



A Roman Catholic Community

834 Brookside Drive, Fairfield, CT 06824 • Parish Office 203-255-6134 • Faith Formation Office 203-259-4800 • www.st-pius.org • 

Pastor

Rev. Samuel S. Kachuba

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Timothy A. Iannacone

Weekend Assistants

Fairfield Jesuit Community

Priest in Residence

Rev. Msgr. Ernest Esposito

Director of Music & Organist

Michael Lantowski

Pastoral Assistant

Kathleen Donnelly

Faith Formation *(formerly Rel. Ed.)*

Kara Clegg (Grades 1-5)

Shari Garcia (Edge Middle School)

Paola Pena (Life Teen High School)

Barbara Kwiatkowski (Assistant)

Parish Office

Terri Dawes, Administrative Assistant

Kimberlie I. Leon, Business Manager

Amy O'Donnell, Office Assistant

Barbara Kwiatkowski, Office Assistant

Parish Corp. Lay Members

Kathryn Vogt

Arthur Wolf

Parish Finance Council Chair

Jeremy Joyce

Parish Office Hours

9AM-4PM (Mon-Fri)

Parish Membership

We encourage every family in the parish to register as it is our only means of certifying you as a member of our parish family. Register online at www.st-pius.org

St. Pius X Church is wheelchair accessible with parking located at the sides of church.

Thank you for turning off all personal electronic devices before entering the church.

Mission Statement

We, the members of St. Pius X Parish, are a Roman Catholic family of faith rooted in the Eucharist, nourished by God's Word, and faithful to the sacramental life of the Church. We are committed to welcoming every person we encounter with the love and mercy of Christ. We strive to imitate Christ in all that we say and do. We are committed to teaching and sharing the Gospel, to supporting one another in prayer and action, and to reaching out to those in need, so that, as a community of disciples, we can embrace our parish patron's call to "restore all things in Christ."

Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday-Saturday: 8:30AM

Saturday Vigil: 5:15PM

Sunday: 7:30AM, 9AM, 10:30AM, 12Noon

Holy Day Mass Schedule

Vigil: 5:30PM

Holy Day: 8:30AM, 5:30PM, 7:30PM (Latin)

Confession

Saturdays: 4PM-4:45PM (Church)

Wednesdays: 7PM-8PM (Chapel)

Devotions

The Rosary and a Chaplet of the Divine Mercy is prayed each Friday by parishioners at 9AM in the Chapel. Stations of the Cross take place at 7PM on Lenten Fridays in the Chapel.

Baptism

Pre-Baptismal class is held the first Sunday of every month at 1PM. Pre-registration is required. Call Kathleen Donnelly in the Parish Office for information. Baptisms are celebrated 1:15PM on Sundays.

Marriage

Registered parishioners should make arrangements one year in advance with the Parish Office. There are no Sunday weddings.

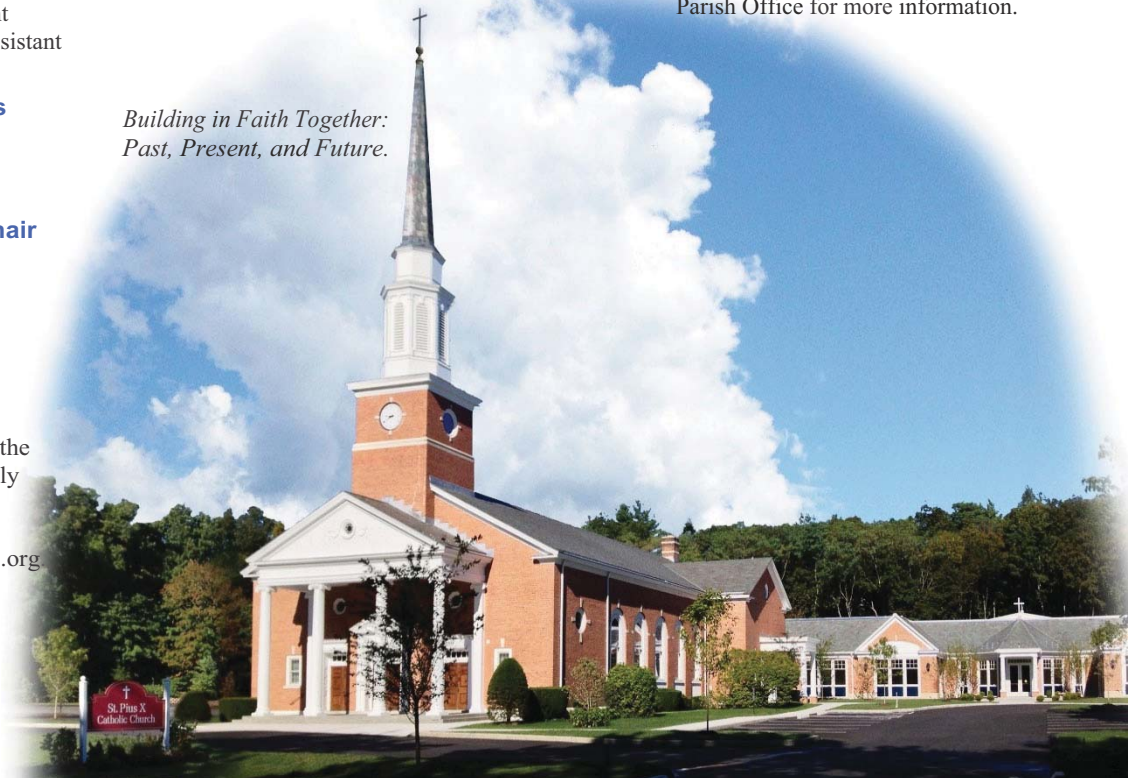
Anointing of the Sick

If you know a parishioner who is seriously ill, contact the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is available year-round to anyone who wants to inquire about our faith, baptism, or completing their initiation as Roman Catholics with Eucharist and/or confirmation. Call the Parish Office for more information.

*Building in Faith Together:
Past, Present, and Future.*





WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 17

8:30AM +Geraldine Gilmore L. & M. Foley
5:15PM +King Dykeman J. Wiesen

Sunday, November 18

7:30AM +Veronica Stofberg M. Fuligna
9AM +Michael Murphy P. & B. Carolan
10:30AM +Phil Steinborn J. Steinborn
12Noon +Alex Skultety J. Skultety

Monday, November 19

8:30AM +Stephanie Providence Sweeney Family

Tuesday, November 20

8:30AM +Philip Fracassini T. Dawes

Wednesday, November 21

8:30AM +Raul Mora G. Rodriguez

Thursday, November 22

8:30AM Intentions of All Parishioners

Friday, November 23

8:30AM +Grace Skuches Sweeney Family

Saturday, November 24

8:30AM +Jose Sanchez Mayol G. Rodriguez
5:15PM +Richard L. McGrath Steed Family

Sunday, November 25

7:30AM +Mrs. Ellen Mario
9AM +Edward & Genevieve Morris Malane Family
10:30AM +Robert Mentrasti K. Leon
12Noon +Lyn, Bill, & Billy Klein Klein Family



**Sanctuary Lights in the Church
will burn this week in memory of
Jennie & Guy Giuffre**



**Sanctuary Lights in the Chapel
will burn this week in memory of
Francis Gorman**



ST. PIUS X PRAYER LINE

We must never underestimate the power of prayer!

Let us pray for you! Email petitions/thanksgivings anytime to Pat Heile at stpiusxprayerln@aol.com or call Ann Cole at 203-362-5178, Monday-Friday and feel free to leave a message.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Continuing our reflection on the nature of Catholic funerals, I would like to return again to the most essential facet of these rites surrounding death. As a Church, our great spiritual foundation is profoundly sacramental. As death approaches, it is especially appropriate for the Anointing of the Sick to be celebrated. It should be emphasized that this sacrament does not in any way mean that death is imminent – in fact, it is meant to be received anytime one's physical health suffers, before surgery, during hospital stays, etc. In a particular way though, the Anointing of the Sick is also meant to prepare the soul to meet God. The prayers offered during this sacrament bring comfort to the dying. Most especially, the absolution of sin that can be part of this sacrament is essential. No one should be denied the opportunity to receive this sacrament in their final hours! I suggest that we all communicate to our loved ones that our wish would be for a priest to be called to administer this sacrament should we be in extreme need.

With this sacramental foundation, we turn again to the funeral Mass itself. The celebration of the Mass is the highest form of prayer that the Church can offer. The funeral Mass is offered first and foremost for the repose of the soul of the deceased person. Every Catholic ought to have a funeral Mass! To offer the Eucharist, the Church's prayer of Thanksgiving, the prayer which unites us most perfectly to the Cross of Jesus Christ, the Cross which is the instrument of death's defeat, is indeed the most perfect way to pray for those who have died.

Today however, this primary purpose of the funeral Mass is often lost. Many people think of the funeral primarily as a memorial service. Being good-natured and genuinely concerned for their friends and family, many people say that they want the funeral to be a celebration and they want everyone to laugh and have fun. This desire, in itself, is beautiful and generally unobjectionable but for two important things: (1) the funeral Mass is the Church's prayer for the repose of the soul of the deceased, and (2) the emotion of grief is natural and should not be ignored, delayed, or glossed over. The funeral Mass is not intended by the Catholic Church to be a memorial service. Rather, the memories we hold dear are meant to fuel our prayer – inspired by the memories of our deceased loved one, we pray in thanksgiving for their life. Inspired by the faith that they held – or if they were not particularly devout, the faith that we hold – we pray that the gift of Christ's Resurrection and mercy would lead them into Paradise.

The tendency to view funerals as memorial services has led to a bad "pastoral" practice, namely the inclusion of eulogies in funeral Masses. A eulogy, by definition, is an oration in praise of the deceased. The Rite of Christian Burial, however, explicitly forbids eulogies (*Order of Christian Funerals* 27). Rather, words of remembrance may be shared at the wake, during the Mass after Communion, or at the graveside. These words of remembrance are intended to speak briefly about the **faith** of the deceased person and remind those gathered to allow the faith of the deceased to inspire their own faith. Too often, eulogies become long biographies, detailing an individual's education, family history, vacations, culinary prowess, personality quirks, and very often include anecdotes that contain details or language simply inappropriate for church. Often, it seems that people are impatient to get through Mass so they can get to the really important thing, the eulogy. Everyone, naturally, wants good things to be said about them after they die. And those memories and stories need to be shared! But the funeral Mass is simply the wrong time and place for them to be shared. They should instead be shared during the wake, or at a reception, or during gatherings of friends and family. There are countless moments when it is appropriate to eulogize. The funeral Mass, however, is not meant to praise the person (as a eulogy is), but to praise God for the gift of life, to pray for His mercy to be poured out abundantly, and to pray that the deceased enjoy eternal rest in God's heavenly kingdom. Hyper-focus on eulogies deprives us of the fullness of the Church's true pastoral ministry in prayer and accompaniment.

Continued on page 3...



QUOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

The readings today speak of the end of the world and the coming of the Kingdom. The bishops’ pastoral on stewardship says clearly that “that ‘life to come’ is in continuity with this present life through the human goods, the worthy human purposes, which people foster now.”
 May our good stewardship cause us to be numbered among the chosen on the last day!



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

- November 11, 2018 Weekend Offering: \$12,976
- 2017 Weekend Offering: \$12,839
- Mission Offering: \$380
- Monthly Offering: \$3,016
- Coffee Hour Offering: \$82



CONGRATULATIONS!

We welcome this newly baptized child into our Family of Faith: John Charles Pleines.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Continued from page 1...

This may turn out to be the least-popular thing I have ever written. I write it because we have lost sight of what the funeral is meant to be. I hope that we can recover the true meaning of our Catholic celebrations surrounding death. I hope that a proper understanding and practice of *words of remembrance* can help us to grieve appropriately and to keep our attention fixed on Jesus Christ, the one who promises salvation. I hope that putting eulogies in their proper place (outside of Mass) can help us appreciate more deeply what the sacrament of the Eucharist gives us in times of sadness and how it enables us to pray even in the face of death. I hope that by reflecting on the liturgical rites of the Church, we can better understand the meaning and symbolism of the Church’s prayer and thus receive through that prayer the comfort, healing, and grace that God so desperately wants to give to those who mourn.

Peace,
Jr. Jam



Thanksgiving Day Mass:

9AM, Thursday, November 22, 2018.



The Parish Office will be closed in honor of Thanksgiving:

12Noon, Wednesday, November 21, 2018
Thursday, November 22, 2018
Friday, November 23, 2018

Wishing everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving!



ULTIMATE THANKSGIVING

Pope Francis

Jesus’ gesture at the Last Supper is the ultimate thanksgiving to the Father for his love, for his mercy. “Thanksgiving,” in Greek, is expressed as “eucharist.” And that is why the Sacrament is called the Eucharist: it is the supreme thanksgiving to the Father, who so loved us that he gave us his Son out of love. This is why the term Eucharist includes the whole of that act, which is the act of God and man together, the act of Jesus Christ, true God and true Man. (General Audience, February 5, 2014)

You shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength.
 — Deuteronomy 6:5



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever (Daniel 12:1-3).

Psalm: You are my inheritance, O Lord! (Psalm 16).

Second Reading: Where there is forgiveness, there is no longer offering for sin (Hebrews 10:11-14, 18).

Gospel: Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away (Mark 13:24-32).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 19:41-44 Thanksgiving Day—Suggested: Sir 50:22-24; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19

Friday: Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40

Sunday: Dn 7:13-14; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Rv 1:5-8; Jn 18:33b-37



WORLD DAY OF THE POOR: TODAY!

Pope Francis has designated **November 18**, the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, as the World Day of the Poor. The Holy Father exhorts us, “The poor evangelize us and help us each day to discover the beauty of the Gospel. Let us not squander this grace-filled opportunity. On this day, may all of us feel that we are in debt to the poor, because, in hands outstretched to one another, a salvific encounter can take place to strengthen our faith, inspire our charity and enable our hope to advance securely on our path towards the Lord who is to come.”



THE GLORIOUS BIBLE

It is one of the glories of the Bible that it can embrace many meanings in a single passage.

—St. Thomas Aquinas



LECTOR WORKBOOKS—CYCLE C

Calling on all Readers to pick up your workbooks!

Workbooks for Cycle C—Gospel of Luke and designated readings—are available in the hallway on the Burr Street side of the Church. The new liturgical year will begin with the First Sunday of Advent Vigil Mass on Saturday, December 1.



ADVENT GIVING TREES ARE BACK!

They will be here November 20!

All are invited to visit our Advent Giving Trees, located in the Church Vestibule, Chapel Hallway, and Community Room Hallway. Keeping with our parish tradition, we're collecting gifts for those in need. Please take some tags from the trees and purchase those items. We will be donating to 11 area agencies (including Veterans) who depend on our generosity to help keep their clients warm, fed, and hopeful. **All wrapped gifts are due back under the trees by the weekend of December 15-16. It's very important that the original tag be attached to your package. Each agency is represented by a different color and this is how we know where to send that gift.** Thank you!



ADVENT FAMILY WORKSHOP

December 2—Help Needed!

All are invited to participate in the **Advent Family Workshop, 10AM-11:30AM, December 2 in the Religious Education Center.** This delightful event is for children of all ages. Advent wreath materials are available for children (\$10 per wreath) to create a “live” Advent wreath from fresh cut pine greens. Tables will also be available for children to design their poster for the Knights of Columbus poster contest: “Keep Christ In Christmas.” **Help is needed,** contact Rhiannon Kelty, rhiannonkelty@gmail.com.



Lessons & CAROLS

ST PIUS X LESSONS AND CAROLS PROGRAM

December 16

Join us for this year's Lessons and Carols Program



3PM, Sunday, December 16



This year's program will be directed by Cidalia Kettles with the assistance of Dr. Martha Alward.

We would like to invite interested children, ages kindergarten and older to participate in our Lessons and Carols Program.

Rehearsals begin this week 4PM-5PM, Wednesdays in the Choir Loft.

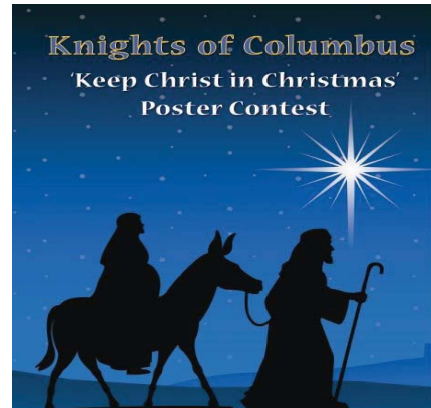
If your child is interested in participating, email Cidalia Kettles at cidmezzo@gmail.com.

ST PIUS X LIFE TEEN

Hey Teens, join us!

Newcomers always welcome 😊

For more information,
email Paola Pena, ppena@st-pius.org.



ST. PIUS X KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST

December 9

Children are invited to participate in this year's St. Pius X Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest to be held **after the 9AM and 10:30AM Masses, Sunday, December 9 in the Community Room**. This is a free competition open to boys and girls ages 5 to 14 years old.

Rules and Regulations: Each poster must be done on 11x17 inch paper. If pastels, chalk or charcoal are used, the poster must be laminated or covered in clear plastic. Each poster must reflect the theme of Keep Christ in Christmas. Each contestant may submit only one entry. Each poster must be accompanied by a *Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Entry Form* signed by the parent/guardian. The name and age of the contestant must be printed on the back of the poster. Each poster should be original work (including concept, layout, slogan and any visual images) of a single child. All entries become property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council and will not be returned. Categories: Ages 5-7, Ages 8-10, and Ages 11-14.

Prizes and Judging: First Prize is \$25, Second Prize is \$15, and Third Prize is \$10 for winners in each age category. Judging is based on a 100 Point System: 30 Points Slogan (How Clearly is the theme presented?), 30 Points Visuals (How well do the visuals convey the message?), 40 Points Overall Impact (How effective is the Poster in capturing your attention and causing you to reflect on the topic?).

For more information or to request an entry form, contact Jim Maloney at jpmaloney19@gmail.com or Mike Finneran at Michael.Finneran@morganstanley.com.



**FREE CHRISTMAS TREES
FOR VETERAN AND ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY**

Sponsored by:

*The Freedom Isn't Free Ride Foundation, Inc. and
St. Pius X Active and Separated Military (SPASM)*

9AM-6PM, Saturday, December 1
and
12Noon-7PM, Sunday, December 2

St. Pius X Church Back of Main Parking Lot

Open to all veterans and their families and active duty and
their families. Just show military or VA ID.

One tree per person/family

Follow Freedom Isn't Free Ride on
Facebook for more details.



**CHRISTMAS POT LUCK WITH A VISIT FROM
ST. NICHOLAS!**

Sponsored by:

*The Freedom Isn't Free Ride Foundation, Inc. and
St. Pius X Active and Separated Military (SPASM)*

6:30PM-9:30PM
Friday, December 14
St. Pius X Community Room

R.S.V.P. no later than Monday, December 10 to Russell
Edgett by phone 475-225-9694 or email
RussellJ.Edgett@gmail.com.

When you R.S.V.P., please include what dish you want to
bring and the age and gender of any children you
will be bringing.



ST. PIUS X CALL TO MILITARY

*You answered our country's call to serve.
Let your parish support you on your journey.*

Whether you're active, or a veteran, we want to hear
from you. We're working on activities for veterans and
active service members to support each other as a
parish and as brothers/sisters in arms. Contact Russell
Edgett, Afghanistan veteran, parishioner and founder
of *The Freedom Isn't Free Ride* at 475-225-9694 or
RussellJ.Edgett@gmail.com.



**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE
LIVES THAT FOLLOW...**

Have you ever thought about leaving a legacy and
including St. Pius X Parish in your estate planning?
Planned giving ensures that you disperse of your assets
the way you want. You can give to St. Pius X
regardless of the amount—no gift is too small. Every
gift is meaningful and greatly appreciated. You may
designate your gift, in any amount, toward exactly
what is most important to you at St. Pius X. Gifts can
be given in many ways—via your will or a living trust,
gifts of retirement, etc. Planned giving is a beautiful
and thoughtful way for you to give. If you are
considering a gift but not sure where you would like it
to go or where it would do most good, email Kimberlie
Leon in the Parish Office at kleon@st-pius.org. She
will be happy to have a preliminary discussion with
you and set up time for you to meet with Fr. Sam if
you would like to discuss your thoughts further. We
thank all those parishioners who have included us in
their wills in the past, and to all of those who are
planning to do so. Your gratitude is humbling to us all.



WEEKLY ROSARY FOR PEACE & HEALING

Join us Fridays, following the 8:30AM Mass.

Pray the rosary with us following the **8:30AM Mass**
every Friday in the Chapel. All are welcome!



2018 MASS OF HOPE AND HEALING

Today, November 18.

The Most Rev. Frank Caggiano, together with a planning committee of Survivors of Sexual Abuse as Minors by Priests, will hold a very special Mass for anyone who has been sexually abused as a minor and for others who have been impacted. The Mass will be held at **2PM, today, November 18 at St. Francis of Assisi, 35 Norfield Road, Weston**. Light refreshments will be served immediately following the Mass.

In addition, there are regularly scheduled gatherings for any person who has been sexually abused as a minor to meet with the victim assistance coordinators and fellow survivors of sexual abuse for friendship, prayer and peer support. If you are an adult survivor of abuse as a minor, and would like to learn more about the upcoming gatherings, and resources available in our Diocese, contact one of our Victim Assistance Coordinators: Erin Neil, L.C.S.W., at 203-650-3265 or Michael Tintrup, L.C.S.W. at 203-241-0987. We hope to hear from you, you are very important to us.



CHRISTMAS IN THE MANSION

December 2 at Lauralton Hall

Don't Miss Christmas in the Mansion, **12Noon-5PM, December 2, at Lauralton Hall, 200 High Street, Milford**. All are invited to stroll Lauralton's decorated halls, tour historic Victorian Gothic mansion, shop for holiday gifts from 40+ vendors, visit Santa's Workshop, and more. Admission is \$10 at door, children 12 and younger free. There is a reservation-only Preview Party at 6:30PM, December 1. Go to www.lauraltonhall.org/Christmas for more information or to reserve for the Preview Party.



DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT CHOIR 4 YOUTH ARISE & SHINE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

December 21 at the Klein Auditorium

All are invited to join Bishop Frank Caggiano for the fourth annual C4Y Arise & Shine Christmas Concert **7:30PM, Friday, December 21 at the Klein Auditorium in Bridgeport**. Celebrate the season of Advent and prepare your hearts for Christmas by listening and joining in song with more than 100 young people from throughout the Diocese who share their gifts and talents so beautifully in both classic and new Christmas pieces. Purchase your tickets online at www.bridgeportdiocese.org/faith-formation.



THANKS

One act of thanksgiving when things go wrong with us is worth one thousand thank-yous when things are agreeable to our inclination.

—St. John of Ávila