

Rest  
in GOD  
alone, my soul!  
Psalm 62

## 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### PLEASE PRAY FOR...

✠ The Holy Father's Missionary Intention for the month of March: that the Holy Spirit may give light and strength to the Christian communities and the faithful who are persecuted or discriminated against because of the Gospel

✠ The poor, the disadvantaged, the unemployed, and the forgotten, that they may experience the power of God's Spirit and the help of his people

✠ Those entrusted with responsibilities in our government, that they may prove trustworthy in the roles of service that God has given to them

February 26th & 27th, 2011

### UPCOMING PARISH-WIDE MEETINGS



**Reminder:** All parishioners are encouraged to attend their Town Hall meeting regarding the Diocesan Strategic Planning Process. **See Fr. Francis's column inside this bulletin for more information.**

### **ASH WEDNESDAY IS MARCH 9TH**

Our Mass schedule is as follows:

8:30 am @ Sacred Heart  
12:10 pm @ St. Agnes  
7:00 pm @ St. Agnes

*Elementary school youth will receive ashes during their Release Classes*



### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the parishioners of St. Agnes and Sacred Heart, are inspired by the Word of God, empowered by the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Eucharist. We strive to use our time, talents and resources to become a real presence of Christ.

Our mission is to reach people for God, to welcome them into His Holy Church and to lovingly strengthen and support them as we journey toward our eternal home.

**Schedule of Mass Intentions**


**Key: SA = St. Agnes, Walker & SH = Sacred Heart, Hackensack**

SH 4:00pm	<b>2/26 Mass</b> — <i>Intention for All Parishioners</i>
SA 5:30 pm	<b>2/26: Mass</b> — <i>Intention for John &amp; Verda Dricoll</i>
SH 8:30 am	<b>2/27: Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Ervin Atkinson</i>
SA 10:00 am	<b>2/27: Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Sadie Elsenpeter</i>
SA 8:00 am	<b>3/1: Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Vaughn Cope</i>
SA 8:00 am	<b>3/2: Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Sadie Elsenpeter</i>
SA 8:00 am	<b>3/3: Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Guy &amp; Carrie Kemp</i>
SH 8:00 am	<b>3/4: Mass</b> — <i>Intention for Roman &amp; Lillian Meuwissen</i>

**To request a Mass Intention, contact the Parish Office**

**SEE OUR PARISH CALENDARS FOR FEBRUARY OR MARCH 2011, AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX, FOR ALL UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

**ST. AGNES SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP**

 All parishioners and visitors are invited to join us in the Social Hall after Sunday Mass for coffee and rolls; we would like to get to know you!

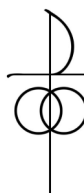
*Thanks to Dave & Sandy Munson for serving coffee this weekend!*

**NOTICE REGARDING CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES**


2011 Envelopes are available for pick up in the Narthex through the end of February. After this weekend, all remaining envelopes will be returned to the Parish Office and available by request. If you cannot find your name but would like envelopes, contact the office. If you are a snowbird who would like envelopes mailed to you, please contact the office.

***In order to ensure that we have the correct account number for your contributions, please write your name on your envelope when making a cash donation.***

**IT'S ALL ABOUT SACRAMENTS: MATRIMONY**

 This event has been rescheduled for Wednesday, March 16th. Mass will be at 5:30 followed by a pot luck meal and presentation on Matrimony. This talk is the final installment of our series on the Sacraments and will be presented by Brian Pizzalato, Director of Catechesis for the Diocese of Duluth.

**WOMEN'S LAMB OF GOD PRAYER GROUP**

 Will **NOT** be meeting again until spring, but please continue to pray for our parishes, parishioners, and our many needs!

**DRIVER IMPROVEMENT COURSE**

ARE YOU 55+? This course will save you 10% on your Auto Insurance for 3 years! There are no written or behind the wheel tests. All courses are offered at Sacred Heart Church in Hackensack.

- Mar 1st: 8 HR FULL COURSE (for 1st timers) 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
- Mar 2: 4 Hour Refresher (for repeat students) 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Apr 27: 4 Hour Refresher (for repeat students) 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

**Register by calling (toll free) 1-888-234-1294**

**Do you have an intention for our prayer chains?**

**For St. Agnes:** Call Betty Meeks at 547-1347 or (alternate) Zola Bleth at 547-2239.

**For Sacred Heart:** Call Joan Rueter at 682-2324 or (alternate) Lucille Abbott at 675-6102.



**SPRING CAMPAIGN ABOUT TO BEGIN!**



Wednesday, March 9th (Ash Wednesday) marks the beginning of the 40 Days for Life spring campaign. 243 cities across the US and around the world are asking Christians to pray and fast for an end to abortion. Although Walker is not hosting a vigil at this time, we invite you to pray for the efforts of these cities and watch our bulletin for information on local events.

**NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

A new Bible Study began Tuesday, February 1; "Seven Last Words of Christ" is a study on Jesus' Passion. The group meets weekly at 5:00 pm at the home of Rosemary Ellis. Cost for materials is \$10. If you wish to join, call 547-1509.



**YEAR END STATEMENTS**



In the past few weeks, you should have received your year end contribution report by mail. If there are corrections needed or you did not receive your statement, please contact Business Manager Pete Pederson or Fr. Francis via the office. Mistakes do happen, as you know and we are more than willing to correct them, once they are identified.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS, USHERS, LECTORS, AND SERVERS**

March schedules are now available in the info rack in the Narthex

**\*\*NEW:** St. Agnes Liturgists, please check in before each Mass using the schedule at the Usher's table in the back of church. If you are substituting, please cross off that person's name and write your own name so we know the position is covered. Thanks!\*\*

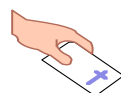
**Eucharistic Ministers** at St. Agnes: Please remember to **use the cross necklaces** found near the Usher's table so we know if more helpers are needed.



**Alter Servers are needed at all Masses:**



Any youth can volunteer to serve. Server Training will be held on Wednesday, March 30th at 5:30pm at St. Agnes; supper will be provided. All St. Agnes & Sacred Heart youth in 2nd grade or older should plan to attend.



**Stewardship**

	<u>St. Agnes</u>	<u>Sacred Heart</u>
<b>Plate</b>	\$790.00	\$553.00
<b>Envelope</b>	\$1,195.00	\$892.00
<b>UCA</b>	\$14,750 (60%) Goal: \$24,405	\$9,232(43%) Goal: \$21,565

**St. Agnes Building Balance Remaining: \$190,017.53**

## YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **ALL YOUTH**



**SERVER TRAINING** will be held on Wednesday, March 30th at 5:30pm at St. Agnes; supper will be provided. All St. Agnes & Sacred Heart youth in 2nd grade or older should plan to attend.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Youth (and parents), we are in charge of Stations on Thursday, March 17th. We need as many youth as possible to help lead the prayers. Stations begin at 5:30 and a soup supper will follow.



### **7<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS**

**YOUTH GROUP THIS WEEK:** see you at 5:30 on 3/2!

**CONFIRMANTS:** Please turn in your registration (with payment) for the March 25-26 Retreat in Hibbing ASAP. See you at the St. Agnes pancake breakfast on 3/6 and class on 3/13!

**CHAOS! YOUTH RALLY:** 9-12th Graders are invited to attend CHAOS at St. Lawrence in Duluth...it is FREE. Carpool will be leaving St. Agnes at 3:00pm on 3/5 and will return around midnight. This is the last CHAOS of the school year...so we should go! Permission slips are available on the Youth Board.

### **K-6<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS**



**K-6<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS HAVE RELEASE CLASSES THIS WEEK!** 2nd through 6th Graders will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Lent. See you on Wednesday!

HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUTH ACTIVITIES?  
PLEASE CONTACT LORI AT DRE@STAGNESCATHOLIC.COM

*Know God. Love God. Serve God.*

## WHAT IS A SEDER MEAL?

Seder is the traditional Passover meal celebrated by the Hebrews since the Exodus in thanksgiving to God for deliverance and redemption from slavery in Egypt to freedom and also for His protection of their families. In Jewish families, it is where children are first introduced to the Book of Exodus, using all five senses to make this an unforgettable event. Seder is that famous meal, The Last Supper, hosted by Jesus for His disciples, in which Jesus chose to announce The New Covenant, instituting the Eucharist.

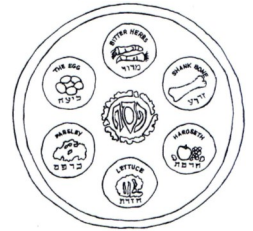
The Seder dinner is as Christian as it is Jewish. It is the focal point where we bring together our common heritage. We, as Christians, are heirs of Abraham through Faith and children of God through Christ. We can be confident that it will be a worthwhile experience because Jesus told us to do it; Seder is the Feast of Unleavened Bread mentioned twice in Acts of the Apostles (12:3 and 20:6). Saints Peter and Paul celebrated Seder and encouraged others, both Jews and Gentiles, to do this also. It is through understanding and partaking in the Seder that we will understand, more completely, the persecution, faith, and deliverance granted to our early Church fathers for trusting in God.

*Please clip and turn in to the baskets in our Narthex by April 1st*

## **SEDER MEAL RSVP**

**Thursday, April 14th, 2011**

following 5:30pm Stations of the Cross  
at St. Agnes Catholic Church, Walker, MN



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# of Adults Attending \_\_\_\_\_

# of Children (10 & under) Attending \_\_\_\_\_

*Cost is \$12/plate. Children 10 & under free. No need to include payment with this RSVP, payments can be made the evening of the event.*

## **A NOTE FROM FATHER FRANCIS**

Dear Parishioners,

Within this weekend's bulletin, you will find additional information about the Diocesan Strategic Planning process. As you can see, both of our parishes fared very well on the **Parish Profile**, healthier than the average in our Deanery. Please review the insert in preparation for the Town-Hall meetings this and next weekend. I urge all parishioners to attend to provide input for our representatives to bring to the upcoming Deanery planning meeting.

**The meeting for Sacred Heart will be this Sunday, February 27th, at 3:00pm in the Sacred Heart Social Hall. Parish Representatives, Dean Garoutte and Jennie Rudolph will be on hand to collect all information. Clarence Reuter will moderate with questions recommended from the Diocese.**

**The meeting for St. Agnes will be next Sunday, March 6th, at 11:30 am in the St. Agnes Social Hall; breakfast will be served by the Youth Group. Parish Representatives, Jamie Richter and Skip Duchesneau will be on hand to collect all information. Mike Bergmann will serve as moderator asking questions recommended from the Diocese.**

Also, kindly mark Thursday, **April 14th**, on your calendar. That evening, following 5:30pm Stations of the Cross at St. Agnes, we will be having a **Seder Meal**. Seder is a ceremonial meal marking the beginning of the Jewish Passover following an ancient rubric of symbols and stories. This is an annual family event that I would like to introduce within our parishes as it helps us to reconnect with our spiritual roots through Jewish tradition, but more so to understand the Eucharist as a sacrificial and thanksgiving ritual that we celebrate every day. In my previous assignments, I've witnessed over 100 people attend the Seder Meal. The cost will be \$12/plate for adults, kids 10 and under attend for free; payment can be made the evening of the event. Reservations are required; you may contact the parish office or use the slip found above to RSVP by April 1st. **Volunteers are needed** to help prepare the meal. A meeting will be held March 7th at 5:30pm at St. Agnes for anyone interested in helping.

May God bless you all,  
Fr. Francis

P.S. Again, details of the Diocesan Strategic Planning process were included in the bulletin during the weekend of January 29th & 30th. If you did not receive a copy at that time, you may pick one up in the Narthex. Also, visit [www.dioceseduluth.org](http://www.dioceseduluth.org) and keep watching The Northern Cross for more info.

## SPECIAL EDITION INSERT

### Diocese of Duluth Strategic Planning Process Town Hall Meeting Preparation

#### SEEKING GOD'S WILL IN STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

Our new year, 2011, is quickly unfolding. Like Revelation itself, the stripping away of the veil, God is manifesting his love for us in ways ever present and ever new. A great challenge presents itself to our diocese this year — the discernment of God's will as we enter more fully into our strategic planning process. **I ask three things of all the faithful: your prayers, your participation and, ultimately, your receptivity to God's will.** We have much to learn this year and much to do. As with any task assigned to us, "a job worth doing is worth doing well."

I ask you to pray. At the heart of our prayer is Sunday Mass. The sacred liturgy is a priority for us because it is the source and summit of our spiritual life. In the midst of our busy, noisy lives, we cannot exist spiritually without the Eucharist; we must make every effort to be nourished by our Lord's word and his body and blood. The Diocese of Duluth is under the patronage of Our Lady of the Rosary. It is my hope to make the rosary our diocesan prayer to guide our strategic planning process. While I will leave it to the discernment of your pastor and councils to decide whether to pray the rosary before or after Mass, or perhaps from house to house with a traveling icon or statue, or as a family, I ask that this powerful prayer be rediscovered or reintroduced so as to invoke Our Lady's intercession to guide our planning process. I ask that rosaries be offered until this process concludes in January of 2012.

I ask your participation. Each and every member of the Body of Christ has something to contribute to this process. St. Paul reminds us: "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone" (1 Corinthians 12:4-6). Some of you will lead or facilitate this planning process, others will utter wisdom or have the gift of knowledge to share, and some of you will have gifts of prophecy, discernment and healing. All of us will be praying. We need all the members of the Body to participate as fully as they are able. As I have stated from the beginning, no decisions have been made about our parishes. I will depend on the collective wisdom of all the faithful to guide me in discerning God's will for our diocese at this time, its parishes, its priests and its missions.

I ask your receptivity and openness to God's will. Our loving Father has a plan for us. Like all God's calls in the sacred Scripture, our call today involves conversion, a radical reorientation of our lives to Jesus Christ. This process will involve change for us and a letting go. I know it will involve sacrifice, a beautiful word that means to make something holy. Our trust is in God. With our prayers and participation, he will guide us in discerning his will and give us the grace to do it with courage and faith.

If done in Christ, this process will bear great fruit. Personally, our Lord will lead us to a deeper holiness. Collectively, the decisions we make will strengthen our local church to be able to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ more effectively to our brothers and sisters in Northeastern Minnesota and beyond our borders.

Saints are men and women of faith who have said yes to God and followed him. God calls all of us to be saints. Our recent Holy Fathers have spoken of a "new springtime" and called us to a "new evangelization" of our church and world. By our cooperation and receptivity of God's will, we will help usher in the good news of the kingdom of God and set the Diocese of Duluth on fire with the love of the Lord!

*Bishop Paul Sirba*

#### QUESTIONS FOR TOWN-HALL MEETING DISCUSSION

As you prepare for the meeting (2/27 @ 3:00 pm @ Sacred Heart or 3/6 @ 11:30 am @ St. Agnes), please reflect on these questions offered by the Diocese for further discussion at Deanery and Diocesan level:

- 1) What are at least three ways in which you see our parish continuing to cooperate and collaborate with the neighboring parishes in the future regarding the human, material and physical resources?
- 2) Which two or three parishes do you think, as a parish, we should continue to maintain or enhance a collaborative spirit with?
- 3) What suggestion do you have for carrying out this collaboration with other local parishes?
- 4) What are some of the social problems in the local area and beyond that our parish should respond to, considering the missionary spirit of the Church within our Diocese and all over the world?
- 5) What would be your commitment towards a good stewardship spirit of prayer, service, and sharing and how do you think you would be enriched by reaching out beyond our parish?
- 6) In a simple sentence, what would be your advice to the strategic planning committee concerning our parish and the diocese in general?

#### Strategic Planning Timeline

##### **PARISH CONSULTATION PHASE**

**November-December 2010**

- Planning handbook assembled
- Parish surveys sent to parishes
- Pastors and parish leaders complete and return surveys
- Diocesan Planning Committee formed
- The Northern Cross article on planning process

##### **DEANERY PLANNING PHASE**

**January-February 2011**

- Deanery Planning Groups set (pastor and two lay representatives from each parish)
- Facilitators recruited and prepared
- Parish surveys processed into profiles and sent to pastors to share with parishioners

- More coverage in The Northern Cross

**March 2011**

- Preliminary deanery plans drafted by Diocesan Strategic Planning Committee

- More coverage in The Northern Cross

**April-September 2011**

- Deanery Planning Groups meet to review/improve preliminary drafts
- More coverage in The Northern Cross

##### **DIOCESAN REVIEW PHASE**

**October-November 2011**

- Refined deanery plans reviewed by diocesan committee and presented to the Presbyteral Council for review

- More coverage in The Northern Cross

##### **BISHOP'S FINAL REVIEW PHASE**

**December 2011**

- Bishop Sirba reviews and gives input on deanery recommendations

**January 2012**

Bishop Sirba approves finalized Diocesan Strategic Planning Guidelines and publishes them in The Northern Cross