



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 Priests

• Rev. Eric Silva
frsilva@diobpt.org
• Fr. Colin Blatchford

Director of Music & Organist

Michael Lantowski
mikestro@gmail.com

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-12PM (Fri)

**Parish Office open to the public 9AM-12Noon. The staff works remotely when not in the office.*

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.

Online Giving

Safe, Secure & Paper Free!

To sign up, simply go to www.st-pius.org/onlinegive

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.

Weekly Mass Schedule *(Church)*

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

Holy Day Mass Schedule *(Church)*

• Vigil: 5:30PM
• Holy Day: 8:30AM, 5:30PM, 7PM (Extraordinary Form)

Confession *(Church)*

• Saturdays: 4PM-5PM
• Wednesdays: 7PM-8PM

Communion for the Homebound

If you or a loved one would like to receive Communion at home, contact Larry Rollins at lksgcrollins5@gmail.com

Devotions *(Church)*

• Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is on Tuesdays, 8PM-9PM and the First Friday of the month, 9AM-9PM
• Rosary and a Chaplet of the Divine Mercy is prayed 9AM, Fridays by parishioners in the Church.

Baptism

For information about Pre-Baptismal class and to schedule Baptisms, call the Parish Office.

Marriage

Registered parishioners should make arrangements one year in advance with the Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick

If you know a parishioner who is seriously ill and would like to be anointed, 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, July 17

8:30AM +Terrie Marable Kahn Family
 5:15PM +Jack Horan B. Horan

Sunday, July 18

7:30AM +Marie Guman B. Guman
 9AM +Mary Farren J. Kaner
 10:30AM +Margaret O'Loughlin V. & J. Giuffre
 12Noon +Frank Tedesco Senatore Family

Monday, July 19

8:30AM +Matthew Perez Frey Family
 7PM Missa Cantata

Tuesday, July 20

8:30AM A Special Intention Emmanuel Family

Wednesday, July 21

8:30AM +Joseph Munley Munley Family

Thursday, July 22

8:30AM +Nicolina Vona Vona Family

Friday, July 23

8:30AM +Bill Carroll G. Rodriguez

Saturday, July 24

8:30AM Intentions of All Parishioners
 5:15PM +Mary (Gniadek) Genaway B. & S. Sterne

Sunday, July 25

7:30AM +Carlos Marsas D. Collins
 9AM +Nancy Marino G. Marino
 10:30AM +Patrick Lynch Kelty Family
 12Noon +Roy Ervin D. & B. Omohundro



**Sanctuary Lights in the Church
 will burn this week for
 God's help to all those struggling
 with addiction**

**Sanctuary Lights in the Chapel
 will burn this week in memory of
 Peter Stevens**

**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.

“For I know well the plans I have in mind for you—oracle of the LORD—plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope.”—Jeremiah 29:11



STEWARDSHIP INSPIRATION

In today's Gospel, Jesus had planned to slip away from the crowds for a few moments of peace and a little rest. When He saw the people gathered, however, He put his needs aside to meet the needs of others. Sometimes, as good stewards, we are called to do the same.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

- July 11, 2021 Weekend Offertory: \$12,281
- 2020 Weekend Offering: \$11,663
- Maintenance Offering: \$561
- Monthly Offertory: \$3,114
- Mission Offertory: \$170

ONLINE GIVERS HAVE INCREASED BY 30%!

Consider signing up for Online Giving at www.st-pius.org/onlinegive to support your parish's daily operating needs.

**WE STAND WITH CHRIST CAMPAIGN
 REDEMPTION UPDATE**

- Total Pledged: \$2,759,570
- Total Collected as of 5/28/21: \$1,796,712 (65.11%)

To make a payment on your pledge, visit www.givecentral.org/wswc or call 203-648-9050.



FRIDAY ROSARY

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 HOURS

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

The staff works 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,

Over the course of a few days last week, I undeservedly received some powerful graces. It began on Thursday evening, when in the midst of Elsa's rainfall, I had dinner with one of my high school religion teachers. He was one of the first people to ask me if I had ever considered the priesthood. Over a meal I had the chance to see the depth of his faith and receive some needed encouragement. It is over twenty years since I sat in his classroom and the student-teacher dynamic has evolved into a genuine friendship. That evening I went home very grateful for his courage all those years ago when he invited me to discern a vocation to the priesthood, and grateful for his constant support in the years that have followed. The next day, I met with a family who I was privileged to assist in their journey into the Catholic Church. They are eager to serve and grow in their faith, and I am inspired by their sincerity, zeal, and virtue. I saw also how my teacher's vocational encouragement to me decades ago was a remote cause to conversion and grace for others.

Last weekend, this Catholic family tree became clearer right before my eyes. On Saturday, I baptized the son of a couple whose wedding I witnessed last year. I have known these young parents since they were high school students (and they claim I introduced them, though I don't recall the moment). It has been a privilege to be part of their growth in faith, to see them embrace their vocation to marriage, and now to bring their child into the life of grace. Later that day, as I celebrated the vigil Mass, I looked across the sanctuary and realized that I had baptized two of the boys serving that evening. At each Mass last weekend, we heard from Emily Cimmino, a missionary with the Fellowship of Catholic University Students who grew up here in Fairfield, participated in high school youth ministry at St. Pius X, and is now ministering and sharing the faith with students at the University of Pennsylvania. In the span of one day, God was reminding me of the gift of spiritual fatherhood that comes through the priesthood and showing me a glimpse of the fruit of that fatherhood.

In the same few days, I had several conversations with people about life in the parish. Several times I was asked about another priest coming to St. Pius. While we are very blessed by the assistance of Frs. Silva and Blatchford, their ministerial assignments (rightly) come first, and they are not always available to help in the parish. Our rectory community is a source of strength and fraternity, and I am very grateful to live with them. The needs of St. Pius X Parish would better be served by two priests ministering full time. At the moment, though, it does not appear that there are any priests available to come here. Whenever a shortage of priest personnel becomes evident, we are apt to hear speculation that the lack of numbers is rooted in some shortcoming in the Church's teaching or disciplines. But I think the real problem is that the gift of priestly ministry remains so hidden to so many. I have no right to it, but the good Lord has allowed me to see the fruit of priestly ministry in ways I could never have imagined. To look across the sanctuary and see children I baptized now serving at Mass was incredible. To baptize the child of a couple who I helped prepare for marriage and who I knew in their formative high school years is a grace that moves me to tears. To see a talented, accomplished young woman devote herself to the mission of evangelization and to know that I played some small part in her faith journey...who am I to deserve to see these outcomes of ministry? In my thirteen years of priesthood, I have also had the privilege of serving those who ministered to me. I will never forget visiting my childhood pastor, the priest from whom I received the Eucharist for the first time, a priest whose Masses I served countless times as a kid, Msgr. McMahon, and giving him the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick a few days before he passed away. I will never forget being invited by my high school youth minister who introduced me to the Rosary, to Eucharistic Adoration, and to frequent confession, to give a talk and hear confessions, to help him in his ministry, at a youth retreat he was leading. I will never forget celebrating Mass at my grandfather's bedside and praying with him in his final hours. There are countless graces that have come my way, countless ways in which I have had a front-row seat to God's merciful working, countless blessings received. Whatever sacrifices are required of me as a Catholic priest, they are nothing compared to grace of God, the joy inspired by serving the Lord in this amazing vocation.

All that said, I would like to ask three things. First, consider your own Catholic family tree: those who influenced your faith, and those whose faith life you have been part of. Pray for them in gratitude and pray for their ongoing growth in holiness and grace. Second, pray for vocations to the priesthood, especially in the Diocese of Bridgeport. We need good and holy priests for our parishes, we need good and holy priests who will bring the sacraments to us. So pray that the Lord would send us those ministers of the Gospel! Third, be like my religion teacher who twenty-odd years ago pulled me aside after class and asked, "Sam, have you ever thought about the priesthood?" He was one of a small chorus of voices that inspired me to discern the priesthood, and if not for those encouraging voices, I am confident I would not be writing this note today as a pastor. Pray for the Lord's guidance and wisdom, and invite a young man you know to consider a vocation to the priesthood. One final word: in my early seminary years, I knelt before a newly-ordained priest for his first priestly blessing. In his over-flowing excitement, he literally picked me up off the ground after the blessing and with tears in his eyes said, "Persevere! Even if you are only a priest for one day, it is worth it!" Within the year, I will hit my 5,000th day as a priest. And it's true. They have all been worth it. Even if I only had one, it would be worth it.

Peace, Fr. Sam



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18

The Gospel: Mark 6:30-34

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ex 14:5-18; Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Ex 14:21 — 15:1; Ex 15:8-10, 12, 17; Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28; Mt 13:1-9

Thursday: Sgs 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Friday: Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: Ex 24:3-8; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Mt 13:24-30

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44; Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18; Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

William Baumann & Meredith Petralia

David Marsillio & Megan Kelly

Mark Lon & Ashley Leukart



CONGRATULATIONS!

We welcome these newly baptized children into our Family of Faith: Martin Reginald Kent Finneran, Sebastian Pio Lapadula, John Henry Montague, Savannah Oakley Sweeney, and Olivia Grace Whiteman.



MEMORIAL FOR OUR BELOVED 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.



ST. PIUS X LIVESTREAMING SCHEDULE:

●8:30AM Daily Mass and 10:30AM Sunday Mass livestreamed and posted on our Facebook and YouTube.

Connect with us on social media:

● Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @stpiusxflid



IMPORTANT INFO RE: ONLINE GIVING!

Our Online Giving is getting an upgrade to a newer, easier-to-use platform! If you currently give online, you will soon be receiving an email with instructions on how to log into the new system. Your existing payment and donation information will be migrated over so you will not have to set up your gifts again! Keep an eye on your email for more information coming very soon.



SAFE ENVIRONMENT: PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN AWARENESS TRAINING

Important Information for All Volunteers!

All parishioners of St Pius X Parish who wish to volunteer within the parish **must enroll** in the Diocesan-mandated Safe Environment: Protecting God's Children Awareness Training Program. To register for an upcoming training session, visit the Virtus website at www.virtus.org/virtus or call Erin Neil at 203-416-1406. Once you have completed your training, St. Pius X will receive your certificate of completion.



WEEKLY ADORATION

Come spend some time with the Lord each week! Eucharistic Adoration is 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.

July 18, 2021

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“They were like sheep without a shepherd.”

—Mark 6:34



ARS CELEBRANDI

In this space, we will examine the art of the celebration of Mass, drawing on the rubrics of the Roman Missal, the wisdom of liturgical theologians and saints, and the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, with the aim to grow together in our understanding of the beauty and meaning of the Church's liturgical prayer.

The Communion Rite – Part 3

- “As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.” (*Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion #5 – USCCB*).

- “The communicant makes this act of faith in the total presence of the Lord Jesus Christ whether in Communion under one form or in Communion under both kinds. It should never be construed, therefore, that Communion under the form of bread alone or Communion under the form of wine alone is somehow an incomplete act or that Christ is not fully present to the communicant. The Church's unchanging teaching from the time of the Fathers through the ages—notably in the ecumenical councils of Lateran IV, Constance, Florence, Trent, and Vatican II—has witnessed to a constant unity of faith in the presence of Christ in both elements. Clearly there are some pastoral circumstances that require eucharistic sharing in one species only, such as when Communion is brought to the sick or when one is unable to receive either the Body of the Lord or the Precious Blood due to an illness. Even in the earliest days of the Church's life, when Communion under both species was the norm, there were always instances when the Eucharist was received under only the form of bread or wine. Those who received Holy Communion at home or who were sick would usually receive under only one species, as would the whole Church during the Good Friday Liturgy. Thus, the Church has always taught the doctrine of concomitance, by which we know that under each species alone, the whole Christ is sacramentally present and we “receive all the fruit of Eucharistic grace.” (*ibid.* # 15).

- “Holy Communion under the form of bread is offered to the communicant with the words “The Body of Christ.” The communicant may choose whether to receive the Body of Christ in the hand or on the tongue.” (*ibid.* #41).

- The universal norm of the Church has been reception of Communion on the tongue. In 1969, Pope St. Paul VI granted an experimental indult allowing for Communion to be received in the hand. However, the instruction from the Congregation for Divine Worship *Redemptionis Sacramentum* reminds us that the faithful always have the right to receive on the tongue.

- When receiving in the hand, the communicant should be guided by the words of St. Cyril of Jerusalem: “When you approach, take care not to do so with your hand stretched out and your fingers open or apart, but rather place your right hand as a throne beneath your left, as befits one who is about to receive the King. Then receive him, taking care that nothing is lost.” (*ibid.* #41).



PASTOR'S WISH-LIST

Equipment

- Desks and chairs for elementary-level Faith Formation in the school building. \$150 purchases a desk/chair set.

Volunteers

- CATECHISTS—we're looking for volunteers to teach the faith to children (grades 2-6) in the 2021-2022 academic year. Time commitment will be Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays 4PM – 6PM (class runs 4:30PM – 5:30PM). Contact Shari Garcia at sgarcia@st-pius.org for more information.

- CORE TEAM MEMBERS—we need adults (especially men) to serve in a mentoring role to our Middle School and/or High School students. The CORE Team helps the youth minister organize activities, games, talks, and discussions for youth ministry, and serves as an adult witness of actively living the Catholic faith. Contact Paola Peña at ppena@st-pius.org for more information.

- BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE—we are seeking parishioners with expertise in building management, construction, real estate, engineering, contracting, plumbing, electrical, carpentry...really any field pertaining to the long-term maintenance of facilities. This committee will help the pastor assess the physical needs of the campus and provide advice and assistance with formulating a coherent plan for the upkeep of all parish buildings. Contact Fr. Sam at fr.samuel.kachuba@diobpt.org if you can help.



SOCCKER SHOTS ON THE ST. PIUS X FIELD

Now enrolling...

Soccer Shots Southwest Connecticut will be renting the St. Pius X Parish field this Fall. Soccer Shots is an engaging, introductory soccer program for children ages 2-8 with a focus on character development. They are committed to providing a positive growth experience for children using and expert-approved curriculum to teach new character words and skills each week while having fun! Their curriculum is designed by education experts to meet children in an age-appropriate fashion where they are developmentally, and is aligned with Connecticut's Early Childhood Education Standards. Coaches are professionally trained, background checked, and fun. They pride themselves in having outstanding communication with families and partners. If you are interested to learn more about how to enroll your child in the Soccer Shots program, call 203-615-8225, email swct@soccershots.com, or visit www.swct.soccershots.com/content/fall2021.



OUR LADY OF FATIMA AT ST. THERESA CHURCH

Are you being called to a deeper understanding of faith and truth? Come follow in us in the footsteps of St. Dominic through prayer, study, community, and apostolate. Our Lady of Fatima, affiliate chapter at St. Theresa Church, is growing! Join us for an informal inquiry meeting **7PM, Thursday, August 26, in the Gym of St. Theresa School, 55 Rosemond Terr., Trumbull**. For more information: orapronobis20@gmail.com or 203-218-6882.



MEDITATION: BE AT PEACE

"Do not look forward in fear to the changes of life. Rather look to them with full hope that as they arise, God, whose very own you are, will lead you safely through all things. And when you cannot stand it, God will carry you in His arms. Do not fear what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you today and every day. He will either shield you from suffering or will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace and put aside all anxious thoughts and imagination."—Francis de Sales



YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS' LUNCHEON

Upcoming Luncheon... join us, bring a friend!

• **August 2: Mike Proscino Piano & Smooth Vocals—LIVE!**



Don't miss this special event. Mike's piano style, smooth vocals and performance of nostalgic requests (oldies) promise to "bring theater back to our St. Pius X Seniors!" Plus, our luncheon raffle giveaways continue! A very BIG thank you to Connie VonZwehl for arranging to have Mike entertain us. **RSVPs needed, call Peter Carrey at 203-673-2081.**



SHU COMMUNITY THEATER & STURGES RIDGE PRESENT CLASSIC MATINEE SUMMER SERIES

3PM, Wednesdays—Seniors get in FREE!

- July 21: North by Northwest
- July 28: Magnificent Ambersons
- August 4: Singing in the Rain
- August 11: Sunset Boulevard
- August 18: The Artist
- August 25: The Bandwagon

More information: www.shucommunitytheatre.org



"We must pray literally without ceasing— without ceasing—in every occurrence and employment of our lives . . . that prayer of the heart which is independent of place or situation, or which is rather a habit of lifting up the heart to God as in a constant communication with Him."

— St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

ST. PIUS X
FAITH FORMATION &
YOUTH MINISTRY NEEDS

AS WE CONTINUE TO PREPARE FOR OUR FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS TO BE IN FULL SWING THIS FALL, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**ELEMENTARY
FAITH
FORMATION**

Catechists
Gr. 2 - Wednesday
Grades 3, 4, & 6 -
Mon, Tue, or Wed

Student Desks
Need: 100 desks @ \$150/desk
Total: \$15,000
Checks payable to **St. Pius X**
with "Student Desks" in the memo

Contact
Shari at sgarcia@st-pius.org
Subject line:
"I want to be a catechist!"

**EDGE &
LIFE TEEN**

**Edge Core Team
Members**
meetings every
Wednesday from
6:30pm - 8pm

**Life Teen
Core Team Members**
meetings every Monday
from 6:30pm - 8pm

Contact
Paola at ppena@st-pius.org
Subject line:
"I want to be a Core Team
member for ____!"



RAISED TO DATE: \$2,900

**THANK YOU FOR GENEROUSLY SHARING YOUR TIME AND TALENT IN SERVICE OF
OUR YOUNG PARISHIONERS!**



FAIRFIELD STUDENT MINISTRIES @ ST. PIUS: LIFE TEEN AND EDGE

Open to All High School and Middle School Students!

Fairfield Student Ministries invites high school and middle school students in the local area into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through Life Teen (High School Ministry) and EDGE (Middle School Ministry). Fairfield Life Teen and Fairfield Edge are hosted at St. Pius X and open to anyone one at any church. We have been meeting weekly and in-person since June 2020 while adhering to all COVID-19 recommendations by the CDC and Diocese of Bridgeport. We are so grateful to still be able have a space for students to rest, make new friends, and be reminded of God's love for them through the gift of their Catholic faith.

JOIN US!

- **Life Teen** (High School): 6:30PM-8PM, Mondays, Community Room, Faith Center
- **EDGE** (Middle School): 6:30PM-8PM, Wednesdays, Gym, School/Religious Education Center

Visit our website at www.fairfieldlt.com to learn more.