

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

Pastor

Rev. Samuel S. Kachuba, S.T.L. fr.samuel.kachuba@diobpt.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Brendan H. Blawie, S.T.L. frblawie@diobpt.org

Deacon and Resident Priest

Deacon Donald J. Ross dnross@diobpt.org Fr. Colin Blatchford fr.blatchford@couragerc.org

Director of Music & Organist

Michael Lantowski mikestro@ymail.com

Faith Formation

Shari Mellinger (Religious Ed) sgarcia@st-pius.org Paola Pena (Dir. of Evangelization) ppena@st-pius.org Emily Rauser (Life Teen & Edge) erauser@setoncollaborative.org

Parish Office

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

Holy Day Mass Schedule (Church)

Viail: 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

Devotions

Adoration Monday 9AM until Friday 9PM in the Chapel.
Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy 9AM, Fridays in the Church.
First Saturday Devotion to Our Lady 9AM in the Chapel.

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, November 18

Saturday, November 18	
8:30AM +Jay Kowalsky	K. Kowalsky
5:15PM +Kirik & Parise Families	Parise Family
Sunday, November 19	
7:30AM All Parishioners	
9AM +Barbara Deacon	M. & J. Murphy
11AM +Barrett & Miller Family	S. Barrett
Monday, November 20	
8:30AM +Conneely Family	Conneely Family
Tuesday, November 21	
8:30AM +Marlene Murphy	S. Karl
Wednesday, November 22	
8:30AM +Eleanor Douglas	A. Armstrong
Thursday, November 23	
8:30AM All Parishioners	
Friday, November 24	
8:30AM +Robert Atkinson	Mooney Family
Saturday, November 25	
8:30AM +Anne & Nicholas Fabian	
5:15PM +Nancy Buckley	Buckley Family
Sunday, November 26	



7:30AM +Mrs. Ellen Mario 9AM All Parishioners

11AM +Joseph & Bet Farrace

Sanctuary Lights in the Church will burn this week for all those Struggling with Addiction

J. Skultety



Sanctuary Lights in the Chapel will burn this week in loving memory of Romeo, Margaret, and Robert Mentrasti

PRAYER LINE

We must never underestimate the power of prayer! Email Pat Heile at stpiusxprayerln@aol.com with your petitions and thanksgivings. You can also email her if you'd like to help pray for the Prayer Line intentions.

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!

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

Join us on the **first Saturday of every month in the Chapel at 9AM** for a devotion to Our Lady. We will pray the rosary, Litany of Loreto and follow with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Offerings	Nov 5	Nov 12
Weekend	\$ 13,050	\$ 12,253
Weekend 2022	\$ 13,985	\$ 11,917
Monthly	\$ 701	\$ 3,745
Mission	\$ 672	\$ 205
Votives	N/A	\$ 459





ST. PIUS X ANNUAL APPEAL NEEDS YOU

Please prayerfully consider donating to our parish appeal. Any amount is appreciated! The donations will directly fund critical repairs in our 60-year-old school.

School Building Renovations \$ 250,000
St. Pius X Registered Families +2,480
Donated to Date \$ 22,480
of Donors 47

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

THANK YOU!





ADORATION CHAPEL SIGN-UP OPEN FOR WEEKEND HOURS

As a parish, our goal is to have Perpetual Adoration, 24 hours, 7 days a week by **December 1** of this year. Help us reach our goal by **signing up for a weekend Adoration hour. Scan the QR code or visit www.st-pius.org/adore365/. Weekend adoration hours will not start until we have enough committed, weekend adorers. You will receive an email once we have enough people.**

Until then, our regular Adoration times are still from Monday, 9AM until Friday, 9PM, in the Chapel. There are a few weekday hours open on Tuesdays: 12AM, Thursdays: 9PM, Fridays: 1AM, 5AM. Sign up or become a substitute by visiting www.st-pius.org/adore365/.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The parable of the talents Jesus tells in the Gospel today is rich in meaning, no pun intended. "Talent" in this case, refers to a sum of money, either calculated by wages earned or by weight. A talent of silver, for example, would be about 75 pounds worth of silver, and would, for Jesus' audience, represent many years of wages earned, perhaps even a lifetime of earnings. I am no expert in the dollar-values of precious metals, but what I can find online suggests that 75 pounds of silver is worth about \$20,00 - \$25,000 today. What we should understand from all this is that the man who entrusts talents to his servants is giving them a very substantial amount of money, and that giving this money to his servants represents a tremendous act of trust.

And so the master gives one servant five talents, who uses it to earn five more, bringing the total amount of wealth entrusted to him into the \$250,000 range by today's dollar amount. In Jesus' day, this would mean the lifetime earnings of several people put together. The servant returns it all to his master. He has taken this great amount, doubled it, and now gives it back without a second thought. So also the second servant, having received two talents and earned two more, returns them to his master. Even the servant who does nothing with the talent entrusted to him returns it without hesitation.

With Thanksgiving Day fast approaching, this ease of surrender can be instructive for us. The first two servants, who have clearly understood the assignment and been faithful in their efforts do not count the fruit of their labor as something to be jealously guarded. Rather, they understand that they were given something freely. Having cooperated with that gift, they return it, along with its developments, to the master. On Thanksgiving Day we gather to give thanks to God, not simply for the things we have received, but for the things we have received, worked on, developed, the ways in which we have been part of the process. Our thanksgiving for the blessings received is intensified when we have participated in the development of those gifts. What God gives to us is meant to be used, expanded, grown. We don't take seeds and put them away in hiding, rather we plant them so that they can grow. The servant who hid his talent away did the right thing by returning it, but the very fact that he had not used it at all demonstrates his lack of gratitude, his failure to appreciate the tremendous gift that was given to him.

In the end, this Gospel is not about financial gain or cleverness in business transactions. Rather, it is about the ways that God entrusts gifts, talents (in the modern sense of the word), and blessings to us. These are given for our good, and for the greater glory of God. What does it take to follow the example of the servants who bring those blessings back to the master, along with the fruit of their own labors and efforts? How beautiful it would be to return thanks to God, and come back to the Lord not only with the blessing as it was when we started, but with even more added, with that blessing no longer in seed form. How powerful to be so ready to surrender everything into God's hands that we count, not on our own understanding or skill, but entirely on the great providence of God's loving wisdom.

Peace.

Fr. Sam



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

Second Reading: 1 Thes 5:1-6 **The Gospel:** Mt 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Ps 119:53, 61,

134, 150, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-7; Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15; Lk

19:11-28

Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lk 19:41-44

Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11-12; Lk

19:45-48

Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19; Lk 20:27-40 **Sunday**: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26,

28; Mt 25:31-46



CONGRATULATIONS!

We welcome our newly baptized children into our Faith Family: Charlotte Everly Corwin, Thomas Robert Corwin, Jack Leighton Spinelli



MEMORIAL FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED

As you pray, remember all deceased parishioners, especially those who recently passed: Robert Martin, James Dugan, Gregory Patti

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

This weekend's second collection will support the retired priests of the Diocese of Bridgeport. The funds collected will contribute to the resources available to the priests who have faithfully served our diocese, many of whom reside at the Catherine Dennis Keefe Queen of the Clergy Residence in Stamford. In thanksgiving for their faithful dedication and hard work for the Church in Fairfield County, please give generously to recognize our priests who have given so generously themselves with many years of priestly service.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

CHORAL SCHOLA Practice Thursdays, from 7PM-8:30PM in the Church. Do you love to sing? Consider joining the Choral Schola and help lead the liturgical music at the 11:00AM Sunday Mass as well as various Holy Days throughout the year. Please contact Michael Lantowski at mikestro@ymail.com, call 203-255-6134, ext. 119 or come see Mike after any Mass to inquire.

YOUTH CHOIR Practice Thursdays, from 4:30PM-5:30PM in the Church. All children in grades 2-8 are welcome to join the Youth Choir. The choir will sing at the 9AM Mass on the last Sunday of each month. Our singers are under the direction of our head cantor and CT certified music educator, Cidalia Kettles, and accompanied by Michael Lantowski, our Director of Music. For more information, reach out to Mrs. Kettles at cidmezzo@gmail.com or Mike at mikestro@ymail.com. You may also call the office and speak to Mike at 203-255-6134 ext. 119.

ALTAR SERVERS All children who have received their First Holy Communion are invited to become altar servers. Altar servers assist the priest in the celebration of the liturgy during Mass. If you are interested, contact Fr. Brendan at frblawie@diobpt.org

<u>USHERS</u> This simple but important ministry is looking for members to assist during Mass in collecting the offertory and helping to seat parishioners. To find out more information, email Mike Finneran at lakehillsfinns@gmail.com.

GREETERS If smiling is your favorite, come and help set the tone for the liturgy by greeting everyone as they enter the church and again as they are sent forth after Mass. This ministry is open to all and is a great way for families to serve together. For more information, email Paola Peña at ppena@st-pius.org.

LECTORS Would you like to serve our community by proclaiming scripture during the liturgy? A thoughtful and prayerful presentation by our lectors helps open the hearts and minds of our community to the Word of God. Contact Fr. Brendan at frblawie@diobpt.org if you are interested.

ST. THÉRÈSE GUILD With deep love and reverence for the Holy Eucharist, the St. Thérèse Guild cares for the sacred altar linens on a rotating schedule. Training is provided. Email Fr. Brendan at frblawie@diobpt.org if you are interested.



CAN YOU HELP SPX?

Thanks be to God! Our St. Pius X Ministries are growing but our Community Kitchen refrigerator/freezer is not!

We are looking for some generous sponsors to fund one free-standing freezer and one free-standing refrigerator for our SPX Community Kitchen. Purchasing these larger units allows us to continue serving our community as well as expand our outreach to more of those in need. We only need \$2,200 to fund both units as the Marsillio Family provided the parish with a generous discount. Please call the office and chat with Cathy Coyle at 203-255-6134 or email ccoyle@st-pius.org if would like to help fund these appliances. Any donation amount is welcome!





TASTEBUDS

Wednesday, December 6, 5PM-7PM, Community Room. Come to Tastebuds monthly gathering! Along with cooking demonstrations, we will review recipes, and enjoy the meal we created together. Our dinners will be paired with selections from Kindred Spirits in Fairfield. The cost to cover materials and meal will be \$15. Email catherinemacdonaldcake@gmail.com to RSVP.



SPX RAFFLE

The 2024 Raffle Committee is looking for volunteers to help organize next year's raffle. If you would like to help, contact Paul Sposato at psysosato@optonline.net or call 203-613-5520.

THE SPX GOLF OUTING IS BACK!

ST. PIUS X GOLF FUNDRAISER

10 JUNE 2024

Our Golf Committee is looking for volunteers to help plan & support this event.

To volunteer, contact Paul Sposato at psposato@optonline.net or call 203-613-5520.



BAPTISMAL BLANKETS

Our dear Prayer Shawl Ministry is now knitting blankets for St. Pius X's newly baptized babies! Each blanket stitch is infused with the crafter's prayers for the child's faith journey. Once completed, the blankets are blessed by Fr. Brendan and given to their families after the baptism.

If you would like to join their efforts and help welcome our newest church members in this beautiful way, contact Kim Leon at kleon@st-pius.org. Yarn is provided for all blankets.



LADIES CHRISTMAS BRUNCH INVITE

Thursday, December 7, 9:30AM-11:30AM, Community Room, Walking with Purpose, a women's Catholic bible study, invites all women of the parish to a special Christmas Brunch and talk given by Father Sam. Please RSVP to Dawn Carpanzano at dawnmariec@sbcglobal.net by Monday, December 4.



SENIOR LUNCHEON

December 4, 12 Noon: Christmas Buffet Lunch and Mike Proscino Piano & Smooth Vocals—LIVE! Join us for our annual Christmas lunch celebration! We are happy to welcome back Mike Proscino who will put us in the Christmas spirit with his piano playing and smooth vocals. What better way to start the season than by listening to a live performance of all your favorite Christmas tunes. This year we will once again offer a complimentary hot buffet lunch catered by Sorrento's Importing along with a holiday raffle. Calling on all Baking Elves to bring some holiday treats! RSVP REQUIRED by November 28 to Peter Carey at aandp1964@aol.com or 203-673-2081.



YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS GAME DAY

Bring a friend and meet us in the **Community Room**, **10AM-12Noon** on **Tuesdays** for Mahjongg and/or on **Wednesdays**, **10AM-12Noon** for Canasta. You can stop by for fellowship and conversation. Questions? Contact Margaret at blk125@msn.com or 908-399-2945.



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. We look forward to welcoming you!



WELL-READ MOM BOOK CLUB

Saturday, December 9, 10AM - 11:15AM, Munro Room, following First Saturday Devotion.

We invite you to join us for our monthly discussion of great books and spiritual classics that encourage personal growth, friendship, and meaningful conversation.

Our December book is "The Practice in the Presence of God" by Brother Lawrence, a perfect read for the Advent season! Written in the 17th century by a French hermit, spiritual director and member of the Order of Discalced Carmelites, it contains enduring wisdom for seeking God in your daily life. Email Karen Lannigan at karenlannigan0915@gmail.com to RSVP or for more information.



FAIRFIELD 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 one at any church. The mission of Fairfield Life Teen + 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, 6PM-8PM)

Nov. 19: Ghosted-Human Trafficking Nov. 26: No Life Teen

Edge Nights (Wednesdays, 6:30PM-8PM)

Nov. 22: No Edge Nov. 29: Beach Resort-Is Being Good Boring?

FAIRFIELD 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.

For more info, visit www.fairfieldlt.com or contact Emily Rauser at erauser@setoncollaborative.org.





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 or call the Parish Office.

Advent by Candlelight

AN INSPIRATIONAL EVENING FOR WOMEN

SATURDAY I DECEMBER 2 I 6:30PM ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH IN FAIRFIELD, CT

"WALKING IN CONFIDENCE"

Our guest speaker, Jennifer Hubbard, is the President of the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary, which she founded in memory of her daughter who died in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. Hubbard is an international speaker, retreat leader and national role model for compassion and hope. Begin your Advent season with this intimate evening of fellowship and Jenny's moving testimony of faith and hope.

CANDLELIT DINNER

We invite you to purchase a single ticket for \$30, where you may request seating with friends and be placed with a St. Pius X hostess who will then help coordinate a shared meal. Alternatively, you may sponsor a table for \$240 for eight people and invite your own guests. Should you choose to sponsor a table, you will decorate and plan food and drink to share among your guests. Proceeds benefit the repairs and maintenance of St. Pius X School. Pay by check to St. Pius X Church or scan the event QR code.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT KAREN LANNIGAN AT KARENLANNIGAN0915@GMAIL.COM







Thank you to everyone who supported our Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser!





FAMILY GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING

Sunday, December 3
10am-12pm

St. Pius X Community Room

Join fellow parishioners for a morning of gingerbread house decorating!

Once complete, you creation will be donated to St. Pius X Outreach and Operation Hope Communities.

This event will be limited to the first 50 sign-ups. Donation of \$25.00 for supplies to participate.

To participate, email Catherinemacdonaldcake@gmail.com and Venmo fee to Catherine Macdonald @Catherine Macdonald-188

St. Pius X Catholic Church



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Calling all aspiring angels, shepherds, narrators, singers, volunteers and more! We are excited for this year's Christmas Pageant at St Pius X, to be held

Sunday December 17th at 3pm.





OPEN TO KIDS AGE 3 THROUGH GRADE 8. PLEASE USE THE QR CODE TO SIGN-UP AND INDICATE INTEREST IN ROLES.





YOUNG AT HEART & ELVIS



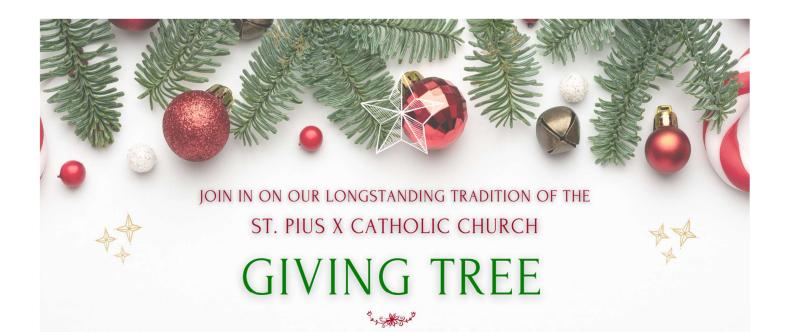








Earlier this November, Elvis was in the building along with our Young at Heart Crew at the Aqua Turf. It was another incredibly fun trip for our seniors!



GRAB A TAG, PURCHASE THE LISTED ITEM, RETURN THE GIFT TO THE TREE WITH TAG ATTACHED BY THE WEEKEND OF DEC 9/10

BUSY? USE THE QR CODE TO DONATE, WE'LL DO THE SHOPPING FOR YOU!



THE GREATEST NEED IS FOR WALMART & DOLLARTREE GIFT CARDS!

THESE STORES HAVE EVERYTHING OUR NEIGHBORS NEED AND ARE

ACCESSIBLE ON THEIR LOCAL BUSLINES.

THE CARDS ARE ONLY SOLD DIRECTLY BY THESE RETAILERS.
PURCHASE THEM IN ONE OF THREE WAYS.

- VISIT OUR LOCAL DOLARTREE OR WALMART.
- BUY ONINE AT THE STORE WEBSITE, CARDS ARE MAILED FOR FREE.
- DONATE VIA THE QR CODE AND WE'LL PICK THEM UP FOR YOU!

QUESTIONS? EMAIL CATHY OR DOUG VAN TORNHOUT AT STPIUSXGIVINGTREE@GMAIL.COM.



2023-2024 ST. PIUS X ANNUAL APPEAL DONATION REMINDER

November 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

By now you should have received my letter below in the mail. This copy is a reminder so you may consider donating to the 2023-2034 St. Pius X Annual Appeal if you have not already done so.

2022-2023 Annual Appeal Results:

- Goal: \$200,000 Actual: \$205,282
- Number of Gifts Received: 312 out of 2300 registered households
- Percent Participation: only 13.5% of our parish donated
- Donations Directly Funded: a) Necessary upgrades to our 60-year-old School: new windows in the 1st floor Classrooms/Offices, new LED lighting and ceiling in the Gym, and plumbing upgrades to 16+ toilets. b) Donations designated to offset the deficit from our We Stand with Christ bank loan went directly to pay down principal.

2023-2024 Annual Appeal Needs:

- Goal: \$250,000
- Donations will Directly Fund: Critical repairs still outstanding at our 60-year-old School, used daily by our parish families, for religious education, and rented out as a source of income:
 - New windows in the 2nd floor Classrooms and Gym.
 - · Gym Floor replacement and asbestos abatement.
 - Plumbing upgrades to 20 sinks in the bathrooms.
 - Heating system upgrades including new working valves and thermostats in entire building.
 - Carpeting throughout the building needs to be replaced and asbestos abated.

The reality of what it costs to operate/maintain our beautiful but aging 13-acre campus with multiple buildings in Fairfield is significant and on the rise. In addition, our School is still in desperate need of the above repairs. And although we currently have 2,480 registered households, only 25% or 640 contribute regularly to our weekend offertory, and only 13.5% or 312 participated in last year's annual appeal.

With this in mind, I humbly ask everyone to prayerfully consider the following this year:

- Donate (any amount!) so you can participate in our 2023-2024 Annual Appeal (Goal: \$250,000)
- Consider increasing your weekly donation by the price of a cup of coffee.
- Send your gift in by December 31. This also allows you to claim your donation on your taxes.

If everyone participates, no matter the amount, it will make a real difference.

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Credit Card or Checks payable to St. Pius X and mailed to address below or Give Online at www.st-pius.org/onlinegive