



Principal's Thoughts

Feast of St. Agnes

The 60th Jubilee of our parish offers us the opportunity to have many special events, activities and masses as we reflect on our past and look toward the future. This Sunday, we will gather together as a parish community at one mass to celebrate the Feast of St. Agnes, our patron saint. The 10am Mass will be extra special; St. Agnes will be represented by Aurelia Gibson and she will be escorted in by our girl scout troop. A special presentation of symbols will also take place. I hope you will attend.

Saint Agnes was a beautiful young girl and a member of Roman nobility. Many men wanted to marry her but she refused them because of her love and devotion to God! At the age of 12 or 13 she was put to death for her final refusal to marry the Governor's son.

Her name is associated with the Latin word for "lamb" (agnus.) Her image is often depicted in art accompanied by a lamb to symbolize her innocence and purity. Traditionally on her feast day two lambs are brought to the Pope to be blessed. On Holy Thursday the wool from these lambs is gathered and woven into the pallium (a circular band worn around the neck as part of the liturgical vestments) given to a new Archbishop.

St. Agnes is the patron saint of young girls, including the Girl Scouts. In 1858 The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Agnes was founded. These devoted ladies dedicate their lives to promote justice and build community for the poor throughout the United States and Latin America. Today we honor St. Agnes' steadfast love for God and believe she is the perfect role model for our St. Agnes girls!

St. Agnes School Mission Statement

St. Agnes School, in partnership with the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Oakland educate children in the Catholic faith and nurture their minds, bodies, and souls, inspiring them to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, achieve their highest academic and creative potential, and actively serve and enrich the community.

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BREAKING NEWS

- **Hope for the Future**
 - We have learned that one of our sister schools in Los Angeles (Corpus Christi) was destroyed in the recent Palisades fire and we would like to offer them some assistance.
 - Given this is the Jubilee Year of Hope, our goal is to raise \$2025. We are asking each child to donate \$7.00 to achieve this goal. Can you help?
 - Please send your donations to the classroom teacher. Thank you in advance for your generosity.
- **Calling All 5th Gr. Parents**
 - Please plan to attend the Jr. High Orientation Night scheduled for Tuesday, January 21st at 7pm in Cauchi Hall.
 - The junior high teachers will be present to share their expectations and tips on how to prepare your student for this next phase of their education.
- **Open House is Coming!**
 - Please mark your calendars for Sunday, January 26th for our Annual Open House and Book Fair.
 - The day will begin with Mass at 9am followed by hospitality, classroom visits and the much loved Book Fair in the library from 10am-12pm.
 - We can't wait to see you!
 - **Book Fair News**
 - Included in your family envelope is a letter from Mrs. Cesca with all the pertinent information regarding the Book Fair.
 - Each class is scheduled for a walk through to create their shopping list and then a separate day to return and shop.

Schoolwide Learning Expectation: a faith-centered person, living the Gospel message who is able to recognize God's love



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

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Parish News

- **Ojala Ministries Dinner**
 - A flyer with a QR code to order tickets for the dinner to support the Ojala Ministries has been included in your envelope.
 - This dinner will take place Saturday, January 25th at St. Bonaventure and will benefit their annual trip to build houses in Mexico.
- **Crab Is Finally Back?**
 - The Knights of Columbus will be holding their annual crab and tri-tip dinner on Saturday, February 1st at 6pm in the church hall.
 - A flyer and ticket request form can be found in your envelope.
 - This dinner often sells out so please purchase your tickets early.



TIME SENSITIVE

- **Looking for 3 Year-Olds**
 - Preschool enrollment is currently underway. We especially need 3 year-olds! Please spread the word. Applications can be found on our website.
- **You are Invited**
 - The 7th grade will be leading us in reflection and prayer for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Service. We would love to have you join us at 1:30pm in the church on Thursday, January 16th.
- **Calendar Alert**
 - This Friday, January 17th all staff in the Diocese will be attending the Elementary Staff Day Conference. The school will be closed. Enjoy your 4-day weekend!

Education in Virtue

Sincerity:

- Definition: Trustfulness in words and actions; honesty and enthusiasm toward others.
- Related to: Virtue of Justice
- CCC #2468 (Catechism of the Catholic Church): "Truth as uprightness in human action and speech is called truthfulness, sincerity, or candor. Truth or thoughtfulness is the virtue which consists in showing oneself true in deeds and truthful in words, and in guarding against duplicity, dissimulation, and hypocrisy."

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• Auction News!

- Tickets are now on sale! Please visit: <https://auctria.events/auction2025>
- **Want to advertise your business?**
 - Our auction program offers great advertising opportunities for local businesses! From full-page premium ads to business card-sized options, there's something for everyone.
 - Follow us on Instagram/Facebook to find out how you can promote your business while supporting our school.

• Everyone Deserves a Chance to Fly!

- Please join us for our Annual Talent Show next Friday January 24th in the church at 6:00pm.

	IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS
1/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Service 1:30pm
1/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No School – Elementary Staff Day
1/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feast of St. Agnes Mass 10am
1/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – No School
1/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feast of St. Agnes• Spirit T-Shirt Tuesday• Jr. High Orientation Night 7pm – Cauchi Hall
1/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scrip Sold 9-11• Vision Screening - Gr. K, 2 ,5, 8 & New Students• School Board Meeting 6:30pm – Ministry Center