



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
fr.blatchford@couragerc.org

Director of Music & Organist

Michael Lantowski
mikestro@gmail.com

Faith Formation

• Shari Garcia (Sacramental Prep.)
sgarcia@st-pius.org
• Paola Pena (Dir. of Evangelization)
ppena@st-pius.org
• Emily Rauser (Life Teen & Edge)
erauser@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, 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: 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
• Tuesdays: 8PM-9PM with Adoration
• 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, December 11

8:30AM +Jon & Evelyn Huegel V. Huegel
 5:15PM +Charles DeFonce Zaino

Sunday, December 12

7:30AM +Donald J. Harper O'Keefe Family
 9AM +Connie, John & Anthony Mallozzi Gleason Family
 10:30AM +Alex Skutety J. Skutety
 12Noon +Joseph Munley Munley Family

Monday, December 13

8:30AM +Vona & Cappuccia Families Vona Family
 7PM Missa Cantata

Tuesday, December 14

8:30AM +William Barrett S. Barrett

Wednesday, December 15

8:30AM +Lillian & Gregory Patti G. Patti

Thursday, December 16

8:30AM +William O'Brien D. O'Brien

Friday, December 17

8:30AM +Henry Sodaro M. Sodaro

Saturday, December 18

8:30AM Intentions of All Parishioners
 5:15PM +John Mahoney J. Mahoney

Sunday, December 19

7:30AM +Joan Mahoney J. Kelly
 9AM +MaryJane Kaner J. Kaner
 10:30AM +Diego Estrada M. Fuligni
 12Noon +Kevin Kuczo DeMaio Family



Sanctuary Lights in the Church will burn this week in memory of Michele Hubler

Sanctuary Lights in the Chapel will burn this week for God's blessings on Our St. Pius X Young at Heart Seniors Group

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 he commands his angels with regard to you, to guard you wherever you go. With their hands they shall support you.”
 —Psalm 91: 11-12



STEWARDSHIP INSPIRATION

All of the people in today's readings—the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist—seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

- November 28, 2021 Weekend Offertory: \$11,962
- 2020 Weekend Offering: \$14,973
- Thanksgiving Offertory: \$730
- Mission Offering: \$175
- Monthly Offertory: \$459
- Votives Offertory: \$589
- December 5, 2021 Weekend Offertory: \$16,816
- 2020 Weekend Offering: \$11,392
- Monthly Offertory: \$815

WE STAND WITH CHRIST CAMPAIGN REDEMPTION UPDATE

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

If you haven't paid your pledge, you may pay at www.givecentral.org/wswc or call 203-648-9050.

St. Pius is counting on all pledge money to pay off the loan we took for the Church renovation so that we do not default on our loan. Thank you!



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,

Each year, the Third Sunday of Advent is an occasion to rejoice as the great feast of the Nativity draws near. These weeks of preparation are not meant to be a drudgery and burden, but a joy-filled movement toward the Lord who draws close to us. Last Sunday, we encountered St. John the Baptist, who called us to repentance. Today, we encounter him again as he teaches the people what repentance looks like: “share with the person who has none...stop collecting more than what is prescribed...do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages.” These moral rules are a preparation for the one who “will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire,” and taken all together, this is good news for the people. There is rejoicing for those who listen to John the Baptist. St. Paul echoes this, calling on the community at Phillipi to rejoice in the Lord, just as the prophet Zephaniah called Israel to rejoice that the Lord had come to them. To prepare the way of the Lord, to have Him in our midst, to live as He created us to live, is to find true joy.

On this day of joy, we are reminded of a characteristic of one who rejoices. When we are filled with joy, we turn toward the object of our joy. Only after that turn has happened do we turn to anyone or anything else, and when we open that circle, it is to draw others into our joy. Think of a couple on their wedding day: their eyes are fixed on one another and the only reason they tear their gaze away is to share their joy with their guests. When the bride walks down the aisle, she doesn't see the crowd of people smiling at her. She only sees her groom waiting. But when the wedding ends, bride and groom together, now married, turn and see their guests, and those attending are drawn into their joy. For all the greeting of loved ones and friends required of the happy couple, though, you will notice that they never stop looking at each other, turning toward one another, for each has now become the source of joy for the other, and they cannot help but orient themselves to this cause of their rejoicing.

In the Mass, our attention is fixed on the source of our rejoicing, Jesus Christ. Physically, we orient ourselves toward Him with our postures standing, kneeling, and sitting. In a Mass celebrated *ad orientem*, as this weekend's Masses are, the celebrant of the Mass adopts that same orientation with the whole gathered community. Together, as one body, we turn toward God, the one who is in our midst, as Zephaniah reminds us. Then, filled with joy, we will turn to each other even while we celebrate, so that our joy may not be something held individually but might now be shared with our brothers and sisters gathered with us. Our joy is meant to then overflow: “Go forth, the Mass is ended.” We are sent out: as the bride and groom are sent into the world as living witnesses of the truth of love made sacramental before God's altar, so we are sent out having turned to our Lord and having received the sanctifying grace of the Eucharist, we might share the joy of living in and for Christ with the world we encounter. Sent forth, we will follow the exhortations of St. John the Baptist, conducting ourselves with righteousness and love as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ.

If December 12 did not fall on a Sunday, we would celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, commemorating the Blessed Virgin Mary's appearance to St. Juan Diego at Tepeyac, in modern-day Mexico City. There, she invited him, a poor native man, to tell the Bishop to build a chapel. The chapel would be a place of pilgrimage and prayer, a place where the joy of knowing, loving, and serving Jesus Christ would be celebrated. It would be a place that reminded all who visited of the true direction in which their lives must turn – not to a compass point, but to the Lord Jesus Christ. From the time of Mary's visit to St. Juan Diego, the spread of the Gospel took off exponentially in Mexico. The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe stands today as a place of pilgrimage, a point of reference for thousands upon thousands who visit each year, and who, having turned toward the Lord there, are able to turn outward that their joy in Jesus Christ might be shared. May our celebration of this day of rejoicing help us both to turn more and more to the coming Messiah, and to share our joy with the people and community around us.

Peace,

Fr. Sam



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

The Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Saturday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

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

December 24, Christmas Eve Masses

4PM, 6PM, and 12 Midnight (All in the Church)
(Overflow seating with simulcast will be available for all Masses in the Community Room.)

December 25, Christmas Day Masses

8AM, 10AM, and 12Noon (All in the Church)

Note: There is no 5:15PM Mass on Saturday, December 25 due to Christmas.

Fr. Sam will be taking a well needed nap!



MEMORIAL FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED

As you pray, remember all deceased parishioners and especially those recently deceased.



PRAYING WITH MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS

In each of our lives, the voice of God beckons us to an abiding love of the Almighty and an inner passion for the gospel of Christ. Knowing well that our commitment to the faith is born first of a deep love of our savior, we enter into this moment of contemplation asking that the spirit of prayer be deepened in our lives as it was in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Edward Francis Gabriele, *My Soul Magnifies the Lord*, Fifteen Prayer Experiences Celebrating Mary)



CONGRATULATIONS!

We welcome these newly baptized children into our Family of Faith: Madelyn Charlotte Douglas, Liam Michael Muller, Chiara Defina Bove, Clair Jean Chatfield, and Caroline Cannon Nugent.



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Matthew Mellinger & Shari Garcia

December 12, 2021: 3rd Sunday of Advent

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming."—Luke 3:16



THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT PRAYER

We gather around the Advent Wreath before the evening meal begins. As two purple candles and one pink candle are lighted, we pray, "Lord Jesus, we rejoice in your goodness and kindness. With joyful hope we await the coming of your Kingdom. Teach us to trust in your merciful love and in your plan for our lives. You are our joy. You are the light of our family."



DEEPEN YOUR ADVENT JOURNEY

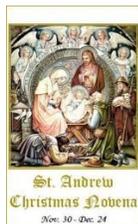
The holy season of Advent provides us with a chance to turn once again to the Lord and prepare our hearts to receive Jesus. Let these four weeks of Advent be a time of real preparation and reflection. Below are two online resources that you can take advantage of to discover content to enrich and deepen your Advent journey. They are free to all St. Pius X Parishioners.

WORD on FIRE

Receive weekly ENGAGE Advent Reflections from Bishop Barron on the Advent season. Word on Fire features films and videos with Bishop Robert Barron who has been hailed as “one of the Church’s greatest messengers.” You may access Word on Fire by going to www.st-pius.org and click on the “Sign In” link in the Word on Fire box on the left side.

FORMED
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

Another good resource to receive daily Advent reflections and weekly videos as you go through the Advent season. And it's not just for adults, there are reflections for kids too. You may access Word on Fire by going to www.st-pius.org and click on the “Sign In” link in the Word on Fire box on the left side.



ST. ANDREW CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Beginning on St. Andrew the Apostle's feast day, November 30, the St. Andrew Christmas Novena is a beautiful prayer traditionally recited 15 times a day until Christmas. This meditative prayer helps us increase our awareness of the real meaning of Christmas and prepares us for the birth of Jesus.

Hail, and blessed be the hour and moment at which the
Son of God was born of a most pure Virgin
at a stable at Midnight in Bethlehem in the piercing cold.
At that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee,
to hear my prayers and grant my desires.
(Mention your intention here.)
Through Jesus Christ and His most Blessed Mother.



MEANING & IMPORTANCE OF THE NATIVITY

“The Christmas crèche moves us so deeply because it shows God’s tender love: the Creator of the universe lowered himself to take up our littleness. As the prophets foretold, all creation rejoices in the coming of the Messiah. The angel and the guiding star are a sign that we too are called to set out for the cave and to worship the Lord...the shepherds become the first to see the most essential thing of all: the gift of salvation. It is the humble and the poor who greet the event of the Incarnation. The presence of the poor and lowly in the nativity scene reminds us that God became man for the sake of those who feel most in need of his love and who ask him to draw near them. The nativity scene clearly teaches that we cannot let ourselves be fooled by wealth and fleeting promises of happiness. From the manger, Jesus proclaims, in a meek yet powerful way, the need for sharing with the poor as the path to a more human and fraternal world in which no one is excluded or marginalized.” (to be continued next week...*excerpted from Christmas 2019 letter sent by Pope Francis to the Little Sisters of the Poor.*)



GIVING TREES—DUE NEXT WEEK!

Next week is the final week to drop off your donations for the Advent Giving Tree. Or if you prefer, make a donation online at the St. Pius X Website at www.st-pius.org and we will purchase gift cards. Again, this year we are donating to 13 area agencies who depend on our generosity to help keep their clients warm, fed and hopeful. Please drop your gift cards in the Church vestibule or in the Chapel lobby. The gifts will be picked up on Sunday December 18 after the 12Noon mass. **It is 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!



"You will not see anyone who is truly striving
after his spiritual advancement who is not given
to spiritual reading."
—St. Athanasius of Alexandria



O ANTIPHONS

Liturgically, the second part of Advent begins on December 17 and continues until December 24. There is an ancient tradition of singing beautiful short prayers called the **O Antiphons** during the Liturgy of the Hours. These **O Antiphons** are also sung or prayed as the Alleluia verses during daily Mass. All are invited to pray them at home:

O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: teach us to walk in the paths of knowledge (December 17.)

O Lord of Ancient Israel, giver of the Law of Moses on Sinai; rescue us with your mighty power (December 18.)

O Flower of Jesse's Stem, sign of God's love for all people: save us without delay! (December 19.)

O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom, free the prisoners of darkness! (December 20.)

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: shine on those lost in the darkness of death! (December 21.)

O King of All Nations, source of your Church's unity and faith: save all mankind, your own creation! **O Emmanuel**, God's presence among us, our King and our Judge: save us, Lord our God! (December 23.)



ST. PIUS X ANNUAL APPEAL:

DONATED TO DATE: \$90,085
OF DONORS: 195
GOAL: \$210,000

Your gift, **no matter the size, will make a difference.** Please help us reach our **goal of \$210,000**, which will directly fund:

- Parking lot repair—overdue campus-wide crack maintenance and sealing.
- Campus Building Repair—School windows, lighting, and HVAC; Site lighting; Barn & Rectory upgrades.

TWO WAYS TO DONATE:

- **Online** at www.st-pius.org/onlinegive
- Return the **Reply Form Mailed** to you.

Thank you for your response and support!



**Merry Christmas to
our Young at Heart Seniors!**

The Sanctuary Lights in the Chapel will burn this week for all of God's blessings upon you.

YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS' LUNCHEONS

• **January 10, 2022**

Make Winter fun! Learn which Winter Birds to watch for in your backyard. **Chris Petherick** from **Wild Birds Unlimited of Fairfield** (right on Black Rock Tpk) will enlighten you on winter bird feeding and getting ready for nesting season which begins as early as February. He will discuss what how to attract Winter Birds to your feeders. Winter can be a wonderful season to discover the beauty of birds. Don't miss this!

Lunch and beverages provided (\$5 donation.)
 Calling on all bakers to bring some sweet treats!

Grab a friend and **RSVP REQUIRED** to **Peter Carrey** at aandp1964@aol.com or 203-673-2081.

• **February Break for Winter**

With many folks heading South for warmer weather and the possibility of inclement weather here, we will take a one-month hiatus!



"O my God, fill my soul with holy joy, courage and strength to serve You. Enkindle Your love in me and then walk with me along the next stretch of road before me."

—St. Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)



WHAT DO THE CHANTS MEAN?

During the season of Advent, we will sing some parts of the Mass in Latin according to Gregorian chant tones. These will be familiar since we have used them regularly for the last six years. Below, you will find line-by-line translations of the Mass parts to help foster a spirit of understanding and active participation. The Marian Antiphon sung after the conclusion of Mass is a long tradition in the Church. The particular salutation to the Blessed Virgin Mary changes with the seasons of the liturgical year. In Advent and Christmas, it rightly focuses on Mary's loving maternity of Jesus, who is our Redeemer.

**Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison*

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

**N.B. – the Kyrie is in Greek*

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedixit qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Holy, Holy Holy,
Lord, God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Mysterium fidei

The Mystery of Faith.

*Mortem tuam annuntiamus, Domine,
Et tuam resurrectionem confitemur,
Donec venias.*

We proclaim your death, O Lord.
And confess your resurrection.
Until you come again.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere
nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere
nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona
nobis pacem.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
world: grant us peace.

*Alma Redemptoris Mater, quæ pervia cæli
Porta manes, et stella maris, succurre
cadenti,
Surgere qui curat, populo: tu quæ genuisti,
Natura mirante, tuum sanctum Genitorem
Virgo prius ac posterius, Gabrielis ab ore
Sumens illud Ave, peccatorum miserere.*

Holy mother of our Redeemer, thou gate
leading to heaven and star of the sea; help
the falling people who seek to rise, thou who,
all nature wondering, didst give birth to thy
holy Creator. Virgin always, hearing the
greeting from Gabriel's lips, take pity on
sinners.