



## 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  
[fr.samuel.kachuba@diobpt.org](mailto:fr.samuel.kachuba@diobpt.org)

### Deacon and Resident Priests

• Deacon Donald J. Ross  
[dnross@diobpt.org](mailto:dnross@diobpt.org)  
• 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 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@st-pius.org](mailto:erauser@st-pius.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 Larry Rollins at [lksgcrollins5@gmail.com](mailto:lksgcrollins5@gmail.com)

### Devotions (Church)

• Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is 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, March 18**

8:30AM +Pam Krijgsman Dr. Thimons  
5:15PM+Anne Jordan Glennon M. Grosso

#### **Sunday, March 19**

7:30AM +All Parishioners  
9AM +James DeGiacomo F. & P. Perazzini  
11AM +Theresa Liuzzo A. Armstrong

#### **Monday, March 20**

8:30AM +David Motherway, Jr. Sell Family

#### **Tuesday, March 21**

8:30AM +Sunil D'Cunha D'Cunha Family

#### **Wednesday, March 22**

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

#### **Thursday, March 23**

8:30AM +Fortunata Porcaro Focella F. & J. Nunziata

#### **Friday, March 24**

8:30AM +Camille Gagliano Gagliano Family

#### **Saturday, March 25**

8:30AM +Donald J. Ross, Sr. C. & R. Earls  
5:15PM+Liuba & Anthony Annuncio T. Annuncio

#### **Sunday, March 26**

7:30AM +Dianne Csedrik E., L., & L. Csedrik  
9AM +Frank Agonito A. Lesko  
11AM+Colligan Family Carpanzano Family



**Sanctuary Lights in the Church  
will burn this week in thanksgiving for  
Mary-Elizabeth Joy Leahey**

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

## **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).

### 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. Thank you to Pat for her dedication and service. All are welcome to attend!

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is open **9AM-4PM, Monday-Thursday** and **9AM-12Noon, Friday**. The staff works remotely when not in the office so you can email them anytime. We look forward to seeing you!



### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Offerings	March 5	March 12
Weekend	\$ 12,656	\$ 12,167
Weekend 2022	\$ 14,915	\$ 11,985
Monthly	\$ 950	\$ 2,811
Mission	\$ 285	\$ 110
Maintenance	\$ 0	\$ 225
Votive	\$ 546	\$ 0

**SEE PAGE 6 FOR AN UPDATE ON OUR  
ANNUAL APPEAL.**

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



### JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

*(All take place in the Church)*

- **Saturday, April 1**  
8:30AM Mass  
4PM-5PM Confession  
5:15PM Palm Sunday, Vigil Mass
- **Palm Sunday, April 2**  
7:30AM, 9AM, 11:00AM
- **Wednesday, April 5**  
7PM-8PM Adoration & Confession
- **Holy Thursday, April 6**  
7PM Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Visitation at the Altar of Repose until 11PM
- **Good Friday, April 7**  
8:30AM Morning Prayer  
12Noon Stations of the Cross  
3PM Celebration of The Lord's Passion  
7PM Tenebrae
- **Holy Saturday, April 8**  
8:30AM Morning Prayer  
10AM Blessing of Easter Food  
1PM-3PM Confession  
7:30PM Easter Vigil
- **Easter Sunday Masses, April 9**  
7:30AM, 9AM, 10:30AM, and 12Noon (overflow seating in the Community Room)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend, we celebrate the second Scrutiny for those catechumens and candidates preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil. These rites of continuing conversion, as I said last week, are celebrated publicly as a reminder that we, those already initiated in the mysteries of the Catholic faith, are also called to continue on the path of conversion. The Gospels read with each Scrutiny remind us of some aspect of this call. Last week, we heard about the Samaritan woman at the well. Today we reflect on the Gospel story of Jesus healing a man born blind. From the moment he can see, the blind man is eager to follow the Lord in everything.

There are numerous healings of blind men in the Gospel. Of course, blindness is not merely a physical condition, but also a symbol of a spiritual reality. In the Bible, whenever we see a blind person, they stand as a symbol of our spiritual blindness, our inability or even failure to see from God's point of view. As they are healed, we recognize that it is by God's grace and favor that we come to understand the divine will more perfectly. As this blind man is healed, we see him grow simultaneously in his desire for a relationship with God.

Other dynamics are in play in this story. We will notice the response of the crowds and the scribes and Pharisees to the healing. The crowds, seeing the evidence of the miracle, are somewhat incredulous. This is an attitude often present in our own world. We have a societal habit of trying to explain things to fit our narrative or agenda, rather than admit of the possibility that God is at work. The Pharisees are more accepting of the miraculous, but they, too, make a stink as they quibble with the timing of the miracle and the way in which the Lord acted. While they will acknowledge the miracle, in their pride the Pharisees reject the one who performed the miracle. We can also see a failure of pastoral care here. A man who sought help has received the gift most needed in miraculous fashion, but those who should be most attuned to the spiritual dismiss him as unworthy of the grace he has received, rather than sharing in his joy. Keep in mind, though, that the newly-sighted man does not let the disbelief around him diminish his joy.

These dynamics are instructive for us as we strive to live each day with open eyes, following and worshipping Jesus as Lord. A powerful encounter with God's grace and mercy, especially one that takes place during a retreat or in a private moment of unwitnessed prayer, can have an impact that leads to a visible change in our life. People may notice such a change, but not knowing the ways that God's grace has touched your heart, they look askance, try to explain it away, or even deny that you could have had such an encounter with God. This can be especially difficult to receive: in a time when you want everyone to share the joy you have experienced, it seems no one is on your side. This is an old trick of the devil. When we have an encouraging moment with God, the evil one likes to throw discouragement in our path, most especially in the area of our relationships. To find ourselves suddenly surrounded by people who are indifferent, or even hostile to our experience of God's grace leaves us, most often, feeling rather empty. The man born blind is a model for us. His sight, granted by God's overflowing mercy, is a perfected sight. He keeps his eyes fixed on Jesus even when obstacles are thrown in his path. He is confident of the grace received, even when attacked for believing. May our experience of the second scrutiny today help us to keep our eyes fixed on the Lord, removing any blindness from our hearts, and guiding us as we seek to worship and follow Jesus who gives us light.

Peace,

Fr. Sam



### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

**Second Reading:** Eph 5:8-14

**The Gospel:** Jn 9:1-41 or Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

**Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday:** Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Jn 5:31-47

**Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**Saturday:** Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

**Sunday:** Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 or Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



### FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

This past week, our students experienced God's abundant love and mercy while receiving their First Reconciliation. Please pray for them as they continue to prepare for their First Holy Communion.



### WEEKLY ADORATION

**Wednesdays, 7:00PM-8:00PM, Church.** Come, spend some time with the Lord each week! Eucharistic Adoration will be held in the church while confessions are being heard.

### YOUNG ADULT HOLY HOUR

**Thursday, March 23, 7:30pm - 9:30pm,** Join us for praise, worship, and confessions with a wine and cheese social hour following adoration at 8:30pm in the Community Room.

### ADORE 365

#### **Perpetual Adoration at St. Pius X**

St. Pius X Parish is preparing to launch perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. With our Adore 365 effort, we are searching for people who are willing to commit to giving our Lord one hour each week. If you would like to participate in Perpetual Adoration or receive more information about this effort, please e-mail [saintpiusxadoration@gmail.com](mailto:saintpiusxadoration@gmail.com), include your full name and phone number. Join us in adoring Jesus, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament!



### CONNECTICUT MARCH FOR LIFE

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Connecticut March for Life is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> in Hartford**. Our Knights of Columbus are coordinating a bus to and from St. Pius X Parish. Transportation costs are \$35 and discounts are available for those who may need assistance. Reservations may be made at [rally.co/ct-march-for-life](http://rally.co/ct-march-for-life). Contact Tom McShane at [tommcshane@optonline.net](mailto:tommcshane@optonline.net) with any questions.



### SPRING 2023 CAMPAIGN

**Feb. 22 – April 2, 2023** - Protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide campaign for an end to abortion! Through prayer, fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired millions of volunteers and saved thousands of lives! Please join us at one of these three locations, Bridgeport, Danbury or Stamford. To find out more information on any of these locations or to sign up for vigil hours visit [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com).

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS



**Fridays during Lent, 7pm in the Church.** Pray and meditate on the Stations of the Cross, a simple, powerful devotion to mark the Passion of Christ and Jesus' sacrifice for us.



### MEMORIAL FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED

As you pray, remember all deceased parishioners, and especially those recently deceased: Josephine Schultz, Thomas Lanese.

### **March 19, 2023, 4th Sunday of Lent**

**"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;  
beside restful waters he leads me;  
he refreshes my soul." – Psalm 23**



### ST. PIUS X MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Our weekly men's fellowship group meets at **6:30AM, Saturday mornings in the 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 in!



### THE EASIEST AND SAFEST WAY TO GIVE TO ST. PIUS X

Your weekly offertory donations directly support the operating expenses of St. Pius. Thank you for being an integral part of sustaining our beautiful Church and for helping us to carry out our parish mission. If you're not currently giving online, take a moment to consider setting up your account online—it's simple and the easiest and safest way to give. Many parishioners have already discovered the benefits and ease of giving online:

**Get started now:** Go to [www.st-pius.org/onlinegive](http://www.st-pius.org/onlinegive).

Questions? Call the Parish Office at 203-255-6134.



### FAIRFIELD LIFE TEEN + EDGE

Fairfield Life Teen and Edge invite high school and middle school students into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Life Teen and Edge are hosted at St. Pius X and open to anyone from any church.

#### **High School Life Nights, Sunday, 6-8pm, Portable**

- March 19: Helping Hand-Supporting Others
- March 26: Saint Staff-Suffering with the Saints
- April 2: Movie Night
- April 9: No Life Teen

#### **Middle School Edge, Wed, 6:30-8pm, School Gym**

- March 22: Quantum Leap-Why Do I Have to Stand and Kneel So Much?
- March 29: Into The Ages-How Does the Mass Change the World?
- April 5 & 12: No Edge

### 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.

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



### DAY OF SERVICE

**Saturday, April 8 9am-1pm.** Join other Catholic Young Adults in the diocese from ages 18-35 in a day of service at Thomas Merton Center. Scan the QR code for more info.



### SERVICE TO THE HOMELESS

Off the Streets Bridgeport (OTS-B) is gratefully accepting donations and seeking volunteers to serve the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless in the greater Bridgeport. OTS-B provides much needed security deposits directly to landlords for eligible individuals and families requiring this deposit to secure housing in modest apartments. Please explore their website, <http://offthestreets-bridgeport.org> or call 203-590-1501 for more information.



### 2023 BISHOP'S APPEAL

"As we work toward the renewal of the diocese, our task is nothing less than to invite people into the mystical Body of Christ by creating welcoming, vital and loving communities of faith. The Bishop's Appeal is an important vehicle to make that possible, by advancing our mission of engagement and accompaniment." – Bishop Frank Caggiano

To give towards this year's appeal, or for more information, please visit [2023BishopsAppeal.org](http://2023BishopsAppeal.org), call (203) 416-1470 or scan the QR code with your phone.



If you or anyone you know needs healing, you may request a St. Pius X Prayer Shawl. These beautiful prayer shawls have been lovingly made by a group of dedicated parishioners. The prayer shawls have also been blessed by Fr. Sam! To request a prayer shawl, email Kimberlie Leon at [kleon@st-pius.org](mailto:kleon@st-pius.org). Kim will coordinate your pickup. A minimum donation of \$25 per shawl is welcomed to defray the yarn cost.



## ST. PIUS X ANNUAL APPEAL NEEDS YOU

**Donated to Date: \$190,932**  
**# of Donors: 288 out of 2,300+**

**This Year's Needs:**  
 \$275,000 for School building renovations  
 \$1.2 Million to pay off construction loan

We still have some very important financial challenges. If you have not yet contributed to the St. Pius X Annual Appeal, we ask you to prayerfully consider it. Your gift, no matter the size, will make a difference.

- Our 60-year-old school building is used daily and requires significant repairs/updates: approx. **\$275,000**.
- We have a **\$1.2 million** outstanding bank loan from the renovation of the church that must be paid off.

**We humbly ask ALL families to donate in some way.**

### TWO WAYS TO DONATE:

- **Online** at [www.st-pius.org/onlinegive](http://www.st-pius.org/onlinegive)
- **Mail or Drop in Offertory** a check and put ANNUAL APPEAL in the memo. **THANK YOU!**



## TURKEY & SYRIA

### SHOE COLLECTION FOR TURKEY & SYRIA

On February 6th, a devastating 7.8 magnitude hit the countries of Turkey and Syria, leaving 45,000 dead and over 500,000 homeless. The Natural Disaster Relief Club at Hopkins is partnering with Funds2Orgs to host a shoe drive to help the victims of this horrible event. Please place gently worn or new pairs of shoes in the collection box through April 13th. The box will be in the church vestibule. Thank you for your help. – Nicolas Ciminiello, parishioner & student at Hopkins

 **VIRTUS**<sup>®</sup>



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 class (at no charge) 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.



### YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS LUNCHEONS

**April 3, Tobias Toys & Trains.** Join us and learn from proprietor Mark Tobias everything you ever wanted to know about vintage toys and trains! Mark is a seasoned and knowledgeable dealer, broker and consultant with 40 years' experience, specializing in vintage toys and trains. He collects antiques and was an auctioneer for 35 years. Mark is a lively and dynamic speaker and will share lots of fun facts and history about toys and trains that we all love and remember. For more info on Mark, visit [www.tobiastoysandtrains.com](http://www.tobiastoysandtrains.com). Grab a friend and join us! Lunch is \$7 for sandwiches, chips, soda, water, coffee, tea, and dessert. RSVP to Peter Carey at [aandp1964@aol.com](mailto:aandp1964@aol.com) or 203-673-2081 and let Pete know if you can bake a treat!

**Musicals at the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam:** We're looking to get a group together to take a bus to the Goodspeed for a Wednesday or Thursday matinee to see two of the following plays: Gypsy, Summer Stock, The 12, or Dreamgirls. For more information on these plays, go to [www.goodspeed.org](http://www.goodspeed.org), then email Peter Carey at [aandp1964@aol.com](mailto:aandp1964@aol.com) and tell him which two plays you are interested in seeing. The cost for the bus, lunch next door at the Gelston House, and the play will be \$132/person. Grab a friend and join us!

### ★ **GAME DAY** ★

### YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS GAME DAY

Join us at **Young at Heart Seniors Game Day** to enjoy a variety of games such as Mah Jongg, cards, and Canasta! If anyone knows Canasta and can help us learn it, we'd love to have you join us. If these games are not your thing, bring your own OR just come and meet new friends and have fellowship and conversation. See you in the Community Room **10AM-12Noon, on Tuesdays**. Questions? Contact **Margaret** at [blk125@msn.com](mailto:blk125@msn.com) or **908-399-2945**. Stop by and check it out!



### ST. PIUS X MASS LIVESTREAM INFO

- Mass Livestream: 8:30AM, Daily Mass and 11AM, Sunday Mass (posted on our Facebook and YouTube.)
- Follow us on Facebook/Instagram @st.piusx\_church
- Like us and subscribe to St. Pius X on YouTube

St. Pius X Catholic Church



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Jun 26 - 30**

\$75 per child  
9am - 12pm

Open to ages 4 - 8 (going into 3rd grade)

Mrs. Kerry Sweeney

VBS Coordinator

email: [stpiusvbs@gmail.com](mailto:stpiusvbs@gmail.com)

**Register Now**



**Volunteers Needed**

To volunteer at Vacation Bible School, you must be a high school student or adult. Every volunteer over the age of 18, must be VIRTUS trained. Please Contact Kerry Sweeney at [stpiusvbs@gmail.com](mailto:stpiusvbs@gmail.com). More information about VIRTUS in bulletin blurb.