



ST. PIUS X PARISH

203-255-6134

834 Brookside Drive Fairfield, CT 06824

WWW.ST-PIUS.ORG



Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 1, 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: Constantin, Marie. *Mother and Child*. 1986. Photograph. "Finding Calcutta Exhibit", Ave Maria University.



Pastor's Note

Today's

Readings

1st Reading:
Dt 4:1-2, 6-8

Res. Psalm:
15:2-3, 3-4,
4-5

2nd Reading:
Jas 1:17-18,
21b-22, 27

Gospel:
Mk 7:1-8,
14-15, 21-23

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Whenever our Lord encounters the scribes and Pharisees during his public ministry, they are, without fail, an example of false worship and a lack of proper faith. In these many interactions, Christ routinely exposes the flaws of their logic to the point where they seem to be his favorite punching bag. Christ does not hide his disappointment in them because, in short, they should know better. They cannot plead ignorance. Scribes and Pharisees are those who were to know the law most fully, understand the rules and the point of worship in the old covenant. In a way they are the recipients of the law and faith from Abraham to Moses to their current day, and they were to faithfully uphold that law and bring it into future generations. What is loathsome in the eyes of Christ is how tainted and corrupt that law had become in practice.

I had a brilliant Dominican professor in Rome who told the story how he was once asked about the (impossible) scenario of archeologists somehow "discovering" the actual tomb of Jesus and his remains. Meaning, Jesus is dead, never rose from the grave, and Christianity is a lie. So, what would he, as a Dominican priest, do in that scenario? His response was simple, "I'd become a very orthodox Jew." For if Jesus is not the messiah, it means we are still in waiting for him to come, and therefore to follow God we must be people of his covenant, following the law that he gave to the prophets. In many ways, those are the people that Jesus is encountering during his life on earth. Those who seek to live out the law of God, to be pure and holy in his sight as they await the coming of the messiah. The fact that Jesus is rejected

and even hated by so many of these people illustrates how warped their view of the law had become. The prophets and everything of the Old Testament are pointing toward the coming of Christ. We refer to this as the "old law" or the "old covenant" because an Old Testament faith required such things to be a proper follower of God, and the coming of Jesus brought about a fulfillment of those things, for he is himself the fullness.

What is lamentable for these Pharisees is that they know and love the written word of the law so much that they do not recognize the "Logos", the Word of God incarnate before them. Over time, the scribes and Pharisees had expanded Jewish dietary and purification norms so much that the purposes behind these customs and laws had become lost. Christ is here bringing them back to the truth that the purity of our hearts matters far more than the purity of our hands or the vessels with which we eat.

When we view our own customs as practicing Catholics, think about the rules or "laws" that we follow, and why do we do them? We even have our own dietary restriction to not eat meat on Fridays (sidenote: we are meant to do this year-round, and if we choose to eat meat on a Friday outside of Lent, we must perform an alternative penance for that day.) Do we do this out of habit, or we think meat is evil? We do so because of Good Friday, the sacrifice of the body of Jesus, his flesh upon the Cross, where we go without consuming flesh on that day. When the reason behind any of our faith or practices are lost, we become superstitious and silly people. Christ is reminding the Pharisees and us of this fact today.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Brendan

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 31

5:15PM Deceased Members of the Callan/Connaughton Families

Sunday, September 1

7:30AM Mary Rohe.....Lenz Family

9AM +Peg Haggart.....Ricchio Family

11AM All Parishioners

Monday, September 2

8:30AM.....Intentions & Thanksgiving.....D’Cunha Family

Tuesday, September 3

8:30AM.....+Paul Pia, Jr.....Carpanzano Family

Wednesday, September 4

8:30AM.....+Jose Gomes.....F. Gomes & Family

Thursday, September 5

8:30AM.....+Gracie Rodriguez.....Rodriguez Family

Friday, September 6

8:30AM +Deceased Members of the Pereira & D’Cunha Families

Saturday, September 7

8:30AM.....+Ruth Horgan.....C. Beacock

5:15PM.....+Helen Murphy.....K. & M. E. Lehman

Sunday, September 8

7:30AM.....All Parishioners

9AM.....+Gina & Pasquale Buoni.....Kochi Family

11AM.....+Christopher Conroy.....Kelty Family



Sanctuary Lights will burn

in the church for children returning to school
in the chapel for a new year of parish ministries



In Memoriam

Pray for our parishioners who recently passed:
Brittaney Davis

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Offertory

Offerings	August 18	August 25
Weekend	\$ 11,640	\$ 10,934
Monthly	\$ 297	N/A
Mission	\$ 195	\$ 140



We Stand With Christ Construction Loan

\$ 750,000 Outstanding Loan
\$ 81,757 Donated
156 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



Baptisms

We welcome the newly baptized into the Church:

- Hudson Berrena Anderson
- Carson Reed Montgelas



Banns of Marriage

- Chandler Colberg & Sarah Vimini
- Matthew Keemon & Elizabeth Pehota

WED

4

St. Pius X Staff Retreat, Office Closed

SEPT

SUN

8

Fr. Sam’s Welcome Home Coffee, Community Room, After 9AM Mass

SEPT

PRAYER



ADORATION

Monday, 9AM - Friday, 9PM, Chapel

Adore our Lord truly present in the Blessed Sacrament! Stop by and visit for a few minutes or consider signing up for an hour. We have the following hours open - Tuesday, 12AM, 10AM, 2PM Wednesday 3PM, Thursday, 12AM 2AM, 3AM, 5AM, 10AM, Friday, 12PM, 5PM.

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 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!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION OPEN!

Registration Deadlines

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.



MEN'S EXPERIENCE

Saturday, October 5, 8:30AM-6:30PM, Community Room

Open the door to incredible possibilities. Join your fellow parishioners for our first Men's Welcome Experience, an incredible day 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! Contact Paola Peña ppena@st-pius.org with any questions.



MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY, SERVICE AND FORMATION



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

CHORAL SCHOLA Join the Choral Schola this fall 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 or call 203-255-6134 to inquire. Practice dates coming soon!

YOUTH CHOIR First practice is Thursday, September 5 from 4:30-5:30PM in the church. All children in grades 2-8 are welcome. The Youth Choir will sing at the 9AM Mass on the last Sunday of each month. Reach out to Mrs. Cidalia Kettles at cidmezzo@gmail.com or Michael Lantowski at mikestro@ymail.com or call 203-255-6134.

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

USHERS 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 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.

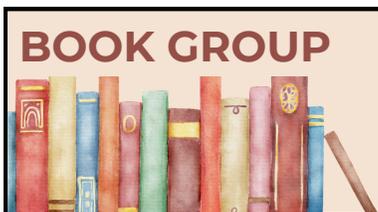
ST. THÉRÈSE GUILD With deep love and reverence for the Holy Eucharist, the St. Thérèse Guild will care for the sacred altar linens on a rotating schedule. Training is provided. Email Fr. Brendan at frblawie@diobpt.org if you are interested.



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!



WELL-READ MOM BOOK GROUP, FALL KICK OFF

Saturday, September 28, 10AM, Munro Room 2

We will discuss this year's theme of Fatherhood and preview the year ahead. Well-Read Mom accompanies women in the reading of great books and spiritual classics to encourage personal growth, friendship, and meaningful conversations to explore what is good, beautiful, and true. The first book discussion is *Peace Like a River* by Lief Eger on October 26th. Email karenlannigan0915@gmail.com with any questions.



SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

September 8, 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 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



ST. PIUS X SANDWICH MAKING - MORE WAYS TO HELP!

Saturday/Sunday, September 7/8

Calling all at-home sandwich makers! Join us in providing 200 lunches each month to the Merton House. Sandwiches made at home may be dropped off on Saturday, September 7 in the Community Kitchen fridge. The lunches will be assembled during the September 8 Coffee Hour after the 9AM Mass. If you'd like to donate sandwiches, apples, granola bars or water, email ccoyle@st-pius.org.

Wednesday, September 18, 7-8PM, Community Room & Kitchen

Our Wednesday efforts continue as we make sandwiches for nOURish Bridgeport. If you're interested in helping, please email stpussandwichmaking@gmail.com.



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.



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!



TASTEBUDS

Wednesday, September 11, 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.



WALKING WITH PURPOSE

Do you desire to grow in your Catholic faith? Would you like to connect with other women in our parish community? We invite you to join Walking with Purpose, a weekly women's Catholic Bible study, this fall at St. Pius X. Our evening sessions start on Wednesday, October 2 and our morning sessions start on Thursday, October 3.

To learn more, join us for an Open House on Thursday, September 26 from 9:30-11:30AM in the Community Room. For questions or to RSVP, contact Dawn Carpanzano at dawnmariec@sbcgloal.net or 203-984-3132. More information may also be found online at <https://www.st-pius.org/womens-groups/> or www.walkingwithpurpose.com.



ST. PIUS X FEAST DAY FUN



THANKS TO AL & CHRIS DIGUIDO OF SAUGATUCK SWEETS!



Keeping Clean



In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the Pharisees that having your soul clean from sins is more important than keeping your body clean!

But that doesn't mean that we should be dirty! God wants us to keep our bodies and our souls clean.

We keep our bodies clean when we wash our hands or take a bath. Do you know how we keep our souls clean?



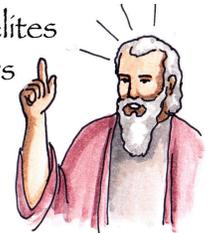
When someone does a big sin he or she needs to go to confession to get cleaned up. Confession cleans away our little sins too. Other things that take away

small sins are going to Holy Communion, praying, and blessing ourselves with holy water.

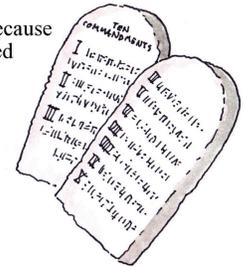


Moses Tells the Israelites to Follow God's Laws True or False

How much do you know about God's commandments for the Israelites? See if you know which of these are true and which are false:



1. Moses only taught some of the people of Israel that they had to obey the commandments that God gave them. True or false?
2. The people had to obey God's laws if they wanted to live in the land that He was giving them. True or false?
3. Moses said that they were not allowed to add to God's law, nor take away from it. True or false?
4. If the people obeyed God's commandments then all the other nations would see that they were wise. True or false?
5. The laws that God gave the people of Israel were unfair. True or false?
6. God gave His people laws because He cared for them and wanted what was best for them. True or false?
7. We should obey God's commandments because they tell us how to live well. True or false?



ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA, PRAY FOR US! Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

FEAST DAY, SEPTEMBER 5

AGNES GONXHA BOJAXHIU WAS BORN IN YUGOSLAVIA IN 1910. HER FATHER DIED WHEN SHE WAS 8. AT AGE 12 SHE KNEW GOD WANTED HER TO BE A MISSIONARY.

Lord, You want me to work for You, don't You?

WHEN SHE WAS 18 AGNES BECAME A NUN AND TOOK THE NAME TERESA. SHE TAUGHT AT A SCHOOL FOR RICH GIRLS IN INDIA.

ON A TRAIN WHEN SHE WAS 36, SR. TERESA FELT GOD CALL HER TO SERVE THE VERY POOR.

I want you to serve Me in the poorest of the poor.

Today we will start learning how to read!

SHE GOT PERMISSION TO TAKE A NEW HABIT AND START A SCHOOL FOR POOR CHILDREN.

SOON OTHER WOMEN JOINED MOTHER TERESA TO HELP THE POOR AND DYING.

MOTHER TERESA KNEW THAT THEY COULD NOT CONTINUE WITHOUT TAKING TIME EVERY DAY TO TALK WITH JESUS.

Governments should also work to protect the poor and the unborn.

IN 1979 MOTHER TERESA WON THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, BUT SHE STAYED HUMBLE AND USED EVERY CHANCE TO TELL THE RICH AND POWERFUL PEOPLE TO PROTECT THE POOR AND WEAK.

SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA DIED ON SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1997. WE CAN LEARN FROM HER TO DEFEND AND HELP THOSE WHO CAN'T HELP THEMSELVES, ESPECIALLY THE POOR AND UNBORN CHILDREN. WE ALSO LEARN FROM HER EXAMPLE THAT WE NEED TO SPEND TIME IN PRAYER WITH JESUS EVERY DAY.



Shining Light Dolls®



ST. PIUS X 2024 Luxury Raffle

**ONLY TWO
WEEKS LEFT TO
BUY TICKETS!**



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #16347

1st Prize: 2024 BMW X5 Midsize SUV

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. PIUS X CONSTRUCTION LOAN
& KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #16347 CHARITABLE OUTREACH

2nd Prize \$10,000 AMEX Gift Card

3rd Prize \$2,500 Grocery Card

4th Prize \$2,000 Mobile Gas Card

Drawing

Sat., September 14, 2024
at 8:00 pm

*Ticket holder need not be
present to win*

TO PURCHASE TICKETS



- Scan the QR Code
- Visit tinyurl.com/spxluxuryraffle
- Mail form with payment to St. Pius X Church
- Email psposato@optonline.net or call 203-613-5520



SCAN ME

Name _____ # of Tickets _____ Total \$ _____

Address _____ Phone # _____

Email _____

Credit Card # _____ CVC # _____ Expires _____

MAIL CHECKS MADE OUT TO ST. PIUS X TO 834 BROOKSIDE DRIVE FAIRFIELD, CT 06824

PRIZES NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH & EXCLUDES ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. WINNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL TAXES ON PRIZES