

**Scripture Readings for Today****1<sup>st</sup> Read:** Wisdom 2:12, 17-20**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** James 3:16 — 4:3**Gospel:** Mark 9:30-37**Scripture Readings for September 27<sup>th</sup>****1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Numbers 11:25-29**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** James 5:1-6**Gospel:** Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Dear Parishioners,

If you read this letter you are a person who reads the St. Agnes Church Bulletin. If you have read the bulletin in recent weeks you may have noticed an announcement about praying and fasting for a few weeks this Fall to save children whose lives are threatened by abortion.

The mortality rate for children was great at the time of Christ, primarily for reasons which include little medical assistance and poor eating habits because food was not always available. Some families at the time of Christ could not afford children. Yet the child, who *then and now* has few advocates in a selfish world, is Christ's choice for salvation.

Each of us who recognizes the frailty of human life should have made arrangements by now to walk, fast and pray for an end to abortion in our world from September 23<sup>rd</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>, the Solemnity of All Saints. If you haven't and you believe Jesus when he says, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me", listen. Receiving Jesus means we see God the Father when we stand for the orphans of our time, the unborn child. So why wait? None of us knows the hour or day of our death. Your holiness and salvation are dependent on obedience to His love for children. Defend the unborn child and participate in the **40 Days for Life**. By doing so, eternal life awaits you.

Deacon Jack

**COLLECTION FOR SEPTEMBER 12-13<sup>TH</sup>**

Envelopes .....	\$15,026.50
Loose.....	\$1,495.14
Poor Boxes.....	\$329.11
Children's .....	\$33.35



Today's second reading warns that a heart consumed with avarice and envy leads to jealousy, strife, conflicts, and disputes. A giving heart, in contrast, can sing instead with the psalmist, "Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness."

**MASS COUNT FOR SEPTEMBER 12-13<sup>TH</sup>**

5 PM – 240	7:30 AM – 183	9 AM – 282
10:30 AM – 315	12 PM – 248	Total – 1268

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL** of Florence Dunne.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS**, especially those in hospitals – Margaret Wagner, Catherine Teal, Stephen Peters, Sr., Paul Millman and Josephine Meehan.

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for: Quinn Degenhard, May Herzing, Ed Eichelman, Rev. Edward Hemler, Brother James Kelly, C.F.X., Rose Rauser, Patty Kuzmak, Bernard Maddox, Edward Flannagan, Kyla Zeilinger, Jo Keyes, Teddy Skinner, Bill Herman, James DeMatteo, Margaret Peter, John L. Bastress, Florence Fink, Lillian Goldwine, Lorraine Keough, Kathleen Ricker, Helen Bopp, Fred Repsik, Jr., Frances Amann, Genevieve Randle, Evana Feeney, Mary Barber, Heather LaMartina, Ann Finnel, Dottie Lappe, Concetta Fowler, Sandy Miller, Margaret Blinke, Mr. & Mrs. William Lang.

**PRAYERS FOR OUR SERVICE PEOPLE:** We ask you to remember the parishioners, family & friends serving in the military: **USMC** – Cpl. Joseph Bytella, LCpl. Sean Fitzpatrick, LCpl Alex Webb, LCpl. John J. Cohee, Jr., Sgt. David Burton; **NAT'L GUARD** – Pfc. Ryan Kamauff, David Parker; **NAVY** – David Roussey, Daniel Gately; **ARMY** – SSG Patrick Flanagan, Alex Kuziel, James Lowe, Andy Giotis, Andy Deponai, Timothy Muhl, Sgt. Joshua Callow, Specialist Stephen Grenfell, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Stephen Winter, Capt. Sheldon Broedel.

*Mass Intentions***MASSES FOR SEPTEMBER 21-27<sup>TH</sup>**

MONDAY 9/21	6:30 a.m. – Mary Argen 8:00 a.m. – Estrella Alforque Gongson
TUESDAY 9/22	6:30 a.m. – Dionisio Sadaya 8:00 a.m. – Rita M. Cauley
WED. 9/23	6:30 a.m. – Pat Carver 8:00 a.m. – Helyn Pessaro
THURS. 9/24	6:30 a.m. – Pearl DeSelm 8:00 a.m. – Joseph Arini
FRIDAY 9/25	6:30 a.m. – Ints. of Andy Camarce 8:00 a.m. – Donna Sunderdick
SAT. 9/26	8:00 a.m. – Noreen Newcomb 5:00 p.m. – Marie Fodel
SUNDAY 9/27	7:30 a.m. – Mary Krischik 9:00 a.m. – For the Parishioners 10:30 a.m. – Ruth Simon 12:00 p.m. – James Dimmer

**DAILY READINGS**

<b>Monday</b> 9/21	<b><i>St. Matthew, Apostle &amp; Evangelist</i></b> <b>Reading:</b> Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 9:9-13
<b>Tuesday</b> 9/22	<b><i>Weekday</i></b> <b>Reading:</b> Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 8:19-21
<b>Wednesday</b> 9/23	<b><i>St. Pio of Pietrelcina, Priest</i></b> <b>Reading:</b> Ezra 9:5-9 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 9:1-6
<b>Thursday</b> 9/24	<b><i>Weekday</i></b> <b>Reading:</b> Haggai 1:1-8 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 9:7-9
<b>Friday</b> 9/25	<b><i>Weekday</i></b> <b>Reading:</b> Haggai 2:1-9 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 9:18-22
<b>Saturday</b> 9/26	<b><i>Sts. Cosmas and Damien, Martyrs</i></b> <b>Reading:</b> Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 9:43b-45

**FLOWERS** –on the Holy Family Altar are in loving memory of Myra Zeller, requested by her family. Flowers on the Main Altar are in celebration of Cathy & Audie Murphy's anniversary, requested by their family.

**RCIA** classes are held Monday evenings at 7 pm. They are open to non-Catholics interested in joining the Church, adult Catholics who have been away from the Church and would like to receive the Sacraments, and any parishioner who would like a refresher course in the Faith.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE:** Join us Sept. 23 – Nov. 1, for the 40 Days for Life Campaign!! We will be united in prayer and fasting for – Women and their babies who are in danger of abortion – Men and women who carry the pain of abortion – Workers at abortion facilities and leaders who misguidedly support abortion. Prayer can take place as peaceful, prayerful public witness in front of Hillcrest Clinic in Catonsville. (recommended), or in Church, home or school. Call Joe Healy at 410.788.4325 or go to [www.40daysforlife@archbalt.org](http://www.40daysforlife@archbalt.org)

**FUEL COLLECTION** – Next weekend is our Annual Parish Fuel Collection. This collection helps us to offset the cost of heating and cooling our 5 buildings. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

**ST. AGNES SENIOR CLUB** welcomes new members to join them each Monday for an afternoon of Bingo and playing cards. They meet in the Old School Hall from 1-4 p.m. For more information call the parish office 410.744.2900.

**CARE PACKAGES:** VFW Post 6458 will send care packages to parishioners and loved ones serving in the military in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Philippines and other areas of conflict. Please send names, ranks & addresses to Bob Gollery at [remshut76n81@aol.com](mailto:remshut76n81@aol.com) or call the parish office 410.744.2900.

**JOIN THE IHM SILVER CIRCLE** – For \$25.00, you can participate in 330 drawings from Oct. 2009-June 2010, with prizes ranging from \$50 to \$1,000. In addition to your chance to win, you are helping the IHM Sisters raise money for their Retirement Fund. Please contact Sr. Gracette Baker, IHM, at 410-747-5827.



## **ST. AGNES SCHOOL NEWS!**

**Thank you** to all who have ordered **Innisbrook** gift wrap **and** sent in the **Family Income Survey**!!

You promptness is appreciated! Please see your favorite St. Agnes student to place your last-minute Innisbrook order, or make your selections online at [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com) using our school code 103943. Our sale ends on 9/30, but you may continue to order from the website to earn credit for our school.

Please remember that you must **update** your school designation for the **A+ Bonus Bucks** program at Giant Food **each year**. Visit [www.giantfood.com/aplus](http://www.giantfood.com/aplus) and designate St. Agnes School ID **01597** or call 1.877.275. 2758

Thanks for your support!

We had such a wonderful turnout for our Back to School Night last week. Thanks you so much for being such supportive families. Your children are truly blessed.

### **Dates to Remember:**

**9/21 Family Income Surveys Due!**

**9/24** Grades K-5 Pictures

### **Save the Date!**

**9/28** Confirmation Service Night/7:00 pm  
Lower Church

**9/29 Hats On Day** to raise money  
for children with cancer

**9/30** Last Day for **Innisbrook Sale**

**10/2** October First Friday 9 am Mass  
All families and friends are invited to join us.

**10/3 Fall Fest** 10 am to 2 pm.

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION:** Please save Box Tops for Education labels, barcodes, and box tops, empty printer cartridges, Campbell soup labels and used cell phones for our school collection. Send them in with your favorite St. Agnes student. Thank you.

**RECYCLE AT ST. AGNES!** Please help us to earn money for St. Agnes School by bringing your weekly recyclables to our new bin outside the New School! Bring us your newspapers, catalogs, magazines, and junk mail. Your recyclables will be made into newsprint for local newspapers; therefore **NO CARDBOARD, NO FOOD CONTAINERS, NO PHONE BOOKS** can be recycled in this bin. Thank you so much.

**ST. AGNES BASKETBALL** – 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and **high school students** who are interested in playing basketball for our St. Agnes CYO teams should call Sue Bianco at 410-788-3537. Cost is \$85 per child or \$125 per family. Deadline for registration is September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**GIFT WRAP FUNDRAISER** - The Innisbrook Gift Wrap Fundraiser has begun! Please see any St. Agnes student to order or stop by the school for a catalog. Order online at [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com), school ID 103943. Thank you for your support.

**THE LADIES AUXILIARY** of St. Martin's Home (The Little Sisters of the Poor) will hold their Annual Fashion Show and luncheon Wednesday, October 7 at Turf Valley Country Club 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Fashions by Coldwater Creek. Tickets: \$30. Please call Mary Grace Horak at 410.465.1924. Please join us for a delightful afternoon and help the Little Sisters.

**17<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF PRAYER AND FASTING**, October 2-12 in Washington, DC: On Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, Journey Conference – Young Adult Festival at the JPII Cultural Center at 9 am, ([www.journeydc.org](http://www.journeydc.org).) On Oct., 12<sup>th</sup>, a Eucharistic Prayer Vigil at the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at 9 am, featuring Dr. Jackson, lead scientist on the Shroud of Turin, Fr. Frank Pavone, Priests for Life, and other speakers. For more info, go to [www.iwopf.org](http://www.iwopf.org).

**MASS FOR RETIRED PRIESTS** – In celebration of the Year for Priests, Archbishop O'Brien will honor the retired priests of the Archdiocese of Baltimore at a special Mass at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen on Sunday, October 25 at 3:00 p.m. All of the faithful are welcome to attend. No tickets will be necessary. For a list of participating priests, visit [www.archbalt.org](http://www.archbalt.org).

## **ST. AGNES YOUTH MINISTRY**

### **Sunday, September 20 – Movie Night**

Tonight, we will screen "The Five People You Meet in Heaven," based on the book by Mitch Albom. Please bring a snack to share.

### **Sunday, September 27 –Service Night**

Join us as we make bag lunches for patrons at My Brother's Keeper in Irvington. Please sign up to bring peanut butter, jelly, bread, juice boxes, or snack sided chips or desserts.

**CATHOLIC WOMAN'S CONFERENCE:** Join your Catholic sisters for a time of prayer, praise, education, discussion and renewal. The Illuminate Catholic Women's Conference is Oct. 9-10<sup>th</sup> at St. John Westminster. Call Jeanne at 443.324.8487 or visit [www.catholicilluminate.com](http://www.catholicilluminate.com).

**CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER** is an international program committed to preparing couples for the Sacrament of marriage. Engaged couples attend a weekend retreat that fosters openness and communication through a series of presentations and private reflection. Catholic Engaged Encounter is an approved marriage preparation program within the Archdiocese of Baltimore. The next weekend will be Oct. 9-11. Visit [www.mdcee.org](http://www.mdcee.org) or call 410.439.4217.

**COME AND SEE WEEKEND:** Are you a woman aged 19 - 49 who is curious about religious life? Then come and see how the Oblate Sisters of Providence pray, work and play. Visit with us during our "Come and See" Weekend Thursday **October 22 - Sunday October 25**. Contact Sr. Marcia Hall, OSP, vocation director, at 410.242.8500. To register online go to [www.oblatesistersvocations.com](http://www.oblatesistersvocations.com).

**A RACHEL'S VINEYARD WEEKEND RETREAT** for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion will be held in Sparks, MD, October 30-November 1, 2009. The retreat is a confidential and emotionally safe environment for those struggling after abortion. Call 1-800-286-4224 and please visit [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org).



**CARE OF THE SICK**

If a loved one or neighbor is unable to attend Mass due to illness, please notify the parish office so Communion may be brought to the home. Call 410.744.2900 or complete this form and place it in the offertory basket during Mass. Thank you!

Parishioner to be visited:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Dear Lord,

We pray that the Blessed Mother  
Wrap her mantle around your priests  
And through her intercession  
Strengthen them for their ministry.

We pray that Mary will guide your priests  
To follow her own words,  
"Do whatever He tells you" (Jn 2:5).

May your priests have the heart of St. Joseph,  
Mary's most chaste spouse.

May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart  
Inspire them to embrace  
All who suffer at the foot of the cross.

May your priests be holy,  
Filled with the fire of your love  
Seeking nothing but your greater glory  
And the salvation of souls.  
Amen.

Saint John Vianney, pray for us.

*Suffering Post-Abortion Stress?*  
Call Project Rachel: 1-800-286-4224



*Pregnant, Need Help?*  
Call the Gabriel Network: 1-800-ANGEL-OK

**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR GALA:** Mr. & Mrs. Brooks Robinson and the Little Sisters of the Poor host the **Celebrating the Gift Gala** on Wednesday **November 4, 2009** from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m. at Martin's West in Baltimore. Jamie Costello of ABC-TV Channel 2 will serve as the evening's emcee. Join them for a filet mignon and crab cake dinner with all the trimmings, live and silent auctions and a special surprise. Proceeds will be used to form a Winter Fuel Fund for St. Martin's Home for the Aged. Tickets are \$100 (a portion is tax-deductible.) For information and to reserve your tickets, contact Meg Ducey at: 410-744-9367, ext. 174, or visit us on the web at: [www.celebratingthegift.org](http://www.celebratingthegift.org).

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

I would like to thank everyone for a wonderful start to the new school year. It was good seeing all of you, and I look forward to a great year!

**Please Remember**

All students should arrive to the New School Hall between 10:00–10:15 am. Once prayer and announcements are over, the door will be closed. Any student arriving after 10:25 will be marked late. At 11:30am, every student should be picked up in the New School Hall by a parent. We will not let students leave the building alone. This is for safety reasons, as the 10:30 Mass congregation will be leaving the parking lot.

**Sunday, Sept. 20 –Catechetical Sunday:** We will recognize and celebrate the men and women who share their faith with the parish as Catechists. All school teachers and religious education catechists are invited to the 9 a.m. Mass. Please join us!

**Monday, Sept. 28 –Confirmation Service Night**  
Attention Confirmation candidates! This is your night! Your service coordinators will be presenting your accomplishments to you, your fellow candidates, your families and your sponsors. Please arrive to the lower church by 6:45 p.m.

**CATHOLIC ANSWERS FOR THE AGING** is a free and confidential information and referral service for older adults, their families, friends and caregivers. Referral specialists take the time to listen to callers' questions and concerns and can help identify the specific type(s) of service(s) needed. If you are feeling overwhelmed at the prospect of trying to find the right service among hundreds of service providers, please call Answers for the Aging at 410-646-0100, Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**FOOD CERTIFICATES** - If you'd like to support St. Agnes School at no cost to you, purchase a food certificate for Shoppers or Giant. A \$100 certificate costs you \$100 and buys \$100 of groceries and St. Agnes School receives \$5. Let your grocery shopping support the children who attend St. Agnes School. Thank you!

**MEMORY VERSE****MARK 9:35**

"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."

***"IN HIS LIKENESS"*****ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST**  
Feast Day – September 21<sup>st</sup>

In the Gospel of Matthew, the name appears in the list of apostles, and is identified at his call as "a man named Matthew, sitting at his customs post (*Matthew 9:9*). Later in the list he is called "Matthew the tax collector" (10:3). In the other synoptic gospels tradition identifies him with Levi (Cf, *Mark 2:13: Luke 5:27*). Tradition credits him as the author of the gospel that bears his name, (though some believe that the text we now have is the work of a Jewish Christian from Antioch from around the year 90). Of his later life we know nothing. Tradition says he preached in Judea and later in Ethiopia where he was martyred.

The Gospel of Matthew has a unique point of view, namely, to show Jesus as the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament. Matthew wants to make the point for a Jewish audience that "Jesus Messiah is the new Moses and the new Israel, and the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets". There are 41 references to the Old Testament in this gospel, and 37 of them are introduced with a formula, "that it might be fulfilled." Jesus is shown as a teacher who is superior to the rabbis. A long summary of the teaching of Jesus, is given as the Sermon on the Mount, which is kind of "catechism of Christian conduct." The miracles show Jesus as the messianic wonderworker. The kingdom of heaven (or of God) is presented as a present and also a future reality, and is identified with eternal life. Matthew's originality is in his explicit identification of the present kingdom with the Church: "I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church." (1 6:18). Further on in the gospel, Jesus instructs in the matter of fraternal correction: "If he refuses to listen to them (three witnesses), tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector." (18:17). Many of the parables, too, teach of the church as an existing society.

A reflection today on the feast of St. Matthew concerns Matthew's call and the banquet that he then gave for Jesus. To see a deeper understanding of the great celebration Matthew held at his house, we must realize that he not only gave a banquet for the Lord at his earthly residence, but far more pleasing was the banquet set in his own heart which he provided through faith and love. Our Savior attests to this: Behold I stand at the door and knock; *if* anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. On hearing Christ's voice, we open the door to receive him, when we freely assent to his promptings and when we give ourselves over to doing what must be done. Christ dwells in the hearts of his chosen ones through the grace of his love, enters so that he might eat with us and we with him. Today we ask St. Matthew's intercession to "help us to follow Christ and remain faithful in God's service."