nuestra ayuda.


Las comunidades religiosas son financieramente responsables del sustento y el cuidado de todos sus miembros; sin embargo, muchas tienen dificultades para cuidar a sus ancianos debido a la falta de recursos financieros y de personal. Los ingresos de la colecta anual del Fondo de Jubilación proporcionan la ayuda financiera que las comunidades religiosas necesitan para el cuidado diario de las hermanas, hermanos y sacerdotes de órdenes religiosas de edad avanzada. Esta colecta también proporciona los fondos necesarios para invertir en las

necesidades de jubilación a largo plazo.

Muchos de nosotros conocemos a algún religioso que ha tenido una influencia positiva en nuestra vida, ya sea en la escuela, en la parroquia o en un hospital. Por favor, contribuyan con aquellos que han dedicado toda su vida. Las parroquias de la Diócesis de Venice llevarán a cabo la colecta anual para el Fondo de Jubilación para Religiosos el fin de semana del 13 y 14 de diciembre de 2025. ¡Gracias por su generosidad!

Aprovecho esta oportunidad para expresarles a cada uno de ustedes mi continuo aprecio, así como mis oraciones por ustedes y sus familias. Que tengan un bendito Adviento.

Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,

+ 
+ Frank J. Dewane
Obispo de la Diócesis de
Venice en Florida



36th Annual National Night of Prayer for Life

Come pray with us in the church after the 7:00 p.m. Mass on Monday, December 8. We will remain in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 p.m. All are welcome to spend time with the Lord.

Join us in uniting the Feast of the Immaculate Conception with the Feast of St. Juan Diego and establishing a bridge of these two feasts to protect our culture, our church and our land. May we make reparation for all the lives lost in this nation to abortion and pray that parents may be conscious of their calling as they share in God's creative power. We also pray that those who have acted against human life experience forgiveness.

The National Night of Prayer for Life includes adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the holy rosary, prayer to St. Michael, silent prayer and hymns. We will be united in churches across the country in prayer to end abortion and to restore God's blessings of Life and Religious Liberty in America.

EVENTOS PARROQUIALES HISPANOS

Los días de atención a los feligreses del Padre Alejandro Giraldo-Roldán son los jueves y viernes de 1:00 p.m. a 4:00 p.m. Por favor, llame a la oficina para hacer su cita al (239) 592-1949.



En muchos países de Latinoamérica, el Segundo Domingo de Adviento se vive con el encendido de la segunda vela morada de la corona y el llamado a la conversión que anuncia san Juan el Bautista. Esta semana también está marcada por un fuerte espíritu mariano: la celebración de la Inmaculada Concepción y la cercanía de la fiesta de la Virgen de Guadalupe. En países como México, Guatemala, El Salvador, Colombia y Nicaragua, las comunidades se reúnen para rezar, cantar y participar en procesiones, novenas y gestos de solidaridad. En toda la región, las familias continúan preparando el corazón para recibir al Señor con fe, esperanza y alegría.



El Dogma de la Inmaculada Concepción establece que María fue concebida sin la mancha del pecado original. Este dogma fue proclamado por el papa Pío IX el 8 de diciembre de 1854 en la bula *Ineffabilis Deus*.

“Declaramos, pronunciamos y definimos que la doctrina que sostiene que la Santísima Virgen María, en el primer instante de su concepción, fue, por singular gracia y privilegio de Dios omnipotente, en previsión de los méritos de Cristo Jesús, Salvador del género humano, preservada inmune de toda mancha de culpa original, ha sido revelada por Dios y, por tanto, debe ser firme y constantemente creída por todos los fieles.”

SER UN BUEN ADMINISTRADOR DURANTE EL ADVIENTO

El Adviento y la Navidad son temporadas que nos invitan a vivir como fieles administradores de los dones de Dios. La mayordomía significa reconocer que todo lo que tenemos—y todo lo que somos—es un regalo de Dios, confiado a nosotros para su gloria. El Adviento es un tiempo de preparación y anticipación para la venida de Cristo, el mayor de todos los regalos. La Navidad es un tiempo de celebración y gratitud por el amor y la gracia de Dios revelados en Jesucristo. Ambas temporadas nos llaman a reflexionar sobre cómo podemos compartir los dones de Dios con generosidad y responsabilidad.

Maneras Prácticas de Vivir la Mayordomía Durante el Adviento

- **Priorizar el Significado por Encima del Materialismo:** Gasta menos en cosas materiales y más en experiencias y relaciones significativas que fortalezcan los lazos y traigan alegría.
- **Dar Regalos Pensados:** Considera regalos hechos a mano o en casa que expresen creatividad, cariño y conexión personal.
- **Participar en el Culto:** Asiste regularmente a los servicios de adoración y participa en la liturgia y los sacramentos para profundizar tu vida espiritual.
- **Cultivar la Gratitud y la Oración:** Ora pidiendo la guía y bendición de Dios para tu vida y para el mundo. Da gracias por tu familia, amigos, comunidad parroquial y compañeros de trabajo. Inicia pequeños actos de gratitud—como escribir una nota de agradecimiento u ofrecer palabras de ánimo.
- **Practicar la Bondad y la Generosidad:** Realiza actos de bondad al azar para desconocidos y amigos. Elogia a tu hijo simplemente por ser único y valioso como hijo de Dios.
- **Apoyar Causas Caritativas:** Contribuye a organizaciones que estén alineadas con tu fe y valores, ayudando a quienes lo necesitan durante esta temporada de dar.
- **Cuidar de la Creación:** Infórmate sobre los problemas sociales y ambientales que afectan la creación de Dios y toma medidas para marcar una diferencia positiva.
- **Conectarte con los Demás:** Mantente atento a las oportunidades para conectarte tanto con quienes ya conoces como con aquellos que encuentras en tu vida diaria.

Al abrazar estas prácticas, honramos los dones de Dios, preparamos nuestros corazones para la venida de Cristo y compartimos su amor con el mundo.

—Catholic Steward, editado por G. Carter



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

December 5, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Parishes in the United States will soon be conducting the Retirement Fund for Religious Collection, an annual appeal that benefits over 21,000 elderly members of religious orders. For most of their lives, elderly religious worked tirelessly, often for minimal pay and without pensions or retirements plans. Today, they need our help.

Religious communities are financially responsible for the support and care of all their members; however, many are struggling to care for their elderly due to a lack of financial resources and personnel. Proceeds from the annual Retirement Fund Collection provide the financial assistance religious communities need for the day-to-day care of elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. This collection also provides the funding necessary to invest for long-term retirement needs.

Many of us know a religious who had a positive influence in our life, either in school, at your parish,

or in a hospital. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Parishes throughout the Diocese of Venice will conduct the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious the weekend of December 13 & 14, 2025. Thank you for your generosity!

I take this opportunity to extend to each of you the assurances of my continued consideration, as well as my prayers for you and your family. Have a Blessed Advent Season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida