



## 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](http://www.st-pius.org) 

### Pastor

Rev. Samuel S. Kachuba  
[fr.samuel.kachuba@diobpt.org](mailto:fr.samuel.kachuba@diobpt.org)

### Resident Priests

• Rev. Eric Silva  
[frsilva@diobpt.org](mailto:frsilva@diobpt.org)  
• Fr. Colin Blatchford  
[fr.blatchford@couragerc.org](mailto:fr.blatchford@couragerc.org)

### Director of Music & Organist

Michael Lantowski  
[mikestro@gmail.com](mailto:mikestro@gmail.com)

### Faith Formation

• Shari Garcia (Sacramental Prep.)  
[sgarcia@st-pius.org](mailto:sgarcia@st-pius.org)  
• Paola Pena (Dir. of Evangelization)  
[ppena@st-pius.org](mailto:ppena@st-pius.org)  
• Emily Rauser (Life Teen & Edge)  
[erauser@st-pius.org](mailto:erauser@st-pius.org)

### Parish Office

• Terri Dawes, Admin. Assistant  
[tdawes@st-pius.org](mailto:tdawes@st-pius.org)  
• Kimberlie I. Leon, Business Manager  
[kleon@st-pius.org](mailto: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 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](http://www.st-pius.org).

### Online Giving

*Safe, Secure & Paper Free!*

To sign up, go to [www.st-pius.org/onlinegive](http://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](mailto: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 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

**Monday, December 20**

8:30AM +James Kiraly M. Kiraly  
 7PM Missa Cantata

**Tuesday, December 21**

8:30AM +Mary Jane Melnyk Devine Family

**Wednesday, December 22**

8:30AM +Ann Hughes Devine Family

**Thursday, December 23**

8:30AM +Frank Ruoff Walsh Family

**Friday, December 24**

8:30AM +Ed Kaplan  
 4PM, 6PM, & 12AM Intentions of All Parishioners

**Saturday, December 25**

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

**Sunday, December 26**

7:30AM +Matthew Roth Close Family  
 9AM +Carl Keegan R. & C. Chiusano  
 10:30AM +William Higgins B. Horan  
 12Noon +Amy J. & Mary Ann Cialone L. Vialone



**Flowers in the Church this week  
 in memory of  
 Michele Hubler**



**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**

**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](mailto:stpiusxprayerln@aol.com).

“They shall name him Emmanuel,  
 which means “God is with us.”  
 — Matthew 1:23



**STEWARDSHIP INSPIRATION**

“In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary’s “Yes”—“I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say.”—that the promise finds fulfillment.”

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

- December 12, 2021 Weekend Offertory: \$12,564
- 2020 Weekend Offering: \$
- Mission Offering: \$290
- Monthly Offertory: \$2,561
- Votives (Church & Chapel) Offertory: \$453
- Retired Religious Offertory: \$1,412
- Immaculate Conception Offertory: \$760

**ONLINE GIVERS HAVE INCREASED BY 30%!**

Sign up for Online Giving: [www.st-pius.org/onlinegive](http://www.st-pius.org/onlinegive)

**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](http://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: **9AM-4PM, Monday-Thursday** and **9AM-12Noon, Friday**. 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,

Throughout the Advent season, our hope, joy, and expectation has been increasing as we prepare that place in our hearts and homes for the Lord Jesus to occupy. He who was foretold by the prophets is truly drawing close to us, just as He drew close to the people who walked in darkness some 2000 years ago in Bethlehem. We began the season praying that the Lord would grant us the resolve to run forth to meet Christ with righteous deeds at His coming. To run to greet someone indicates a level of excitement and joy that demands our haste and all speed. That sense of excitement for the coming of Jesus is what we strive to cultivate during Advent. To allow that joy to grow, I hope you have had the chance to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, receiving the gift of God's mercy and heeding the call of St. John the Baptist to repent. Thus prepared and eagerly expectant, we have been invited to turn toward the Lord. Now, in this last week of Advent, the Church invites us to go with Mary, to set out in haste with the joyful news of the Incarnation of the Lord on our lips.

The Blessed Virgin Mary was, we know, receptive to the message of the Angel Gabriel. When told the joyful news that she was to be the Mother of the Messiah, Mary responded with her free and total *fiat*, "Let it be done." In addition to her own joyful news, Mary had also received the miraculous word that her cousin Elizabeth, long past the age for childbearing, was to give birth to a son. Mary set out in haste to visit, for her own joy was now a joy shared. She went with anticipatory joy: Elizabeth was in the sixth month of her pregnancy and the birth of John the Baptist would happen soon. She went with haste to perform righteous deeds: her cousin was much older and would need the help of young Mary. She went to announce joy and to share joy: "At the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leapt for joy," "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my savior."

With Mary, we are invited this week to go out with haste, motivated by our joy that the birth of our Savior is drawing near. Let this be a week of concern for others, especially those less fortunate than ourselves. Let this be a week in which we strive to serve the people around us, reverencing their God-given dignity and helping them with joyful hearts. Let this be a week for sharing joy and spreading the good news of the Gospel. Our faith is a treasure, and the news of the birth of Jesus does so often get lost in the busyness of the season. We have an opportunity to gently share the true reason for our joy and to keep that anticipation at the forefront of our thoughts and actions. When Mary went out in haste to visit Elizabeth, she went also to help her cousin prepare for the birth of John. In this week, let us turn to Mary and ask for her intercession so that we, too, can prepare for the birth of Jesus anew in our hearts and world. And let us strive to help our friends, families, and each person that we meet to prepare that place to welcome the Savior.

Next Saturday, we will mark the great solemnity of Christmas. As you know, Christmas is often an occasion for homecoming. This is equally true for our biological families as it is for our parish family. At home, family members we have not seen in quite a while gather with us to celebrate. Likewise, at Mass, members of our community we have not seen in quite a while will gather with us. Christmas Masses – especially the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve – are a golden opportunity for us to welcome people home and invite them to continue to worship with us regularly. You will certainly see some unfamiliar faces sitting near your normal pew. Welcome them, greet them, introduce yourself to them, and so help them share the joy of Christmas and receive the invitation of the angels to come and adore. Overflow seating will be available in the Community Room for all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Unfortunately, we are not able to have a separate Mass in the school building as we have in years past – please pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood! With Christmas falling on a Saturday, I would also like to remind everyone that the following day, December 26, is Sunday. Our normal Sunday morning schedule will be followed, with Masses at 7:30 AM, 9 AM, 10:30 AM, and noon. The Sunday after Christmas is always the feast of the Holy Family. How beautiful that we can celebrate the Holy Family as we rejoice in welcoming members of our spiritual family home to worship and pray with us, and invite them to share that joy each Sunday.

Peace,

Fr. Sam



### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** Micah 5:1-4a

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 10:5-10

**The Gospel:** Luke 1:39-45

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

**Wednesday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

**Thursday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

**Friday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

**Saturday:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 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, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17, or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52



### MEMORIAL FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED

As you pray, remember all deceased parishioners and especially those recently deceased including: Louis Stypinski, Gary Voss, and John Picarazzi.



### BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Matthew Mellinger & Shari Garcia



### CONGRATULATIONS!

We welcome these newly baptized children into our Family of Faith: Kiernan David Byrne, Mackenzie Joy Kurman, Wesley Keough Twomey, and Bodie Taylor Twomey.



The Parish Office will have the following schedule for Christmas and New Year's:

**Thurs., Dec. 23:** 9AM-12Noon

**Fri., Dec. 24:** Closed

**Mon., Dec. 27:** Closed

**Fri., Dec. 31:** Closed

We wish you a joyous and blessed Christmas with family and friends!



### 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!*



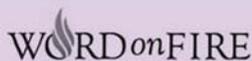
### FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT PRAYER

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."



## YOUR ADVENT JOURNEY

Let this last week of Advent be a time of real preparation and reflection. Take a few minutes to check out these two FREE online resources to discover content to enrich and deepen the days ahead as we walk toward Christmas.



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](http://www.st-pius.org) and click on the “Sign In” link in the Word on Fire box on the left side.



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](http://www.st-pius.org) and click on the “Sign In” link in the Word on Fire box on the left side.



## O ANTIPHONS CONTINUE UNTIL DECEMBER 24

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 & 24.

December 19, 2021: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
“Blessed are you among women.”  
—Luke 1:42

“And this will be a sign for you:  
you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling  
clothes and lying in a manger.”  
—Luke 2:12



## PART II: MEANING/ IMPORTANCE OF THE NATIVITY SCENE

“Gradually we come to the cave, where we find the figures of Mary and Joseph. Mary is a mother who contemplates her child and shows him to every visitor. The figure of Mary makes us reflect on the great mystery that surrounded this young woman when God knocked on the door of her immaculate heart. Mary responded in complete obedience to the message of the angel who asked her to become the Mother of God....at Mary’s side, shown protecting the child and his Mother, stands Saint Joseph. He plays an important role in the life of Jesus and Mary. He is the guardian who tirelessly protects his family. Joseph treasured in his heart the great mystery surrounding Jesus and Mary his spouse; as a just man, he entrusted himself always to God’s will and then put it into practice. At Christmas, when we place the statue of the Infant Jesus in the manger, the nativity scene suddenly comes alive. Beneath weakness and frailty, he conceals his power that creates and transforms all things: in Jesus, God was a child, and in this way he wished to reveal the greatness of his love by smiling and opening his arms to all. The nativity scene shows God as he came into our world, but it also makes us reflect on how our life is part of God’s own life. It invites us to become his disciples if we want to attain ultimate meaning in life. May you find JOY at the manger this Christmas!” (excerpted from the Christmas 2019 letter sent by Pope Francis to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Brooklyn, NY)



## GIVING TREES: FINAL WEEK!

This is the final weekend to drop off your gift card donations for the Advent Giving Tree. Or if you prefer, donate on the St. Pius X Web site at [www.st-pius.org](http://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. Drop your gift cards in the Church vestibule or in the Chapel lobby. Gifts will be picked up on Sunday December 19 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 for your generosity, we are grateful!



**ST. PIUS X ANNUAL APPEAL:**

**DONATED TO DATE: \$90,845**  
**# OF DONORS: 209**  
**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.

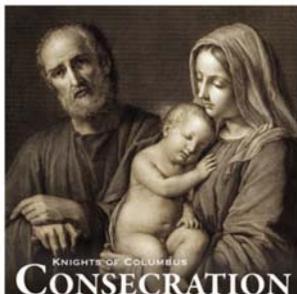
**TWO WAYS TO DONATE:** Online at [www.st-pius.org/onlinegive](http://www.st-pius.org/onlinegive) or return the **Reply Form Mailed** to you.

Thank you for your response and support!



**CHRISTMAS MEDITATION**

The light which pierces the darkness of our Advent is the first radiance of the light of Easter. Christmas is the feast of fulfillment, the preliminary answer to our hopes and desires. However, our desires have to be crucified and rise again in Christ before they can be perfectly fulfilled. The Advent-Christmas mystery is therefore an overture to Easter, and it orchestrates the central Christian mystery in ways proper to itself with its own special emphases. (*The Coming of God*, Sr. Maria Boulding, O.S.B.)



**SAVE THE DATE!**

Save the Date: Knights of Columbus Consecration to the Holy Family will take place on **December 26**. All are welcome!



**YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS' LUNCHEONS**

**• Christmas Lunch Recap!**

We had an epic holiday luncheon on December 6! With 105 gathering for a hot buffet lunch from Pizza Palace, sugar cookies from our friend Claudia, and more than a dozen other delicious desserts from our group. We enjoyed a beautiful musical concert from our very own organist Mike Lantowski and soloist Wendy Gerbier. It was a wonderful celebration of the joys of the season with friends along with a special appearance by Fr. Sam who said grace. A very big thank you to the St. Pius X Knights of Columbus who donated \$100 toward our luncheon and to a very special Angel Donor who donated our party gifts of Christmas Snowmen note pads and pencils. What a wonderful day! Thank you to everyone who helped to set up and clean up, we are so blessed to have so many wonderful friends to enjoy fellowship and make memories.



**• January 10, 2022**

Learn which Winter Birds to watch for in your backyard from guest speaker **Chris Petherick** from **Wild Birds Unlimited of Fairfield** Lunch and beverages provided (\$7 donation.) Calling on all bakers! **RSVP REQUIRED** to Peter Carrey at [aandp1964@aol.com](mailto:aandp1964@aol.com) or 203-673-2081.



### 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.