



ST. PIUS X PARISH

203-255-6134

834 Brookside Drive Fairfield, CT 06824

WWW.ST-PIUS.ORG



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 18, 2024

PARISH STAFF



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MASS TIMES

Daily	8:30AM, Monday-Saturday, Church
Monday	7PM, Extraordinary Form, Chapel
Saturday	5:15PM, Vigil Mass, Church
Sunday	7:30AM, 9AM, 11AM, Church
Holy Day	5:30PM, Vigil Mass, Church 8:30AM & 5:30PM, Holy Day, Church

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Saturday, 4-5PM, Church
Wednesday, 7-8PM, Church

Baptism

Pre-baptismal classes are on the first Sunday of every month. Call the Parish Office to register for the class and to schedule your child's baptism.

Marriage

Registered parishioners should make arrangements one year in advance with the Parish Office. Visit www.st-pius.org for more information or call the Parish Office.

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.

Anointing of the Sick

If you or someone you know is ill and would like to be anointed, call the Parish Office.

Becoming Catholic

The Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is open to anyone who wants to learn more about our faith or complete their initiation as a Roman Catholic. Call the Parish Office for more information.

PARISH INFORMATION

Summer Office Hours	Monday-Thursday, 9AM-4PM Friday, closed - staff work remotely
Parish Phone	203-255-6134
Religious Education	203-259-4800
Parish Email	secretary@st-pius.org
Parish Address	834 Brookside Drive, Fairfield, CT 06824

Parish Corporation

Lay Members	Kathryn Vogt, Art Wolf
Parish Finance Council	Jeremy Joyce, Chair

Art Credit: Juanes, Juan de (Vicente Juan Masip). *Christ the Saviour*. 1545-1550, Oil on Panel. Museo del Prado, Madrid.



Pastor's Note

Today's Readings

1st Reading:

Prv 9:1-6

Res. Psalm:

34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

2nd Reading:

Eph 5:15-20

Gospel:

Jn 6:51-58

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What do we picture in our mind when we think of heaven? Clouds, angels with their harps, immense light, the saints, our loved ones, God himself. It is hard to literally imagine a place in our minds when that place is outside of space and time. An image used throughout Church history to describe heaven is that it will be the “wedding feast of the Lamb.” This is rich in theological imagery as Christ is both the bridegroom coming to bring his Bride (the Church) to himself, and the Lamb of God who by offering himself takes away the sins of the world. Yet at the heart of this image is a feast, a banquet. If we think that weddings are a fun affair here on this side of eternity, I can assure you that heavenly banquet is going to be a good time, to say the least.

To further this image, we read in Proverbs all about how wisdom is likened to a banquet that gives joy and happiness. Wisdom invites a person to a metaphorical banquet in which those who receive her wisdom consume and assimilate it. They take wisdom into themselves. There is then the clear imagery of bread and wine that represent the food of wisdom that prefigures the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ, who is the incarnate Wisdom of God.

This is such an important dimension of how we view the person of Christ. He cannot remain just an historical figure who gave us inspiring words, he is alive. And not only is he alive, but he doesn't wish to be distant from us. Christ does not simply invite us

into a relationship with him but wishes to give us his very self for our food. That is a reality much deeper and more intimate than following him as a spiritual leader.

And the crowds hear Jesus preach this message to them. Many are taken aback for they hear these words as an invitation to cannibalism. Christ meant what he said about eating his Flesh and drinking his Blood but in a sacramental way. In the Eucharist, which he would institute at the Last Supper, bread and wine would be changes into his Body and Blood for the spiritual nourishment of the faithful. It was the same evening where he instituted the priesthood, empowering his Apostles and their successors to do the same.

The life that the Eucharist imparts pertains to supernatural life, which binds us ever closer to Christ and actually prepares us for eternity in Heaven. We have the Eucharist as our foretaste of heaven. This spiritual nourishment that is meant to fill our souls with the love and joy of God, that is a glimpse of the eternal perfection and fulfillment that awaits those who love the Lord, particularly in the Eucharist. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass sustains the faithful in this life, but it is also our practice for heaven. Reflect on that reality the next time we ever feel tempted away from this sacrament. The Eucharist is meant to be the source and summit of our faith, and it is our precursor for the life of the world to come.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Brendan

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 17

8:30AM.....+Patricia Anthony.....Steinborn Family

5:15PM.....+Euly Meneses Cardozo...Lehmann Family

Sunday, August 18

7:30AM.....+Marion Mackie.....S. & R. Kremheller

9AM.....+Edward Mitola.....Mitola Family

11AM.....All Parishioners

Monday, August 19

8:30AM.....+Richard Heckman.....F. Girard

Tuesday, August 20

8:30AM.....+Andres Fernandez.....G. Rodriguez

Wednesday, August 21

8:30AM.....+Patricia Anthony.....Steinborn Family

Thursday, August 22

8:30AM.....+Maria D'Souza.....B. & M. D'Cunha

Friday, August 23

8:30AM.....+John Mallozzi.....Gleason Family

Saturday, August 24

8:30AM.....Thanksgiving and Intentions.....B. & M. D'Cunha

5:15PM.....+Gary Boch.....Groccia Family

Sunday, August 25

7:30AMAll Parishioners

9AM.....+Caroline Latocca.....Porca Family

11AM.....+Helen M. Della Monica.....M. Lantowski



Sanctuary Lights will burn

in the church in memory of Ron & Brian Davis
in the chapel for All Parishioners

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Offertory

Offerings	August 4	August 11
Weekend	\$ 12,180	\$ 12,581
Monthly	\$ 1,605	\$ 2,739
Mission	\$ 428	\$ 120
Maintenance	\$ 321	N/A



We Stand With Christ Construction Loan

\$ 750,000 Outstanding Loan

\$ 78,757 Donated

152 Number of Gifts

To give to the WSWC Construction Loan, scan the QR code, drop a check in the Sunday basket with Construction Loan in the memo or visit www.osvhub.com/st-piusfairfield/giving/funds and choose gift.



CONSTRUCTION
LOAN



Banns of Marriage

Conor Finn & Beatrice Lynch



Baptisms

We welcome the newly baptized into the Church:

- Ryan Padraic Atkins
- Winnie Mae Brawley
- Kellan Michael Driscoll
- Paloma Alyna Garcia
- Oliver Joseph Kavulich

WED
21
AUG

Tastebuds, Community Room and Kitchen
Sandwich Making, Community Room and Kitchen

SAT/SUN
24/25
AUG

St. Pius X Feast Day Celebrated

PRAYER



ADORATION

Monday, 9AM - Friday, 9PM, Chapel

Adore our Lord truly present in the Blessed Sacrament! Consider signing up for:

- 1) Any hour with no adorer
 Monday: 11PM
 Tuesday: 12AM, 2PM, 4PM
 Wednesday: 4AM, 3PM
 Thursday: 12AM, 2AM, 3AM, 5AM, 10AM
 Friday: 1AM, 12PM
- 2) Any hour that has an adorer as we hope to have at least two adorers for each time slot.
- 3) A weekend hour. As soon as we have enough weekend commitments we will launch Perpetual Adoration, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

To sign up or to become a substitute visit www.st-pius.org/adoration/ or scan the QR code.



ROSARY AND CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

Friday, 9AM, Church

Come pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy lead by Pat Heile. All are welcome to attend!

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

First Saturday, 9AM, Church

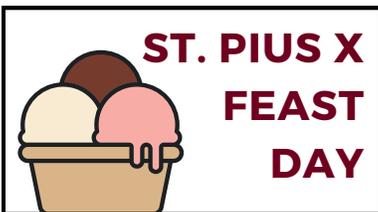
Join us for a devotion to Our Lady. We will pray the Rosary, Litany of Loreto, and follow with Benediction.



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. If you'd like to pray for others, let Pat know and she will add you to the Prayer Line Team.

EVENTS



ST. PIUS X FEAST DAY

August 24/25, After All Masses

To celebrate our patron saint's feast day, Saugatuck Sweets is dishing out a free scoop of ice cream for parishioners after every Mass. The party continues after the 9AM Mass with Coffee Hour in the Community Room. If you'd like to help scoop ice cream, email Cathy Coyle at ccoyle@st-pius.org.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION OPEN!

Registration Deadlines

Friday, August 9 - Cohort 1 Confirmation Prep

Monday, September 23 - Grades 1-5 and Cohort 2 Confirmation Prep

For class offerings and start dates, visit www.st-pius.org/elementary-faith-formation/. Contact Shari Mellinger at sgarcia@st-pius.org or call the Parish Office at 203-255-6134 with questions.



EVENTS



ST. PIUS X LUXURY RAFFLE - LAST FEW WEEKS TO BUY TICKETS

Saturday, September 14, 8PM, Drawing at SPX

Take a chance on winning a 2024 BMW X5 SUV and other amazing prizes! For tickets, visit tinyurl.com/spxluxuryraffle, scan the code. You've got to be in it, to win it! All proceeds benefit the St. Pius X Construction Loan and Knights of Columbus Council # 16347 outreach efforts. Email Paul Sposato at psposato@optonline.net with questions.



ST. PIUS X BLOCK PARTY

Saturday, September 14, After the 5:15PM Mass

Pizza Truck | Ministry Fair | Games | DJ

Enjoy a night of fun with your family while you discover all the good things happening at your parish. At 8PM, the winning tickets will be pulled for the Luxury Raffle!

MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY, SERVICE AND FORMATION



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, 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!



SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

August 25, After 9AM Mass, Community Room

Come to the Community Room after the 9AM Mass for coffee and treats. If you would like to help with hospitality, contact Genevieve Ritch at gfanelliritch@optonline.net or scan the QR code to contribute. All are welcome!



YOUNG AT HEART SENIOR LUNCHEON

Monday, September 9, 12PM, Community Room

Join us as we welcome real estate experts Alex Capozzoli and Dee Braeten of Keller Williams Realty. Alex and Dee will speak about the current real estate market and selling/buying a home. Topics include: what is the market like in Fairfield, what is equity and what can you do with it, and more. There will be plenty of time for Q&A so bring your questions. Lunch is \$7 for a sandwich, chips, soda, water, coffee, or tea, and dessert. RSVP to Peter Carey at aandp1964@aol.com or 203-673-2081. See you there!



YOUNG AT HEART GAME DAY

Tuesday, 10AM-12PM, Community Room, Mahjong

Wednesday, 10AM-12PM, Community Room, Canasta

Bring a friend and meet us in the Community Room. Learn how to play or just stop by for fellowship and conversation. Questions? Contact Margaret at blk125@msn.com or call her at 908-399-2945.

MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY, SERVICE AND FORMATION



OPERATION HOPE MEAL PREP

Last Monday of the Month, Community Kitchen

You're invited to help prepare and deliver a monthly meal for 50 of Operation Hope's clients. If you're interested in cooking, donating food or cash to this effort, scan the QR Code or contact Genevieve Ritch at gfanelliritch@optonline.net.



ST. PIUS X SANDWICH MAKING

Wednesday, August 21, 7-8PM, Community Room & Kitchen

Join us this August as we continue making sandwiches for nOURish Bridgeport. We have all the supplies we need for this month. We just need volunteers to help set up, clean up and make sandwiches. Email stpiussandwichmaking@gmail.com if interested.



TASTEBUDS

Wednesday, August 21, 5-7PM, Community Room & Kitchen

Come to our Tastebuds gathering! Along with cooking demonstrations, we will review recipes, and enjoy the meal we created together. Our dinners may be paired with complimenting wines and beverages. The cost is \$15. Email catherinemacdonaldcake@gmail.com to RSVP and scan the QR code to pay.



SMALL GROUP LEADER WORKSHOP

Wednesday, August 28, 6:30-9PM, Community Room

God created us to be known and be in community. St. Pius X Small Groups provide the opportunity for us to experience both! If you are interested in leading a small group, visit, www.st-pius.org/smallgroups to apply for training or contact Paola Peña at ppena@st-pius.org.



WALKING WITH PURPOSE

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 - January 29, 2025, 6:30-8PM OR

Thursday, October 3, 2024 - January 30, 2025, 9:30-11:30AM

Rooted and Radiant. By studying the book of Colossians, we will realize the challenges the Colossians faced, are remarkably similar to our own challenges today.

Thursdays, February 6, 2025 - May 8, 2025, 9:30-11:30AM

Passionate Discipleship. We will immerse ourselves in 2 Timothy, Paul's last and deeply personal letter to his beloved friend and mentee, Timothy. For more information, email dawnmariec@sbcglobal.net or visit www.st-pius.org/womens-groups/.

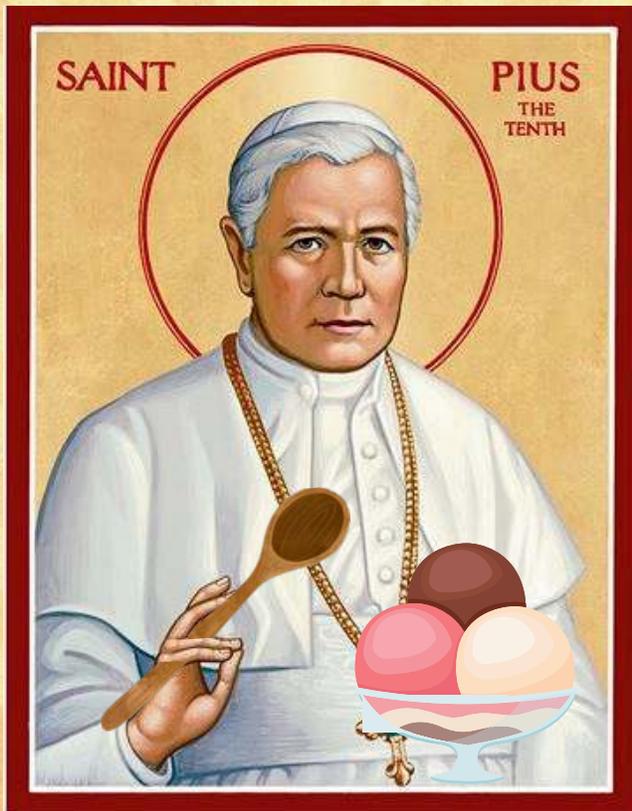
COMMUNITY



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Tuesday, 7-8PM, Religious Education Center, 2nd Floor Classroom

Park City Men's Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Beginners/Speakers Meeting is open to any man seeking help with alcohol. The only requirement is a desire to stop drinking. If you, or someone you know, is trying to get help, stop by, or share this information. Enter the Religious Education School via left side exterior Door #2.



AUGUST 24-25
CELEBRATE AFTER ALL MASSES

St. Pius X Feast Day

ENJOY A SCOOP ON THE HOUSE
COURTESY OF

Saugatuck Sweets

ICE CREAM SCOPERS NEEDED,
EMAIL CCOYLE@ST-PIUS.ORG

Welcome. CRHP 2.0

There is **More to Life**

Ever feel like something is missing?

Join your fellow parishioners for our **FIRST Men's Welcome Weekend**, an incredible experience that will help you discover what's missing in your life and what to do about it. Whether you have been at St. Pius X for years or you are just getting to know the community, we've saved a seat for you!

SAVE THE DATE!

 **Dynamic Catholic**

Men's Weekend

When: Saturday, October 5th, 2024
9AM - 6PM

Where: St. Pius X Catholic Church
834 Brookside Drive
Fairfield, CT 06824

Contact: Paola Peña ppena@st-pius.org
Director of Evangelization

We Thank Jesus for Coming to Us

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the people that He really will give Himself to them as food to eat. We receive Jesus every time we go to Holy Communion.



One of the words we use for Holy Communion is EUCHARIST, which means thanksgiving. It tells us that the Mass is the best way of giving thanks to God. It also reminds us that we should be very thankful to Jesus for coming to us and giving Himself to us.



THANK YOU, JESUS, FOR COMING TO ME IN HOLY COMMUNION!

We should thank Jesus as soon as we have received Holy Communion. But don't stop being thankful as soon as Mass is over! Being a good Christian means being thankful and trying to please God all the time!



HOW CAN I SHOW JESUS I LOVE HIM TODAY?

Answer to St. Paul Word-Find: Give thanks always

St. Paul Teaches Us...

Ephesians 5:15-20

UNDERSTAND
GWATCHHHIH
WILLVEAYIE
TSONGSNMGA
HDRAFIKNNR
GODNOSSOT
IMBROTHERS
VFILLEDKAL
ISSPIRITNI
NALWSSAYCV
GFATHERSEE

Try to find all the words in CAPITALS from today's reading. Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end to find an important part of being a Christian.

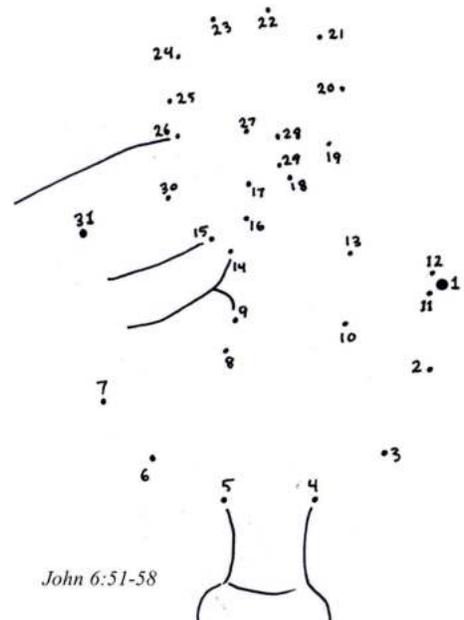
BROTHERS and SISTERS: WATCH carefully how you LIVE, not as FOOLISH persons, but with WISDOM, making the most of

the opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not continue in IGNORANCE, but try to UNDERSTAND the WILL of the LORD. And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be FILLED with the SPIRIT, addressing one another in psalms and HYMNS and spiritual SONGS, singing and playing to the Lord in your HEARTS, GIVING THANKS always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to GOD the FATHER.

**ST. HELENA PRAY FOR US!
FEAST DAY, AUGUST 18**



Jesus told the people that He is the Bread of Life and that He would give Himself to them as food. Connect the dots to see how He gives Himself to us today.





IMPORTANT, PLEASE READ:
A Letter from Fr. Brendan Re: Construction Loan

Dear St. Pius X Parishioners and Friends,

Within the past couple of weeks, you have either received an email from me or heard me speak after Mass with an update on our outstanding 750K Construction Loan.

I have expressed my deep thanks for what we, as a parish family, have been able to raise within a short 2.5-month period since we launched our email/letter outreach campaign.

In addition to your generous donations, our Knights of Columbus debuted our First Annual St. Pius X Golf Tournament in June, resulting in a 27K donation to the Construction Loan. Our Knights also launched our first ever Luxury Car Raffle and have been working tirelessly to sell it out before the drawing in September – proceeds will go toward the Construction Loan. We are grateful for their dedication and hard work. You can still buy tickets for the Luxury Car Raffle on the St. Pius X Website at www.st-pius.org.

At the same time, our Finance Council has been working closely with us and multiple local banks to see how we can refinance the outstanding debt when it matures in November. Until then, we are committed to doing everything we can to raise the funds to pay down this debt. As you have heard me say before, I firmly believe that together, and with the Holy Spirit, we will do just that.

Current Construction Loan Gifts Update as of August 12, 2024:
(From the email/letter outreach)

- Number of Gifts Received: \$78,757
- Total Amount of Gifts Received: 152

Again, to all of you who have donated so generously, thank you. And for those who may not have donated yet, may I ask for your prayerful consideration to do so. Any gift, no matter the amount, will make a difference to ensure the future of St. Pius X for your families and future generations.

In Christ,



Fr. Brendan

-----Cut Here and Return Slip Below-----

YES, I want to help pay down the Construction Loan. Here is my gift:

Amount of Gift \$ _____

Full Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

CreditCard# _____ Exp.Date _____ CVC # _____

Billing Name _____ Billing Address _____
(if different than above) (if different than above)

Check Enclosed. Check # _____ *(Designate in Memo: Construction Loan)*

Make Checks payable to St. Pius X. Drop in Offertory Basket or Mail to Address Below. Or Give Online at www.st-pius.org/giving/ Choose GIFT and designate in memo CONSTRUCTION LOAN