



St. Pius X Parish: 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
fr.samuel.kachuba@diobpt.org

Resident Priest

Rev. Eric Silva
frsilva@diobpt.org

Director of Music & Organist

Michael Lantowski
mikestro@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant

Kathleen Donnelly
kdonnelly@st-pius.org

Faith Formation *(formerly Rel. Ed.)*

- Shari Garcia (Sacramental Prep.)
sgarcia@st-pius.org
- Paola Pena (Life Teen & Edge)
ppena@st-pius.org

Parish Office

- Terri Dawes, Admin. Assistant
tdawes@st-pius.org
- Kimberlie I. Leon, Business Manager
kleon@st-pius.org

Parish Corp. Lay Members

- Kathryn Vogt
- Arthur Wolf

Parish Finance Council Chair

Jeremy Joyce

Parish Office Hours

- 9AM-4PM* (Mon-Thur)
- 9AM-1PM* (Fri)

*Parish Office open to the public 9AM-12Noon, M-F, otherwise staff working remotely due to Covid-19 safety precautions.

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: www.st-pius.org.

St. Pius X Church is wheelchair accessible with parking 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 (Church)

- Monday-Saturday: 8:30AM
- Monday and Thursday: 7PM (Latin)
- Saturday Vigil: 5:15PM
- Sunday: 7:30AM, 9AM, 10:30AM, 12Noon

Holy Day Mass Schedule

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

Confession

Saturdays: 4PM-5PM (Church*)
Wednesdays: 7PM-8PM (Church*)
*Temporarily held in the Community Room due to Covid-19 safety precautions.

Devotions

- The Rosary and a Chaplet of the Divine Mercy is prayed 9AM, Fridays by parishioners in the Church.
- Stations of the Cross are held 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, call 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.





WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 28

8:30AM +Anne Fabian
 5:15PM +Margaret & John Riordan Reda Family

Sunday, November 29

7:30AM Intentions of All Parishioners
 9AM +Ann & John Gleason Gleason Family
 10:30AM +Josephine Penford Lantowski/Tipler
 12Noon +Paul L. Magnano M. Buckley

Monday, November 30

8:30AM +John Shostak Devine Family

7PM Low Mass

Tuesday, December 1

8:30AM +Daniel Caruso

Wednesday, December 2

8:30AM +Benito Galluci Milmore Family

Thursday, December 3

8:30AM +Walter Leon Devine Family

7PM Low Mass

Friday, December 4

8:30AM +Jeanne Lennhoff Milmore Family

Saturday, December 5

8:30AM +Anne Cardaci J. & S. Petrala

5:15PM +Anthony Annuncio T. Annuncio

Sunday, December 6

7:30AM +Thomas Francis Lamont DeBona Family

9AM +Catherine & Brian Maguire Maguire Family

10:30AM +Gerry Flynn Flynn Family

12Noon +Sr. Lois Petersen, O.S.U. A. & B. O'Donnell



Sanctuary Lights in the Church will burn this week in memory of **Eileen Bertsch**

Sanctuary Lights in the Chapel will burn this week for blessings upon the marriage of **Brian & Haley O'Donnell**

PRAYER REQUESTS

ST. PIUS X PRAYER LINE

We must never underestimate the power of prayer! Email your petitions and/or thanksgivings to Pat Heile, anytime, at stpiusxprayerln@aol.com. Note: Please do not call the phone line for prayer requests as it is temporarily unavailable.

"Do not fear: I am with you; Do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand."

—Isaiah 4:10



STEWARDSHIP INSPIRATION

We are servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards if, at His coming, He finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Due to an early print deadline for the Bulletin, Offertory Totals for the weekend of Sunday, November 22 will be reported in next weekend's Bulletin.

SEE PAGE 5 FOR AN UPDATE ON ANNUAL APPEAL

ONLINE GIVERS HAVE INCREASED BY 30%!

Please consider signing up for Online Giving at www.st-pius.org/onlinegive so you may continue to support your parish's daily operating needs.



FRIDAY ROSARY RETURNS!

Now held in the Church...

Come pray the rosary with us following the **8:30AM Mass, Fridays in the Church**. After the rosary, Pat Heile will lead the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Thank you to Pat for her dedication to making this all happen. All are welcome to attend!



PARISH OFFICE OPEN WITH LIMITED HOURS

The Parish Office is open to the public with limited hours as follows: **Monday – Friday: 9AM-12Noon.**

Protocol: Wear a mask upon entering the office, sign into the log, and state your request from 6' away from the desk.

The staff continues to work remotely when they're not physically in the office so you can email them anytime. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The brief but powerful season of Advent is a time to turn with hope toward the Lord. Indeed, we will hear in the first reading from Isaiah a plea to God to help his people who have wandered far from him to make their way back in faith. The Psalm cries out even more clearly "Lord, make us turn to you. Let us see your face and we shall be saved!" A famous Advent hymn begins with the words "People look East, the time is near!" We are reminded in this season to turn to God with our whole heart. To turn to the Lord is to look to the One who is merciful and just, the One who created us out of love and calls us to union with Himself. In the Gospel, Jesus calls his disciples to a state of watchful expectation. Be prepared for the day of the coming of the Lord!

While Advent has a certain penitential character, it is distinct from the penitential nature of Lent. In Lent, we take on penances so that we can be more fully prepared to meditate on the mystery of our Lord's Passion and Death. In Advent, on the other hand, our penance is one of hope – we look forward to something that is to come and to come very soon. The eager anticipation of the coming of Christmas is in itself a sort of penitential suffering. No one likes to wait! Yet, if we learn to wait well, we remain focused on the thing awaited. If we grow impatient, we turn our attention to other things and are ill-prepared for the thing so long anticipated. This season reminds us not to be distracted by those other things, by those lesser things, and instead invites us to renewal. What is it that prevents me from keeping my attention fixed on Jesus? How have I been distracted? Advent calls me to turn to the Lord once again.

The fact is that our distractions from the Lord do not make us happy. Rather, they rob us of hope. The nature of sin is to distort what is good. Not only distort, but blind. Sin blinds us to the good of which we are capable and blinds us to the goodness of God. The devil, famous liar that he is, wants to convince us that sin doesn't matter much, and more, he wants to convince us that any kind of rule-following is just a silly game. The commandments, the law, and the prophets? Who needs them? Of course, the further we drift from the law and the prophets, the further we drift from living the way God has commanded, the less happy we are. We begin to feel lost and adrift, wanderers with no homeland. But hope, that great and silent spark, remains alive in us somehow. Do you feel that hope? Do you see it present? To each of us is given this great gift of hope so that, even when all seems dark and we feel most lost, the flicker of hope grabs our attention.

For what do we hope? Or, perhaps a better question, for whom do we hope? We hope for the coming of the Lord, for the one who will teach us how to follow God's law and plan, for the one who will lead and guide us in the ways of righteousness and truth, we hope for the one who will lead us out of the quagmire of our sin and into the peace of a rightly ordered life. And so Advent begins with this call to turn to the Lord. The first step of the journey is to turn away from that which destroys hope. Remember that there is hope! As we turn to the Lord that spark of hope begins to burn more brightly. We will see the goodness to which we are called, not as an impossible ideal, but as a goal to be achieved with God's grace and help. We will see the commandments, not as rules to be disregarded (so many adopt the antinomian idea that God's commands are unimportant and law matters not!), but as lights that show us the way to happiness. The more we turn to the Lord, preparing for His coming, the more we will awaken our own desire for fulfillment. When we follow the commandments, when we are faithful to God's law, something deeper is at work in our hearts. Following the rules lets us know we're on track, but it also leads us to a deep desire for more. What more can we desire than the coming of the Savior? Jesus reminds us that the law and the prophets will not be changed, *and* that He Himself is the fulfillment of the law and the prophets! He comes to fulfill the promise contained within the following of the law, which is perfect reconciliation with the Father, which is heaven itself, which is peace on earth and good will to men.

So in this Advent season, let us turn to the Lord again. Isaiah echoes the many other prophets, as well as the Psalms and Lamentations, which cry out in sorrow for the ways humanity turns away from God. As we hear those words, let them remind us of our own need for mercy and of the hope that is burning in our hearts, calling us to fix our gaze on the east. The light will come to shine in the midst of our darkness. The commandments help us to see the light, but the true source of our hope is the light itself, not the commandments. Turn, look east! Turn, look for the fulfillment of the law and the prophets, look for the fulfillment of your hope! Jesus is coming soon! Let these weeks of Advent enkindle hope, refocus our gaze, and turn us back to the God of peace.

Peace, Fr. Sam



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: We are the clay and you, O Lord, are the potter: we are the work of your hands (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7).

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

Second Reading: God is faithful; by God you were called to fellowship with the Son (1 Corinthians 1:3-9).

Gospel: Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. (Mark 13:33-37).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8



CONGRATULATIONS!

This past weekend, we welcomed this newly baptized child into our Family of Faith: Olivia James Kurzman and Madison Elsie Ann Curtis.



THE TRADITION OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath has been part of the Christmas tradition since the 15th century. Its circle represents the eternal love of God; the four candles, each lit in succession, anticipate the glorious feast of Christmas...the birth of the Lord of Light, the Christ child. On the first Sunday of Advent, the first purple candle is lighted. Purple is a royal color, and the liturgical color symbolizing humility and reflection...for Advent is a quiet time of waiting. On the second Sunday, the second purple candle is lighted, another step on the path to Christmas. The pink candle is lighted on the third Sunday. It symbolizes joy and happiness, for this Sunday is a day of rejoicing during the Advent journey. On the fourth Sunday, the third purple candle...the circle of light complete, the day of great joy is near!



ADVENT

Advent is divided into two parts or stages. The first stage lasts until December 16. The second stage begins on December 17 and continues until December 24. During the first part of Advent, the first reading at Mass is more educational than the second. The liturgy gives us the Old Testament expectations and predictions of the coming Messiah. Isaiah is our guide and in each of these Advent Masses, the Gospel, shows how that prediction or description was fulfilled in Jesus the Messiah. Pope Francis reminds us, "...on the First Sunday of Advent, we begin a new liturgical year; that is a new journey of the People of God with Jesus Christ, our Shepherd, who guides us through history toward the fulfillment of the kingdom of God. But where are we journeying? Is there a common goal? What is the goal? Jesus is BOTH the guide and the goal of our pilgrimage, of the pilgrimage of the entire People of God; and in his light the other peoples may also walk toward the kingdom of justice, toward the kingdom of peace."



ST. PIUS X MASS INFORMATION

Remember to take all necessary health precautions and make decisions about attending with prudence.

Daily Mass: 8:30AM, Church. No pre-registration.

Weekly Latin Masses: 7PM, Monday/Thursday, Church. No pre-registration.

Weekend Masses: 5:15PM Saturday, and 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM, and 12Noon on Sunday.

Pre-registration required online (limited attendance.)

- Masks must be worn.
- Congregational singing is prohibited.
- No physical exchange of the sign of peace.
- Families/members of same house may sit together.
- Holy Communion will be given during Mass. Priests will wear masks/sanitize hands before distribution and again anytime they make contact with someone, or after anyone receives on the tongue. Please social distance. Reception of Holy Communion is obviously of great importance, but **no one** is *required* to receive.
- The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended. No one should take unnecessary risks.

If you're not receiving info to pre-register for Mass, sign up to be added to the Flock Note distribution list by texting: **SPXFFLD to 84576**



ST. PIUS X LIVESTREAMING SCHEDULE

- Daily Mass at 8:30AM and weekend Masses are livestreamed and can be found on our Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Connect with us on social media:

- Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @stpiusxflld
- Like us and Subscribe to St. Pius X on YouTube



JOURNEY TO LIGHT: BEREAVEMENT AND COPING MINISTRY SECOND SESSION

December 12

Our Bereavement Ministry, Part I and Part II has begun **11AM-1PM, Saturdays, November-June, Community Room, Faith Center**. We are planning (as long as current CT Mandates regarding COVID remain status quo) to meet. **Part I** encompasses working through the four tasks of grief—each session builds upon the previous ones—using the tools of dialogue, discussion, and journaling. **Part II, “Coping,”** is a discussion-based support program for those who have completed Part I. The “Coping” Program meets for one hour **11AM-12Noon**. Both groups gather together at **11AM** for prayer and again at **12Noon** for refreshments. For more information or to register, contact Denis Sullivan at denisrsullivan@msn.com or 203-997-1130.



MEMORIAL FOR THE DECEASED

During these days in which we worship and pray together, we continue to remember all deceased parishioners and especially pray for all those recently deceased including Faye Hollis.

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

“Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.”

— Mark 13:33



ST. PIUS X ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE!

- **Monetary Goal:** \$200,000
- **Monies Raised to Date:** \$66,384
- **Parishioner Participation Goal:** 2,300 families
- **Parishioners Participating to Date:** 204 gifts

Reminder from Fr. Sam...

As you know, our Annual Appeal mailing was mailed a few weeks ago. In a normal year, the appeal helps us raise needed funds, especially for maintenance projects. In a year impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has forced us to cancel events like the Parish Festival, fundraisers like the annual raffle, and other helpful revenue streams, this appeal is more important than ever.

Throughout the pandemic, we have worked hard to manage expenses while continuing to provide as much as possible to our parish family. These efforts have included daily livestreaming of Masses, extra cleaning of our facilities, and shifting to online learning platforms for sacramental preparation. Our dedicated staff continues to serve daily so that our ministries and parish life activities can continue in a safe manner. Your generosity in the weekly offertory has been incredible. The loss of our regularly scheduled fundraising activities, however, means that we are experiencing a deficit. We want to keep St. Pius X as a special home for each of you, a place that helps you grow in your relationship with God, a place that will be well-maintained for generations to come.

In this regard, I **humbly ask each of you to consider making a gift** to our Annual Parish Appeal so we may continue our mission. **Your gift, no matter the size, will make a difference.** It is not about how much you give, but about us coming together as a family of faith and **all** participating to reach our **goal of \$200,000**.

My hope is that everyone will give something. Full participation from our parish family will allow us to keep our campus in sound condition, and continue to minister to our parish family and those in need in our community.

I invite you to prayerfully consider a gift—in any amount—to help us reach our goal of \$200,000. It is my hope we can set a record for parishioner participation here at St. Pius X. **The easiest way to give is online at www.st-pius.org/onlinegive**, it is totally safe and secure. Or, you may return the mailed gift card/envelope with payment.

Your response by **November 30, 2020** would be greatly appreciated. Your gift, **no matter the size**, will be gratefully received and prudently applied.



ST. PIUS X MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our weekly men's fellowship group meets **6:30AM, Saturday mornings in the Community Room**. We're taking all necessary COVID-19 precautions. Come join the men of the parish for prayer, conversation, and fellowship! Contact Mark Drexel for more information: drexel2424@optonline.net.



JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!

We are Catholic men building a bridge back to faith. There is much good and necessary work to be done in this world, and that's what Knights do every day. "Whether at home or abroad, charity is our Order's first principle and the basis for all we do as brother Knights."—Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. Join the Knights of Columbus today: KofC.org/JoinUs. As the coronavirus pandemic continues, our duty is to lead our families, protect our parishes, and serve our communities, remembering always that where there's a need, there's a Knight. For more information, contact St Pius X Council 16347 Membership Director Patrick Colligan at pgcolligan@gmail.com.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Come spend some time with the Lord. We are pleased to announce that Eucharistic Adoration will now be held every **Tuesday, 8PM-9PM, in the Church**. This is a wonderful way to take time away from the chaos of the world, quiet your mind, pray, and deepen your connection with the Lord.

"Good friends find pleasure in one another's company. Let us know pleasure in the company of our best Friend, a Friend who can do everything for us, a friend who loves us beyond measure. Here in the Blessed Sacrament we can talk to him straight from the heart."—St. Alphonsus de Liguori



"One who aspires to the grace of God must be pure, with a heart as innocent as a child's."

—St. Nicholas



GIVING TREE THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who participated in our "Gift Card Giving Tree Drive" this year. Your generous response is deeply appreciated by the guests and clients of our recipient agencies!



SUPPORT YOUR PARISH ONLINE

We continue to feel the strain of the lingering affects of the Corona Virus, as we still depend on weekly offertory donations to keep our Parish running. Our staff is working hard in the office and from home and our large campus grounds and multiple buildings are still being cleaned and maintained—these behind the scenes costs are fixed but still very real.

If you do not already, please consider signing up for Online Giving to help us continue our ministry here at St. Pius X. Your offertory donations **directly support the operating expenses of St. Pius**. Thank you for being an integral part of sustaining our beautiful Church and helping us to carry out our parish mission.

Benefits and ease of giving online include:

- Plan out what you want to give each week. Even though you may not be able to attend Mass in person, you can still support your parish!
- Set up automatic contributions—you control the amount and timing and can change any time.
- Secure, save, and no more checks or cash.
- Help St. Pius save money from not printing and mailing envelopes—and help the environment by going Green.

Get started now: Go to www.st-pius.org/onlinegive.
Questions: Email Terri Dawes at tdawes@st-pius.org.

"When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified.

At once Jesus spoke to them,

"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

—Matthew 14: 26,27

NOVEMBER

GIVING HIGHLIGHTS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COAT DRIVE

OVER 300 COATS DONATED
OVER \$1,600 IN DONATIONS

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

60 FAMILY BLESSING BAGS
\$1,650 IN GROCERY GIFT CARDS

BOX OF JOY

HOSTED BY FAIRFIELD LIFE TEEN
327 BOXES WERE ASSEMBLED
FOR CHILDREN IN EXTREME
POVERTY

**GIVING TREE CARDS
DUE BY NOV. 29TH!**

*THANK YOU FOR
YOUR GENEROSITY!*

