Saint Agnes Catholic Church
Elyria, Ohio

Parish Ministry Guide
2013-2014

“Celebrate Your Faith And Serve The Lord”
September, 2013

My dear friends of Saint Agnes Parish,

This next year we will begin to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Saint Agnes Parish. As we approach this time of celebration, we desire to make it one of spiritual growth and revitalization. Our annual stewardship renewal campaign affords us a wonderful opportunity to step back and reflect on the gifts with which we have been blessed and our response in gratitude to God—the giver of these gifts.

Our 2013 stewardship theme is ‘Celebrate Your Faith and Serve The Lord’. We might ask ourselves some questions: What have I received from belonging to this parish? What of myself am I able to give toward the life of this parish? Am I doing what I like to do at Saint Agnes? Please take time to reflect prayerfully on your responsible participation in and support for our parish community. The following pages of this stewardship catalog will help you in your reflection:

The 2013-2014 Ministry Catalog: a listing of all the groups, activities, and ministries functioning in our parish. Further information on any of them can be obtained by calling the contact person whose name is listed with each.

Three Commitment Cards (attached to the last page of the catalog) which we ask you to use to pledge your TIME (How will you deepen your relationship with God?); your TALENT (In what group, activity, or ministry could you lend your community a hand this year?) and your TREASURE (What will you pledge as your share of responsible support for your parish this year?).

After you have prayerfully determined your level of support and participation in your parish community, please fill out the three cards and be prepared to offer them at Mass on the designated weekends: October 12-13—TIME; October 19-20—TALENT; October 26-27—TREASURE. You may also drop all three cards into the collection basket at any time during one of these weekends.

We all deeply value and are so grateful for your vibrant faith and generous participation in Saint Agnes parish. We need each person in order to maintain the wonderful things that are already happening at Saint Agnes and to spiritually renew our parish mission and life for the sake of God’s Kingdom. Be part of it! God will richly reward you.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Albert Veigas
EDUCATION

PARISH FAITH FORMATION...
This faith-formation opportunity is offered weekly for those who desire to grow in their faith and enjoy doing this in the context of community. The sessions will be held on the last Sunday of each month from September to March, beginning at 12 Noon. They will be a potpourri of experiences: Bible Study, Q&A sessions, prayer, faith-sharing, topics of faith, catechesis, etc. Those who are interested can come as they are able each week.

- Debby Johnson 365-6620

RCIA TEAM
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process that leads adults to initiation into the Catholic Church through the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. The RCIA process is one of personal conversion, growth in knowledge and experience of the Catholic faith, and spiritual formation—in the context of the Christian community. A team assists the participants during the process. Volunteers are needed to gather with the candidates, share faith, reflect on the Scriptures, and offer hospitality for the sessions.

- Debby Johnson 365-6620

YOUTH CONFIRMATION TEAM
This ministry team provides high school age candidates the instruction, sacramental preparation and spiritual renewal they need to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Candidates will gather on the third Sunday of each month for the 8:30AM Mass, then class.

- Jim Smith 322-6188

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
- First Sunday Sessions
- PSR
- The ROCK
The parish provides religious education opportunities for everyone in the parish. Religious Education classes (PSR) for children in grades K to eight are held on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:45AM, September to April, with a special youth group “The ROCK” for grades 6-8 that participate in various activities while learning about their Catholic Faith. The First Sunday Sessions are held at the same time and open to everyone in the parish. Topics include “The Saints”, “Lent” and more about our Catholic Faith. Faith-filled volunteers are needed as teachers, teachers’ aides and substitutes.

- Debby Johnson 365-6620

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Encourages children ages 4-12 in the Catholic Church of Elyria and surrounding neighborhoods to participate in making the Bible come alive through story-telling, art and music. Volunteers, both high school age and adult, gather in the spring each year to begin organizing the many activities that make up this joyous and active ministry. VBS is usually held in July each year.

- Desiree Volney 365-6267

BOOK & MAGAZINE RACK
This ministry orders and maintains spiritual reading materials in the alcove at the side door, at the back entrance display and the bookrack in the front vestibule. They also organize and maintain the bulletin boards, meeting at 4:30PM on Saturdays to accomplish this task

- Mary Wojciechowski 324-3355

SPIRITUAL LIFE

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
This commission inspires, initiates, develops and oversees parish efforts and opportunities for growth in communal and personal spirituality through programs for faith development, devotion, prayer formation and direction in the spiritual life. They meet the second Tuesday of the month in the rectory parlor.

- Catherine Fuchs 322-3518

STEWARDSHIP TEAM
- EVANGELIZATION
This committee meets regularly to facilitate the understanding and practice of stewardship as the basis of Christ-like living. In all aspects of life, stewardship is receiving God’s gifts gratefully, cultivating them responsibly, sharing them lovingly with others, and returning them with increase to the Lord. Evangelization is what Christian life is all about: bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ into every situation. Evangelization works to deepen and renew our own Catholic faith, share faith with others, particularly the un-churched and the non-baptized, and bring the values of Jesus to bear upon our world.

- Catherine Fuchs 322-3518

SAFE HARBOR SUPPORT GROUP
This ministry of consolation provides spiritual, emotional and practical support to those who have lost a loved one and are struggling through the initial adjustment. Meeting times fit your needs.

- Shirley Jurcak 322-1740
- Regina Davies 323-2227
PRAYER LINE
Founded in a deep belief in the power of prayer, this ministry gives support, comfort and peace of mind to those who request prayer support. Members are on an email list or a phone chain. No meeting times are necessary.
❖ RoseAnn Cavaceci 322-6698

PARISH AND FAMILY LIFE

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY
This group provides the upkeep and needs of the altar and the church through our annual cabbage roll sale and the spring chicken paprikas dinner. Meetings are held with a scheduled program and refreshments in the Church Social Hall. A calendar of events is available in September and on the book rack in the vestibule throughout the year.
❖ Marianne Sommerfelt 458-8458

HOLY NAME SOCIETY
·200 CLUB
Provides men of the parish an opportunity to socialize, promote community and work together on parish projects. They meet the first Tuesday of the month, September to May at 7:30PM in the Church Hall. The 200 Club social activity, headed up by Dan Bauer (322-3401) includes a banquet twice a year with drawings for $1300 and two other drawings during the year. Proceeds help the parish provide activities and not-budgeted needs. Planning committee meets in conjunction with the regular Holy Name Society meetings.
❖ John Koviak 322-5137
❖ Dan Bauer 322-3401 (200 Club)

PARISH NURSES
These nurses, on the last weekend each month, freely provide blood pressure checks and various other screenings (e.g. blood sugar checks once a year) to encourage and promote the good health of parishioners. No regular meeting times. Organizational meetings are rare. If you are in the medical profession your help is needed.
❖ Joanne Maiden 322-3515

BEREAVEMENT HOSPITALITY
This ministry provides love, support and comfort to grieving families by organizing and serving a luncheon after the funeral Mass. Some members provide a salad or dessert when called; others actually help with the serving of the meal. No regular meeting dates; volunteers help when the need arises.
❖ Kaye Elfers 323-1048

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE
This committee discerns and plans parish events which are in harmony with the spirit and focus of the parish and provide significant income for the parish’s general budget. Activities include golf outings, dinners, sales, auctions, raffles and services that provide assistance for parishioners. While the goal is fundraising, the spirit is community formation and fun. This committee meets on an as-needed basis.
❖ Stan Wojdyla 366-6831

COMMUNITY 50+ CLUB
This new group will meet on the second Wednesday each month at 12:00 Noon in the Church Hall. There will be social aspects as well as spiritual.
❖ Bernie Miller 324-5007

GARDEN CLUB
Parishioners are invited to help keep our Saint Agnes parish grounds beautiful. Families or individuals can take ‘ownership’ of a large or small section of the gardens around the church or rectory and maintain this at their leisure. This would include planting (plants are provided), weeding, trimming, watering, etc.
❖ Lynn Loper 458-5707

PARISH PICNIC
This committee meets several times between March and July to plan the parish picnic which is held in July each year. They coordinate all the activities which include food, family games, a corn hole tournament, softball, volleyball, guessing games, Bingo, a corn roast, a free-food Community Table, hikes, crafts, dancing, etc. Can always use help!
❖ Call the Parish Office

COFFEE AND DONUTS
This full-parish ministry provides fellowship after the Sunday Masses on the last Sunday of the month. Each month one of the parish ministries or groups hosts the gathering. Extra helpers are always most welcome. There are no regular meetings.
❖ Debbie Forbush 322-5622

SENIOR CITIZEN GROUP
Almost every month our parish senior citizens gather for a meal out, an excursion, a Metro Park tour, or other social activity. Saint Agnes Parish also collaborates socially, has workshops, shares bus trips and sponsors joint religious activities with seniors from Saint Mary Parish and Saint Jude Parish.
❖ RoseAnn Cavaceci 322-6698
100TH ANNIVERSARY
Join in the planning of Saint Agnes’ historical 100th birthday! We have been sharing our faith on the West Side of Elyria for generations. Be a part of this momentous occasion! There are many ways to help out.

- **Deacon Bruce Tennant** 822-0108

### WORSHIP

#### WORSHIP COMMISSION
- **CHURCH ENVIRONMENT**
  
  This is a group of parishioners who love liturgy and meet before major liturgical seasons (e.g. Advent, Lent, Easter, etc.) to plan themes, music and aids in decorations to beautify the sanctuary and church especially for holydays and the liturgical seasons. Requires a willingness to grow in a deeper understanding of liturgy, including liturgical law, diocesan guidelines and local custom.

- **Bernie Miller** 324-5007
- **Call parish office** 322-5622

#### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION
- **Mass**
- **Hospital Visitation**
- **Homebound Ministry**

Trained and commissioned by the Diocese of Cleveland, these parishioners assist at the weekend Masses with the distribution of Holy Communion and when asked, bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are sick or homebound. Diocesan training workshops and certification are necessary. EMHC’s also aid in distributing Holy Communion to the patients at EMH Regional Medical Center on Saturday mornings and visiting homebound parishioners on a regular basis to visit, pray and bring them Holy Communion. Each Fall, a parish evening of prayer and recommitment is held. Requires a commitment to serve as needed.

- **Deacon Bruce Tennant** 822-0108 (Mass)
- **Jean Seybert** 458-8634 (EMH)
- **Lynn Loper** 458-5707 (Homebound)

#### LECTORS

These ministers proclaim and bring alive God’s Holy Word for the people of Saint Agnes Church at weekend Masses. Requires an ability to read publicly and project with interpretation and meaning. Workshops are held once a year with special training as needed for new lectors.

- **Deacon Bruce Tennant** 822-0108

#### ALTAR SERVERS

Adults, families, and children can join this special ministry, assisting the priest and deacon at the altar during the celebration of weekend Masses. Adults can also assist at the altar for parish funerals. Adults who are also EMHC’s may exercise that ministry at the same time they assist at the altar. A training session is needed before beginning.

- **Deacon Bruce Tennant** 822-0108

#### GREETERS

These men and women perform the ministry of hospitality and greeting at weekend Masses. Their cheerful reception makes every parishioner and visitor feel warm and welcome. They help with seating and assist with other courtesies when needed. Training sessions necessary.

- **Call the Parish Office**

#### USHERS

Ushers are liturgical ministers who serve at weekend Masses and other special celebrations by welcoming, taking up the collection, assisting in emergencies and other tasks during Mass as the need arises. Training sessions as necessary.

- **Steve Fuchs** 322-3518

#### CHILDREN’S LITURGY

These prepared adults present and discuss the Sunday readings for the children in a manner they understand during the Liturgy of the Word at 11:00AM Sunday Mass. Volunteers must prepare to understand the Sunday’s readings and have an ability to lead children. After training, there are no regular meetings.

- **Pat Sas** 322-2640

#### MUSIC MINISTRY

- **CANTORS**
- **SUNDAY CHOIR**
- **INSTRUMENTALISTS**

These are individuals who would like to be vocal soloists who lead the congregational singing at weekend and Holyday Masses both in the general hymns and in the antiphonal pieces. Training is needed and provided for those capable of this ministry. The Choir is anyone that would like to participate in singing at the 11:00AM Mass each Sunday from September to May. They support the congregation in the sung parts of the Mass and add special music selections and harmony to special celebrations. Parishioners with abilities in wind, string, or percussion instruments can add a great deal to our liturgical music especially on special occasions. Practice is Sunday morning between Masses from 9:30-10:30AM.

- **Marie Toth** 309-0515
SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

As a parish commission, this group coordinates all our efforts to bring not only charity to the needy, but also justice, drawing on our rich Catholic Social Justice teaching. Sometimes this involves advocacy issues; other times practical solutions for social ills. Overseeing the work of all social ministries in the parish, this commission, meets every third Thursday of the month, 6:30PM to 8:30PM in the rectory parlor.

- Stephanie Butler
  330-805-2184

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY/SAINT AGNES OUTREACH and FOOD PANTRY

As part of an international Catholic organization of laypersons, this ministry seeks to help those who are in need of food, clothing, monetary help and other basic necessities. All this is done with great respect and in a context of prayer. Members respond to real needs as soon as possible each week. The group will discuss regular meeting times with all members. The Food Pantry distributes food to those in need on a twice a month basis (usually the second Tuesdays and fourth Wednesdays).

- Kevin Hall 324-6979
- Phil Lednik 365-1841
- MaryAnn Schaefer 322-4988 (Food Pantry)

Gifted with the charism of hospitality and both challenged and guided by God’s Word, we seek to be transformed into the image of Christ and thereby deepen the bonds of love among us as we reach out to our neighborhood and world in service of the Kingdom.

Church of Saint Agnes - Mission Statement
“When you seek me with all your heart, you will find me with you,” says the Lord.”  Jeremiah 29:13

Stewardship begins in prayer. Stewardship is not about us—it is about **GOD**.

Mark the first initial of the family member making the commitment.

- _____ Attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days
- _____ Attend a weekday Mass
- _____ Spend 15 minutes daily in personal prayer
- _____ Pray together with my loved ones
- _____ Go to Eucharistic Adoration on the 4th Tuesday of the month
- Reflect on/study the Sunday readings
- _____ Read the Bible for one hour each week
- _____ Pray the rosary weekly
- _____ Go to confession every other month
- Other: ___________________________

- Share time with God in prayer-

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**TALENT**

**EDUCATION**
- Bible Study & More _________________________
- RCIA __________________
- Youth Confirmation _______________________
- Religious Education:
  - 1st Sunday, PSR, The ROCK_______________
  - VBS ___________ Book Rack _____________

**SPIRITUAL LIFE**
- Spiritual Development _____________________
- Stewardship: _____________________________
- Evangelization ___________________________
- Safe Harbor Support _____________________
- Prayer Line ______________________________

**WORSHIP**
- Worship Commission:
  - Church Environment _________________
- Lectors ___________ Greeters _____________
- Servers _______ Ushers _________________
- Music _______ CLOW _________________
- Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion ___________

**PARISH AND FAMILY LIFE**
- Altar & Rosary ___________________________
- Holy Name (200 Club) ___________________
- 100th Anniversary ______________________
- Parish Nurses ___________________________
- Bereavement Hosp. _____________________
- FUNdraising _____________________________
- 50 + Club _______________________________
- Garden Club _____________________________
- Parish Picnic ____________________________
- Coffee & Donuts _________________________
- Senior Group ____________________________

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**SOCIAL CONCERNS**

Social Justice:
- SVDP / Outreach: _______________________
- Food Pantry _____________________________

**TREASURE**

**My Offertory Pledge to Saint Agnes Church**

Please complete either a weekly or monthly gift:

Weekly gift: OR Monthly gift:

$_______ $_______

☐ I use/am interested in direct deposit: **Parish Pay**
(Go to www.saintagneselyria.org for information)

In thanksgiving for God’s gracious gifts, each household at Saint Agnes Church is asked to give a percentage of income based on the Biblical tithe:

- 5% to Saint Agnes Church
- 5% to other charities

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**-Financially support the parish-**
2013-14 Stewardship Renewal Commitment Card

“Celebrate Your Faith And Serve The Lord”

TIME

Saint Agnes Catholic Church
Elyria, Ohio

(Please return completed Commitment Card to Mass or in the mail by October 26 / 27. Thank you and God bless you!)

__________________________________
First and Last Name
(one card per family, write individual names or initials on other side )

_________________________________________
Address

_________________________________________
Phone Number

_________________________________________
E-mail

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