



**Rev. Brent Maher, Pastor**

*In Residence:* Rev. Joey F. Angeles; Rev. Alex Harb

# SAINT AGNES

**Catholic Church**

749 EAST BOULEVARD / BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

**March 10, 2024**

**4th Sunday of Lent (*Laetare Sunday*)**

**Latin: Fourth Sunday of Lent**

*Latin Mass Music. Campion Missal: Asperges Me, p. 567. Missa XVII, p. 762. Credo III, p. 776. Communion, p. 363. Ave Regina Caelorum, p. 951.*

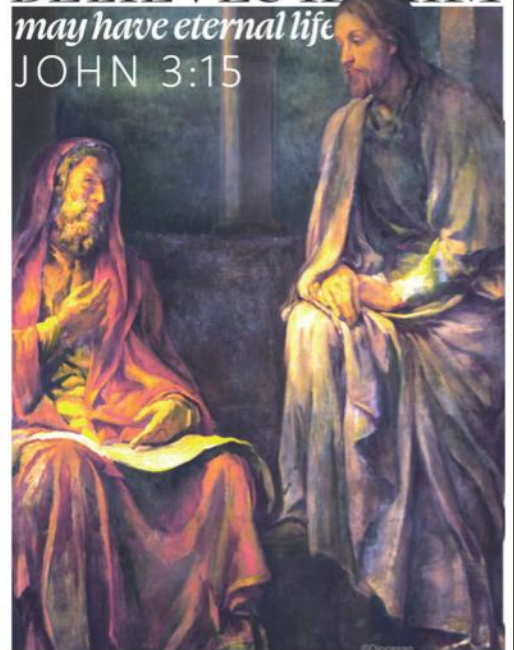
## NOVENA PRAYER FOR EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL WEEK SEVEN

The Eucharist is Someone, not something: Our Lord Jesus, fully present here and now! Belief in that doctrine is not enough. Actions must align with belief. *Adoration* of Him is necessary. At Mass, we adore both actively (gesture, vocal prayer, song) and contemplatively (gazing wordlessly upon Him). For nine Sundays, we will pray together the Eucharistic Revival novena prayers on the pamphlet in the pews. We are also encouraged to spend an hour in adoration before Him each week.

Nicodemus was a good and holy man. He was a Pharisee and a member of the Sanhedrin, a man who took his faith seriously, practiced it diligently, and studied it ardently. He was apparently fascinated with Jesus and knew he was a man of God because he could see the wondrous works Jesus performed. Yet it was not politically correct for him to be talking to Jesus, since his fellow Pharisees already were very put off with Jesus when he drove the money changers and sellers out of the temple. So Nicodemus visits Jesus in the dead of night, so that his deed would not be known. And in his discussion with Jesus he learns something new, so radically new that it would take him about three years to be able to follow Jesus in the daylight by being so bold as to ask Pilate for Jesus' crucified body. Nicodemus knew all the commandments, the rules, the regulations, the feast days, the customs, and the traditions of the Jewish faith and observed them carefully. But on that night, Jesus would try to shed a new light on that faith. Jesus declared himself not just a prophet among the many that God had sent to the Jewish people over the centuries when he needed to call them back to himself, but Jesus identified himself as the Son of God who was sent into the world not to condemn it but so that all might have eternal life. The focus was radically shifted from principles, processes, and procedures, to a person, who claimed to be God himself. This was so radically new and shocking to Nicodemus that there was a long period of labor before he would be born again in Spirit and in truth. . . . Sometimes we Catholics can be like Nicodemus and his colleagues. We have so many rituals, moral principles, Church structures, and programs that we can easily forget that all of these very important things are meant to nurture within us a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. . . . In the Catholic Church we have the most amazing encounter with Jesus we can imagine. He makes himself physically present as he speaks his Word to us and gives us his Body and Blood so that he can unite intimately with us in a holy communion. It is in that holy communion that we are united together to become the Body of Christ, born again into this world of today, so that God's love can still be made available to all. . . . We are called to proclaim his tremendous love, not just in the night of our own comfortable circles, but in the light of a world that so much needs his healing love.

*Source: Most Reverend Larry Silva, Bishop of Honolulu, catholicahawaii.org, March 14, 2021*

*so that everyone who*  
**BELIEVES IN HIM**  
*may have eternal life*  
**JOHN 3:15**



### HOLY MASS

**Monday–Friday: 6 am and 5:30 pm in Lent**  
**Tuesday 5:30 pm is the Traditional Latin Mass**

**Saturday: 8 am**

**4 PM (ANTICIPATED)**

**SUNDAY: 8 AM (ASL), 9:15 AM (LATIN), 11 AM**

**Monthly Pro-Life Mass: 2nd Tuesday, 5:30 pm**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS 6 pm Fridays in Lent**

### CONFESSION

**Monday–Saturday: Before daily Mass**  
**Saturday: 3–3:45 pm Or by appointment**

### ADORATION CHAPEL

**Monday–Friday: 9 am–3 pm**

**SUNG VESPERS, ADORATION, BENEDICTION**

*Every Sunday in Lent at 5 pm*

**BAPTISM** Contact the parish office.

**MARRIAGE** Contact the parish office at least 6 months in advance.

**TUESDAY MARCH 19**

**SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH,**  
Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary



**NOVENA MARCH 10–18**

O good father Joseph! I beg you by all your sufferings, sorrows, and joys to obtain for me what I ask.

*(mention request)*

Obtain for all those who have asked my prayers, everything that is useful to them in the plan of God. Be near to me in my last moments, that I may eternally sing the praises of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Amen.

*(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be)*

## **THE FORTY MARTYRS OF SEBASTE** **FEAST DAY MARCH 10**

These holy martyrs suffered at Sebaste, in the Lesser Armenia, under the Emperor Licinius, in 320. They were of different countries, but enrolled in the same troop; all in the flower of their age, comely, brave, and robust, and were become considerable for their services. St. Gregory of Nyssa and Procopius say they were of the Thundering Legion, so famous under Marcus Aurelius for the miraculous rain and victory obtained by their prayers. This was the twelfth legion, and then quartered in Armenia. Lysias was duke or general of the forces, and Agricola the governor of the province. The latter having signified to the army the orders of the emperor Licinius for all to sacrifice, these forty went boldly up to him, and said they were Christians, and that no torments should make them ever abandon their holy religion. The judge first endeavored to gain them by mild usage; as by representing to them the dishonor that would attend their refusal to do what was required, and by making them large promises of preferment and high favor with the emperor in case of compliance. Finding these methods of gentleness ineffectual, he had recourse to threats, and these the most terrifying, if they continued disobedient to the emperor's order, but all in vain. To his promises they answered that he could give them nothing equal to what he would deprive them of; and to his threats, that his power only extended over their bodies which they had learned to despise when their souls were at stake. The governor, finding them all resolute, caused them to be torn with whips, and their sides to be rent with iron hooks; after which they were loaded with chains, and committed to jail. After some days, Lysias, their general, coming from Caesarea to Sebaste, they were reexamined, and no less generously rejected the large promises made them than they despised the torments they were threatened with. The governor, highly offended at their courage, and that liberty of speech with which they accosted him, devised an extraordinary kind of death, which, being slow and severe, he hoped would shake their constancy. The cold in Armenia is very sharp, especially in March, and towards the end of winter, when the wind is north, as it then was, it being also at that time a severe frost. Under the walls of the town stood a pond, which was frozen so hard that it would bear walking upon with safety. The judge ordered the saints to be exposed quite naked on the ice; and in order to tempt them the more powerfully to renounce their faith, a warm bath was prepared at a small

distance from the frozen pond, for any of this company to go to who were disposed to purchase their temporal ease and safety on that condition. The martyrs, on hearing their sentence, ran joyfully to the place, and without waiting to be stripped, undressed themselves, encouraging one another in the same manner as is usual among soldiers in military expeditions attended with hardships and dangers, saying that one bad night would purchase them a happy eternity. They also made this their joint prayer: "Lord, we are forty who are engaged in this combat; grant that we may be forty crowned, and that not one be wanting to this sacred number." The guards in the mean time ceased not to persuade them to sacrifice, that by so doing they might be allowed to pass to the warm bath. But though it is not easy to form a just idea of the bitter pain they must have undergone, of the whole number only one had the misfortune to be overcome; who, losing courage, went off from the pond to seek the relief in readiness for such as were disposed to renounce their faith; but as the devil usually deceives his adorers, the apostate no sooner entered the warm water but he expired. This misfortune afflicted the martyrs; but they were quickly comforted by seeing his place and their number miraculously filled up. A sentinel was warming himself near the bath, having been posted there to observe if any of the martyrs were inclined to submit. While he was attending, he had a vision of blessed spirits descending from heaven on the martyrs, and distributing, as from their king, rich presents and precious garments; St. Ephrem adds crowns to all these generous soldiers, one only excepted, who was their faint-hearted companion already mentioned. The guard, being struck with the celestial vision and the apostate's desertion, was converted upon it; and by a particular motion of the Holy Ghost, threw off his clothes, and placed himself in his stead amongst the thirty-nine martyrs. Thus God heard their request, though in another manner than they imagined: "Which ought to make us adore the impenetrable secrets of his mercy and justice," says St. Ephrem, "in this instance, no less than in the reprobation of Judas and the election of St. Matthias." . . . Though we are not all called to the trial of martyrdom, we are all bound daily to fight, and to conquer too. By multiplied victories which we gain over our passions and spiritual enemies, by the exercise of meekness, patience, humility, purity, and all other virtues, we shall render our triumph complete, and attain to the crown of bliss.

Source: Rev. Alban Butler, *The Lives of the Fathers, Martyrs, and Other Principal Saints*



## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon (11) 6 am	Private Intention
5:30 pm	Isabelle Landry, <i>ad int.</i>
Tue (12) 6 am	<b>List of the Deceased</b>
(Latin) 5:30 pm	<b>End to Abortion</b>
Wed (13) 6 am	Sister Giuliana, <i>ad int.</i> ,
	Covington Family, <i>ad int.</i> ,
	Chad Morales, <i>ad int.</i> , Thomas Metzger
5:30 pm	Gregory Kadair
Thu (14) 6 am	Patricia J. Bailey
5:30 pm	Dan Richey
Fri (15) 6 am	Joe & Tana LaPorte
5:30 pm	Matthew Regira, <i>ad int.</i>
Sat (16) 8 am	Isabelle Bergeron, <i>ad int.</i>
<b>(Anticipated) 4 pm</b>	John & Consetta Greco,
	Timothy Buhler,
	Hebert & Nan Billeaud
Sun (17) 8 am	<b>Pro Populo</b>
(Latin) 9:15 am	Fr. Brent Maher, <i>ad int.</i>
11 am	Phyllis McCown

## TABERNACLE CANDLES

March 10–16

- In loving memory of **Tim Corkran** (*church*).
- For the intentions of **Leo Murphy Beauregard** (*chapel*).

## SECOND COLLECTION

March 10: Parish Building Fund.

## MEETINGS/EVENTS

**Sunday March 10**

- Sung Vespers, Adoration & Benediction, 5 pm, church.

**Tuesday March 12**

- Parish Office closed for staff development.
- Catechism classes, 4–5:15 pm, OCB.
- Knights of Columbus, 6:30 pm, OCB meeting room.
- Culture of Life Committee, 6:30 pm, OCB upstairs classroom.

**Wednesday March 13**

- Men's Holy Hour of Reparation, 8–9 pm, adoration chapel.

**Friday March 15**

- Stations of the Cross, 6 pm.

**Saturday March 16**

- RCIA, 9 am, OCB meeting room.

*See the parish website's calendar for all events this month.*

## ALMS FOR MOMS TOTAL: \$4,223

THANK YOU for your amazing generosity last weekend!

On behalf of the Women's Help Center, the St. Agnes Culture of Life Committee extends heartfelt gratitude for the sacrifices made to assist this crisis pregnancy center, which does great good in our community. *God bless you!*

## February Online Donations

General Fund: \$5,135.48      Bldg. Fund: \$997.44  
Repairs & Replacements: \$228.99      PSR: \$428.99

## Week of February 26–March 3, 2024

Reg. Collections: \$7,760.85      Bldg. Fund: \$853  
Catholic Relief Services: \$788      Other: \$441.55

## +LENTEN SACRIFICES+

## PRAY

MONDAY–FRIDAY MASSES at 6 am & 5:30 pm

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 6 pm

*A Plenary Indulgence Opportunity!*

SUNDAY SUNG VESPERS at 5 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL Mon–Fri, 9 am to 3 pm

## FAST

FRIDAYS Abstain from Meat.

*Binding on ages 14 and older.*

MON–SAT Penance in some form is mandatory.

## GIVE

PEWS & PAINTING

Volunteers needed to refinish the church's pews and to do light painting in the parish office. To sign up, please scan codes below or go to parish website.



PEWS



PAINTING

FOOD DONATIONS for the HOMELESS

Items below are urgently needed. Please place them in the wooden chest beside Our Lady's altar. Please make sure any canned item has a pull tab so it can be opened easily.

- Vienna Sausage    ● Pop-Tarts    ● Pork & Beans
- Saltine Crackers    ● Peanut Butter Sandwich Crackers
- Canned Peaches    ● Peanut Butter    ● Canned Soup

The Arm of

## ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE

is visiting the United States and is coming to  
THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

Known as the *Apostle of the Impossible*, Saint Jude is revered for his unwavering dedication and steadfast faith. Millions have experienced his intercession in times of adversity and need.



DATE: Wednesday, March 13, 2024

LOCATION: St. George Catholic Church

ADDRESS: 7808 St. George Drive - Baton Rouge, LA 70809 (337) 232-8945

VENERATION OF THE RELIC BEGINS: 3:30 PM

SPECIAL MASS IN HONOR OF SAINT JUDE: 7:00 PM

VENERATION ENDS: 10:00 PM

stagnesbr.com

facebook.com/StAgnesBR

prayer line: stagnesprays@yahoo.com

**St. Agnes Parish Office Hours**

Mon–Thurs, 9am–3pm

Fri, 9am–Noon

Phone: 225-383-4127    Fax: 225-383-4154

Email: office@stagnesbr.com

(Missionaries of Charity: 225-383-8367)

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