



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.

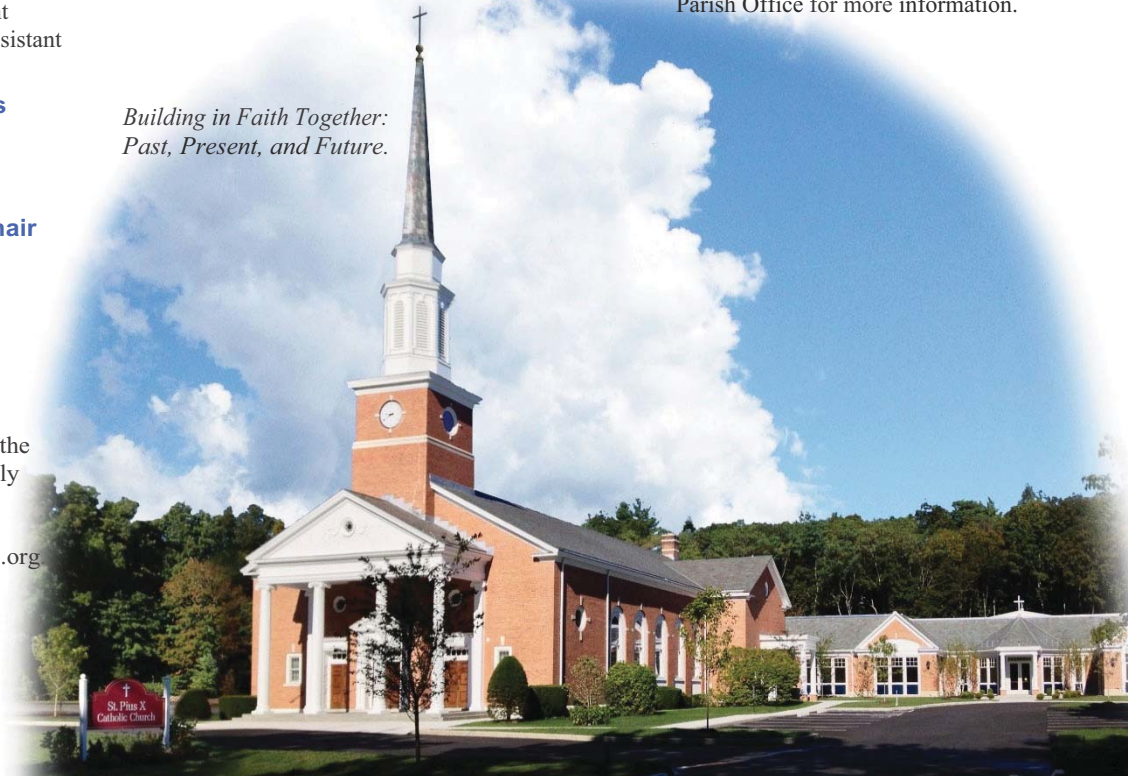
Anointing of the Sick

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, December 22

8:30AM +Charles Tucci E. Greenwald
5:15PM +John Mahoney J. Mahoney

Sunday, December 23

7:30AM +Dr. Dennis Bird Davis Family
9AM +Frank Ruoff S. Walsh
10:30AM +Marion Leon K. Leon
12Noon +Joan & Richard Van de Berghe K. Leon

Monday, December 24

8:30AM +Isabele & Robert P. Shea R. & L. Shea
4PM Intentions of All Parishioners
4PM Intentions of All Parishioners
4PM Intentions of All Parishioners
6PM Intentions of All Parishioners
11PM Intentions of All Parishioners

Tuesday, December 25

8AM Intentions of All Parishioners
10AM Intentions of All Parishioners
12Noon Intentions of All Parishioners

Wednesday, December 26

8:30AM +Dr. Denis Bird P. Pitchenik

Thursday, December 27

8:30AM +Margaret Cooney Greeley Family

Friday, December 28

8:30AM +Janet E. Petkus

Saturday, December 29

8:30AM +MaryAnn Petrone Gagliano Family
5:15PM +Naida & Nick Cognetta Pesci Family

Sunday, December 30

7:30AM +Julie Giammanco L. Sullivan
9AM +Billy Therriault Carter Family
10:30AM +Joyce O. Grattan B. & S. Donahue
12Noon +Maria Letizia Rigione Family



**Sanctuary Lights in the Church
will burn this week in memory of
Raymond Tomasko**



**Sanctuary Lights in the Chapel
will burn this week in memory of
Robert Kehoe**



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,

“Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.” As we enter these final days of Advent, our preparation for the coming of the Lord continues. It is a hope-filled preparation. Hope implies our belief that what we expect will indeed occur. We expect the birth of our Savior on Christmas Day, we are confident that the Lord comes to save His people.

Throughout the Old Testament, we see testimony that God desires to redeem Israel, His chosen people. The covenant God makes with Abraham is renewed many times, the prophets are sent to convert, encourage, and remind Israel of God’s plan for them. Divine Revelation is full of the word of the Lord being spoken and people looking forward in hope to the fulfillment of that word. When Mary hears the words of the angel Gabriel, she understands them in this long, historical, spiritual context. She receives them as the revelation of how God will bring salvation to His people. Her faith and hope enable her to accept and say a confident “yes” to God’s plan. She believes that what the Lord has spoken, both to the whole history of Israel and to her through the angel, will be fulfilled. Truly, as Elizabeth says, Mary is blessed!

We are invited to share in this confident faith and hope of the Blessed Virgin Mary. With her, we are invited to say yes to the will of God in our lives. God renews His covenant with us again and again. This Christmas, He calls us to place our confidence in His loving plan once again. Let us use these final days and hours of Advent to prepare with joy, to open our hearts more fully, and to ready ourselves to go forth to meet Christ the newborn King!

Peace,

“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me
according to your word.”

—Luke 1:38



QUOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

The Gospel today tells of the Virgin Mary, pregnant herself, hurrying off to help her cousin Elizabeth. The model of good stewardship, she who had given herself to bear the Savior gave her time and love to others as well.



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Due to an early Christmas print deadline for the Bulletin, Offertory Totals for the weekend of Sunday, December 16 will be reported in an upcoming Bulletin.

Thank you for being good and faithful stewards of God's Blessings and Gifts!

Prayers of gratitude to those who have remembered St. Pius X Church in their will with a bequest.



CONGRATULATIONS!

We welcome this newly baptized child into our Family of Faith: Greyson Richard Voccaro.



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

II Katherine Sweeney and John Mazzucco



The Parish Office will be closed for Christmas week:

Monday, December 24-Friday, December 28

We wish you a very joyful and blessed Christmas!



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

We look forward to seeing you at Mass and celebrating all the joys of the season!

Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve Masses

- 4PM (Church)
- 4PM (Faith Center Community Room)
- 4PM (Religious Education Center)
- 6PM (Church—Children's Choir will sing)
- 11PM (Church—Adult Choir will sing with instrumentalists beginning at 10:30PM)

Tuesday, December 25 Christmas Day Masses

- 8AM (Church)
- 10AM (Church)
- 12Noon (Church)



FAMILY ADVENT WREATH PRAYERS

Fourth Week: Love

We gather around the Advent Wreath before the evening meal begins. As three purple candles and one rose candle are lit, we pray, "Lord Jesus, through your grace and love, we have made our hearts ready for you during this Advent Season. Help us to respond to one another as Mary responded with trust and hope to the announcement of the angel Gabriel. You are our hope, our joy, our peace. You are the light of our family."



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).

Psalm: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

Second Reading: We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).

Gospel: Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Solemnity of Mary—January 1, 2019

Vigil Mass

5:30PM, Monday, December 31, 2018 (Church)

Holy Day Mass

8:30AM, Tuesday, January 1, 2019 (Chapel)

ADVENT RESOURCES

Three powerful online resources to help you deepen your Advent journey this year...

BEST **Advent** EVER

FREE DAILY EMAILS AND VIDEOS

Sign up for Dynamic Catholic “Best Advent Ever” program online at <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever>. This free email program will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during this busy season. You'll experience Advent in a whole new way—leading to the best Christmas of your life! You will receive daily emails and videos to help you pause and reflect on the true meaning of the season.

FORMED
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

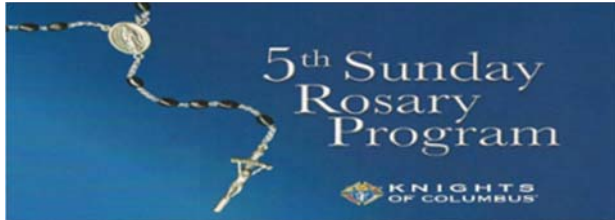
FREE ACCESS TO DIGITAL CATHOLIC CONTENT

Discover media from 40+ of the best Catholic content producers with Formed On Demand. Free access for all St. Pius X parishioners to thousands of studies, films, audios, and eBooks. Set up a free account at www.st-pius.formed.org. Questions? Email Shari Garcia at sgarcia@st-pius.org.

WORD on FIRE

FREE ACCESS TO CATHOLIC VIDEOS

Word on Fire features films and videos with Bishop Robert Barron who has been hailed as “one of the Church’s greatest messengers” to help you boost your faith! Click on any video we send you via Flocknote to access the entire Word on Fire library of Catholic content, free to all St. Pius X Parishioners. Questions? Email Paola Pena at ppena@st-pius.org.



PRAY THE ROSARY

To help bring parishioners together in a spiritual activity and promote devotion to Mary, the Knights of Columbus Council 16347 is pleased to introduce ...

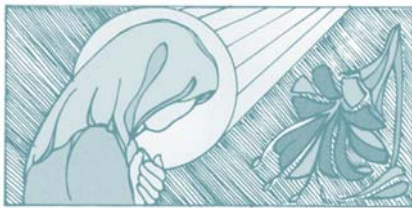
The 5th Sunday Rosary Program

Knights, their families and ALL parishioners are invited.

**After the 9AM Mass
Sunday, December 30
In the Chapel**

Stay and Pray the Rosary as a Faith Family.

Everyone is Welcome!



Fourth Sunday of Advent

“Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”
— Luke 1:42



FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

January 12, hosted by the St. Pius X Council # 16347

Come have fun and test your basketball skills!

When: 7PM, Saturday, January 12, 2019 (Rain Date: Sat., Jan. 26.) 7PM Registration and Warm Up; 7:30PM Start

Where: APR/Gym in the Religious Education Center

What: Free competition open to boys and girls ages 9 to 14 years old as of January 1, 2019. Pizza and soda will be served after the competition!

How to Compete: It's a foul shot competition. Each Competitor gets 15 shots. Most points wins!

Pre-Register--LIMITED SPACE: This event is open to the first 25 children who register. ACT NOW! Copy of Birth Certificate and Signed Parental Authorization Form Required. Winners of each age group will win an Official Knights of Columbus Basketball. Pre-register by emailing Birth Certificate and Parental Authorization Form to Tom Kelty at tkelty@gmail.com or mail to St. Pius X Church, c/o Knights of Columbus, 834 Brookside Drive, Fairfield CT 06824.

More Information: Visit the St Pius X Website at www.st-pius.org or Contact Tom Kelty at tkelty@gmail.com.



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!

thank you

THANK YOU FROM RETIRED RELIGIOUS!

Women and men religious throughout the country offer their heartfelt thanks for our parishioner donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious on December 9. Our generosity makes a discernable difference in the lives of countless senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

What a wonderful response we had to our Giving Trees which benefit local families and agencies! We extend OUR GRATITUDE to the **VanTornhouts, deCastros, Collins, Matturos, and Micelis** who coordinated our Giving Tree Program and carefully sorted the beautifully wrapped gifts for distribution. **Russell and Sabine Edgett** also coordinated the Homes for the Brave gift collection effort. Parishioner response was very generous. *“For it is in giving that we receive.” (Prayer of St. Francis.)*



walking with purpose
THE MODERN WOMAN'S GUIDE TO THE BIBLE

WWP CONNECT COFFEE TALK: YOUR HEART—YOU ARE CAPTIVATING

January 10

Join us **9:30AM-11:30AM, Thursday, January 10 in the Community Room** for a talk and discussion to remind us of how precious we are to God and that His love is unconditional. He is captivated by each one of us—not because of what we do or what others think of us but simply because we are His precious daughters. No experience necessary, just come as you are for some coffee and a chance to see what Walking with Purpose (WWP) is about!

WWP is a women's Catholic Bible study that aims to bring women to a closer relationship with Christ. Personal study and small group discussions at WWP each week link our everyday challenges with the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. For more information, contact Dawn Carpanzano at dawnmariec@sbcglobal.net or Allyson Marcus at allysonmarcus@optonline.net.



MEDITATION

Thomas Merton, O.C.S.O.

December 10 marked the 50th anniversary of Thomas Merton's death. He was a prolific writer and spiritual seeker dedicated to deepening his relationship with God. God's grace enabled him to articulate this relationship through his writings which continue to inspire people throughout the world. And thanks to Fr. Tim, one of his vestments has become part of our parish collection!

*“My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going.
I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will end...
I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost
and in the shadow of death.
I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will
never leave me to face my perils alone.”*

ST PIUS X LIFE TEEN

Hey Teens, join us!

Newcomers always welcome 😊

- **December 23:** No Youth Group. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
- **January 3-7, 2019:** SEEK Conference, Indianapolis, IN. Nine college students and young adults from our parish will be in attendance! Please keep them in your prayers.

More information:
email Paola Pena, ppena@st-pius.org.

“While they were there, the time came for her to have the child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. “

—Luke 2:6-7



US NATIONAL ROSARY PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, FRANCE

June 30 to July 9, 2019

This is the Perfect Christmas Gift!

If you or a loved one has ever wanted to visit the beautiful village where the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Bernadette over 160 years ago, please consider joining the US National Rosary Pilgrimage for their **June 30-July 9, 2019** journey to **Lourdes, France**.

Accompanied by like-minded people of faith, you will be able to bathe in the healing spring waters, pray in the grotto where the Blessed Mother appeared to young Bernadette 18 times, attend candle-lit nightly processions, and visit the Holy Mill where St. Bernadette was born.

This past July, Father Sam invited 10-year-old Chad Chlebowski and his mom Angela to join other handicapped children on a pilgrimage to Lourdes courtesy of the Knights of Columbus of Washingtonville, NY. Chad, Angela, and Chad's grandmother Mary Ann DeMasi, who also went on the trip, said they experienced the journey of a lifetime. In fact, their story was chronicled in the September 2018 issue of Fairfield County Catholic, where Angela said that her "faith had grown two-fold."

Because of the success of Chad and his family's experience, we are inviting members of St. Pius to join next year's pilgrimage, which will take place **June 30 to July 9, 2019** and is open to everyone. The price of \$3,064 per person and includes air transportation; hotel accommodations; breakfast, lunch and dinner every day; a guided tour of Lourdes; a guided visit to Gavarnie in the Pyrennes; all tips; and liturgical services. The pilgrimage is accompanied by clergy and medical staff and departs from either JFK or Newark Airports.

Walter Kozlowski, a St. Pius parishioner who has been to Lourdes 16 times, can provide more information. Contact Walt at kozlow.wk@gmail.com. We hope you can join us.



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.



MARCH
for **LIFE**

MARCH FOR LIFE

January 18, 2019

Join fellow parishioners from throughout the Diocese of Bridgeport on a bus pilgrimage to the March for Life on **Friday, January 18, 2019**. Buses depart from three locations: Bridgeport, Norwalk, and Stamford. Cost is \$75 per person round trip. **Register before January 11 at www.bridgeportdiocese.org/faith-formation.**

"And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

—Luke 2:12-14