



## St. Pius X Parish: A Roman Catholic Community

834 Brookside Dr., Fairfield CT 06824 • Parish Office 203-255-6134 • Religious Ed 203-259-4800 • Fax 203-255-5232 • [st-pius.org](http://st-pius.org)

### Pastor

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

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Brendan H. Blawie, S.T.L.  
[frblawie@diobpt.org](mailto:frblawie@diobpt.org)

### Deacon and Resident Priest

Deacon Donald J. Ross  
[dnross@diobpt.org](mailto:dnross@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 Mellinger (Religious Ed)  
[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@setoncollaborative.org](mailto:erauser@setoncollaborative.org)

### Parish Office

Terri Dawes, Receptionist  
[tdawes@st-pius.org](mailto:tdawes@st-pius.org)  
Cathy Coyle, Admin. Assistant  
[ccoyle@st-pius.org](mailto:ccoyle@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 Anticipated Mass: 5:15PM  
Sunday: 7:30AM, 9AM, and 11AM

### 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 Deacon Don Ross at [dnross@diobpt.org](mailto:dnross@diobpt.org)

### Devotions

Adoration in the Chapel from Monday 9AM until Friday 9PM.  
Rosary and the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy 9AM, Fridays 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, September 2**

8:30AM Scinto Family K. McHugh  
5:15PM +Dr. John G. Gisondi Gisondi Family

#### **Sunday, September 3**

7:30AM All Parishioners  
9AM +Matthew Senatore P. Senatore  
11AM +Bridie F. McCannon Toner Family

#### **Monday, September 4**

8:30AM +Frederick Yankocy G. Fichera & Family  
7PM +Gloria Gustilo Opalak Family

#### **Tuesday, September 5**

8:30AM +Gracie Rodriguez T. Dawes

#### **Wednesday, September 6**

8:30AM +Ruth Horgan C. Beacock

#### **Thursday, September 7**

8:30AM +Bill Shaughnessy B. Shaughnessy

#### **Friday, September 8**

8:30AM +Anne & Nicholas Fabian

#### **Saturday, September 9**

8:30AM +William Brilvitch Knights of Columbus #118  
5:15PM +Anne Jordan Glennon M. Grosso

#### **Sunday, September 10**

7:30AM All Parishioners  
9AM +Priscilla Ross Potanovich P. Senatore  
11AM +Marissa Ann Guido A. Guido



**Sanctuary Lights in the Chapel  
will burn this week for  
All Those Struggling With Addiction**

**Sanctuary Lights in the Church  
will burn this week in for  
Mary Niland**

**Flowers in the Church this week  
in honor of  
Fred Yankocy**

### 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).

### FRIDAY ROSARY

Come pray the rosary following the **8:30AM Mass, Fridays, in the Church**. After the rosary, Pat Heile will lead the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. All are welcome to attend!

### PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Due to the holiday, the Parish Office will be open **Tue - Friday from 9AM-4PM**. We look forward to seeing you!



### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Offerings	Aug 20	Aug 27
Weekend	\$ 11,573	\$ 11,305
Weekend 2022	\$ 12,313	\$ 10,703
Monthly	\$ 277	\$ 632
Candles	N/A	\$ 559



### ST. PIUS X ANNUAL APPEAL NEEDS YOU

We are so grateful to everyone who has donated. And yet, we still have critical financial challenges.

**Only 14% of our parish has given to our Annual Appeal.**

Please prayerfully consider donating to our parish appeal. Any amount is appreciated!

Construction Loan	\$ 938,167
School Building Renovations	\$ 275,000
St. Pius X Registered Families	+2,300
Donated to Date	\$ 223,712
# of Donors	320

**Ways to Donate:** Scan the QR code, visit [www.st-pius.org/onlinegive](http://www.st-pius.org/onlinegive), mail or drop a check in the offertory with "ANNUAL APPEAL" in the memo.

**THANK YOU!**



Bishop's Appeal Goal	\$ 234,600
Total Pledged	\$ 218,022 (93%)
Donors to Date	232

Thank you for participating in the 2023 Bishop's Appeal. If you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider supporting the appeal. To make a gift, or for more information, please visit [2023BishopsAppeal.org](http://2023BishopsAppeal.org), call (203) 416-1470 or scan the QR code with your phone.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

If the words of Lord Acton are true, then power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Last week, the Gospel showed us the authority given to Peter, an authority that, in a certain way, is absolute. To Peter is given the authority, the power, to forgive sin and to teach the truth about Jesus. Just a few verses later, however, as we will hear in the Gospel today, Peter oversteps his authority, perhaps even tries to assert an authority he does not possess. Hearing the Lord's prediction of suffering and death, Peter says no. Maybe he lets the idea that he is the rock on which the Church is to be built go to his head. Maybe he thinks that because the gates of hell will not prevail against him, he has some leverage with the one who gave him the authority to withstand those same gates? Whatever his reasoning, it is clear that Peter tries to extend his authority in a way that is contrary to what Jesus intends, and so he is called back in words that may at first seem harsh. "Get behind me Satan," is no soft-pedaled correction. By using such strong language, Jesus communicates the reality that when Peter (or any one of us) thinks "not as God does, but as human beings do," that is, not in accord with the mind and heart of God, we are siding with the forces of evil and separating ourselves from the relationship with God for which we were created. Whatever authority we may have, whatever authority and power has been given to Peter, such authority is *never* for separating ourselves or others from God, nor is it for leading people into a non-Godly way of thinking and reasoning.

Ultimately, the great flaw in Peter's approach is that he neglects to integrate divine reason into his human reasoning. In plain human terms, suffering and death is a bad thing. But in the divine plan, the suffering of the Messiah (which was also contained in the prophecies about the Christ in the Old Testament), we see suffering and death differently. While he had just made a correct and profound theological statement in confessing Jesus to be the Christ, Peter falters here, adopting instead a way of thinking that follows the logic of the secular society at large, the logic of a human being disconnected from the divine. And so, Jesus speaks in strong terms to correct this error. With that tough language, Jesus demonstrates the limit of authority and that there is always a higher authority to which all earthly authority will be ultimately subject. Peter has authority to teach, to proclaim the Gospel, and to forgive sin. But his authority is always subject to the divine authority that bestowed it in the first place. In other words, Peter and his successors will always have God to answer to. If authority is given for the sake of standing fast against the gates of hell, then those who exercise authority will be held accountable to the one who opens the gates of heaven.

Whenever correction is given, there is a temptation to feel bad, as though the chastisement is now the defining characteristic of our lives, and no doubt Peter wondered if he had lost the very authority Jesus had just bestowed on him. Even in Peter's imperfect exercise of authority, Jesus continues to trust him. Our culture (thinking as human beings do) tends to leave very little room for one to falter in their exercise of authority or power. Perfection at all costs, so long as that perfection corresponds to the ever-changing whims of the moment. With the perspective of mercy that Jesus brings to the Apostles, to the Church, and thus to all of us, even our errors in judgment, and our failures in the exercise of authority, we see that the divine authority of Jesus continually offers us the necessary corrections so that we can more perfectly stand against the gates of hell. In a strange way, to hear "get behind me Satan" becomes far less an insult, and far more a merciful call back to the right way of living and the right exercise of power. May we always recognize that the power and authority entrusted to us is subject to the divine, to the will of God, and to the revealed and unchanging truths of the Gospel. Let us think not as human beings do, but rather let our thoughts, words, and deeds be in communion with the mind and heart of Jesus Christ.

Peace,

Fr. Sam





### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** Jer 20:7-9

**Second Reading:** Rom 12:1-2

**The Gospel:** Mt 16:21-27

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** 1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13; Lk 4:16-30

**Tuesday:** 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Lk 4:31-37

**Wednesday:** Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10-11; Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday:** Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11

**Friday:** Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 13:6ab, 6c; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]

**Saturday:** Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8; Lk 6:1-5

**Sunday:** Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20



### BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Kelly Gorman & Brian Kelly



### CONGRATULATIONS!

We welcome these newly baptized children into our Faith Family: Isabelle Rose Brower, Wesley Anthony DeBernardis, Viviana Marie Donzella, Kennedy Jean Soprani, Paige Amelia Soprani and Bennett Albert Swidowski



### MEMORIAL FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED

As you pray, remember all deceased parishioners, especially those who recently passed: David Calliari



### COFFEE HOURS ARE BACK!!!

**Sunday, September 10, Community Room.** Join us for coffee hour after the Sunday 9:00AM Mass. If you would like to help with the coffee contact, Genevieve Ritch at [gfanelliritch@optonline.net](mailto:gfanelliritch@optonline.net).



### OUR ADORATION CHAPEL IS NOW OPEN!

Adoration is available in the St. Pius X Chapel from **Monday, 9AM until Friday, 9PM.** Stop by and just sit quietly with our Lord, he longs to be with you!

Consider signing up for a weekly hour or becoming a substitute. Visit [www.st-pius.org/adore365/](http://www.st-pius.org/adore365/). **We still have a few hours open on the schedule:** Mondays, 1:00 PM & 2:00 PM, Tuesdays, 4:00 PM, Wednesday 6AM, Thursdays, 11:00 AM

**RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION**



### REGISTRATION

**Registration for Elementary Faith Formation is open!** The Elementary Faith Formation program is open to all children in grades 1-6 and includes preparation to receive First Holy Communion (Grade 2) and Confirmation (Grade 6).

For more information and to register your children, please visit us at [www.st-pius.org/faith-formation-registration](http://www.st-pius.org/faith-formation-registration) or scan the QR code! Catechists are needed for the spring Confirmation class, grades 2-4 on Monday, grade 5 on Tuesday and grades 2-5 on Wednesday. Contact Shari Mellinger at [sgarcia@st-pius.org](mailto:sgarcia@st-pius.org) for more information.

**VIRTUS®**



Volunteers are required by the Diocese of Bridgeport to have a background check and complete a training program, "Protecting God's Children." Volunteers may sign up for the free class through online registration. The class is approximately 3 hours and may be taken virtually or in person at various locations in the diocese.

Upon completion of the class, a copy of the certificate must be submitted to the parish office prior to beginning duties as a volunteer. Scan the QR code above or visit [www.bridgeportdiocese.org/safe-environments/virtus/](http://www.bridgeportdiocese.org/safe-environments/virtus/) to register. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Coyle at 203-255-6134 or [ccoyle@st-pius.org](mailto:ccoyle@st-pius.org).





### SENIOR LUNCHEON

**September 11, 12Noon:** Join us as we welcome our very own **Fr. Brendan Blawie** who will share his vocation story. Fr. Brendan graduated from Officer's Candidate School in Quantico, VA, fulfilling his childhood dream of becoming a Marine Officer. However, the Lord had other plans for him! Fr. Brendan entered the seminary for the Diocese of Bridgeport and was ordained January 2, 2021. This past June he received his STL in dogmatic theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. Don't miss this opportunity to hear directly from Fr. Brendan and to ask him any questions you may have.

**Lunch is \$7** for sandwiches, chips, soda, water, coffee, tea, and dessert. **RSVP required to Peter Carey at [aandp1964@aol.com](mailto:aandp1964@aol.com) or 203-673-2081.** Also let Pete know if you can bake a treat. Spread the word and invite your friends to join us!

### ★ **GAME DAY** ★

#### **Young at Heart Seniors Game Day**

*Expands to TWO DAYS Every Week!* We are happy to announce that we now have TWO Game Day groups in full swing! If you're interested in learning more, grab a friend and meet us in the **Community Room 10AM-12Noon** on **Tuesdays** for Mahjonn and/or on **Wednesdays 10AM-12Noon** for Canasta. If you have a different game in mind, bring it along and join us!

Don't be shy, stop over and check out the games OR just come and meet new friends for fellowship and conversation. See you in the Community Room!

Questions? Contact [Margaret at blk125@msn.com](mailto:Margaret at blk125@msn.com) or 908-399-2945.



### TASTEBUDS

**Wednesday, September 6, from 5PM to 7PM** in the Community Room. We welcome you to come to Tastebuds monthly gathering and grow together in community and connect our faith to our food!

Along with cooking demonstrations, we will review a menu, recipe, and the process of bringing the meal to the table. Each gathering will end with a dinner of our creations.

Our dinners are being paired with some lovely beverage selections from Kindred Spirits in Fairfield. If you would like to attend, please email, [catherinemacdonaldcake@gmail.com](mailto:catherinemacdonaldcake@gmail.com). The cost to cover your materials and meal will be \$10.00.



### COOKING FOR OPERATION HOPE

If you love cooking and sharing your gift with others, please consider joining our Operation Hope Meal Prep Team. This group prepares and delivers a monthly meal for 50 of Operation Hope's clients. You can choose between preparing part of the meal in your own kitchen or with others at in the St. Pius X Faith Center Kitchen. If you are interested in joining the committee, contact Genevieve Ritch at [gfanelliritch@optonline.net](mailto:gfanelliritch@optonline.net) or call the Parish Office.



### MEN'S WEEKLY GATHERING

**Saturday Mornings, 6:30AM, Community Room.** Join the men of the parish for prayer, conversation, and fellowship! For more information, contact Mark Drexel at [drexel2424@optonline.net](mailto:drexel2424@optonline.net). We look forward to welcoming you!

**LIFE TEEN + EDGE STUDENT**

Fairfield Life Teen and Edge invites high school and middle school students in the local area into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Life Teen (High School Ministry) and Edge (Middle School Ministry) are hosted at St. Pius X and open to anyone from any church. The mission of Fairfield Life Teen and Edge is to provide 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 Nights (Sundays, 6:30-8pm)**

Sept. 17: Kick-Off and Bonfire

**Edge Nights (Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm)**

Sept. 20: Kick-Off and Bonfire

**LIFE TEEN + EDGE CORE TEAM**

We need adult volunteers to be a part of our CORE teams for both our middle and high school ministries. CORE team members are essential in making Fairfield Life Teen + Edge a safe and welcoming environment where the teens are SEEN, KNOWN, and LOVED. They attend our weekly Life/Edge Nights, as well as planning meetings 2-3 times per semester. We are looking for adults to help with the following at the Life/Edge Nights:

- Set-up/clean-up
- Lead opening/closing prayer
- Prepare and give a short teaching
- Lead small groups
- BE PRESENT with the teens

For more info, visit [www.fairfieldlt.com](http://www.fairfieldlt.com) or contact Emily Rauser at [erauser@setoncollaborative.org](mailto:erauser@setoncollaborative.org).


**THANK YOU FROM FR. SAM!**

Last week, I turned 40, and what a blessing it was to celebrate with all of you (especially after the 9 AM Mass). I'd like to take a little space here in the bulletin to thank you all for your prayers and your kind birthday greetings. I don't feel like I can possibly be this old, but I do feel powerfully supported and loved by all of you. Thank you.



# YOU'RE INVITED

FAIRFIELD YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY



**young adult  
adoration  
+  
bonfire**

**7PM-8PM**  
ADORATION WITH  
PRAISE + WORSHIP  
IN THE CHURCH. HOMILY.  
CONFESSIONS AVAILABLE.

**8PM**  
JOIN US BY THE FIRE PIT  
FOR SMORES AND  
FELLOWSHIP

**Fall 2023**  
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH**  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH**

**ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
834 BROOKSIDE DRIVE  
FAIRFIELD, CT 06824

**Get Connected.**

SMALL GROUPS, TRIVIA NIGHTS,  
FAITH ON TAP, AND MORE!



## Outdoor Movie Night: "Nefarious"

THURS | SEPT 21ST  
8pm by the Fire Pit

Small Group on  
"Screwtape Letters" by C.S.  
Lewis starts in OCT.



## EMPOWER

December 15-18, 2023.

A 4-day conference  
where young adults 18-  
35 are empowered to  
live out the mission of  
Jesus.

[www.fairfielddyac.com](http://www.fairfielddyac.com)