

Parish Update

St. Agnes ~ St. Paul of the Cross ~ St. Rose

JULY 24, 2020

The Morning Star Returns!

Have you noticed it? Hanging conspicuously in the early morning heavens the planet Venus has returned. Also known as the Morning Star its prominence is truly a majestic sight to behold. If you rise early enough, an hour or two before dawn while the sky is still mostly dark, you absolutely can't miss it; it's far brighter than any other star. If you wait until dawn's light begins to fill the sky, the daystar can still be seen even as all the other stars are no longer visible. But why has it "returned"; where did it go? Sometimes Venus is visible only in the early evening, shortly after sunset in the western Sky. Even then its brightness is exceeded only by the moon. There is a brief period, between its display as either the Evening Star or the Morning Star, when Venus is not visible at all. We recently completed that cycle, and the Morning Star is now back to its revered place in the early Eastern sky. So why this astronomy lesson?

The subject of our discourse is among the many titles that have been bestowed on Our Lord to capture reverence and esteem. Unlike most of these names (see the Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus) Our Lord *referred to himself* as the Morning Star. In the dramatic conclusion to the mysterious Book of Revelation, Jesus speaks directly to its author Saint John the Evangelist, the bright morning star." (Rev 22:16)

During the first several months of the coronavirus epidemic the morning star was not visible. Having recently returned to its prominent place I don't think it's a coincidence. As Deacon Peter encouraged us this past weekend, we are not to allow the darkness and heaviness of these times to weigh us down. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5) The light of Our Lord is showing itself more splendidly now than we have seen in a long time. Look east in the early morning sky and find inspiration! The Morning Star is with us always, even when it can't physically be seen. As Deacon Bill reminded us two weekends ago, the 'Word made flesh' is found in the words of Sacred Scripture. It's up to us "dust off" the Good Book and spend time under its influence. Know the Word of God in the Bible.

Know peace,

Father Michael Fowler

Be Well, Stay SafeHope to see you in church soon!!

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Financial Update

Thank you to all the parishioners who have continued to make contributions to St Agnes, St Paul of the Cross and St Rose. Your contributions have helped to pay for expenses we were incurring during the pandemic. For the period March through June St Agnes collections were \$83,838 and were right on where we budgeted for that period. St Paul of the Cross collections were \$42,645 and were 16% under budget. St Rose was at \$36,021 and also 16% under budget.

If you are able and haven't made any contributions during the past few months, you can mail a check to the Parish Office (**96 Prospect St Avon NY 14414**), or you can go to our web site (saintagnespaulrose.org) and make an online contribution by clicking on the Online Giving link. For those of you who have returned to Mass, there is a collection basket to accept your donations. The parish offices are not yet open full time. Please feel free to email us or leave a voice mail message if you have a question or concern.

The parishes and school applied for and was granted a Paycheck Protection Plan loan that was made available through the Federal Government under the Cares Act and administered by the Small Business Administration. The loan or part of it will be forgiven to cover some of the payroll and utility cost during the pandemic. Final guidance on the forgiveness of the loan is still being defined by the government. This program will be helping to support our parishes while we are still dealing with the financial impact of the pandemic. Your Finance Council is closely monitoring the finances of the parish and providing guidance during this difficult time.





For the sick and infected: God heal and help them
 For those who have died from the virus: grant them eternal rest with you
 For our country: contain the spread of the infection
 For the young and strong: Inspire them to help
 For the scientific community: give them creativity and knowledge to find a vaccine and cure
 For the media: communicate to inform without panic
 For workers facing layoffs: help them find work and the generosity of other people
 For parents who must work: help them find safe care for their children
 For front line workers who keep our supply lines running smoothly: keep them safe and protected
 For medical workers who daily risk their lives and health in the service of other: protect and guide them

**The Catholic Health Associates of the United States.



If you would like to remember your loved ones with the celebration of the Eucharist, please leave a message for Ann in the Parish Office at 585-226-2100 Ext. 1 to schedule a Mass, and a staff member will get back to you. You may

also email your requests to: ann.brule@dor.org. We will do our best to accommodate your requested date. Mass Intention donations (\$10) can be made by mailing a check to the Parish Office. (96 Prospect St., Avon, NY 14414)

Attending Mass

Normal Mass Times (daily and weekend) are now being observed with the appropriate social distancing protocols. You will notice pews are taped off to allow for this. Hand sanitizer stations are at all the doors of church and parishioners are asked to wear a mask.

For a complete list of Guidelines for Attending Mass, please see our [website](#).



The Family Zone
 Newsletter for Families

Growing in Faith Together
 Newsletter for Young Adults

KIDS CORNER PAGE
 Sharing the Gospel, Prayer, Puzzle & Mission for the week!.



Have you missed any previous Parish Updates? [Click here to view.](#)

OUR PARISHES ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT ESPECIALLY DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES!

Donations can be mailed to:
 96 Prospect St., Avon, NY 14414

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING ~ Go to our website and click on the ONLINE GIVING Link.



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 (585) 226-2100



SaintAgnesPaulRose.org

